

PORTFOLIO

of Fong Jia Lok



Fong Jia Lok (B. 1997, Kuala Lumpur)

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Bio Data

Born in 1997, Fong Jia Lok is currently lives and works in KUALA LUMPUR. He is graduated from the fine art department of DASEIN Academy of Art in 2018. Passionate in painting and drawing, his figurative works explore his personal respond to the condition of the contemporary society. He is currently seeking opportunities to expand his works through taking part in exhibitions.

Resume

Education

2016 - 2018 Diploma in Fine Art, DASEIN Academy of Art

Group Exhibition

2023 A!umninati 2023, Dasein Academy of Art, Miller Square @Old Klang Road, KL, Malaysia

2023 HOM ART OPEN 2023, HOM Art Trans, Ampang Selangor, Malaysia

2022 MEA AWARD 2022, CIMB FOUNDATION, GLO Damansara, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

2022 YOUNG 2022, HOM Art Trans, ChinaHouse, Penang, Malaysia

2022 MOSAIC, HOM Art Tran, PWTC, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

2021 artaidartist, (phases 3), HOM Art Trans, www.homarttrans.com

2021 ARTisFAIR/KL, fahrenheit88, Bukit Bintang, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

2021 artaidartist, (phases 2), HOM Art Trans, www.homarttrans.com

2021 TRANSIT ONLINE 1X1, HOM Art Trans, www.homarttrans.com

2021 HOM Art Open 2021, HOM Art Trans, www.homarttrans.com

2020 So(ul) Art, ARTAS Gallery, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia

2020 VISUAL ART PROJECTS 4 FINALIST EXHIBITION, Rumah Tangsi Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

2020 TIKITIBOO, Suma Orientalis, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia

2019 STORIES, The Art People Gallery, Chai Wan, Hong Kong

2019 B&W, ARTEMIS ART, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

2019 ARTAID19, White Box, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

2019 *CATALYSIS-Phases of Transition*, HOM Art Trans, Ampang Selangor, Malaysia

- 2019 *UNKNOWN*, Segaris Art Centre, Kuala Lumpur Malaysia
- 2019 *LOCALS ONLY!*, Taksu Gallery , Kuala Lumpur Malaysia
- 2018 Fine Art Show, Dasein Gallery, DASEIN Academy of Art, KL Malaysia
- 2017 Fine Art Show, Dasein Gallery, DASEIN Academy of Art, KL Malaysia
- 2016 Futurama, DPAC Art festival, Kuala Lumpur Malaysia

Awards

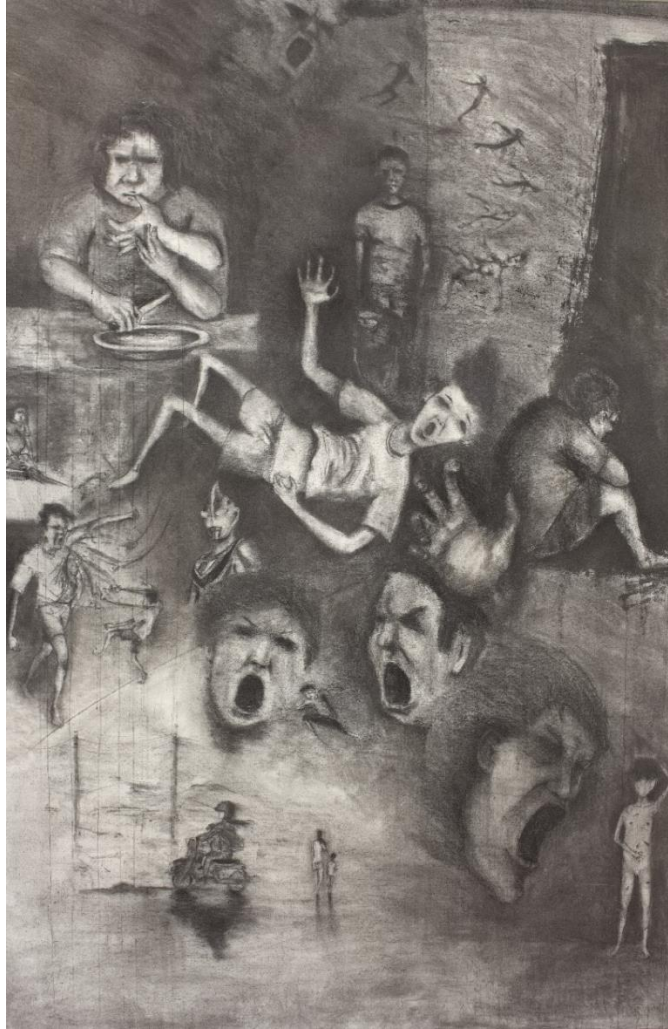
- 2022 Shortlist in MEA AWARD 2022
- 2022 People Choice Award in Mr. DIY art competition 2022
- 2020 Finalist in Visual Art Pitch 4.0
- 2019 Finalist in Art Against AIDS 2019

