

Kamal Mustafa

Artist Statement and Biography

Artist Statement

I started out with the basic premise of trying to extend the practice of painting and somehow incorporating moving images within it. This is achieved through embedding video screens into openings on the canvas as well as projection.

Thematically the work is about one's attempt to explore "new" territories /experiences /perspectives and yet one is still tethered to a set radius. One can undertake many journeys and yet end up in the same cul-de-sac. Read as many books to discover they are actually a single tome. It is asking whether what we call imagination is a vast limitless expanse taking us to the "unimaginable" or is it a structured domain with some fixed repeatable components that we escape to.

The inclusion of "narratives" within the work and the interplay of these components with the static images to bring about a different kind of engagement to the viewer: the syntagmatic (video) vs. the paradigmatic i.e the painting without attempting to resolve either. While it is perfectly possible (some will say logical) to do the work in video form, I wanted to retain the two-dimensionality of the painted canvas with all its inherent properties and limitations. The painting is a "presence" that the moving images have to contend with and operate within. So in a sense this self-imposed parameter is my labyrinth.

Artist Biography

Kamal Mustafa **Malaysia**

b. 1952, Sabak Bernam Selangor, Malaysia
Started painting fulltime in 2007

Education

- Secondary education in Malay College, Kuala Kangsar.
- Reading University, Polytechnic of Central London, UK (1972-1976)

Group Shows

20 Feb - 2 Mar 2014	First solo "Simulations" at Publika's Whitebox
2009	"Take Five, The Rest Is History"
2008	Galeri Petronas "Working Title"
2007	RA Fine Arts (Malay College Alumni)

All the galleries above are in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Work Experience

Advertising film director 1980 - 2007. Directed television commercials for clients in Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia for major clients such as Petronas, Telekom Malaysia, MAS, McDonald's, Coca Cola, Maybank, Bank Negara Indonesia, Bank Mandiri, Dutch Lady, Visa, Djarum and others.

Awards

Won local and international awards: Clio, Golden Kancil, Malaysian Video Awards