ART FEATURES

KLAS Art Auction

A PREVIEW OF EXCEPTIONAL ARTWORKS AT KLAS

Get ready to immerse yourself in a celebration of artistic brilliance as the prestigious KLAS Art Auction returns on 15th June 2025. This much anticipated event promises a stunning showcase of masterpieces, highlighting the vibrancy and depth of both local and international art.

At the heart of the auction are works by some of Malaysia's most iconic and influential artists—Yusof Ghani, Abdul Latiff Mohidin, Khalil Ibrahim, and Rafiee Ghani—whose contributions have helped shape the nation's cultural identity. Their pieces, rich in narrative and visual power, will be featured alongside select works from notable foreign artists, offering collectors and art enthusiasts a rare opportunity to engage with a diverse and inspiring collection.

Whether you're a seasoned collector or a curious newcomer to the art world, the KLAS Art Auction 2025 is more than an event—it's a journey through the creative pulse of Malaysia and beyond.



KHALIL IBRAHIM East Coast Fishermen series, 1999 Watercolour on paper 15 x 15.5 cm RM 2,500 - 5,000 KHALIL IBRAHIM East Coast Fishermen series, 1997 Watercolour on paper 15 x 15.5 cm RM 2,500 - 5,000

"East Coast Fishermen, 1999" is a striking watercolor on paper by the renowned Malaysian modernist Khalil Ibrahim, measuring 15 x 15.5 cm.

Part of his celebrated East Coast series, this artwork gracefully captures the serene rhythm of daily life among traditional fishing communities along Malaysia's east coast.

The painting depicts a group of fishermen—some bending, others standing and conversing—against a shimmering beach at low tide.

The wet sand beautifully mirrors their forms, enhancing the sense of movement and light. Their reflections ripple gently, anchoring them to the landscape in a visual metaphor of their deep connection to the sea and sand.

"East Coast Fishermen, 1997" by the late Khalil Ibrahim is a beautiful and evocative watercolor on paper that captures the physicality, rhythm, and camaraderie of Malaysia's coastal fishing communities.

Measuring approximately 15 x 15.5 cm, this compact yet dynamic piece is part of Khalil's iconic East Coast series, which pays homage to the people and traditions of the country's eastern seaboard.

The painting features a group of bare-chested fishermen, rendered in graceful yet grounded postures, caught mid-motion as they engage in what appears to be a communal activity—perhaps hauling nets or preparing for the day's catch. Their bodies are sculpted with confident brushstrokes that highlight musculature and movement, revealing the artist's deep appreciation for the human form.



CHUAH THEAN TENG, DATO Penang Malay Kampong Scene, 1970s Batik 87 x 39 cm RM 25,000 - 45,000

"Penang Malay Kampong Scene, 1970s" by Dato' Chuah The composition is rich and bustling with everyday activity. Thean Teng is a stunning example of batik painting, a medium the artist famously elevated into a respected fine art form.

Measuring approximately 87 x 39 cm, this work captures the essence of traditional Malay village life (kampong) with warmth, texture, and rhythmic movement, all rendered in Chuah's signature stylized form.



ABDUL LATIFF MOHIDIN Green Landscape II, 2019 Oil on canvas 122 x 153 cm RM 600.000 - 900.000

At the center, a vivid red cow grazes, drawing the eye and symbolizing rural life and sustenance.

Surrounding it are figures engaged in various daily chores: a man squatting beside the cow, villagers tending to coconut harvests, women gathering water, and children playing.

"Green Landscape II, 2019" by Abdul Latiff Mohidin is a contemplative and richly layered oil on canvas that reflects the artist's ongoing exploration of nature, abstraction, and spiritual resonance. Known for his distinctive Pago Pago visual language, Latiff infuses this piece with organic energy, gestural brushwork, and a palette that immerses the viewer in the quiet power of a living, breathing landscape.

At first glance, the composition appears abstract, but on closer inspection, it reveals the rhythms and textures of a lush tropical environment—thickets of vegetation, earth tones, and an enveloping canopy of green. The dominant use of verdant greens, ranging from deep emerald to lime and olive, evokes the dense forests and fertile lands of Southeast Asia.

Latiff's brushwork is dynamic and expressive, yet controlled—each stroke seems instinctual, yet deliberate, as if channeling the pulse of the landscape itself. The surface shimmers with layered textures and varied paint application-some areas are thick with impasto, while others are thin and translucent, creating a sense of depth and movement.



KHOO SUI HOE 4 Clouds Landscape, 1971 Oil on canvas 87 x 100 cm **RM 40,000 - 70,000**

"4 Clouds Landscape, 1971" by Khoo Sui Hoe is a masterful example of mid-century abstract landscape, rendered in oil on canvas. The composition is organized into three horizontal bands that evoke sky, earth, and water, yet all three are distilled into almost minimal, flowing forms.

At the top, four pale, cloudlike ovoids float serenely against a clear cerulean sky. Their soft, almost sculptural volume suggests clouds or drifting petals, imparting a sense of calm and gentle movement.

Below them, a broad swath of warm, rust red hills sweeps across the canvas. Khoo layers hues of burnt sienna, deep brown, and subtle ochre, building a landscape that feels both fertile and timeless. Black ribbonlike accents curve through the red, as if shadows cast by unseen forms or the sinuous flow of ancient rivers.

