



Artist's Biography

Ivan Lam received his education in the United States obtaining a Bachelor of Arts in Painting from the Maine College of Art in Portland. He has earned a reputation as one of Malaysia's leading contemporary artists for his continuous ability to push the boundaries of his art practice. Unafraid to take risks and never content to lean on the familiar, he is constantly posing himself new challenges through experimentation with techniques and mediums in a bid to take his artworks to the next level. In so doing he has managed to reach greater and greater heights and each of his iconic artworks reflect a rare purity and honesty which are reflective in the works of artists who are answerable only to themselves.

Ivan Lam is predominantly categorized as a pop artist due to the use of multimedia in his work. Utilising a basic screen-print, he painstakingly layers color upon color of oil and/or acrylic paint on canvas so meticulously that the final product almost looks as if it was machine printed. Whatever the media, Lam masterfully manipulates each element such that every detail is significant and meaningful, never frivolous.

His use of startling colors, emphasis on composition, and tongue-in-cheek social commentary single him out as one of the most advanced pop artists in Malaysia. His works display a distinct combination of both local and foreign sensibilities.

Ivan Lam's work has been exhibited world-wide and has featured at both Christie's and Sotheby's auctions. The winner of the 2003 Philip Morris Malaysian Art Award, he has a strong following of both local and foreign collectors and his works can be found in the collections of The National Art Gallery of Malaysia, Galeri Petronas, Catlin Re Collection and Merrill Lynch amongst many others. In May 2013, Ivan Lam's participation in Art Basel Hong Kong with the exhibition COMA – Compendium of Malaysian Art marked the first time for a Malaysian artist to be presented on such an important platform. He is also the first and only Malaysian artist to have been commissioned by Louis Vuitton to create a painting for their collection.



Artist's Statement

In this contemporary world that we all live in, truth is no longer something that we all strive to seek out but only platitudes. Whatever you do as art or non-art is a reflection of self and selflessness.

The externality of art has imploded to become the internal structure that we all cling on to. This structure provides us with a false sense of hope that it will be the safety net to catch us if we fall. It doesn't exist.

The pure logical classification of propositions that can relate to necessity or possibility of art bears no arms to the search for meaning and enlightenment. The progress made to discover meaning is akin to driving in darkness with no headlights.

It's a grid like pattern where movements are charted not by distance that parallels that movement but the frequency of the movement. It has become a constant negotiation with the movement, time and space that it occupies. The perpetuality of these negotiations has challenged my foundation of universality, truth, reason, stability and order.

It is in these trying times and predisposed conditions that I strive to create my art. In my work I do not wish for balance but the will and perseverance to carry on making art. When in conflict, divergence, disequilibria and volatility, my art exists.

IVAN LAM
2005



Artist's CV

Ivan Lam b.1975

EDUCATION

- 2006 University of East London, UK, MA in International Contemporary Art and Design Practice (Final Semester, Graduating Jan 2007)
Professors: Hedley Roberts, Dr. Daniela Leva
- 1998 Maine College of Art, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Painting (Full Honours)
Professors: Johnnie Ross, Honor Mack, Peter Sucheki, George Larou
- 1994 Lim Kok Wing Institute of Technology, Graphic Design Certificate

