# MASTERPIECES UNVEILED

# THE HIGHLIGHTS OF KLAS ART AUCTION JULY 9, 2023



Step into the world of KLAS — where captivating artistic masterpieces by local, regional and international pieces await discovery on July 9, 2023. From renowned classics to groundbreaking contemporary works, this auction promises to be a feast for art enthusiasts and collectors alike. So, take note of paintings you love and get ready to immerse yourself in a dazzling showcase of artistic brilliance, where each stroke of the brush holds the power to ignite emotions and redefine the boundaries of artistic expression.



#### SYED AHMAD JAMAL, DATUK

Senyuman, 2009 Acrylic on canvas 122 x 183 cm **RM 220,000 - 450,000**  Datuk Syed Ahmad Jamal was born to fit this artistic role. Born in Bandar Maharani, Muar, Johor on Sept 19, 1929, Syed Ahmad Jamal had a carefree childhood. Even at a very young age, he had a deep sense of observation and appreciation for the natural milieu of his environment. His family lived in a small community where rubber plantations were abundant. Evidence of his keen eye of observation, Syed Ahmad used to find himself gazing at the clouds and sky in fascination and speculated that perhaps God lay amongst those clouds.

Among the array of striking artworks to look out for during KLAS Art Auction is one of Malaysia's prominent artist, Datuk Syed Ahmad Jamal's 'Senyuman' (smile). This beautiful piece of work is a confluence of modernity and culture, exhibiting vibrant colours and a subtle grace to command viewers' attention. We currently hold the record hammer price for Datuk Syed Ahmad Jamal's artwork entitled 'Nur Tenaga', hammered in KLAS Art Auction SALE XXVIII, on July 30 2017 for a whopping RM 490,332.00.



# KHALIL IBRAHIM East Coast Series, 1972 Acrylic on canvas 100 x 119 cm RM 80,000 - 110,000

A familiar theme, the East Coast. Obtaining inspiration from his upbringing in Kelantan, this piece features a group of village folk clad in vibrant sarongs. Khalil utilises his skill in and complete study of the human figures to bring out movement while simultaneously using bold and contrasting colours to bring about richness to this piece. Khalil Ibrahim was born in 1934 in Kelantan. He graduated from the prestigious St. Martin's School of Art & Design, United Kingdom in 1964. He has held solo and group exhibitions in Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and Switzerland, with most of his works centre around figures and are heavily influenced by East Coast fishermen and women.

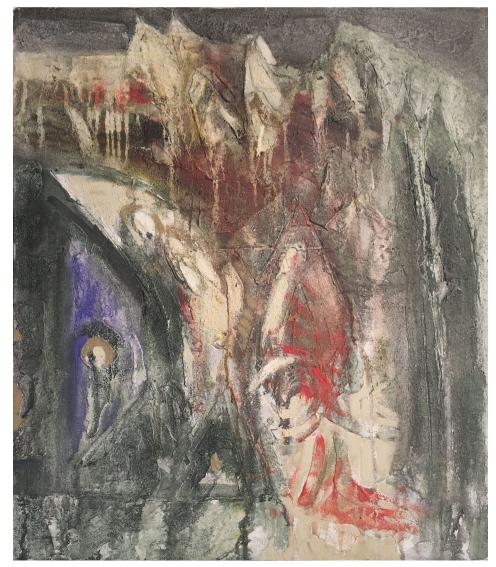


YEOH JIN LENG Melawati Series, 1982 Acrylic on canvas 71 x 89 cm RM 50,000 - 90,000

Born in 1929, Yeoh Jin Leng started his career as a school teacher in Ipoh and in 1952 joined the Malayan Teachers' Training College, Kirkby, Liverpool in the United Kingdom. It was there that his interest in art developed and after serving five years as a pioneer teacher in Kuala Terengganu, he received the first federal scholarship to further his art studies at the Chelsea School of Art and also the Institute of Education, University of London. Upon his return to Malaysia, he became a leading artist and was a design coordinator for Selangor Pewter for a year and a half. The Four Seasons Vase and the set of Malay Kerises are some of his designs. Following that, he joined the Malaysian Institute of Art (MIA) in 1984 and became Dean of Studies the following year. He served MIA for 10 years and left in 1994 to devote more time to his art. He then became a member of the Board of Trustees of the National Art Gallery and has served as Chairman of the Programme Committee, developing various exhibitions and artistic projects for the Gallery. COVER STORY



**ABDUL LATIFF MOHIDIN** Shiraz II, 2000 Oil on canvas 35 x 92 cm **RM 90,000 - 180,000**  Born in 1941, Latiff started painting at an early age and by 10 he was holding his first exhibition at Kota Raja Malay School in Singapore, and was dubbed in the local press as the "boy wonder". He is well-known as a poet as well. He was trained in art at Hochschule fur Bildende Kunste in Germany, Atelier La Courriere in France and Pratt Graphic Centre in America. Among the honours and awards he has received are the Salon Malaysia's 1968 second prize in Graphic Design and the Malaysian Literary Awards for four years in a row, the National Literary Award in 1984 and 1986 and the Southeast Asian Writers Award in 1984 for writing.the tests of time and change, an entity that symbolises growth and a sense of continuity across space and time.



