



CHENG YEN PHENG (B. 1982)

Cheng Yen Pheng's works are intimate and autobiographical and reflect upon the struggles of life—the difficult decisions, the reconciling of realities, and the overcoming loss.

And despite the uncertainties and the unknown outcomes, what has been a constant, is her unrelenting determination to uphold what she believes in, and to adhere to those principals. On a trail-blazing path as one of the country's most provocative and brave contemporary voices, Cheng Yen Pheng left a mark on the local art scene, when, as a finalist in the National Art Gallery's *Bakat Muda* (Young Contemporary) 2014 competition, she stood up for her work entitled *ABU*, which courted some controversy and was censored from being shown during the final exhibition. Her outspoken, honest, and determined approach towards her life, is mirrored in her art journey.

Her work is deeply personal. It is her life laid bare. Through it she composes her own museum of life, looking upon the act of creating as a way of assembling, materializing and conserving life's experiences. The artist places herself as a storyteller, as she connects the dots between different events encountered and major life-changing decisions settled through time. Echoing distinct themes ranging from femininity, maternity, motherhood, life and death, to her transition from the city to the "kampong" life, her work moves beyond expression, as it also serves as the artist's realization of her inner metamorphosis, while unfolding the joy and struggle as an individual, but also a woman, mother, and artist.

Her materials and choice of medium are varied and diverse, and reverberate with the provocative messages intertwined within them. This deliberate use of different mediums and textures are intrinsic to her work, as they act as metaphors to emphasize her state of mind and feelings that she can only convey through these forms.

Cheng Yen Pheng was the recipient of the 2018 UOB Painting of the Year (Malaysia) competition. She also received the 2020 CENDANA Visual Arts Inspire Funding Programme, which she uses to conduct research on the local arts, crafts, and community in Terengganu, Malaysia.



CHENG YEN PHENG (B. 1982)

EDUCATION

2004 Diploma in Fine Art, Dasein Academy of Art, Malaysia

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 SEA FOCUS, Gillman Barracks, Singapore
2018 It's Been Four Years Since..., Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2012 Pricked, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 100 Pieces: Art for All, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2018 Teh Tarik with The Flag, curated by Wei-Ling Gallery, in association with The National Visual Arts Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2017 Through Rose-Tinted Glasses, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
18@8 RIGHT HERE! RIGHT NOW!, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2016 Dasein Gallery Group Exhibition, 10th International Art Expo Malaysia, MATRADE Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2015 Stories of 11 Artworks, HOM Art Trans, Malaysia
2014 Breaking Down The Wall, Young Artist's Group Exhibition, 8th International Art Expo Malaysia, MATRADE Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
The Good Malaysian Woman: Ethnicity, Religion Politics, Black Box, MAP KL, Publika, Malaysia
Freedom Under Construction, Malaysia-Myanmar Exchange Program, HOM Art Trans, Selangor, Malaysia
2013 Measuring Love, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2012 A Decade of Collecting Contemporary Art, Wei-Ling Gallery
18@8 KUL-SIN, ION Art Gallery, Orchard Road, Singapore
2011 18@8 Save The Planet, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
The Garden of Hidden Desires, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Asia Art Link, Philippines
2010 Absolut 18@8, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Artist in Residence, HOM Art Trans, Selangor, Malaysia
Young Malaysian Artist: New Object (ion), Galeri Petronas, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2009 MEA (Malaysian Emerging Artist Award) Exhibition, Soka Gakkai, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Sasaran International Art Workshop (Part II), Mutiara Gallery, Penang, Malaysia
Hanoi Welcome, Vietnam Fine Arts Museum
2008 Swash to Swarm, Findars Space @ Annexe Central Market, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
No Big Size, Findars Space @ Annexe Central Market, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2007 Mekar Citra, Shah Alam Gallery, Selangor, Malaysia



2005 30 Finalists of Pact Max Malaysian Art Awards, Foodloft Art Gallery, Penang, Malaysia
Floral Kaleidoscope, Isetan Lot 10, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Open Show, National Art Gallery Malaysia
Pameran Terbuka (Open Show), Shah Alam Gallery, Selangor, Malaysia
Seoul International Art Festival, Seoul City Art Centre, South Korea
Sejong Culture Art Centre, South Korea

AWARDS

2013 Bakat Muda Sezaman (Finalist), National Visual Arts Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2010 Artist in Residence, HOM Art Trans, Selangor, Malaysia

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Galeri Petronas, Malaysia
Aliya & Farouk Khan Collection, Malaysia