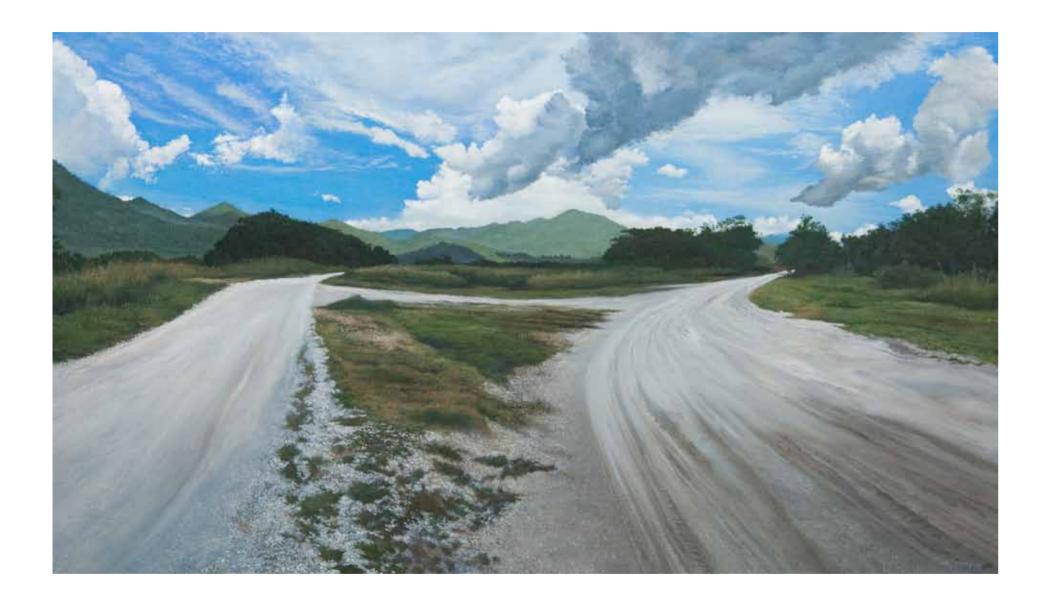
HEARTLAND CHEN WEI MENG & WONG PERNG FEY

5 July - 30 July 2010







b. 1965

EDUCATION

1984 Central Academy of Art, Malaysia

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2009	two three six, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2007	Within 30 km, Reka Art Space, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

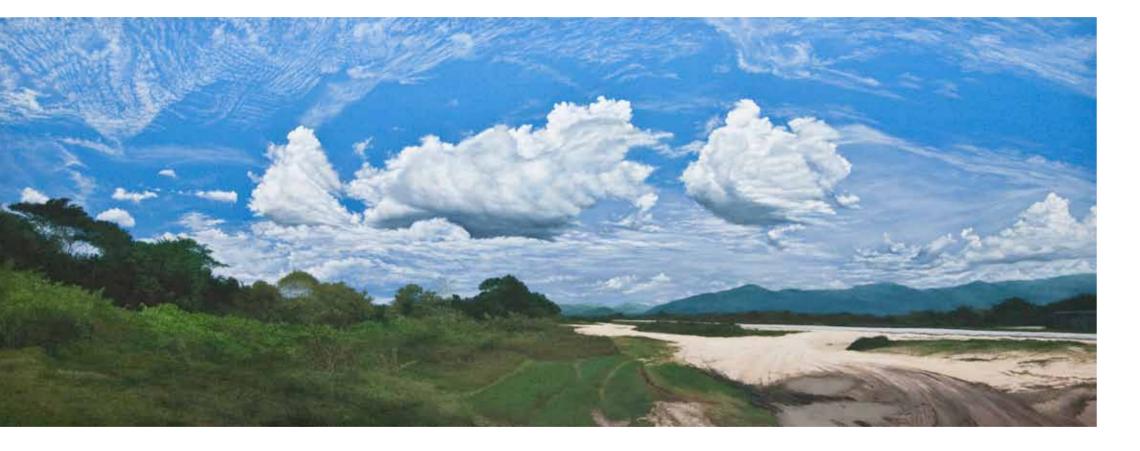
2010	Heartland, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2006	Asia Pacific Ocean International Art Exhibition, Mu Gung Hwa Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	1st Art Exhibition, Mu Gung Hwa Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2005	Ulek Rasa (Exhibition of Terengganu Artists), National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, 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, Malaysia
2001	Malaysian Open Show 2001, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	<i>'Manusia, The Human Being'</i> Exhibition, NN Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (Charity Exhibition in Aid of the International Movement for a Just World)
2000	Buncho National Water Colour Award 2000, S.I.T Klang, Malaysia
	Philip Morris Malaysia Exhibition, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
999	Aspiration Work 2000 Exhibition, Hotel Helang, Pulau Langkawi, Malaysia
991	Figurative & Drawing Exhibition, Westminster Institute, London

CHEN WEI MENG : HEARTLAND









"Each painting is a journey. It speaks about the artist's attitude towards life, and about his experiences living his life. Each painting is a piece of the brick wall, of the jigsaw puzzle, that makes the complete picture. Like defining moments in life, each painting is an episode of the total sum of a person"

-Chen Wei Meng

"A painting is an accumulation of experiences projected on to canvas. It is a composite of events, memories, experiences, and impressions. A painting is therefore a result of a quest for the meaning of life."

