

Harta

MUSEUM , GALLERY, CAFE

*HARTA SPACE . LEVEL 1, HABIB 2, AMPANG POINT, HARTA SPACE,
LORONG MAMANDA 2, 68000 AMPANG, SELANGOR*



HARTA, in Bahasa Malaysia, means wealth. But it is not about the wealth of land and water, nor forest and mines, nor flock and herd.

HARTA believes the true wealth of Malaysia lies in the collective cultural identity of its people, both past and present. Culture distinguishes a country. It nurtures a sense of belonging in the minds and hearts of its people. It helps people share a commonality. And by doing so, it enriches the soul of the country.

HARTA stands for HABIB, Malaysia's premier jeweller, taking Action for the Revival of our Traditions and our Arts. Located in a 8,030 sq ft space in Ampang Point, it is a unique space that brings together Malaysia's past and present through a Heritage Jewellery Museum and a contemporary Art Gallery, as well as a café, so that we may better understand, enjoy and appreciate our rich and diverse culture.

The HARTA Heritage Jewellery Museum

The HARTA Museum was established with the specific purpose of reviving public interest and pride in the incredibly rich jewellery heritage of Malaysia's past.

The HARTA Museum's primary collection focuses on the bejeweled traditions of our original multi-ethnic 'Peranakan' heritage. While there is considerable literature on the history and culture of Malaysia, very little of it focuses on the jewellery traditions of Malaysia's original multi-ethnic groups – the Peranakan Chinese, the Peranakan Jawi and the Peranakan Chitty.

These historical objets d'art, which have been collected over the past 66 years and comprise many unique pieces of Peranakan jewellery design, provide a glimpse into our fascinating multi-cultural identity. On the eve of Merdeka, as a multi-racial country, it is important to understand where we have come from to find our way forward.

It is HABIB's ambition, as Malaysia's premier jeweller, that the many splendid examples of traditional jewellery now displayed at the HARTA Museum, will continue to grow and inspire Malaysians to take greater pride in our artistic heritage.





The HARTA Gallery

Just as The HARTA Museum looks to our past, the HARTA Gallery looks to the present by engaging with Malaysia's artists for new perspectives about identity. A public art gallery, privately funded by HABIB, it is committed to nurturing a better understanding and appreciation of modern and contemporary Malaysian art and making it accessible to all.

The HARTA Gallery showcases the works of emerging as well as leading Malaysian artists. It explores and examines stories, issues and experiences of Malaysia's artists to encourage a dialogue on how ethnic identity contributes to our evolving cultural identity.

Through exhibitions, collaborations, projects and programmes, the HARTA Gallery hopes to present the diverse possibilities of artistic expression to young minds, to encourage fresh thought and to stimulate innovation.





ANUAR RASHID
Wind, Water And Fire (Asma Al-Husna), 2008
 Oil on canvas
 213 x 275 cm



SHARIFAH FATIMAH SYED ZUBIR
Untitled, 1990
 Oil on canvas
 90 x 80 cm



SYED AHMAD JAMAL
Langit & Bumi IV, 2000
 Acrylic on wood
 173 x 295 cm



JALAINI ABU HASSAN
Hulubalang Gunting, 2020
 Bitumen and fabric dye on canvas
 152 x 152 cm



YEE I-LANN
 & (black), & (white),
 Exploding & (black),
 Exploding & (white) with
 weaving
 Split bamboo pus weave
 with kayu oboi black natural
 dye, matt sealant
 118.8 x 84.10 cm each

Redza Piyadasa



Redza Piyadasa, a renowned Malaysian artist, left an indelible mark on the art world with his profound exploration of culture, identity, and tradition. One of his most celebrated works is his portrayal of Malay wedding couples, capturing the essence and beauty of this cultural tradition with exquisite detail and emotion.

Born in 1939 in Taiping, Perak, Malaysia, Piyadasa's journey as an artist was marked by a deep appreciation for his cultural heritage. His fascination with the intricate rituals and customs of Malay weddings inspired him to create a series of artworks that would become emblematic of his artistic vision.

Piyadasa's depictions of Malay wedding couples are not mere representations; they are vibrant celebrations of love, unity, and tradition. Through his use of color, form, and symbolism, he breathes life into his canvases, transporting viewers to the heart of a Malay wedding ceremony.

In his paintings, Piyadasa often portrays the bride and groom adorned in traditional attire, surrounded by family members and adorned with intricate decorations. Every brushstroke is imbued with meaning, conveying the joy, solemnity, and reverence of the occasion.

What sets Piyadasa's work apart is his ability to evoke the rich tapestry of emotions that accompany a Malay wedding. From the nervous anticipation of the couple to the jubilant festivities that ensue, each painting tells a story that resonates deeply with audiences across cultures.

Beyond their aesthetic appeal, Piyadasa's paintings serve as a testament to the enduring importance of tradition in a rapidly changing world. In preserving and honoring the customs of his heritage, he invites us to reflect on the universal values of love, family, and community that unite us all.

Interwoven Realities

18 April - 11 May 2024

Welcome to *Interwoven Realities* – a group exhibition at HARTA – where the boundaries of reality blur and intersect in a mesmerising display of artistic expression. *Interwoven Realities* brings together the works of 32 talented artists, each offering a unique perspective on the intricate tapestry of existence.

Within these walls, you will encounter diverse styles and mediums, reflecting the multifaceted nature of our shared reality. From the ethereal landscapes of abstraction to the precision of geometric lines, from the evocative narratives of figurative art to the cutting-edge innovation of digital creations, every piece contributes to the rich fabric of our collective experience.

Sculptures rise like monuments to human ingenuity, while text-based art speaks volumes in its silent eloquence. Textile and fibre-based works invite touch, weaving threads of meaning and memory into tangible form.

As you wander through this exploratory exhibition, allow yourself to be transported beyond the confines of everyday perception. Here, the boundaries between the real and the imagined blur, inviting contemplation and sparking conversation. *Interwoven Realities* invites you to discover the myriad ways in which our world is shaped, connected, and transformed through the lens of artistic vision.

