



Celebrating Creativity and Generosity: The Success of Wei-Ling Gallery's ,18@8 – pLay Charity Auction

13th February 2025

Kikyo, Lot G-3, The Troika, 19, Persiaran KLCC, Kuala Lumpur, 50490 Kuala Lumpur, Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur

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On February 13, 2025, art lovers and animal advocates gathered at Kikyo Troika for the much-anticipated charity auction of the 18@8 – pLay exhibition. This project, presented by Wei-Ling Gallery, showcased unique art sculptures by Malaysian artists and raised an astounding **RM186,000** for SPCA Selangor (Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) marking a record high for the 18@8 auction project.

Since its inception in 2005, the 18@8 exhibition series has redefined the relationship between art and society. Each edition challenges artists to explore themes that resonate with contemporary issues while pushing creative boundaries. This year's edition, titled 'pLay,' emphasized that art is as much about action as it is about aesthetics. The concept invited 13 Malaysian artists to transform Decopatch paper-mâché cats and dogs from CzipLee into one of a kind art objects.

The charity auction featured specially crafted art pieces created exclusively for this event, resulting in truly collectible items. Notable brands such as Absolut Vodka, Royal Selangor, Volkswagen, Corum watches, and Furla have partnered with the gallery over the years to bring the 18@8 Project to life.

The past achievements of this exhibition series are commendable, with significant funds raised for various causes:

- **2010:** RM53,850 for SPCA Selangor
- **2011:** RM90,000 for Animal Concerns Research and Education Society (ACRES)
- **2013:** RM70,600 for SPCA Selangor
- **2014:** RM146,000 for SPCA Selangor
- **2017:** RM153,000 for SPCA Selangor
- **2021:** RM133,200 for Breast Cancer Welfare Association Malaysia (BCWA)

This year, CzipLee and Decopatch generously provided 14 paper-mâché sculptures of cats and dogs for the initiative. Participating artists included:

Anas Afandi, Anisa Abdullah, Chen Wei Meng, Cheng Yen Pheng, Cheong Kiet Cheng, Chin Kong Yee, Choy Chun Wei, Hamidi Hadi, Ivan Lam, Khabir Roslan, Sean Lean, Wong Chee Meng, and Yau Bee Ling.



Artist sculptures on display at Kikyo, The Troika

The evening was a resounding success, thanks to the charismatic auctioneer Han Hoh, who encouraged generous bidding. The highest bid of RM30,000 was achieved for Chin Kong Yee's piece, "Unwavering Flow", a stunning lacquered paper-mâché dog.



Chin Kong Yee – Unwavering flow (2025) | Lacquered on Paper Maché dog; 33 x 15 x 35cm



A special surprise lot, created by gallery director Lim Wei-Ling, titled "Alebrije de Kahlo", captivated attendees. This guardian cat sculpture symbolises protection, strength, and guidance and raised RM16800.

Wei-Ling expressed heartfelt gratitude to all who contributed to making this project a reality, including Czip Lee, Decopatch, Kikyo Troika, the artists, her dedicated team, emcee Thanuja Ananthan, Han Hoh and of course, the generous bidders.

"We couldn't have done it without each and every one of you! Thank you!" said Wei-Ling.

As the 18@8 series continues to flourish, it remains a powerful platform for artistic expression and charitable giving, creating a lasting impact on both the art community and society at large.

For additional information, please contact Wei-Ling Gallery at +60322601106 or email siewboon@weiling-gallery.com.

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ABOUT THE GALLERY

Wei-Ling Gallery was founded in 2002 by Lim Wei-Ling with the ambition to nurture the development of Malaysia's contemporary art scene. The flagship Gallery is housed within a heritage shophouse that was ravaged by a fire in 2004. The unique interior is an installation unto itself, having been designed by renowned Malaysian architect, Professor Jimmy CS Lim.

The Gallery's position has been achieved through ambitious, diversified and contextual curatorial projects and programming. Wei-Ling Gallery has repeatedly presented Malaysian Contemporary art to international audiences, simultaneously representing a selection of widely-acclaimed local and international artists. Our exhibitions are free and open to all as a space for public imagination and inquiry.

In its continuous efforts of cultivating the local contemporary art scene, Wei-Ling Gallery is also one of the most prolific publishers of art publications in the country, valuing the importance of archiving. The Gallery's publishing activity encourages an appreciation for contemporary art with a backlist of monographs, artists' books, and exhibition catalogues which highlights the often-overlooked characteristics of an artist's practice.

The Gallery is also active on all relevant social media platforms, especially our podcasts which took root during the Covid-19 Pandemic Lockdown. Launched in 2022, WLG Incubator identifies the next generation of Malaysian artists, by bringing together the opportunity for them to be advised and guided by an established artist. WLG Incubator also aims to highlight and encourage project collaborations with emerging Malaysian artists, helping them develop a practice that is authentic, experimental and progressive.

Our WLG Discussion Lab covers topics which are pertinent to current issues and the Gallery will soon usher in WLG Salon, a gathering of individuals from the art fraternity and academics for serious discourses.

**Notes to Editors**

Preview by appointment.

Images and further information are available upon request.

Gallery Information

Free Admission

Operation hours: 10AM – 6PM (Tuesday - Friday), 10AM – 5PM (Saturday)

Closed on Sundays, Mondays and Public Holidays

Image Courtesy

Wei-Ling Gallery

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