Artist Statement

I am into drawing humans since I was young and my interest is in drawing and painting using charcoal and oil paint. I tend to observe myself and the people around me - their behaviors, movements, and physical actions. A series of works I produced embarked on my childhood memories, it moved on to observe human nature and their responses to circumstances in our society. I prefer to paint randomly to allow chances to emerge on my canvases instead of working according to pre-planned composition rigidly. I use charcoal to draw on both primed and unprimed canvas. Oil paint, acrylic, charcoal, and pigment pen are my favorite tools in my works. I use charcoal and ink to create shadows and lines on canvas to present a different effect to bring out the tension that I want from the work.

Portfolio

Work 1



Childhood Memory I

Charcoal on canvas

180 cm x 120 cm

2018

Description

I use dark and skinny figures in a screaming condition in the piece, they are other interesting meanings in the work. The piece allows me to release my emotion and express my negative thoughts. It reflects some cases of child abuse in our society to bring awareness.

Work 2



Childhood Memory II

Charcoal on unprimed canvas

180 cm x 120 cm

2018

Description

The idea for this artwork contains many accumulated memories. I still remember the cockerel attack me and my nanny came to help me. Furthermore, I also saw the monster in the river at the backyard of my nanny's house when I was a kid. Besides, I also include memories of play-fight during my childhood.

Work 3



Listening

Charcoal on unprimed canvas

180 cm x 120 cm

2018

Description

This piece is not directly related to the previous two artworks (Childhood Memory I & II). However, I feel like listening can bring many benefits, including understanding and empathizing with people. If we pay attention enough, we can also gain monetary benefits.

Work 4



Do not hurt me!

Charcoal on canvas

24 cm x 8 cm (10 pieces)

2018

Description

A lot of things can be used to bring harm to a person even if they do not look dangerous, like toilet paper. These are all the things that hurt me so hard when I was a kid.

Work 5



Little World

Oil and Charcoal on canvas

158 cm x 157 cm

2018

Description

The piece suggests every person is a single part in the society. But yet everyone is alone and living in their own world, lacking conversation with other people.

Work 6



The Crowd

Charcoal on unprimed canvas

122.5 cm x 165.5 cm

2018

Description

The idea for the piece came from a book called "The Crowd" and it is about general emotion and psychological feeling. In the book, it mentioned several psychology characteristics about people living in group i.e. impulsiveness, irritability, incapacity to reason, the absence of judgment of the critical spirit, the exaggeration of sentiments and so on. The subject matter reflects how I feel about what happening in our world today i.e. when a person become the part of a crowd they will lose their personal identity easily.

Work 7



The Crowd II

Charcoal on canvas

100 cm x 162 cm

2018

Description

A different version of the same subject matter as per Work 6 (The Crowd I) above.

Work 8



Clone I

Pigment pen on unprimed canvas

150 cm x 130 cm

2018

Description

Nowadays, people like to copy the style of celebrities as seen on magazine, TV show, social media and so on. I painted women wearing the same dress, same style and same make up to suggest that they follow a trend and look the same.

Work 9



Distance

Pigment pen on unprimed canvas

33.2 cm x 43 cm

2018

Description

This artwork reveals the distances found in a crowd full of people although the physical distance between you and I might be close. However, we as humans are often caught up in our own worlds, hence it creates a new kind of distance between each other.

