



## **IVAN LAM WAI HOE (B.1975)**

Born in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where he still lives and works. Ivan Lam graduated from the Maine College of Art USA with a Bachelors in Fine Art Painting in 1998. Starting off as a printmaker, he used silkscreen as a means to create works that dealt with colour fields and reflected international issues. In 2005, Ivan was regarded as the country's most relevant contemporary printmaker, having mastered the silkscreen with the back-breaking CMYK series (consisting only of 10 pieces). At this juncture, Ivan made the bold move of shifting his focus from printing to painting.

Ivan Lam's art career spans over 23 years, making significant contributions to contemporary Malaysian art through innovative practices in printmaking and contemporary painting. His use of resin adds a hyper-realistic layer to his works, exploring themes of duality, tension, and contradictions, while engaging with popular culture, current affairs, art history, and autobiography. The continuation of his artistic journey includes pivotal series like *'After All These Years...'*, *'Panorama'*, and *'Together Alone'*, which demonstrated his exploration of new mediums, techniques, and large-scale works. Meanwhile, his exhibitions such as *'Machines'* and *'The Zero Hero'*, addressed themes like multicultural coexistence and identity.

The conceptual turn in his practice tackled deeper questions about authorship and the nature of art, exemplified by works like *'Compendium of Malaysian Art (COMA)'* and *'The Death of a Nation / The Birth of a Nation'*, which critiqued consumerism and Malaysia's racial divisions. His *'FAUX'* series and works like *'Nine Paintings of Bouquets'* and *'Stone'* examined truth, imitation, and impermanence. Lam's performance pieces, such as *'66:06:06'* and *'U-Turn'*, invited viewers to reflect on the passage of time and political inaction.

In his later works, like *'THE SOIL ON WHICH I BLEED'* and *'Aesthetics of Silence'*, Lam engaged with the pandemic, political tensions, and the importance of presence in a digital age. His 2022 *'Catharsis'* series reflected deeply on physical pain, while *'Blind Side'* (2023) focused on creating inclusive art for the visually impaired. He explored cultural dialogue between Malaysia and Singapore, reinforcing the theme of progress and unity in Southeast Asia with his work *'Merdeka Project - In(ter)dependence'*. For the 2025 S.E.A Focus held in Singapore, Lam's works explored the human condition through geopolitical conflict, using symbolism, contrast, and crosshair motifs to reflect on war, memory, and the dehumanisation of modern warfare. Throughout his career, Lam has continuously evolved, pushing boundaries and questioning the role of the artist in society.

Lam has exhibited extensively both locally and internationally, receiving multiple awards throughout his career, which includes numerous solo and group exhibitions. His achievements have been recognised by esteemed institutions across Malaysia, Europe, and the USA. His career milestones include a 2015 retrospective, *'Ivan Lam:*



*TWENTY*, showcasing 20 years of his artistic journey at Wei-Ling Contemporary. In 2013, he became the first Malaysian artist to debut at Art Basel Hong Kong with a solo presentation of *'COMA – Compendium of Malaysian Art'*. Also, Lam's work *'beLieVe'* (2014) sits in Louis Vuitton's permanent collection. Lam debuted at Volta New York in 2016 and was invited to the Karachi Biennale in 2017. In 2019, he represented Malaysia at its first National Pavilion at the 58th Venice Biennale with *'One Inch'* (2019), a work exploring dualities and layered meanings. Ivan's work for the 2025 S.E.A Focus was also acquired by the Singapore Art Museum as part of the S.E.A Focus Art Fund.

Ivan Lam has been selected to participate in the prestigious International Studio & Curatorial Program (ISCP) residency in Brooklyn, New York. He is the first and only Malaysian artist to ever be chosen for this highly selective residency, which is recognised globally for its rigorous selection process and its role in shaping the careers of leading contemporary artists and curators.



## **IVAN LAM WAI HOE (B.1975)**

### **EDUCATION**

- 2006 University of East London, UK, MA in International Contemporary Art and Design Practice (Final Semester, Graduating Jan 2007)  
Professors: Hedley Roberts, Dr. Daniela Leva
- 1998 Maine College of Art, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Painting (Full Honours)  
Professors: Johnnie Ross, Honor Mack, Peter Sucheki, George Larou
- 1994 Lim Kok Wing Institute of Technology, Graphic Design Certificate

### **SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

- 2026 On Edge, The Drawing Room, Yap Ah Shak House, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2025 The Dichotomy of Opposites, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2023 Blind Side, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2022 catharsis, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2021 THE SOIL ON WHICH I BLEED, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2020 small works + drawings, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2019 FAUX, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2018 Hymen, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2017 Curating Human Experiences 66:06:06, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- You said you'll never leave, Karachi Biennale 2017, Narayan Jagannath Vaidya, Karachi, Pakistan
- Vanity Project X, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- For those who don't believe, no proof is possible. 56/200, Art Stage Singapore 2017, Southeast Asia Forum - Net Present Value: Art, Capital, Futures, Marina Bay Sands Exhibition Centre, Singapore
- 2016 Cutting the lines that bind, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- VOLTA NEW YORK 2016, The Pier 90, New York, USA
- 2014 IVAN LAM: TWENTY, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2013 Day Zero Night Hero, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Art Basel Hong Kong 2013, Hong Kong Convention Centre, Hong Kong
- 2012 MACHINES, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2011 Together Alone, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Art Stage Singapore 2011, Marina Bay Sands Exhibition Centre, Singapore
- 2009 Panorama, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2007 Ivan Lam: After All These Years..., Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2004 Plosive, Taksu Gallery, Singapore
- 2004 Plosive, Taksu Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2002 911, Taksu Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1999 Bright side night light, Gallery Wan, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