-Wong Perng Fey

These beliefs resulted in a body of work that is the sum of the artists' lives to-date.

Chen Wei Meng has been dabbling in one form of creative expression or another almost all his life. He studied interior design but tried out several different vocations before settling down to work on canvas. In the early years he worked on forms and portraiture but felt that he needed to focus his energy on something that he could excel in and be passionate about.

He experimented with abstract art, but after some time felt that there was still a vacuum in his life. He then realised that he needed to express his thoughts and feelings in a simpler way using things or images familiar to him. To Chen Wei Meng, one needs to stand still before making decisions in order to get the panoramic perspective of life.

While he was living in Terengganu, his panoramic perspective resulted in an exhibition of landscapes but the exhibition was really for Chen Wei Meng a record of that time in his life. In this collection of paintings for 'Heartland,' it is about another journey, a different journey, building on his past journeys elsewhere, but focusing on his experiences and reflections in his new home state of Selangor. Hence the collection of landscapes; the result of forays to the hinterland and the 'growth' land of the state. He observed; he recorded; and he painted his individual reflections to tempt the viewers to 'read' and to reflect too.

CHEN WEI MENG : HEARTLAND

For Chen Wei Meng, 'Heartland' is a very solid documentation of the impact of his many journeys to-date. To him, it is about life; one can plan but one will never know exactly what would eventuate.

Hence, the restless artist in him is happy to let things happen; to see and observe everything around him and later to express visually his interpretation of what he feels and observes and his responses to the experiences.

The idealistic person in him worries that there is so much to do and to record before things or places change and not enough time to do everything. To the extent that Chen Wei Meng does not know where or what he will focus on next in his art making.

When Chen Wei Meng and Wong Perng Fey met a few years ago, they realized that they shared a mutual understanding of and beliefs about the artistic process. They discovered similarities in their perspectives and their views about life in addition to the shared position that art making is a very individual process; and that pace and time are concepts very individual to the artist.

There is 'chemistry' between the two artists. 'Indefinable chemistry', according to Wong Perng Fey when describing his connection to Chen Wei Meng.

Like Chen Wei Meng, Perng Fey speaks of his paintings as portraying his accumulated personal experiences. He is unable to paint about things of which he has no direct experiences. For him, making art is about finding the right direction, going the right way and getting to the right place. Otherwise, the result will be 'null and void'; the painting will feel empty to him and will not work.



b. 1974

EDUCATION

1996 - 1998 Fine Art, Malaysian Institute of Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

2010 I'll Wait For You To Come Back, SLOT, Sydney, Australia

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- Malaysia

 2002 New Landscape, Valentine Willie Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2000 First Solo, Valentine Willie Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2010 Heartland, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
 Ruang Berikutnya, Sangking Art Space, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
 Fresh Decade, The Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
 MAP Art Festival, District Art Box, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
 International Art Fair, Royal College of Art, Kensington, London,UK
- 2009 Art Bazaar Jakarta, Pacific Place, Jakarta
 Personal Effects, Rogue Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
 Headlights, Valentine Willie Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur & Singapore
- 2008 Headlights, Valentine Willie Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Shifting Boundaries, Rimbun Dahan, Malaysia

- 2007 Between Generations, Asian Art Museum, University of Malaya & Muzium & GaleriTunku Fauziah, Universiti Sains Malaysia
- 2006 Signed & Dated, Valentine Willie Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Feed Me! An Exploration of Appetites, Rimbun Dahan, Malaysia
- 2005 ART Singapore, Suntec City Convention Centre, Singapore Petronas Collection Series Three: Narative Strain, Galeri Petronas, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2004 Paradise Lost, Paradise Found WWF Art For Nature, Rimbun Dahan, Malaysia
- 2003 ART Singapore, Suntec City Convention Centre, Singapore
 Puncak Alami II, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
 Melbourne Connection Asia, City Tram Shelter, Melbourne, Australia
- 2002 Touch WWF Art For Nature, Rimbun Dahan, Malaysia
- 2001 Face The Act, Galeri Petronas, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2000 Landscape to Landscape, Galeri Petronas, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1999 Aku 99 Self Portraits, Galeri Petronas, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1994 *Malaysian Art Open*, Galeri Petronas, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

AWARDS

2002	Artist In Residence, Rimbun Dahan, Malaysia
1996	Scholarship Award, Malaysian Institute of Art
1994	Honorable Mention, Malaysian Art Open





WONG PERNG FEY: HEARTLAND

To Wong Perng Fey, his paintings must 'speak' to him. The 'conversations' between him and his paintings are effortless and smooth when the subject matter is something to which he as the artist, truly belongs. In other words, the subject matter is authentic to him; every stroke in his painting represents a part of his life, an experience he has personally lived.

