



IWADH MAHADI

1. ARTISTIC BIO

2. STATEMENT

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4. PROFESSIONAL RECORD



1. ARTISTIC BIO

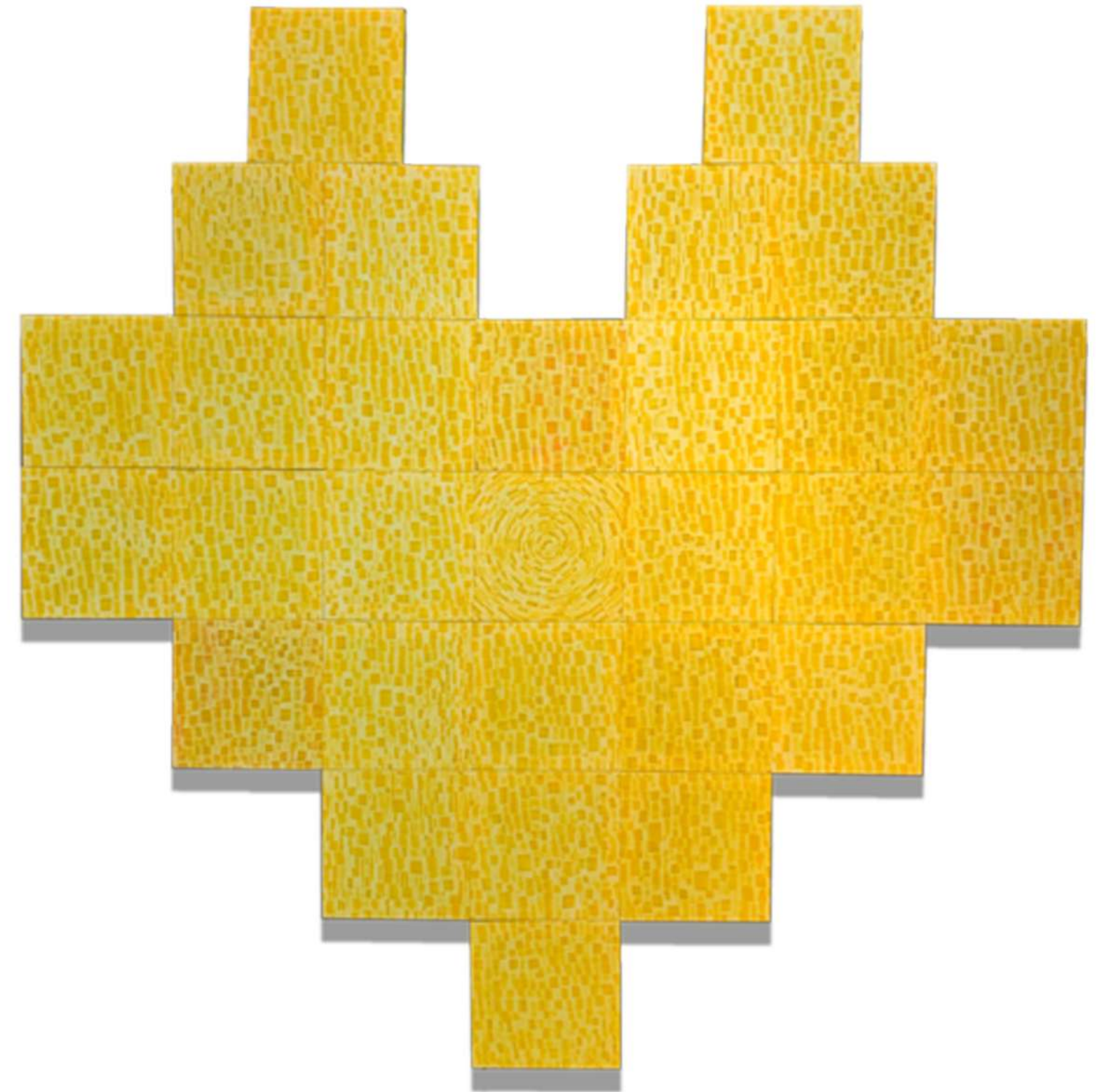
IWADH SYAFIQ IKHWAN BIN MAHADI (B. 1999, MALAYSIA) IS A CONTEMPORARY ARTIST WHOSE PRACTICE MOVES BETWEEN ABSTRACTION AND FIGURATION THROUGH MATERIAL-BASED PROCESSES. WORKING ACROSS PAINTING, INSTALLATION, AND PRINTMAKING, HE IS KNOWN FOR HIS USE OF BAMBOO FROTTAGE, GROUND TEXTURES, AND TEXTILE ASSEMBLAGE AS PRIMARY VISUAL LANGUAGE.