Work 10



Clone II

Oil and pigment ink on canvas

167.64 cm x 167.64 cm

2019

Description

Another piece of the same subject matter as per work 9 (Clone I) above.

Work 11



Split

Charcoal on unprimed canvas

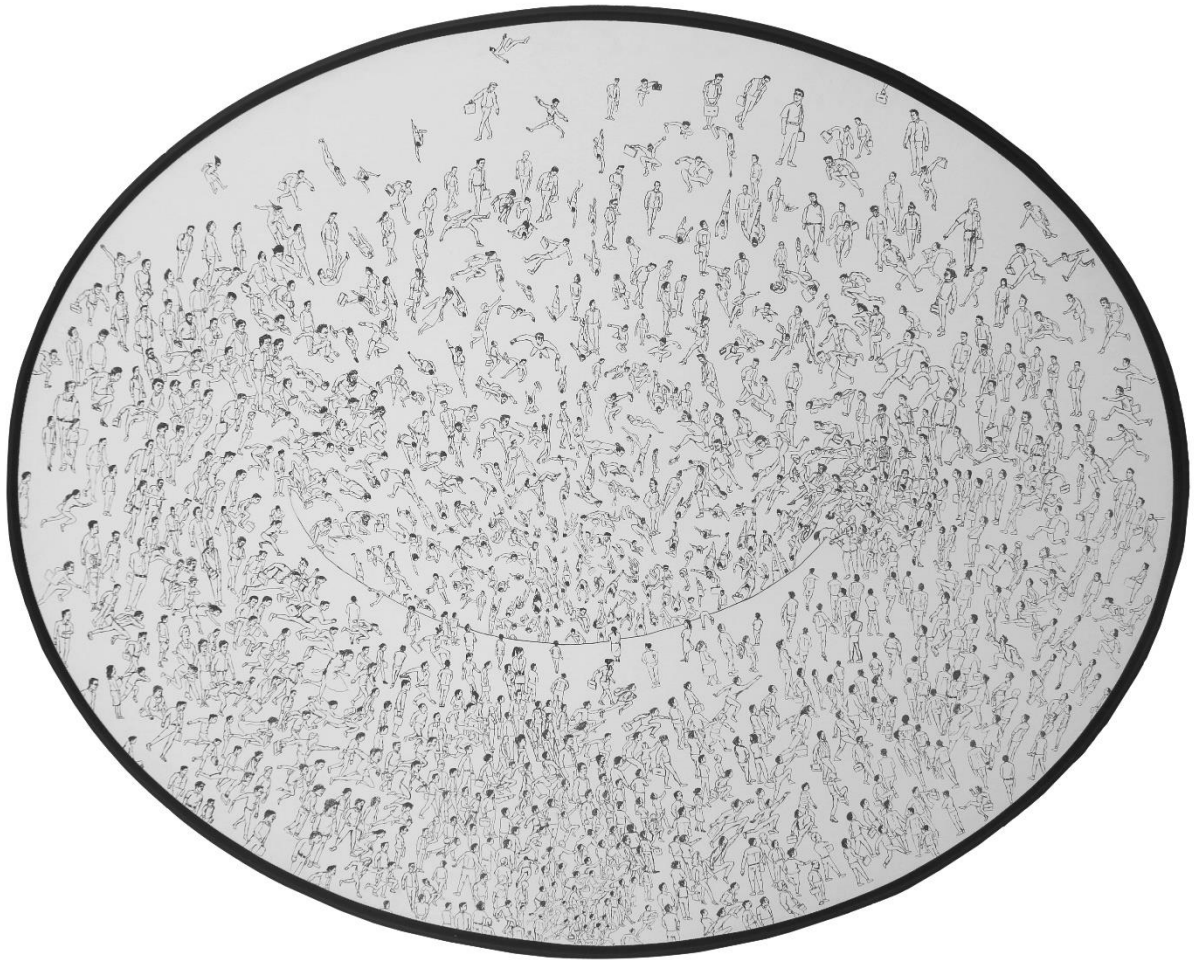
133.3 cm x 133.3 cm

2019

Description

The lust for power may sometimes skew one's moral judgment. Power can be a double edged sword. In addition, when the group become more people and grows stronger, it will slowly take shape another kind of power. If they have an evil mind, this power could make them awaken another bad personality. Irreversible damages may be caused especially when they use their power in numbers to bring about certain personal gain such as status, authoritative influence, wealth and so on.