AWANG DAMIT AHMAD Pun-Pun Unggu, Essence of Culture Series, 1993 Mixed media on canvas 76 x 61 cm

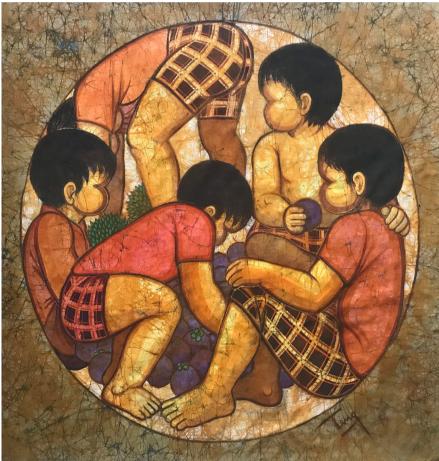
RM 40,000 - 90,000

The bold and strong style of Awang Damit Ahmad makes a reappearance in this piece, this time taking a resilient, symbolic form. Born and brought up in Kuala Penyu, Sabah, he spent most of his teen years learning painting from various artists whilst traveling around the state. He initially came to Selangor to work as a technician for Telekom Malaysia, but found that art was something he truly was passionate about. He eventually left the telecommunications company, and took his Diploma in Fine Arts in Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) and Masters Degree in the United States. A painting of his, Nyanyian Petani Gunung, won the 1991 Salon Malaysia Award. PETRONAS bought it and is, until this day, exhibited at the gallery.

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### ISMAIL ABDUL LATIFF Festival of Inner Jungle Series, 1996 Acrylic on canvas 142 x 173 cm RM 20,000 - 45,000

Ismail Latiff is a Melaka-born artist who trained formally in arts at MARA Institute of Technology. His artworks of both the mystical and abstract kind are known locally and internationally. Having started off his career in advertising before switching to fine arts, his philosophy of life and work is "Art is Life and one of the best introductions to art is Nature." Exactly portrayed in this painting is nature and solitude, almost like some sort of paradise. He manages to make this painting seem like it is saturating with an aura of wonder, with stunning splashes of colours that blend together.

# **CHUAH THEAN TENG, DATO** Boys, 1986 Batik 90 x 87 cm

### RM 45,000 - 90,000

An iconic piece by Dato' Chuah Thean Teng, this 'Boys' painting showcases one of Teng's favourite motifs – the sphere. The womb-like sphere is used to compact the image, making it more intimate and endearing. Within the circular shape is a group of boys, dressed in the same style of shorts and shirts are engrossed in some activity. Dato' Chuah Thean Teng is the world-acknowledged Father of Batik Painting, especially after his break- through exhibition in 1955. He is undisputedly a recognised artist internationally after his successful first exhibition abroad at the Commonwealth Institute in England in 1959.



COVER STORY

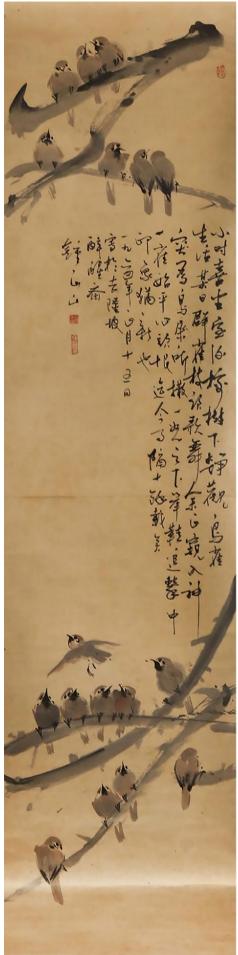


YUSOF GHANI Siri Biring XXX, 2006 Charcoal and acrylic on linen 127 x 97 cm RM 70,000 - 130,000

This Biring masterpiece by the maestro illustrates a flurry of glowing yellows and brown gestural strokes painted on linen, portrays another haunting painting of cockfights. It is disordered, aggressive and he expresses this extraordinarily well with harsh brushstrokes, demonstrating the tension, chaos and hostility of this act as the roosters fight valiantly for their lives. The artist manages to create motion in this scene, as the audience can imagine feathers and wings beating around in fast motion. Biring departs from Yusof Ghani's paintings of masks, forms and nature as he concentrates on cockfighting, using it as a symbol of courage and conflict among man.

#### CHUNG CHEN SUN

Sparrow on Branches Chinese ink on paper 108 x 21 cm RM 15,000 - 35,000



#### **COVER** STORY



CHEN WEN HSI Two Gibbons Chinese ink and watercolour on paper 34 x 45 cm RM 28,000 - 45,000



AWANG DAMIT AHMAD Pilatong - Essence of Culture Series, 1992 Acrylic on canvas 76 x 57 cm RM 15,000 - 35,000



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