- 1998      Ins and Outs, Crank, Portland, ME, USA  
MECA Senior Thesis Show, Institute of Contemporary Art, Portland  
ME, USA  
Exit Removals, Artworks Gallery, Portland ME, USA

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025      A Colloquy, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
S.E.A. FOCUS 2025, Tanjong Pagar Distripark, Singapore
- 2024      18@8 pLAy, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2023      Merdeka Project - In(ter)dependence & A Tapestry of Us, Henderson  
Industrial Park, Singapore  
White Space: Lines at the Door, NAFA, Singapore  
HansaeYes24 Foundation International Culture Exchange Exhibition  
"Embrace Malaysia", Insa Art Center, Seoul, Korea
- 2022      A Paradigm Shift - Reflecting on Twenty Years of The Malaysian Art  
Scene, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2021      The Field Beyond, Lim Hak Tai Gallery @ NAFA Campus 1, Singapore  
"Aesthetics of Silence", Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur,  
Malaysia  
100 Pieces: Art for All, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur,  
Malaysia
- 2019      18@8 Turning Points, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur,  
Malaysia  
Holding Up a Mirror, Malaysia Pavilion, Palazzo Malipiero, 58<sup>th</sup>  
International Art Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia
- 2018      Teh Tarik with The Flag, curated by Wei-Ling Gallery, in association  
with The National Visual Arts Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Seen, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2017      18@8 RIGHT HERE! RIGHT NOW!, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala  
Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2016      The Past Is Never Where You Think You Left It, curated by Gowri  
Balasegaram, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Art Stage Singapore 2016, Marina Bay Sands, Singapore
- 2015      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
- 2013      18@8 Mirror, Mirror on the wall, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala  
Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2012      18@8 KUL-SIN, ION Art, Singapore  
18@8 KUL-SIN, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Timeless, Group Exhibition, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur,  
Malaysia  
Directional Forces, Artoll, Bedburg-hau, Germany
- 2011      18@8 Save The Planet, Wei-Ling Contemporary, Kuala Lumpur,  
Malaysia
- 2008      18@8 Vice and Virtue, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Christie's SEA Art Auction, Hong Kong  
CIGE (China International Gallery Exposition) China World Trade  
Center, Beijing, China  
Force of Nature, Pace, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia



- 2007 Filtered, Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
The Force of Nature, Darling Muse Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2006 Larasati Art Auction, Singapore  
"18@8", KUALA LUMPUR-KARACHI, AMIN GULGEE GALLERY,  
KARACHI, PAKISTAN (in collaboration with Wei-Ling Gallery)  
Au Naturel, Darling Muse Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
3 Young Contemporaries (1997-2006), Valentine Willie Art Gallery,  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2005 Nasi Campur 2006, Taksu Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
"18@8", Wei-Ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2004 Identifying Landscape, Darling Muse Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Philip Morris Asean Art Awards 2004, National Art Gallery, Bangkok,  
Thailand  
10th Anniversary, Taksu Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Footsteps, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
ArtFair Singapore, Singapore
- 2003 Taksu Singapore Opening, Singapore  
Taksu Jakarta Opening, Jakarta, Indonesia
- 2002 ArtFair Singapore, Singapore
- 2000 <1000, Valentine Willie Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Transformations, Sculpture Square, Singapore  
Untitled, Galeri Shah Alam, Selangor, Malaysia  
Arus: Flow (Australia-Malaysia Electronic Art, Joint Show), National  
Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1999 Philip Morris 99, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Aku: 99 Portret Diri, Galeri Petronas, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1998 Sequence 11, Timed Based Art, Imaging Center, Portland, Maine,  
USA
- 1997 Maine Art Auction, Selected for Live Auction, Portland, Maine, USA  
Artworks, Portland ME, USA

## **AWARDS**

- 2006 Group Exhibit, Sovereign Art Prize (Top 10 Finalists), Hong Kong
- 2003 Group Exhibit (Grand Prize Winner), Philip Morris 2003, National Art  
Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2001 Group Exhibit (Honourable Mention), Phillip Morris 2001, National Art  
Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1999 One person Exhibit, Bright Sight Night Lights, Galeriwan, Kuala  
Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1996 Merit Scholarship Exhibit, 1st Place, MECA, Portland, ME, USA

## **RESIDENCIES**

International Studio & Curatorial Program (ISCP) residency in Brooklyn, New York

## **SELECTED COLLECTIONS**

Artoll, Germany  
Catlin Re Collection, Switzerland  
Crank Design Consultant, Maine, USA



Wei-Ling Gallery

Galeri Petronas, Malaysia  
HSBC, Malaysia  
Louis Vuitton  
Merrill Lynch, Maine, USA  
National Art Gallery, Malaysia  
Singapore Art Museum  
The Aliya & Farouk Khan Collection, Malaysia Private Collectors