HIS PRACTICE IS ROOTED IN THE ACT OF IMPRINT—TREATING SURFACES NOT AS PASSIVE GROUNDS BUT AS SITES OF CONTACT, MEMORY, AND TRANSFORMATION. THROUGH RUBBING, STAMPING, AND REPETITION, HE CONSTRUCTS IMAGES THAT EMERGE FROM PHYSICAL ENCOUNTER RATHER THAN ILLUSION. THESE MARKS FUNCTION AS BOTH INDEX AND STRUCTURE, FORMING SYSTEMS THAT ECHO NATURAL GROWTH, RITUAL PRACTICE, AND HUMAN NETWORKS.

CENTRAL TO HIS WORK IS AN ONGOING INQUIRY INTO SPIRITUALITY AS LIVED CONDITION. DRAWING FROM ISLAMIC THOUGHT AND PERSONAL MYTHOLOGY, HE EXPLORES THE TENSION BETWEEN DISCIPLINE AND FAILURE, CONTROL AND SURRENDER, THE SACRED AND THE FLAWED. HIS WORKS OFTEN OCCUPY A THRESHOLD WHERE ORDER BEGINS TO DESTABILISE, AND WHERE IMPERFECTION BECOMES A FORM OF SINCERITY.

IWADH FREQUENTLY WORKS ON RAW, UNPRIMED SURFACES, ALLOWING MATERIAL VULNERABILITY TO REMAIN VISIBLE. THE BODY PLAYS A CRITICAL ROLE IN HIS PROCESS—NOT AS SUBJECT ALONE, BUT AS AGENT—WHERE GESTURE BECOMES A FORM OF SUBMISSION AND MAKING BECOMES AN ACT OF NEGOTIATION RATHER THAN CONTROL.

HIS RECENT SOLO EXHIBITION, TRILOGY: THE LIGHTSEEKER (2025) AT WEI-LING CONTEMPORARY, MARKED A SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT IN HIS PRACTICE, PRESENTING A BODY OF WORK THAT FRAMES ART-MAKING AS BOTH SPIRITUAL INQUIRY AND MATERIAL ENCOUNTER.



OPTIMISM, OFFSET INK ON CALICO, 140CM X 140CM, 2025.



SKETCH FOR WHISPERS OF THE UNSAID

2. STATEMENT

I UNDERSTAND ART AS A FORM OF SEARCHING. IT IS NOT A PROCESS OF RESOLVING MEANING, BUT OF STAYING WITHIN TENSION.

MY WORK BEGINS WITH MATERIAL. BAMBOO, SOIL, AND FOUND SURFACES ARE APPROACHED AS WITNESSES RATHER THAN TOOLS. THROUGH DIRECT CONTACT SUCH AS RUBBING, PRESSING, AND IMPRINTING, I ALLOW MARKS TO EMERGE FROM ENCOUNTER BEFORE INTERPRETATION. EACH IMPRINT RECORDS A MOMENT OF PRESSURE, TIME, AND PRESENCE.

