

YAU BEE LING (B. 1972)

Throughout her 25 year career, Malaysian painter Yau Bee Ling's work has consistently echoed her observations on the world and reflect autobiographical themes. Her works are deeply personal and profound in their symbolism, as she struggles to reconcile the broad gambit of human experiences and the complex roles of contemporary women in present-day society. Highly regarded as one of the country's foremost painters, her work pays homage to a lifelived.

Over the years, Yau Bee Ling has moved from one identity to another: from single woman to wife to mother. Each move, each curve in the winding road leading to where she is today is a journey of searching and looking for answers. Answers to the conflicts brought on by the transition from one phase of life to another: of being a woman, a wife and a mother. Answers to the conflicts brought on by the multiple responsibilities she carries.

Through her works, she challenges and ponders the questions that inhabit her mind and soul. Each series of paintings are charged with their own distinctive energy, reflective of her state of mind, her emotional well-being and the way she perceives her place in the world at the time. Her works are therefore a cathartic process for her, as she struggles to reconcile the meaning of life, through the layering of and scraping back of paint, and colour, navigating her way through the twisting terrains of her paintings in the search for truth.

In '**A Paradigm Shift - Relecting on Twenty Years of The Malaysian Art Scene**', Bee Ling's 'At the Helm' portrays a woman as a 'ship' as she journeys through the sea of life. She is a beautiful vessel, built to last although she does not yet realise it. At times she courses through the waters freely, the sails outstretched, as if by catching the prevailing wind, by being captured within its own serenity, it contains a form of eternal hope. At other times, the sails hangs limply, and she almost lays still.





Yau Bee Ling
Home Dinner (Family Series)
Oil on canvas
120cm x 120cm
1997

Exhibition:
The Space Between
Group Show
April – June 2015
WEI-LING CONTEMPORARY



Yau Bee Ling
Praying Table I
2000



Yau Bee Ling
Gifts from the In-Laws
Oil on canvas
122cm x 153cm
2005



Yau Bee Ling

Converging

Oil and sand medium on canvas

102cm x 140cm

2019



Yau Bee Ling
Shroud of Dispersion
Oil paint on jute canvas
152.5cm x 213cm
2021

Exhibition:
A relentless whirlwind- from inside, looking out
10 August – 30 September 2021
WEI-LING GALLERY