Work 12



Swirl

Ink on plywood

121.5 cm x 152 cm

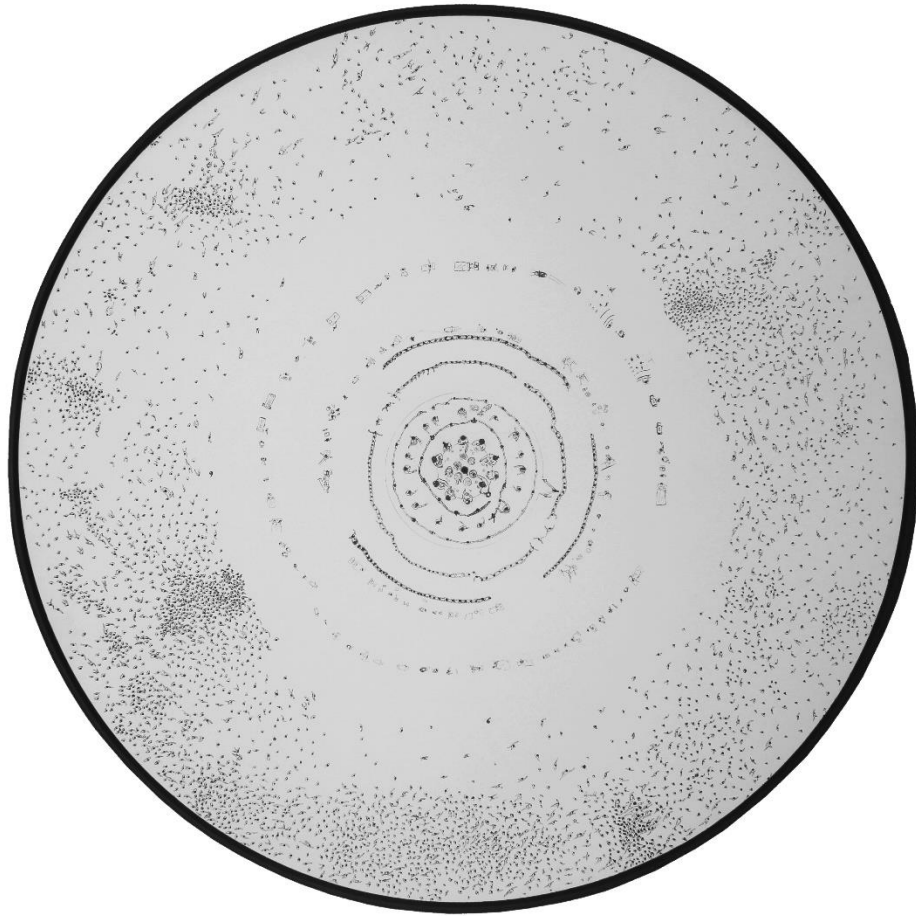
2019

Description

Some people are no purpose to work day by day in this world. They working until fall in to the swirl. They just a part in this swirl. All the single part together complete this swirl. Some people live as though they find no meaning in life. Though they work for their lives day by day, it is a constant struggle that leads them into a never-ending spiral.

The visual of this artwork indicates a pool of people swirling around as one cycle.

