

Maya
GALLERY

soul vistas

AN INTROSPECTIVE JOURNEY THROUGH OUR CITY



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IDRIS ALI \ JEFFREY WANDLY

SEPTEMBER 21 - OCTOBER 24, 2017

VIP OPENING *By Invitation Only*

24 September 2017, Sunday, 5–7pm

GUEST OF HONOUR Dr Maliki Osman

Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Defence

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KOPI WITH THE ARTISTS

7 October 2017, Saturday, 4–6pm

organised by



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THE FULLERTON HERITAGE



SINGAPORE

beneficiary



Two prominent
Singaporean Malay
artists explore our streets,
landscapes and landmarks
in watercolour, and ink
and acrylic, to capture the
essence and soul of our city.

Maya Gallery warmly presents a heartfelt exhibition of Singapore's prominent Malay artists – Idris Ali & Jeffrey Wandly – with *Soul Vistas: An Introspective Journey Through Our City*, together with Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Defence, Dr Maliki Osman as our esteemed Guest of Honour at the prestigious hall of The Fullerton Singapore!

A timely revisit into our city through the eyes of watercolourist Idris Ali and an unconventional approach of the canvas with architect turned artist, Jeffrey Wandly, who has affectionately earned his nickname within the visual arts scene as the *Building Whisperer*. Exploring landmarks, street and landscapes that are filled with heritage, we allow our eyes to follow the interpretation, colours and brush strokes of these two distinctive artists.

While Idris Ali paints fluently in watercolour, a medium that requires patience and understanding of the composition and colour, Jeffrey Wandly has a unique style of fluid paint strokes created by pouring and swirling ink directly from the bottle.

“This documentation of our visual heritage is crucial, even so as a younger generation of Singaporeans bury their heads in technology and race towards modernisation,” expresses Ms. Masturah Sha’ari, Co-founder and director of Maya Gallery when asked about the importance of the exhibition.

Idris was briefly taught by the late S. Mahdar and Mas Ali Sabran in the 1960s. Though he started learning to paint with various mediums, it was watercolour that challenged him as well as seduced him. It then became a 55 year journey for him and his brushes. To look through Idris' watercolours over the past five decades is to chart Singapore's changing landscape. Many of his scenes are off the beaten track and would not usually appeal to the average water-colourist painting outdoors. However, these visual documents are crucial in narrating alternative views of Singapore's changing landscape.

Jeffrey's started painting seriously in 2008. Beginning with charcoal, he gradually moved into ink and acrylic on canvas. By that time he was already an accomplished architect and project management and development professional with a deep level of involvement and familiarity with the built environment. Few of his collectors had named him "Building Whisperer" because they connect to the conversations he has with buildings, and they recognise the soul of the buildings through his works. Like Idris, Jeffrey is capturing a visual diary of the past filled with intimate portraits of the energy and vitality of the places we have inhabited. The buildings he paints mark the sense of place, time and heritage in Singapore's collective memory and physical experience.

This duo exhibition at Fullerton aims to not only educate the public regarding the forgotten heritage scenes of Singapore, but also to bring them on a journey of exploring the colourful and exciting world of watercolour, ink and acrylic. This series of heritage-related paintings by the two artists is timely during this period where our visual history is slowly disappearing. Idris Ali and Jeffrey Wandly's works invite you to look, stop and reflect on your surroundings and philosophies of life because to move ahead, one must know where one came from.

Maya Gallery is grateful for the venue sponsorship by The Fullerton Singapore. Part of nett sales proceeds from the exhibition will be donated to Lembaga Biasiswa Kenangan Maulud (LBKM) for its bursary and scholarships to students from underprivileged families.

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Jeffrey Wandly

Sungei Road Thieves Market I

Ink & acrylic on canvas, 120 x 120 cm, 2017 • \$4,000

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Jeffrey Wandly

Sungei Road Thieves Market II

Ink & acrylic on canvas, 120 x 120 cm, 2017 • \$4,000

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Jeffrey Wandly

Bustling Chinatown III

Ink & acrylic on canvas, 100 x 100 cm, 2017 • \$3,500

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Jeffrey Wandly

Bras Basah Road, Rendezvous

Ink & acrylic on canvas, 100 x 100 cm, 2017 • \$3,500

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Jeffrey Wandly

North Bridge Road II

Ink & acrylic on canvas, 100 x 100 cm, 2017 • \$3,500



Jeffrey Wandly

North Bridge Road III

Ink & acrylic on canvas, 100 x 100 cm, 2017 • \$3,500

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Jeffrey Wandly

North Bridge Road, Jalan Klapa

Ink & acrylic on canvas, 100 x 100 cm, 2017 • \$3,500

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Jeffrey Wandly

North Bridge Road, Sultan Mosque

Ink & acrylic on canvas, 100 x 100 cm, 2017 • \$3,500

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Jeffrey Wandly

North Bridge Road, YKK

Ink & acrylic on canvas, 100 x 100 cm, 2017 • \$3,500

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Jeffrey Wandly

Stamford Road, Capitol

Ink & acrylic on canvas, 100 x 100 cm, 2017 • \$3,500



Jeffrey Wandly

Kampong Glam II

Ink & acrylic on canvas, 200 x 95 cm, 2016 • \$5,800

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Jeffrey Wandly

Streets of Hoi An II, Vietnam

Ink & acrylic on canvas, 100 x 100 cm, 2017 • \$3,500

JEFFREY WANDLY (b. 1964, Singapore)