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 **CUTTING THE LINES THAT BIND**, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
VOLTA NEW YORK 2016, Pier 90, New York, USA.
- 2014 **IVAN LAM: TWENTY**, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 2013 **Day Zero Night Hero**, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
Art Basel Hong Kong 2013, Insights Sector, Hong Kong Convention Centre, Hong Kong.
Sotheby's 40th Anniversary Auction (Modern and Contemporary Southeast Asian Paintings), 6th October 2013, Hong Kong Convention Centre, Hong Kong
Christie's Auction [ASIAN CONTEMPORARY ART (DAY SALE)], 25th May 2013, Hong Kong Convention Centre, Hong Kong.
- 2012 **MACHINES**, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2011 **TOGETHER ALONE**, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
ART STAGE SINGAPORE 2011, Marina Bay Sands Exhibition Centre, Singapore
- 2009 **PANORAMA**, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2007 **AFTER ALL THESE YEARS**, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2004 **PLOSIVE**, Taksu Singapore
PLOSIVE, Taksu, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2002 **911**, Taksu Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1998 **INS AND OUTS**, Crank, Portland, ME, USA
MECA SENIOR THESIS SHOW, Institute of Contemporary Art, Portland ME, USA
EXIT REMOVALS, Artworks Gallery, Portland ME, USA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2015 **The Space Between**, curated by Anurendra Jegadeva & Rahel Joseph, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2014 **The PEAK Group Show- HO MIA**, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 2013 **18@8 Mirror, Mirror on the wall**, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 2012 **18@8 KUL-SIN**, ION Art, Singapore
18@8 KUL-SIN, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
TIMELESS, Group Exhibition, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2012 **DIRECTIONAL FORCES**, Artoll, Bedburg-hau, Germany
- 2011 **18@8 SAVE THE PLANET**, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2008 **18@8 VICE AND VIRTUE**, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
CHRISTIE'S SEA ART AUCTION, Hong Kong
CIGE (China International Gallery Exposition), China World Trade, Centre, Beijing,



- China.
- FORCE OF NATURE**, Pace, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia
- 2007 **FILTERED**, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- THE FORCE OF NATURE**, Darling Muse Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2006 **LARASATI ART AUCTION**, Singapore
- 18@8 KUALA LUMPUR - KARACHI**, Amin Gulgee Gallery, Karachi, Pakistan in collaboration with Wei-Ling Gallery.
- AU NATUREL**, Darling Muse Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 3 YOUNG CONTEMPORARIES (1997-2006)**, Valentine Willie Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- NASI CAMPUR 2006**, Taksu, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2005 **18@8**, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- IDENTIFYING LANDSCAPES**, Darling Muse Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2004 **PHILIP MORRIS ASEAN ART AWARDS 2004**, National Art Gallery, Bangkok, Thailand
- 10TH ANNIVERSARY**, Taksu Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- FOOTSTEPS**, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- ART FAIR SINGAPORE**, Singapore
- 2003 **TAKSU SINGAPORE OPENING**, Singapore
- TAKSU JAKARTA OPENING**, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- 2002 **ART FAIR SINGAPORE**, Singapore
- 2000 **<1000**, Valentine Willie Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- TRANSFORMATIONS**, Sculpture Square, Singapore
- UNTITLED**, Galeri Shah Alam, Selangor, Malaysia
- ARUS : FLOW**, (Australia-Malaysia Electronic Art, Joint Show), National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1999 **PHILIP MORRIS 99**, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- AKU : 99 PORTRET DIRI**, Galeri Petronas, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1998 **SEQUENCE 11**, Time Based Art, Imaging Center, Portland ME, USA
- 1997 **MAINE ART AUCTION**, Selected for Live Auction, Portland ME, USA
- ARTWORKS**, Portland ME, USA

AWARDS

- 2006 **GROUP EXHIBIT, SOVEREIGN ART PRIZE (TOP 10 FINALIST)**, Hong Kong
- 2003 **GROUP EXHIBIT (GRAND PRIZE WINNER), PHILIP MORRIS 2003**, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2001 **GROUP EXHIBIT (HONOURABLE MENTION) PHILIP MORRIS 2001**, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1999 **ONE PERSON EXHIBIT, BRIGHT SIGHT NIGHT LIGHT**, Galeriwan, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1996 **MERIT SCHOLARSHIP EXHIBIT, 1ST PLACE, MECA**, Portland, ME, USA

COLLECTIONS

- Artoll, Germany
- Catlin Re Collection, Switzerland
- Crank Design Consultant, Maine, USA
- Galeri Petronas, Malaysia
- HSBC, Malaysia
- Merrill Lynch, Maine, USA
- National Art Gallery, Malaysia



Seksan Collection
The Aliya & Farouk Khan Collection, Malaysia