Work 13



Circle

Ink on plywood

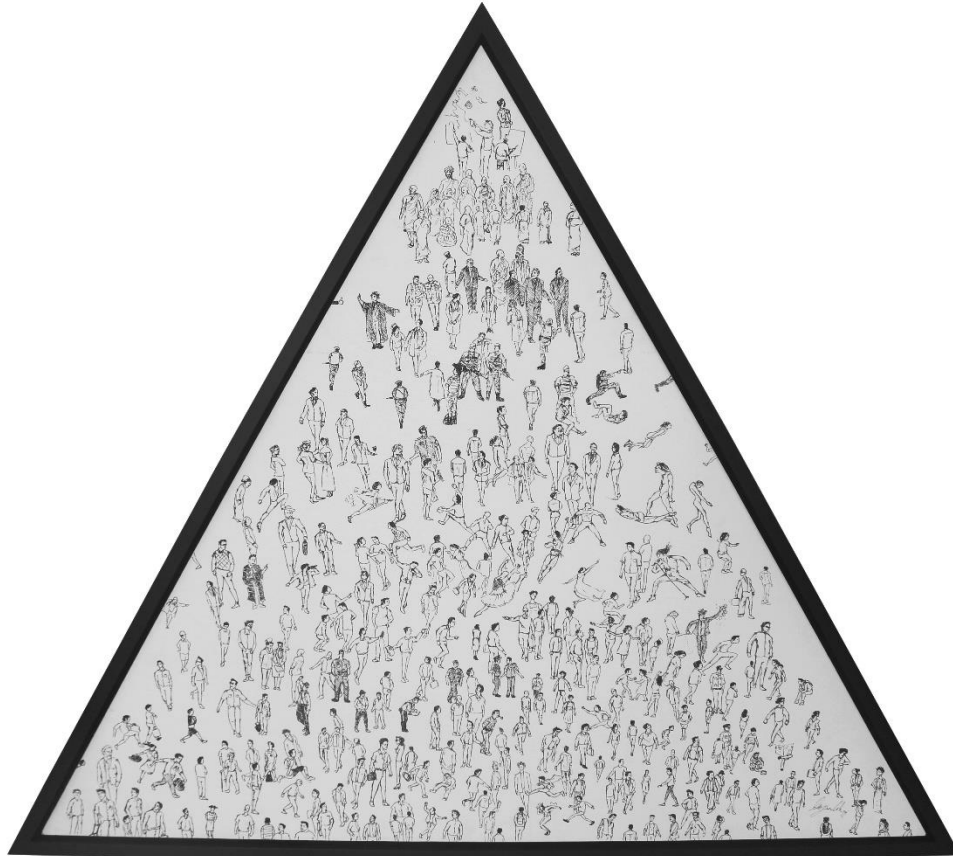
121.5 cm x 121.5 cm

2019

Description

This work expresses the harmony and unity between the relationship of routine and an infinite cycle. In the visual of this artwork, some people are dining on a circular table whilst holding hands, seemingly as if they are playing a game whilst achieving their daily routine in life. The relationship discusses the life and death of each action of our everyday lives.