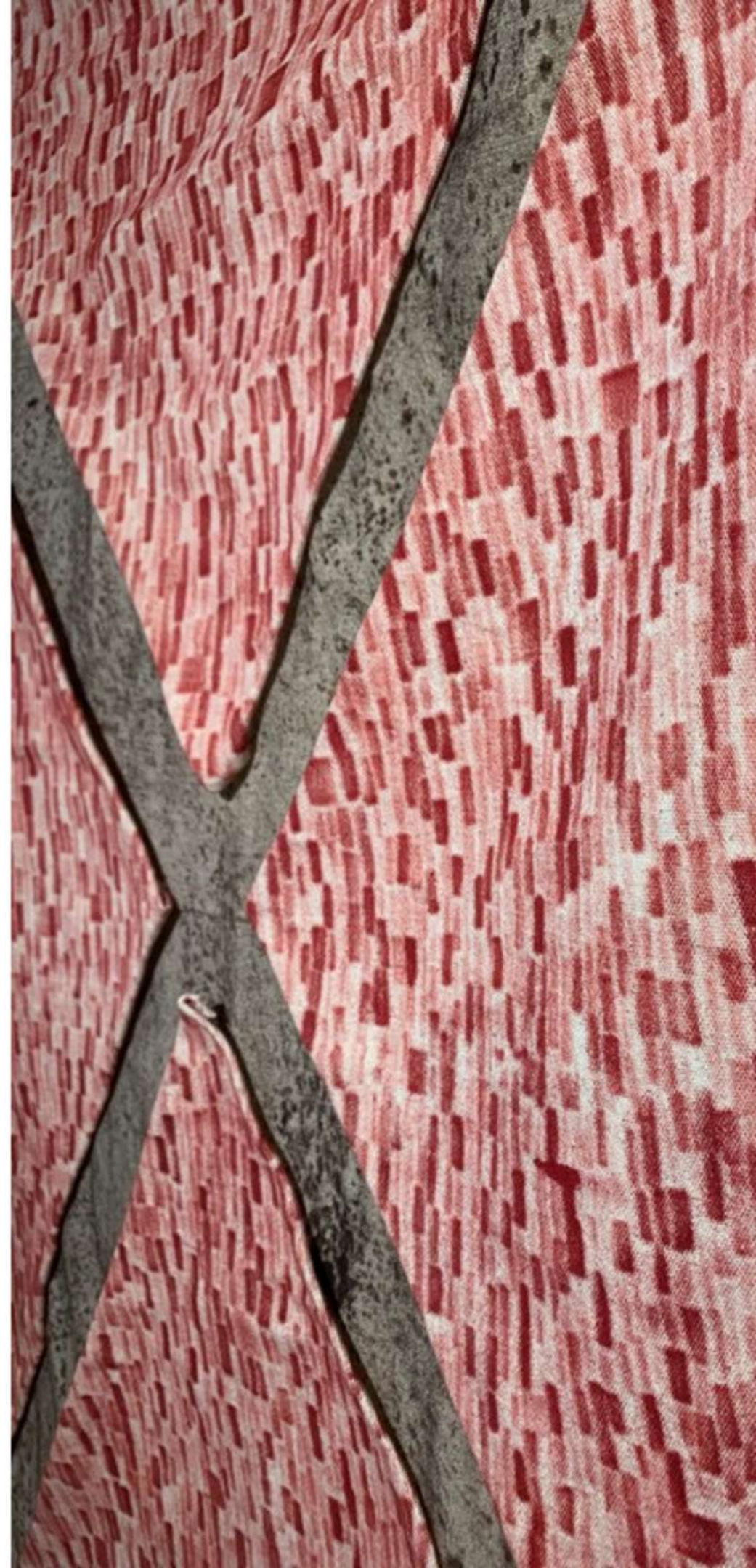
I AM INTERESTED IN THE SPACE BETWEEN CONTROL AND SURRENDER. THE HAND INITIATES, BUT DOES NOT FULLY DETERMINE THE OUTCOME. IN THIS SPACE, IMPERFECTION IS NOT CORRECTED BUT CARRIED FORWARD. THE WORK DOES NOT MOVE TOWARD AN IDEAL IMAGE, BUT ACCUMULATES THROUGH RESPONSE.

SPIRITUALITY OPERATES IN MY PRACTICE AS CONDITION RATHER THAN SUBJECT. I DO NOT AIM TO REPRESENT BELIEF. I WORK FROM WITHIN IT. FAITH, DOUBT, DISCIPLINE, AND FAILURE COEXIST ON THE SAME SURFACE. WHAT APPEARS ORDERED MAY BEGIN TO FRACTURE. WHAT APPEARS BROKEN MAY HOLD SINCERITY.

