

Masterpieces Sold

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE KLAS ART AUCTION

The KLAS Art Auction held on January 19th, 2025, at 150 Jalan Maarof, delivered an extraordinary showcase of artistic brilliance and collector enthusiasm. Featuring exceptional works by master artists, the auction achieved incredible results, further solidifying its reputation as a premier event in Malaysia's art scene. With remarkable bids and standout pieces, this auction celebrated the timeless allure and investment value of fine art, drawing attention from seasoned collectors and art enthusiasts alike.



YUSOF GHANI

Senggarang - Hijau Series, 1999
Mixed media on canvas 163 x 203 cm

SOLD RM 112,000

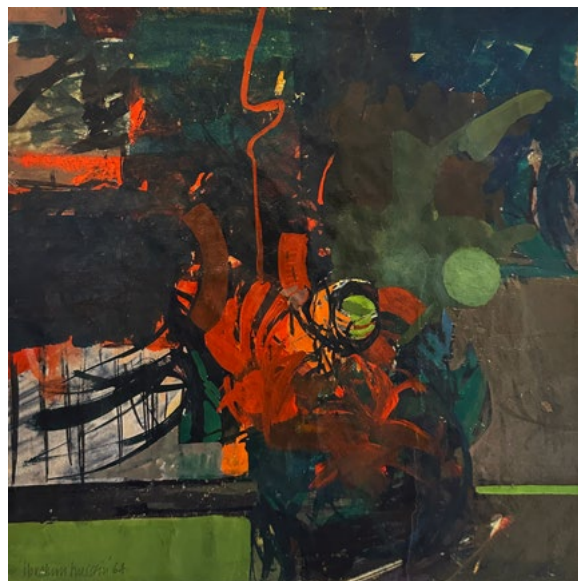
Datuk Ibrahim Hussein consistently captivated art enthusiasts with his unparalleled mastery of abstraction, which was often lauded as futuristic for its intricate exploration of form, dimension, and expression. His works transcend conventional boundaries, showcasing a visionary approach that merges artistic complexity with innovative techniques. What sets Ibrahim apart is not only his exceptional ability to evoke profound emotions through abstraction but also his groundbreaking use of a unique medium he pioneered, known as "printage."

This technique, a harmonious fusion of printing and collage, reflects Ibrahim's relentless pursuit of innovation and his deep understanding of materials and processes.

By layering and combining textures, colors, and patterns, he achieved compositions that were both visually arresting and intellectually engaging. The dynamic interplay of elements in his works often creates a sense of movement and depth, drawing viewers into a universe where the boundaries between reality and imagination blur.

The Hijau series is a powerful body of work that captures abstract landscapes infused with emotional intensity and environmental consciousness. These paintings draw inspiration from the artist's poignant experience in Sarawak, where the sight of felled logs along a riverbank served as a stark reminder of the devastation wrought upon Nature. This encounter became the catalyst for the series, with its vivid imagery translating into a visual commentary on environmental degradation.

In these works, intense diagonal strokes in bold shades of red dominate the foreground, symbolizing the raw violence and destruction inflicted on the natural world. These elements are seamlessly juxtaposed with soft, delicate depictions of hilly terrains in the background, creating a compelling interplay of brutality and beauty. This technique not only amplifies the emotional gravity of the subject but also imbues the compositions with remarkable depth and a sense of grandeur.



IBRAHIM HUSSEIN, DATUK

Searcher, 1964

Gouache on magazine paper laid to card 25 x 25 cm

SOLD RM 20,160

ART FEATURES

One of Eng Tay's remarkable works, *By Silvery Moonlight I* (1994), recently garnered significant attention when it was sold at the KLAS Art Auction for RM35,280. This piece epitomizes the artist's mastery of atmosphere and storytelling, showcasing his ability to create a deeply engaging and serene visual experience. The painting features a moonlit scene, where figures are immersed in a tranquil moment, bathed in the soft glow of silver light.

The composition of *By Silvery Moonlight I* is quintessentially Eng Tay, blending his signature motifs of intimacy and community with a dreamlike ambiance. The interplay of light and shadow is masterfully handled, with the silvery moonlight casting a gentle glow over the figures and their surroundings.