Wor14



Triangle

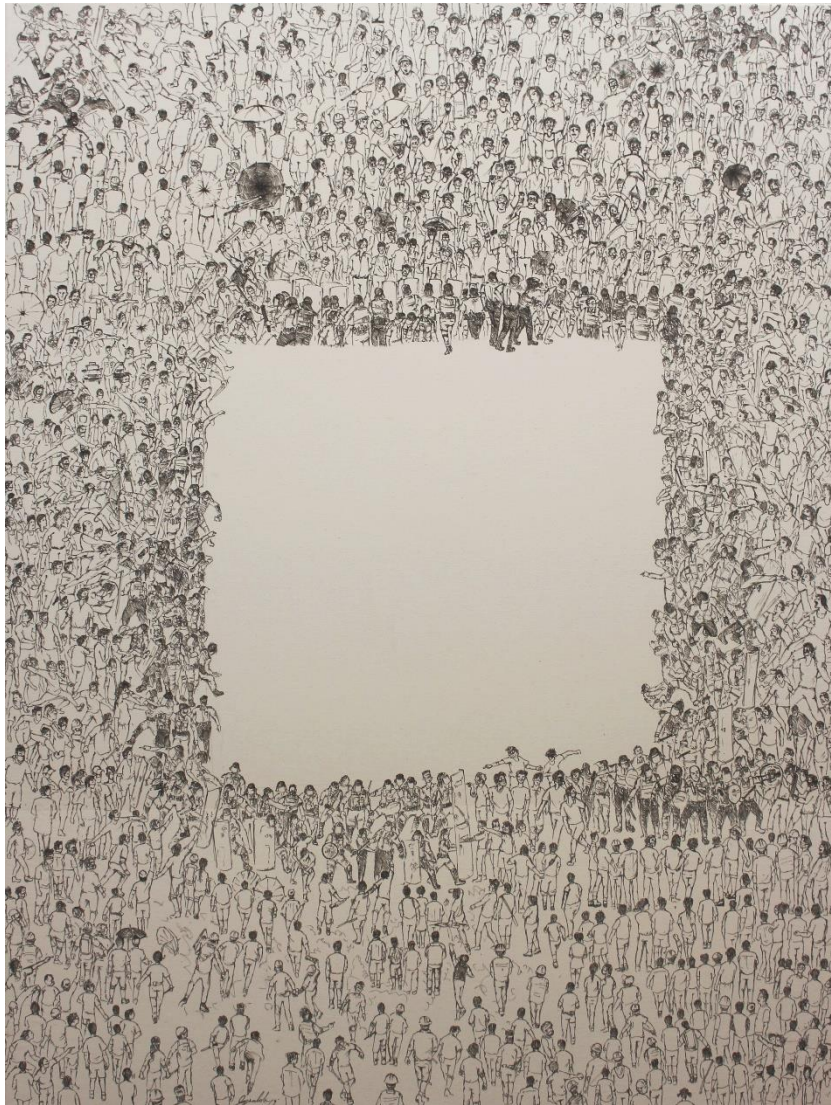
Ink on plywood

105.5 cm x 121.5 cm

2019

Description

Work 15



Fight for Hope

Ink on unprimed canvas

120 cm x 90 cm

2019

Description

In this democratic generation, we are chasing our rights. We could walk in the street and shouting the slogan. To make the government understand our intention. But now a day a lot of people they instigate by their friends and follow friends with the unconscious. Even though some of the people will fight with the police, block the traffic road. It may profoundly impact the taxi driver. We should understand what kind of thing we are doing. You can chase our right but through the smart ways not to be extreme.

Work 16



Fallen

Charcoal on paper

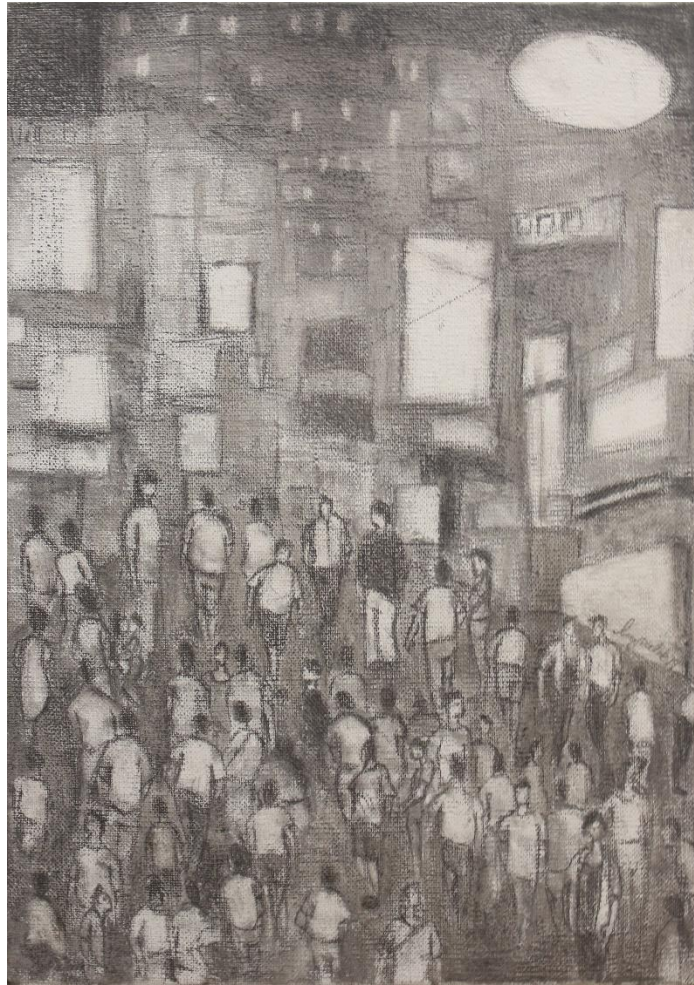
59.4 cm x 42 cm

2019

Description

The depressed human is fallen. They are felling stress, pain, and useless. They need someone to cure their scar, but some of the humans are the more cold-blooded animal. No one will help them. That has the only way to stand up by themself, which becomes stronger. Either become strong through the pain or keep fallen until it disappears.