Born in Singapore in 1964, Jeffrey Wandly started painting seriously in 2009, capturing historical landmarks in his own distinct style. The creative process usually starts with a 'conversation' with the building on site, before the artist begins painting on the canvas with layers of ink and acrylic. His works have been described to have strokes which are "fluid with bouncing and dancing lines"; not surprisingly, due to his music background since he was young. Jeffrey has exhibited in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Korea, Hong Kong and Vietnam.

His first solo show, *Poetry of the Soul*, which made a debut at Artshow Busan in 2014, with Maya Gallery, featured paintings of spiritual monuments in Asia – mosques, churches, temples, puras and stupas. "These buildings share a common architectural feature, of structures 'pointing' to the sky, thus communicating a global language of peace," he says.

For his second solo, *Building Whisperer*, at the Singapore Contemporary in 2016, Jeffrey explored the spirit of dancing lines in his conversations with historical places, mixing landscapes with abstract fluidity, and sharing the message of universal harmony. He will be presenting his third show, *Bisikan Bangunan (Conversations with Buildings)*, at Art Expo Malaysia 2016.

While not at his canvas, Jeffrey is an architect, project management professional, director of the Wandly Yazid Orchestra, and co-founder of Maya Gallery, which promotes Singapore artists and was awarded Favourite Recommended Art Gallery at the Expat Living Reader Awards in 2015.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 *Bisikan Bangunan, (Conversations with Buildings)*, ART EXPO MALAYSIA, with Maya Gallery
Building Whisperer, SINGAPORE CONTEMPORARY, with Maya Gallery
- 2014 *Poetry of the Soul*, ARTSHOW BUSAN, South Korea, with Maya Gallery

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 *From Hanoi with Love*, Blue Gallery Hanoi, Vietnam
Singapore Business Association Vietnam (SBAV) Chap Goh Mei Charity Dinner & Art Auction, Fortuna Hotel Hanoi, Vietnam
Trans(form), SINGAPORE CONTEMPORARY 2017, Suntec City, with Maya Gallery
- 2016 *Art Gives Back*, A Charity Art Exhibition by Touch Community Services, The Arts House
AFFORDABLE ART FAIR (Autumn), with Maya Gallery
Urban-G, group exhibition, with Sunjin Galleries, ION Art Gallery
Kick Sarcoma - Exhibition & Auction, with Maya Gallery, for The Sarah Grace Foundation, The Fullerton Hotel
ART EXPO MALAYSIA, with Maya Gallery
Contemporary 2016 APAD's Art Exhibition, Visual Art Centre
Singapore Art Society Annual Exhibition, Ngee Ann Cultural Centre
CHAIRITY Arts & Design Against Cancer, Jakarta, Indonesia
SINGAPORE CONTEMPORARY, with Maya Gallery
LBKM 50th Anniversary Charity Dinner & Art Auction, Mandarin Orchard Hotel
- 2015 *Kick Sarcoma - Exhibition & Auction*, with Maya Gallery, for The Sarah Grace Foundation, St. Regis
Figuratively Speaking, Maya Gallery
Idyllic Landscapes, Maya Gallery
CHAIRITY Arts & Design Against Cancer, Red Dot Museum and Maya Gallery
AFFORDABLE ART FAIR (Spring), with Maya Gallery
Three Islands, Jawi House, Penang, Malaysia

AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- 1993 Excellence Award MENDAKI (Anugerah Cemerlang MENDAKI) – Top Malay student in tertiary level, Singapore
- 1992-94 Certificate of Commendation, Rag & Flag, Sheares Hall, NUS
- 1992 Takashimaya National Student Painting Competition, 3rd Prize (Seniors), Singapore
- 1991-92 Architecture Angullia Scholarship
- 1987-89 Architecture Angullia Scholarship
- 1980 Saces Sculptor Competition, Certificate of Merit, Singapore

About Maya Gallery

Maya Gallery has been recognised for its strong contribution in the promotion of Singaporean artists internationally. It has collaborated with various galleries and organisations, and participated in international art fairs and festivals in Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Korea and Vietnam.

Officially opened in historic Kampong Glam in 2012 by Ms Janice Koh, former Nominated Member of Parliament (NMP) for the Arts, Maya Gallery has relocated to metropolitan and lifestyle Ubi. Since then, it has featured close to 100 artists, organised more than 50 exhibitions, conducted various art programmes and activities, and contributed to numerous community and fundraising efforts. A member of the Art Galleries Association Singapore (AGAS), Maya Gallery was awarded the Recommended Favourite Art Gallery at the Expat Living Reader Awards in 2015.

ENQUIRIES

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