The painting exudes a sense of stillness and introspection, evoking feelings of nostalgia and peace. The figures, though stylized, carry a profound sense of humanity, their gestures and expressions hinting at shared stories and emotions.



ENG TAY

By Silvery Moonlight I, 1994
Collage and oil on canvas 76 x 92 cm
SOLD RM 35,280

One of his standout works, *Satay Seller* (1963), exemplifies Long's knack for capturing the essence of Malaysian life. This piece was recently auctioned at the KLAS Art Auction, drawing significant attention for its nostalgic portrayal of a quintessential local scene. Created when Long was just 17 years old, *Satay Seller* is a watercolor on paper that vividly depicts a street vendor grilling satay—skewered, marinated meat—on an open flame. The artwork reflects a time when hawker culture was deeply ingrained in the Malaysian way of life, serving as both sustenance and a communal activity.



LONG THIEN SHIH

Satay Seller, 1963
Oil on canvas 35.5 x 59 cm
SOLD RM 17,920



TEW NAI TONG

Market Scene, 1963
Oil on canvas 60 x 90 cm
SOLD RM 14,560

One of Tew's remarkable works, *Market Scene* (1963), recently captured attention at the KLAS Art Auction. Painted during his early career, this piece exemplifies Tew's mastery of the Nanyang aesthetic. The artwork portrays a lively Malaysian wet market, a quintessential part of daily life in the country. What makes *Market Scene* particularly captivating is Tew's use of earthy tones, accented by splashes of vibrant colors that bring the scene to life. The figures, rendered in semi-abstract forms, convey movement and energy, while the surrounding environment is simplified yet evocative.



Ibrahim Hussein was a Malaysian artist best known for combining printmaking and collage in his colourful and layered paintings. As seen in *Mother and Child* (1964), his works often have a semi-figurative or figurative element poised within a flattened or nebulous space, resulting in complex surfaces swirling with gestural mark-making and appropriated imagery.

Born on March 13, 1936 in Sungai Limau, Malaysia, Hussein studied first at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts followed by a move to London where he studied at the Royal Academy. The artist was the subject of retrospectives at the National Art Gallery Malaysia and the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes in Santiago, Chile.

This remarkable artwork achieved a dramatic sale, fetching an impressive RM 481,600 after an intense series of back-to-back bids.

The competitive atmosphere underscored the piece's significance and desirability, as collectors eagerly vied to claim it as their own.

The final hammer price not only highlighted the artist's enduring appeal but also demonstrated the strong demand for exceptional art in the auction market.

IBRAHIM HUSSEIN, DATUK

Untitled, 1972

Acrylic on canvas 140 x 127 cm

SOLD RM 481,600

One of Khalil Ibrahim's significant works, *From The Well* (1976), recently garnered attention when it was auctioned at the KLAS Art Auction. The painting exemplifies Khalil's ability to weave narratives of rural life with artistic sophistication. Measuring 91cm x 91cm, the batik piece captures a timeless scene: a group of women drawing water from a village well.

The composition is rooted in Khalil's deep respect for the East Coast communities he frequently depicted. The figures are rendered with his signature fluidity, their postures and movements evoking a sense of rhythm and unity. The scene is intimate yet universal, portraying a daily ritual that transcends time and geography.

Khalil employs a warm palette dominated by earthy tones—ochres, browns, and muted greens—to evoke the rustic charm of kampung life. The gentle interplay of light and shadow adds depth and dimension to the work, while the figures, painted in semi-abstract forms, demonstrate his characteristic balance of realism and abstraction.