Work 17



The Street

Charcoal on canvas

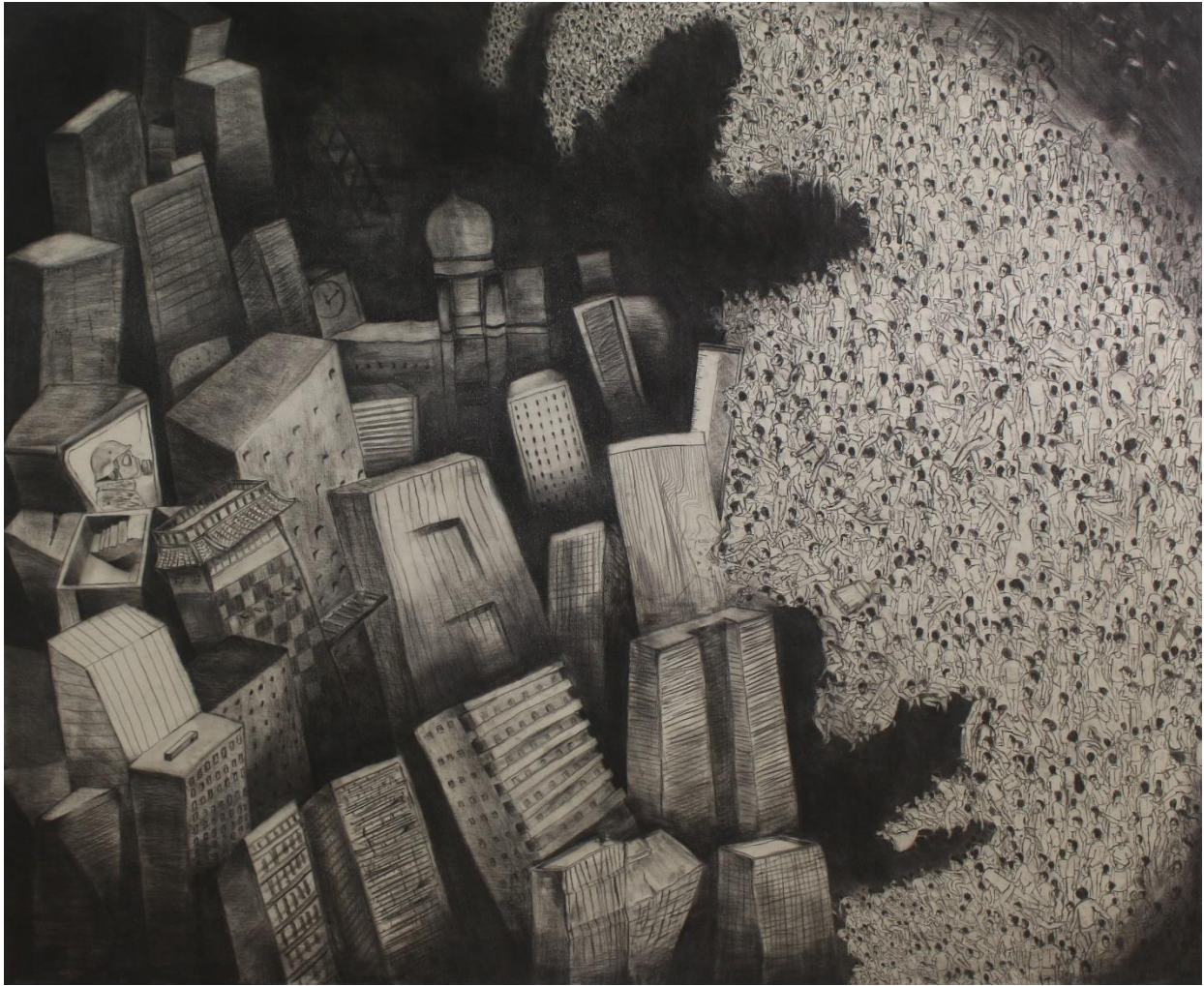
42.5 cm x 29.5 cm

2019

Description

Sometime I will imagine the street in Hong Kong. I heard people said there is the most crowded city in this world. The building, signs, and wire all of this in the small space. I use the simple shape, line, and the crowd with black and white to express crowded street.

