

Chan Kok Hooi

Artist Statement and Biography

Artist Statement

"The inspiration behind "50 Years of Sorrow" is derived from the overwhelming display of political party flags and banners during Malaysia's General Elections last year. 2013 also marked the fiftieth anniversary of the birth of the nation.

This work was inspired by the logo of a political party. The use of the rich blue velvet background ironically juxtaposed with the worn-out underwear depicting the image of the scales is a metaphor for the seedy underbelly of political life and the darker undercurrents of society. This work expresses my concerns for the current state of the nation but I hope that there will be more brightness and happiness in my future work.

Above all, I am constantly seeking new possibilities for my paintings.

Most of my works are dark but I hope there will be more brightness and happiness in my future works."

Artist Biography

Chan Kok Hooi Malaysia

b. 1974, Penang, Malaysia
Lives and works in Penang, Malaysia

Education

1993-1996 Malaysian Institute of Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Solo & Two Person Exhibitions

- 2012 Two Person Exhibition, WooJaeGil Art Museum, Gwangju, South Korea (with painter, Rebecca Duckett-Wilkinson)
- 2012 Sell Out (a fringe event of Art Stage Singapore Art Fair 2012), Art Seasons, Singapore. (14 Jan - 12 Feb 2012)
- 2010 I See(k) You: Recent works by Chan Kok Hooi, Galeri PETRONAS, Suria KLCC, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.(12 Oct 2010 - 9 Jan 2011)
- 2010 You Are Carnivores, Pierogi Gallery, New York, USA.(8 Jan - 7 Feb 2010)
- 2008 Photo Store, a local photo store in Feijiacun Village, Laiguangying East Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing, China.(Supported by Red Gate Gallery International Artists Residency Program)
- 2007 "Imitating ", Red Mill Gallery, Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, Vermont, USA.

Group Exhibitions

- 2013 Transit AO, HOM Art Trans, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
The 7th International Art Expo Malaysia, MA TRADE Exhibition & Convention Center, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
The Other Malaysia: Alternative Realities, Opus, Cava & Leonardo's Restaurants, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (curated by Rahel Joseph)
MSO Selamat Hari Malaysia, White Box, Map@Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (curated by Nani Kahar)
Art@Whiteaways(part of Georgetown Festival 2013), The Whiteaways Arcade, Penang, Malaysia (curated by Valentine Willie)
Unhinged, Pierogi Gallery, New York, USA.
Absurd©ity, National Visual Arts Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
Artist's Favourite II, Penang State Museum & Art Gallery, Penang, Malaysia.

Not For Sale, White Box, MAP@Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

- 2012 Penang State Art Gallery Permanent Collections 1965-2011, Penang State Museum & Art Gallery, Penang, Malaysia.
Asia Art Studio Resident Artists Exhibition, Metro Gallery, Gwangju, South Korea.
Self Portraits, Mudeung Gallery, Gwangju, South Korea.
Modus Vivendi, Pierogi Gallery, Brooklyn, New York, USA.
Kembara Jiwa/The Travelling Soul, Selasar Sunaryo Bandung; Taman Budaya Jogjakarta, Indonesia.
Transit A4, HOM Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
A Meter Diameter, HOM Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
Art Stage Singapore 2011, Marina Bay Sands Expo & Convention Hall, Singapore.
- 2011 Art Seasons 10th Anniversary Show, Art Seasons, Singapore.
- 2010 Royal Over-Seas League Annual Scholars' Exhibition 2010, The Gallery@Oxo Tower, London, UK.
Dongxi - Things, Kunstverein Baden, Baden, Austria.
Asian Art Fairnale, Haslla Art World Museum, Gangneung, Korea.
Idiolect: Contemporary Art from Asia, Art Seasons, Singapore.
Sovereign Asian Art Prize 2009, The Rotunda, Exchange Square, Hong Kong.
- 2009 Animamix Biennial: Visual Attract & Attack, Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei, Taiwan.
Malaysian Art Idols: New Directions/Different Voices, Malaysia Art Expo, Matrade Exhibition and Convention Center, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
Iskandar Malaysia Contemporary Art Show 2009, Danga City Mall, Johor Bahru, Malaysia.

Awards

- 2011 Nominee - Asia Pacific Breweries Foundation Signature Art Prize, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore
- 2009 Recipient- Royal Over -Seas League Visual Arts Travel Scholarships 2009, United Kingdom.
Top 30 Finalist - Sovereign Asian Art Prize 2009, Hong Kong.
- 2008 Sole Recipient- Galeri PETRONAS International Visual Arts Residency Award 2008, Galeri PETRONAS, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
Top 30 Finalist - Sovereign Asian Art Prize 2008, Hong Kong.
- 2007 Jurors Award- Malaysia Young Contemporaries 2006, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Finalist- Louis Vuitton Art Prize, Hong Kong.
Top 30 Finalist-Sovereign Asian Art Prize, Hong Kong.
Grant Recipient- ABN AMRO Malihom Artist-in-residence Programme of Wawasan Open University, Penang, Malaysia.
Nominee of Best Set Design -ADA Drama Awards 2007, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

- 2006 | 2007 Asian Artists Fellowships, Freeman Foundation Vermont Studio Center Award, USA.
- 2006 Selected Prize- The 12th International Biennial Print and Drawing Exhibition, R.O.C., National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, Taichung, Taiwan.
- 2005 The Mayor of Beppu Prize - The Beppu Asia Biennale of Contemporary Art, Beppu Art Museum, Beppu, Oita, Japan.
- 2004 Top 3 Winner (2D Category) -Malaysia Young Contemporaries 2004, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
Nominee of Best Set Design-4th Ping-stage Chinese Theatre Awards, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 2003 Top 5 Winner- Philip Morris Malaysia-ASEAN Art Awards, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
Nominee of Best Original Set Design -2nd BOH Cameronian Art Awards, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 1992 Full Scholarship Award, Malaysian Institute of Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.