REPETITION IS CENTRAL TO MY PROCESS. LIKE ROOTS OR RITUALS, IT GENERATES SYSTEMS THAT BOTH SUSTAIN AND CONFINE. THESE SYSTEMS ARE NEVER FIXED. THEY SHIFT, OVERLAP, AND SOMETIMES COLLAPSE.

I DO NOT SEPARATE PROCESS FROM MEANING. THE GESTURE IS THE IMAGE. THE MARK IS THE RECORD. THE SURFACE IS BOTH BODY AND GROUND.

ART, FOR ME, IS AN ACT OF RETURNING, AGAIN AND AGAIN, TO WHAT CANNOT BE FULLY RESOLVED.



3. PROJECT SELECTION



STAMPEDE X PILLAGE, OFFSET INK ON RAW CANVAS, 76.2CM X 523CM, 2024



RIG X MANDATE, OFFSET INK ON RAW CANVAS, 213.5CM X 213.5CM, 2024.

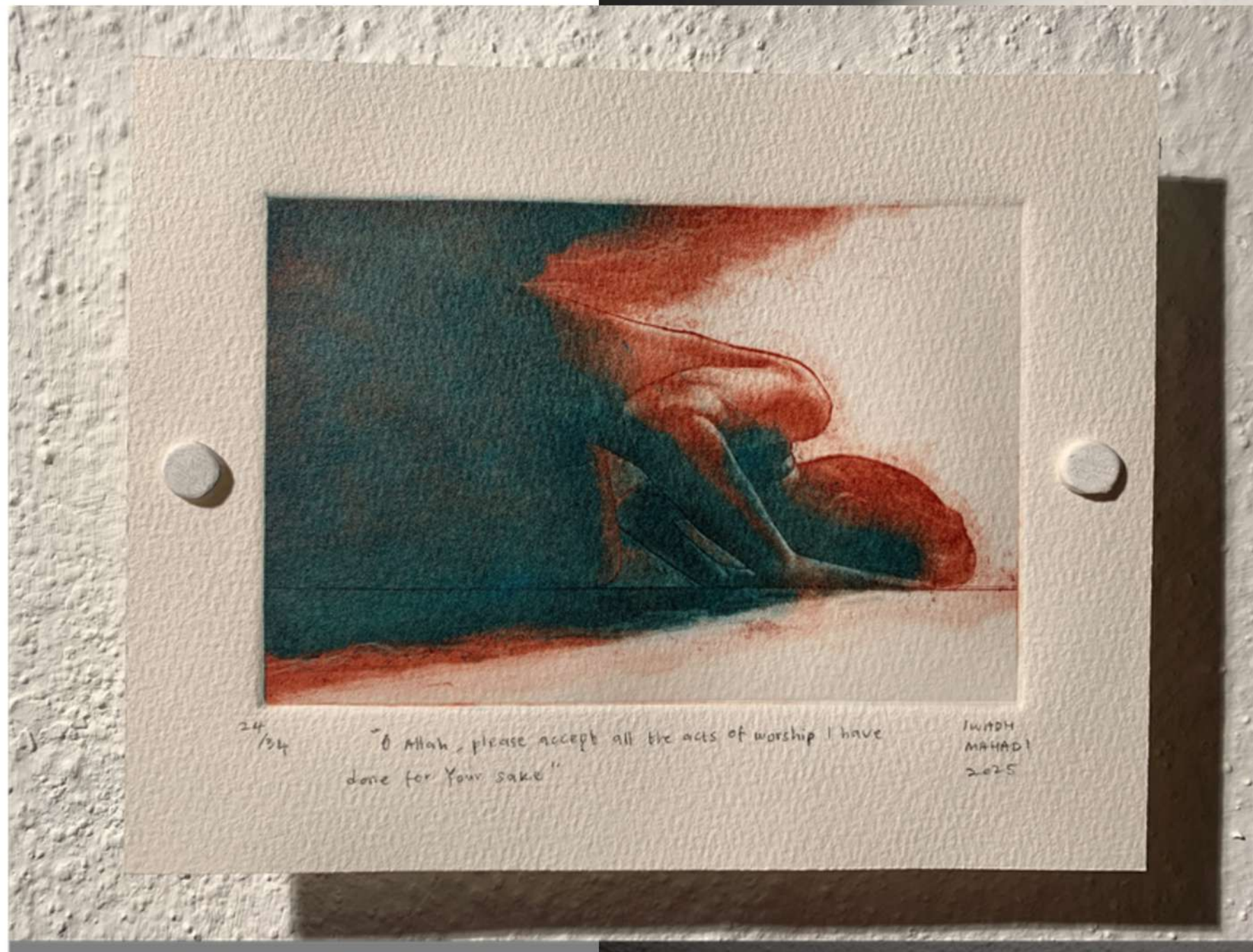


LINGER X PURPOSE, OFFSET INK ON RAW CANVAS, 233CM X 233CM, 2024.



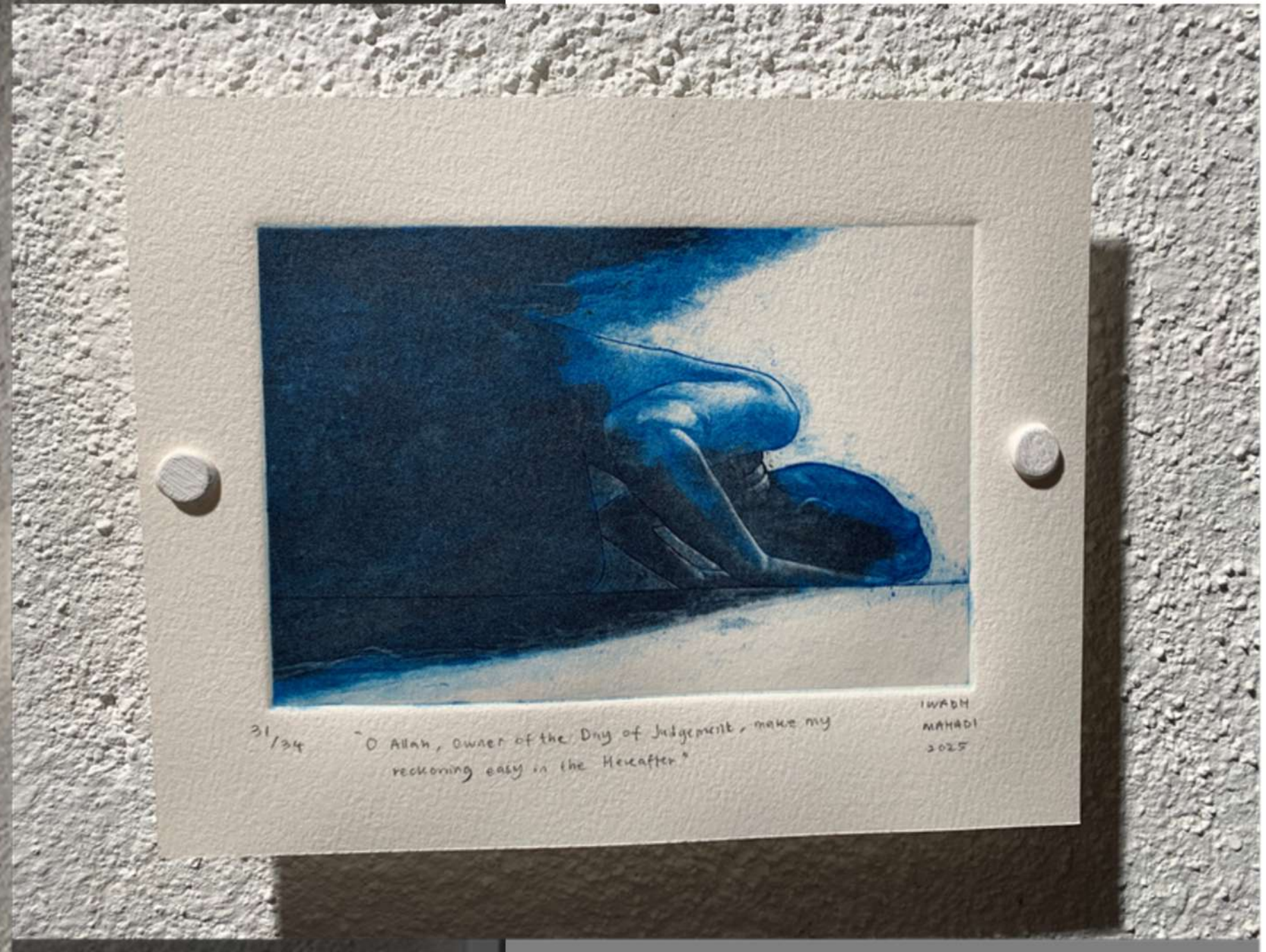
WHISPER OF THE UNSAID
34 EDITIONS
MIXED MEDIA AQUATINT ON HOT PRESSED
WATERCOLOUR PAPER
15.6CM X 19.9CM
2025

