

## CHEN WEI MENG (B.1965)

Chen Wei Meng (B. 1965, Terengganu) has a strong passion for travelling. Domestically, this avid traveller's destinations include the less trodden paths in the states of Perak, Selangor and Terengganu. Departing from the comforts and accessibility of big cities, he chooses instead to delve into the unbeaten tracks of small towns and villages, to fulfil his interest in exploring different places, whilst capturing the essence of the natural terrain through painting.

In his embarkation on the journey to depict naturalism in the paintings, his aim went beyond the intention to create photo realist images. Viewers who see Wei Meng's actual works would undoubtfully be drawn into the landscape of depictions. Canvases of different sizes portray highly detailed natural landscapes, which ooze with a definite sense of serenity.

Having spent his childhood on the East Coast small town of Dungun in the state of Terengganu, the spectacle of the ocean was a daily performance to Chen Wei Meng. He would depict the surreal, evocative delineations of cloudbursts and deluges in the landscape, so as to illustrate the weather and season. As he said, the landscape is like "a friend" that he has found again. The wide lens effect that he applies to his paintings brings the bare foreground close to the viewer, while opening a panorama where stories would develop.

Wei Meng enthuses, "I lean towards a more instructed method of studying landscapes. I want to look at the physical forms of the land itself and by focusing on this aspect, I observe exquisite contours and arrangements, and the results are thrilling! I can see how these geographical elements can be adapted onto a canvas. I can see the processes involved; of how a knowledge of geology augments my landscapes in the artistic sense."

Wei Meng's most recent solo exhibition, 'Sekinchan: Land of fertility' (2016) was held at Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The series represents different nuances of the paddy fields in Sekinchan throughout different seasons. Each of his painting is a form of 'imprisonment', an image draws the audience tenderly in; where all conceivable exists become impenetrable barriers; there is no way of leaving.



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## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 Sekinchan: Land of Fertility, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2014 20 days in Northwest China (part 1), Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2012 Silent Monsoon, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2009 Two three six, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2008 Within 30 km, Reka Art Space, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia

## **SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

2018	Patriots: By Malaysians for Malaysians, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala
2010	Lumpur, Malaysia
	Tanah Air, Art Expo Malaysia 2018 - Project Room, MATRADE Exhibition and
	Convention Centre (MECC), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2017	Sotheby's Auction (Modern and Contemporary Southeast Asian Paintings),
2017	3rd April 2017, Hong Kong Convention Centre, Hong Kong
2016	Art Stage Singapore 2016, Marina Bay Sands, Singapore
2015	18@8 Heirlooms, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	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
2012	18@8: KUL-SIN, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	18@8: KUL-SIN, Ion Art, Singapore
	Timeless, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2011	What's Your Porn? Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	Malaysian Rice-Plates Project, KL Convention Centre, Kuala Lumpur,
	Malaysia
2010	Heartland, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2006	Asia Pacific Ocean International Art Exhibition, Mu Gung Hwa Centre, Kuala
	Lumpur, Malaysia
	1st Art Exhibition, Mu Gung Hwa Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2005	Ulek Rasa (Exhibition of Terengganu Artists), National Art Gallery, Kuala
2004	Lumpur, Malaysia
2004	Seoul International Star Exhibition, Gyeonhuigung Annex Building of Seoul
	Museum of Art, Korea
	Second Annual Reka Free Show 2004, Reka Art Space, Kuala Lumpur,
2001	Malaysia Malaysian Open Show 2001, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2001	'Manusia, The Human Being' Exhibition, NN Gallery, Kuala Lumpur (Charity
	Exhibition in Aid of the International Movement for a Just World)
2000	Buncho National Water Colour Award 2000, S.I.T Klang
	Philip Morris Malaysia Exhibition, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur,
	Malaysia
1999	Aspiration Work 2000 Exhibition, Hotel Helang, Pulau Langkawi, Malaysia
1991	Figurative & Drawing Exhibition, Westminster Institute, London