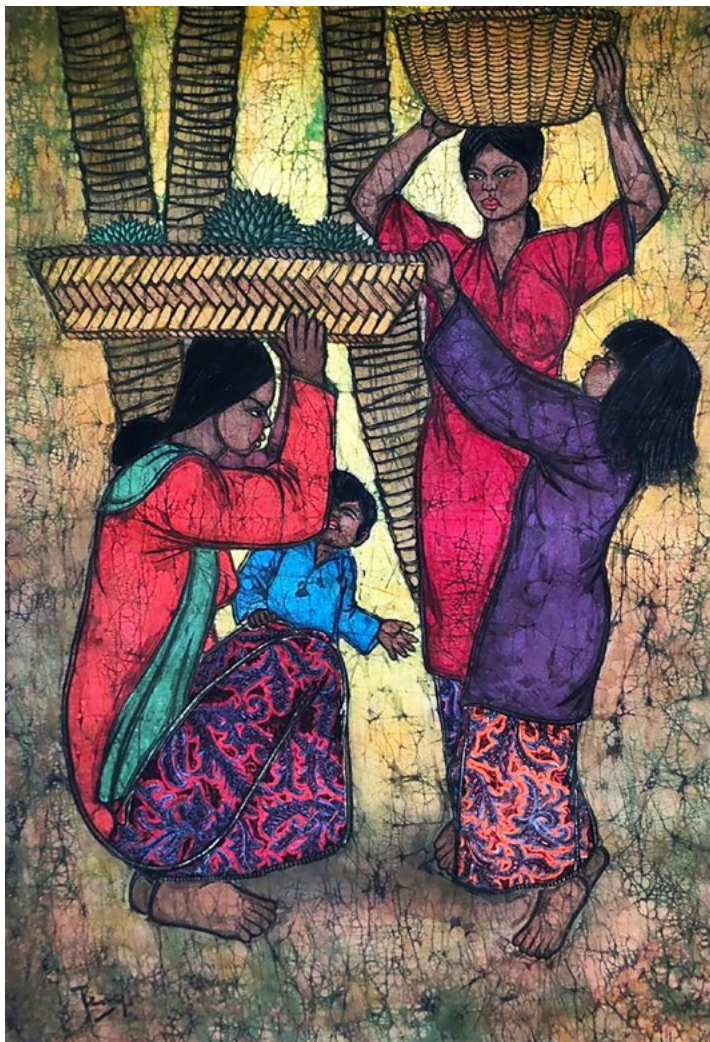


KHALIL IBRAHIM

From The Well, 1976

Batik 88 x 95 cm

SOLD RM 112,000



CHUAH THEAN TENG, DATO

Durian Harvest, circa 1980's

Batik 91 x 60.5 cm

SOLD RM 50,400

Lye Yau Fatt's evocative painting captures a serene gathering of two women by a river, both clad in sarongs as they bathe in the embrace of nature. This intimate depiction reflects the artist's signature style, characterized by rich, earthy tones that create an inviting and nostalgic atmosphere. Lye masterfully conveys a sense of peace and tranquility, drawing viewers into a scene that feels both familiar and deeply rooted in the simplicity of rural life. His ability to evoke warmth, familiarity, and security through his art is unparalleled, as his motifs consistently explore the rustic beauty of traditional settings.

A closer examination of his works reveals intricate designs and subtle details, showcasing his meticulous craftsmanship and attention to nuance. Born in Kedah in 1950, Lye's artistic journey took a significant turn when he studied printmaking in New York, which greatly influenced his techniques and perspectives.

Since his first solo exhibition in 1979 at the Sum Art Gallery, he has achieved numerous accolades, including the Open Art Sculpture Award, the Malaysian Watercolour Society Award in 1987, and the PNB Watercolour Landscape Award.

In terms of Dato' Chuah Thean Teng's farmers theme, this is a work that is quintessential Teng (as he is affectionately known).

All the hallmarks of gesture, form and colours are depicted, colour harmony with the subtle nuances of purple and pink and pink, the close-cropped composition, the elegant configurations and supple forms of two ladies with baskets of durian balanced gracefully atop their head, along with their playful children who are eager to help.

Teng is the world-acknowledged founder of Batik Painting and he never looked back after his breakthrough exhibition in 1955.

His paintings, *Two Of A Kind* (1968) and *Tell You A Secret* (1987), took on iconic status when selected for Unicef greeting cards. He studied at the Xiamen (Amoy) Art Institute in China. He was honoured with a retrospective exhibition by the National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur in 1965 and by the Penang State Art Gallery in 1994.