INSTALLATION VIEW OF WHISPERS OF THE UNSAID AT WEI-LING CONTEMPORARY

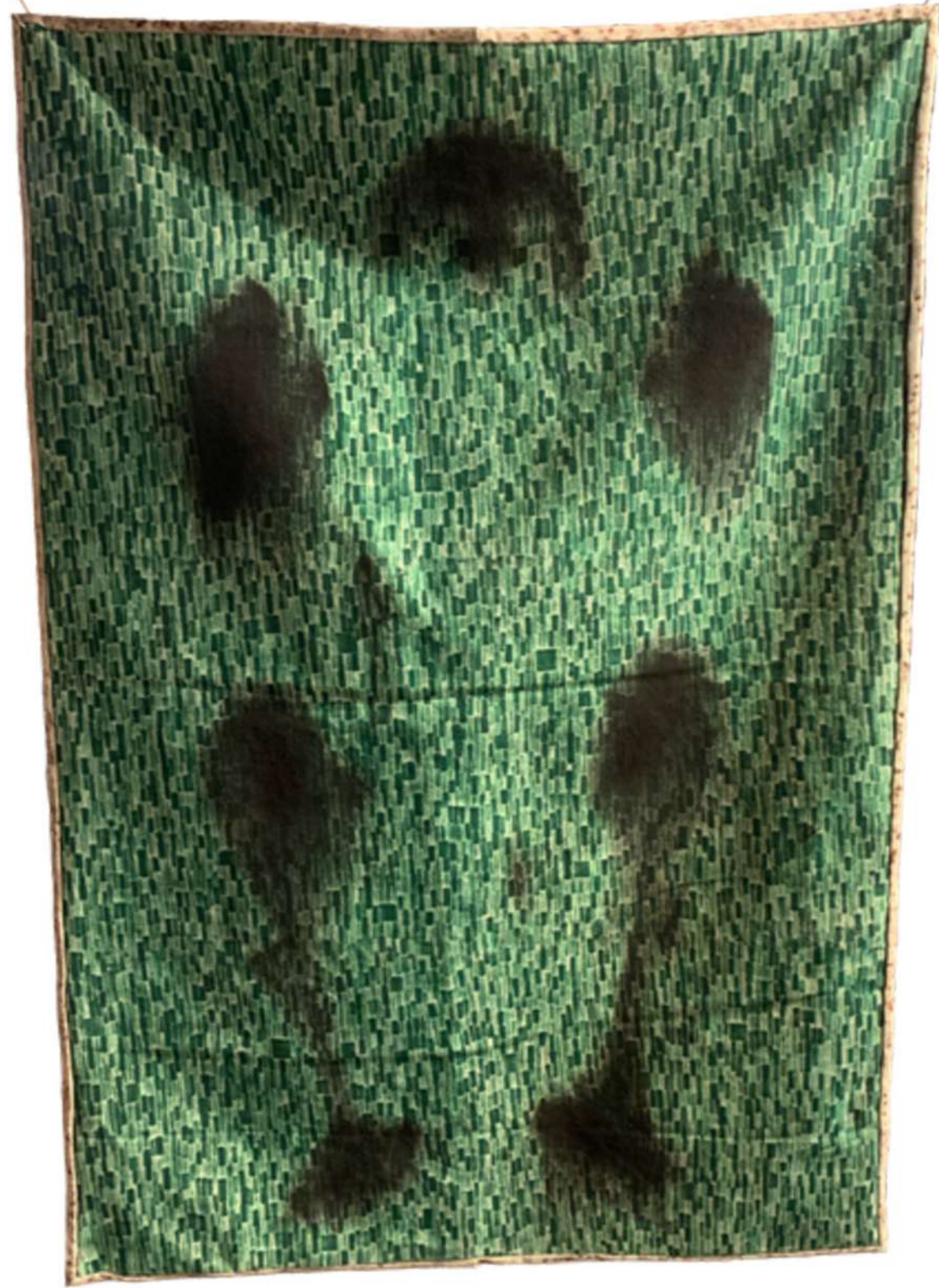


WHISPER OF THE UNSAID
MIXED MEDIA AQUATINT ON HOT PRESSED
WATERCOLOUR PAPER
15.6CM X 19.9CM
EDITION 24/34
2025





WHISPER OF THE UNSAID
MIXED MEDIA AQUATINT ON HOT PRESSED
WATERCOLOUR PAPER
15.6CM X 19.9CM
EDITION 31/34
2025



ANCHORS OF LINGERING—BACK OF (H) ASR
FROTTAGE ON CANVAS
109.5CM X 75.5CM
2025



INSTALLATION VIEW OF ANCHORS OF LINGERING AT WEI-LING CONTEMPORARY

INSTALLATION VIEW OF UNSEEN ASSEMBLY AT WEI-LING CONTEMPORARY



UNSEEN ASSEMBLY, FROTTAGE ON CANVAS, VARIABLE DIMENSIONS, 2025.

4. PROFESSIONAL RECORD

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

1. **INSIGHT EXHIBITION REQASENI VOL.1**, (2020), DIPLOMA STUDENT GROUP EXHIBITION, UITM SAMARAHAN, SARAWAK.
2. **INKING PRINTSHOW**, (2022), GROUP EXHIBITION, CHETAK 17 STUDIO, KUALA LUMPUR.