The foreground is dominated by undulating bands of blue water, ranging from deep ultramarine to soft aqua. These wavelike shapes are smoothly blended, creating an almost hypnotic rhythm that contrasts with the more textured earth above.

A single lighter stripe of turquoise separates land from sea—a delicate line that both divides and unites the picture's zones.

Despite its abstraction, the painting communicates a vivid sense of place: a tranquil yet dynamic seascape at sunset, perhaps, where clouds drift overhead, hills glow in dying light, and waves lap gently at the shore.

The pared-down shapes and bold color fields reflect Khoo Sui Hoe's elegant balance of modernist simplicity with the evocative power of nature.



YUSOF GHANI Biring Series XI, 2006 Oil on canvas 122 x 91 cm **RM 90,000 - 140,000**

"Biring Series XI, 2006" by Malaysian artist Yusof Ghani is a commanding oil-on-canvas work (122 × 91 cm) that thrums with kinetic energy. Across its vertical plane, broad, sweeping strokes of black and white arc and spiral through a glowing field of golden yellow, as if sunlight itself has been captured and set in motion.

Cooler swaths of emerald green and turquoise punctuate the warmth, suggesting glimpses of foliage or water beneath an incandescent sky. Ghani's layered application of paint—ranging from thin, translucent washes to thick, sculptural impasto—creates a richly textured surface, while deliberate drips and scraped-back areas expose hidden strata of color and impart a sense of temporal depth.

Though fully abstract, the looping, ringlike forms (his signature "biring" motif) evoke natural cycles of growth and decay, imparting a primal vitality. In this eleventh iteration of the series, Ghani balances tension and release—order and chaos—through his fluid, expressive gestures, inviting us into a world where color, form, and gesture coalesce into a living, breathing abstraction.



ANTHONY POON Aqueous Waves, 1984 Acrylic on canvas 182 x 182 cm **RM 350,000 - 450,000**

"Aqueous Waves, 1984" by Singaporean artist Anthony Poon is a masterful exercise in geometric abstraction and color harmony, rendered in acrylic on a 182 × 182 cm canvas.

The composition is anchored by a large, crisply defined circle that sits at the center of a square field, its perimeter subtly echoed by the faint framing line of the square's edges.

Within the circle, Poon divides the area into a grid of rectangular panels—four across and four down—each containing a single, undulating wave form. These wave segments align so that, when read horizontally or vertically, they interlock into continuous, sinuous curves that seem to flow seamlessly from panel to panel.

The waves themselves vary in direction and amplitude, introducing a sense of rhythmic interplay across the grid.

Poon's palette celebrates the full spectrum of blues ranging from pale sky and turquoise to deep navy interspersed with occasional pale pinks and mint greens. These cooler hues evoke water's reflective qualities, while the accents of blush suggest fleeting glints of sunrise or sunset on the surface. The transitions between tones are handled with serene precision: gradients in some panels softly blend one shade into another, while solid blocks of color in others provide crisp counterpoints.

Beyond the circle, the background is treated in two registers: the upper half of the square is a pale, almost silvery blue, while the lower half adopts a more vibrant cerulean. This horizontal split subtly grounds the central form, evoking sky above water or the horizontal plane of a horizon line.



CHUAH SEOW KENG 3 Standing Women Batik 58 x 43 cm **RM 2,500 - 5,000**



CHUAH SEOW KENG 3 Women and Child with Cat Batik 53 x 38 cm RM 2,500 - 5,000

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Here are some highlights of the works that will be featured in the Klas Art Auction on 15th June 2025. Together, these works promise a thrilling cross-section of abstraction, landscape, and innovative technique at this summer's premier auction event.



ABDUL LATIFF MOHIDIN Samarahan, 1990 Mixed media on paper 29 x 40 cm RM 20,000 - 42,000



BHANU ACHAN Still Life in Abstract, 2017 Acrylic on canvas 91 x 71 cm RM 5,000 - 9,000



RAFIEE GHANI Shanghai series, 2007 Oil on canvas 41 x 31 cm **RM 3,500 - 7,000**

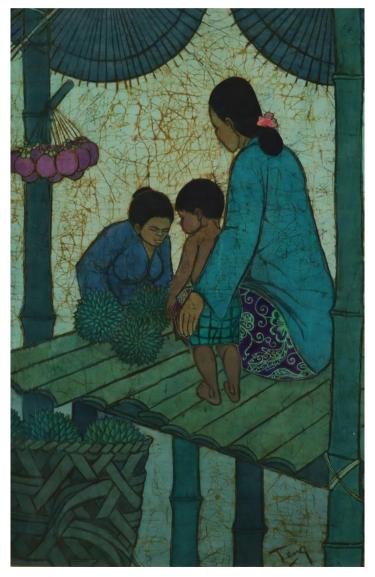


SUZLEE IBRAHIM Movement Series - Light Within Darkness, 1995 Acrylic and oil on canvas 92 x 116 cm RM 7,000 - 10,000

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CHEW TENG BENG At Dusk, 1966 Oil on canvas 61 x 88 cm **RM 5,000 - 12,000**



CHUAH THEAN TENG, DATO The Durian Seller, 1980s Batik 90 x 56 cm **RM 25,000 - 45,000**



YUSOF GHANI Siri Wayang-Ketulan II, 1997/98 Oil on canvas 122 x 92 cm RM 60,000 - 110,000



SYED THAJUDEEN The Couch of Love, 1997 Oil on canvas 59 x 59 cm **RM 12,000 - 25,000**