The Penang State Government conferred him the title "Dato'" in 1998 and he received the Live Heritage Award in 2005. The National Art Gallery gave him a memorial exhibition in 2009. His major works are on show at Yahong Art Gallery in Batu Ferringhi in Penang, which is a veritable museum also showcasing the batik works of his sons and grandsons.



LYE YAU FATT

Dawn at the River, 1985

Mixed media on paper 76 x 56 cm

SOLD RM 15,120

ART FEATURES

Here are some highlights from the KLAS Art Auction held on 19th January 2025, showcasing an exceptional selection of artworks that captivated collectors and art enthusiasts alike. Featuring remarkable pieces from celebrated local and international artists, the auction witnessed outstanding sales, reflecting the enduring appeal and investment value of fine art. From record-breaking bids to the acquisition of masterful creations, these highlights represent the pinnacle of the event's success.



YUSOF GHANI

Siri Segerak - Fishmonger, 2003

Oil on canvas 122 x 122 cm

SOLD RM 89,600



NIZAR KAMAL ARIFFIN

Siri Pohon Beringin - Daerah, 2012

Acrylic on canvas 152.5 x 152 cm

SOLD RM 15,680

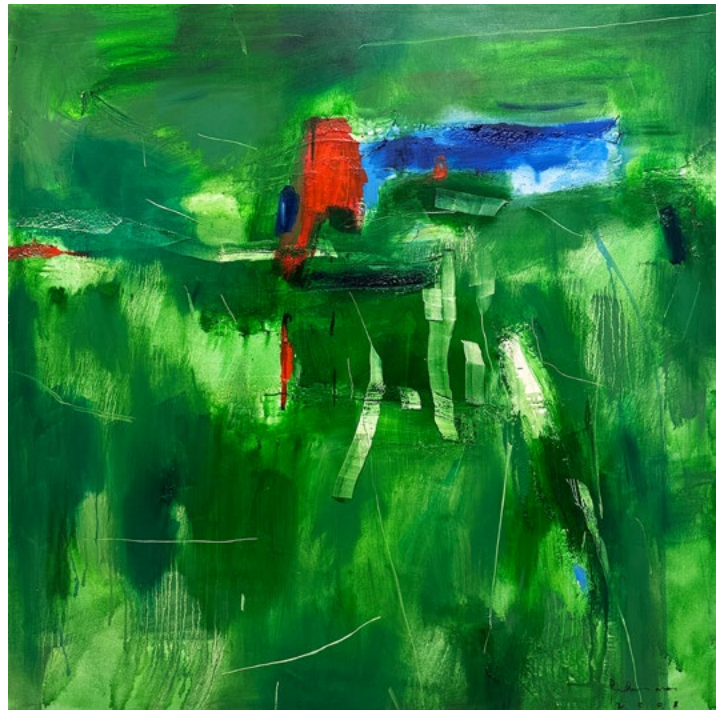


BUI HUU HUNG

The Empress, 2004

Mixed media and lacquer on panel 122 x 122 cm

SOLD RM 85,120



RADUAN MAN

So Red and Blue, 2008

Mixed media on canvas 122 x 122 cm

SOLD RM 7,280



TAY BAK KOI
Fishing Village
Watercolour on paper 29 x 29 cm
SOLD RM 3,584



TAY BAK KOI
Fishing
Watercolour on paper 29 x 29 cm
SOLD RM 3,584



TAY BAK KOI
Resting
Watercolour on paper 29 x 29 cm
SOLD RM 3,584



KHALIL IBRAHIM
Batik Stamping, 1985
Ink on paper 35 x 48 cm
SOLD RM 3,920



KHALIL IBRAHIM
Weaving Baskets, 1985
Ink on paper 35 x 48 cm
SOLD RM 3,920



KWAN CHIN
Fruit Sellers, 2003
Batik 84 x 145 cm
SOLD RM 10,640



KWAN CHIN
At the Market, 2014
Batik 84 x 146 cm
SOLD RM 10,640