3. **NEW EDITION**, (2023), GROUP EXHIBITION, CHETAK 17 STUDIO, KUALA LUMPUR.
4. **BALTER: A SYMPHONY OF ARTISTIC MOVEMENT**, (2024), MASTER STUDENT GROUP EXHIBITION, UITM JALAN OTHMAN, PETALING JAYA, SELANGOR.
5. **YOUNG, WILD AND FREE**, (2024), GROUP EXHIBITION, GALERI PUTEH, KUALA LUMPUR.
6. **INTERNATIONAL BLUE PRINT SHOW**, (2024), GROUP EXHIBITION, PORT CETAK, SHAH ALAM.
7. **IT'S OPEN BY ARTO MOVEMENT**, (2024), GROUP EXHIBITION, NAFASYAHDU ARTSPACE@KOPI URUNG TAKA, KLANG, SELANGOR.
8. **ELEVATE : ILTIZAM SENI ART RESIDENCY PROGRAM CYCLE 2**, (2025), GROUP EXHIBITION, GALERI PUTEH, KUALA LUMPUR.
9. **TRILOGY: THE LIGHTSEEKER**, (2025), SOLO EXHIBITION, WEI-LING CONTEMPORARY, 2ND FLOOR ANNEXE, BRICKFIELDS, KUALA LUMPUR.
10. **EDITION VII**, (2026), GROUP MEMBER EXHIBITION, CHETAK 17 STUDIO, KUALA LUMPUR.
11. **PUTIH TIDAK PERNAH KOSONG**, (2026), GROUP EXHIBITION, GALERI PUTEH, KUALA LUMPUR.