It explains why he constantly adds and deletes from his painting-in-progress. The on-going 'conversations' with the painting triggering fresh recollections or different understandings of the lessons of life.

Wong Perng Fey shares the same concerns with Chen Wei Meng that many people forget about the need to understand the lessons of life. As an artist, he feels it is vitally important that there is space to think and to inspire himself before he can inspire others.

'Heartland' for Wong Perng Fey is a creative milestone. He has reached a stage in his artistic life where he has learnt to be more disciplined and controlled in making his art. His earlier works contained a lot of aggression, at times leaving him totally exhausted after completing them.

The paintings in 'Heartland' come from a more disciplined stage of his life. The simple lessons of his life have taken Wong Perng Fey through a 'sift and reflect' process. He believes he now has the patience to be calm and structured; to wait patiently for the paint to settle down and to use that time to reflect.

For Wong Perng Fey, his art making process has changed. Like Chen Wei Meng, he does not know what the future will be, but he has learnt to be patience and calmly waits.

'Heartland' the exhibition is about places and the experiences that each of the two artists with those places. 'Heartland' is about their connections to the land, and in the case of Perng Fey, particularly about authentic connection to the land and his place in it.

'Heartland' is also about the art-making process. It charts the journeys of two artists finding common beliefs in the art-making process; independently concluding some very fundamental philosophies: the need to focus on form or subject matter that inspires passion; the need to appreciate individual concepts of pace and time; the need to be patient, calm and sincere in the presentation of their experiences through their art.

'Heartland' is about two artists who believe that their paintings contain the DNA to their lives.

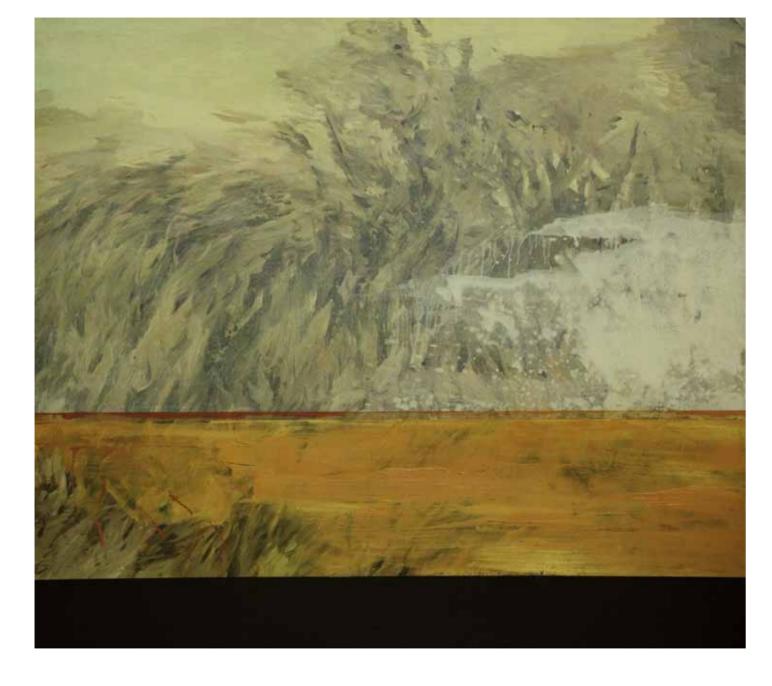
- Mas Zetti Atan

Mas Zetti Atan studied traditional Malay arts at university and spent 10 years of her working life in the Malaysian visual arts industry. She has been a regular contributor to the arts pages of the local papers. In recent years, her professional interests have seen her focused on self-awareness, self-realisation and the use of lessons of life in leadership development. She is now a corporate trainer by profession.

Note: Conversations with the artists Chen Wei Meng & Wong Perng Fey abouts the 'Heartland' exhibition took place at their respective studios on 6th and 10th June 2010.

The Arrival Of The Season . 170cm x 220cm . Oil On Canvas . 2010

WONG PERNG FEY : HEARTLAND





Brief Encounter . 122cm x 136cm . Oil On Canvas . 2010

Red . 122cm x 157cm . Oil On Canvas . 2010