PROGRAMMES/RESIDENCIES/MENTORSHIPS

1. **BENGGEL SENI CETAKAN: TEKNIK 'DRYPOINT'**, (2023), ASSISTANT, BALAI SENI NEGARA.
2. **ILTIZAM SENI ART RESIDENCY PROGRAM BY EKUINAS**, (2024-2025), SUPPORTED WITH RM10,000 GRANTS AND MORE.
3. **WLG INCUBATOR (5TH EDITION BY WEI-LING GALLERY**, (2025), MENTORSHIP PROGRAM THAT CULMINATE INTO A SOLO EXHIBITION.
4. **BENGGEL GALI TUBI BAKAT MUDA SEZAMAN 29' LOKASI SPESIFIK DI LANGKAWI**, (2025), SELECTED FINALIST FOR BAKAT MUDA SEZAMAN 29', PARTICIPATED IN A SPONSORED WORKSHOP AND MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME.

EDUCATION

1. **DIPLOMA OF ART AND DESIGN IN FINE ART**, (2017-2020), UITM SAMARAHAN, SARAWAK.
2. **BACHELOR OF ART AND DESIGN IN FINE ART**, (2020-2022), UITM SHAH ALAM, SELANGOR.
3. **MASTER'S DEGREE IN FINE ART AND TECHNOLOGY**, (2022-2023), UITM JALAN OTHMAN, PETALING JAYA, SELANGOR.

WRITINGS AND MEDIA

1. **TRILOGY: THE LIGHTSEEKER**, (2025), PRESS RELEASE, WEI-LING GALLERY, [HTTPS://WEILING-GALLERY.COM/GALLERY/PORTFOLIO-ITEM/WLG-INCUBATOR-YOUNG-ARTISTS-SHOW-2025-IWADH-MAHADI-TRILOGY-THE-LIGHTSEEKER-7-OCTOBER-1-NOVEMBER-2025-PRESS-RELEASE/](https://weiling-gallery.com/gallery/portfolio-item/wlg-incubator-young-artists-show-2025-iwadh-mahadi-trilogy-the-lightseeker-7-october-1-november-2025-press-release/)
2. **WLG INCUBATOR 2025: UNRAVELLING "TRILOGY: THE LIGHTSEEKER"**, (2025), WEI-LING GALLERY PODCAST, EPISODE 55, [HTTPS://PODCASTS.APPLE.COM/MY/PODCAST/WEI-LING-GALLERY-PODCAST/ID1559131530?I=1000733806407](https://podcasts.apple.com/my/podcast/wei-ling-gallery-podcast/id1559131530?i=1000733806407)
3. **"EMERGING SABAH ARTIST DEBUTS SOLO SHOW AT WEI-LING GALLERY"**, (2025), NEW STRAITS TIMES, [HTTPS://WWW.NST.COM.MY/LIFESTYLE/SUNDAY-VIBES/2025/10/1287485/EMERGING-SABAH-ARTIST-DEBUTS-SOLO-SHOW-WEI-LING-GALLERY](https://www.nst.com.my/lifestyle/sunday-vibes/2025/10/1287485/emerging-sabah-artist-debuts-solo-show-wei-ling-gallery)
4. **WLG INCUBATOR YOUNG ARTISTS SHOW 2025: TRILOGY: THE LIGHTSEEKER**, (2025), ARTRABBIT (EXHIBITION LISTING), [HTTPS://WWW.ARTRABBIT.COM/EVENTS/WLG-INCUBATOR-YOUNG-ARTISTS-SHOW-2025-IWADH-MAHADI-TRILOGY-THE-LIGHTSEEKER?](https://www.artrabbit.com/events/wlg-incubator-young-artists-show-2025-iwadh-mahadi-trilogy-the-lightseeker?)
5. **PAMERAN EDISI VII 2026-CHETAK 17**, (2026), PRINTMAKING (EXHIBITION MENTION), [HTTPS://WWW.MALAYSIANPRINTMAKING.COM/POST/PAMERAN-EDISI-VII-2026-CETAK-17?](https://www.malaysianprintmaking.com/post/pameran-edisi-vii-2026-cetak-17?)



BACKSIDES SKETCH FOR ANCHORS OF THE LINGERING—A,K,H,I,R

IWADH MAHADI
+60 11 1020 0920
IWAADHY@GMAIL.COM

@IWADHMAHADI