Work 18



Self-destruction

Charcoal on unprimed canvas

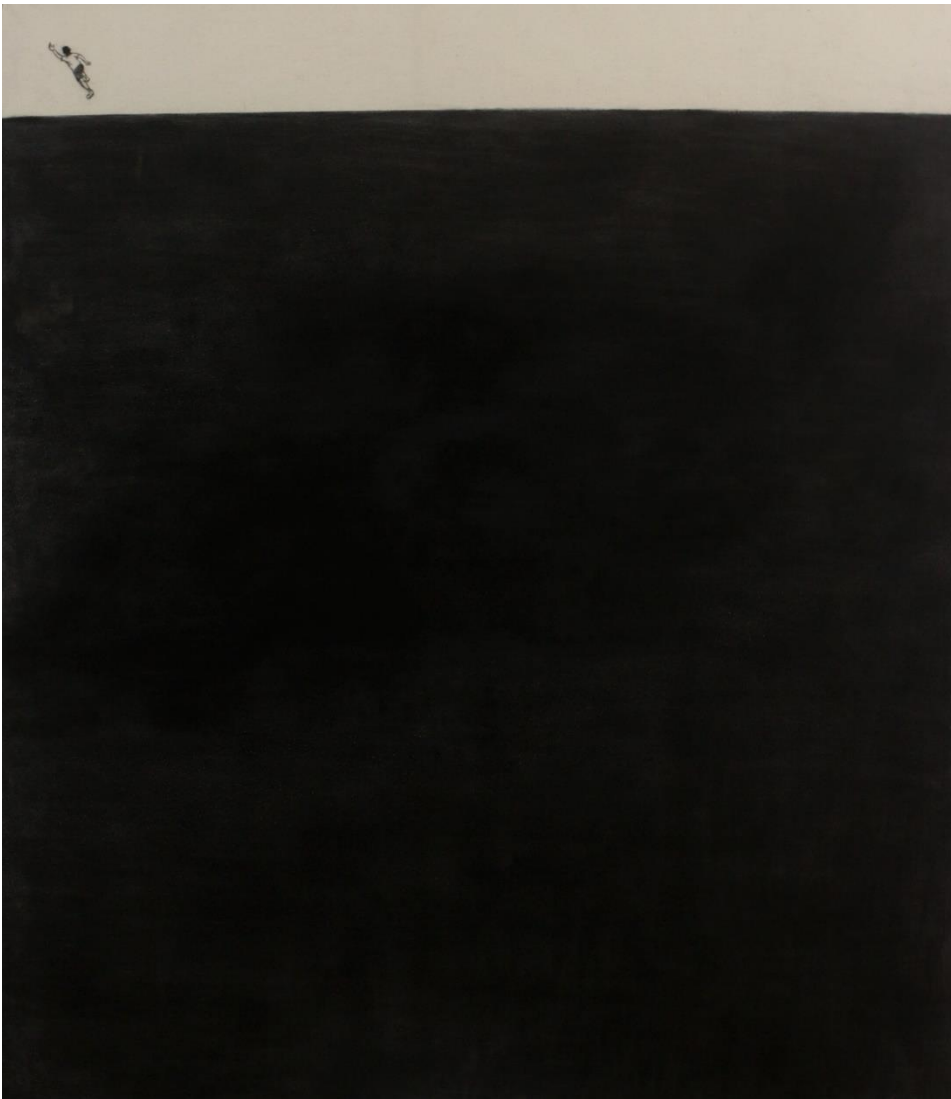
137 cm x 158 cm

2019

Description

As our lives improve, our environment deteriorates. We cut down trees, burn waste, and destroy nature, turning our beautiful Earth into a darker place. Natural disasters are a way for the ecosystem to restore balance..

Work19



The Dark Side

Charcoal on unprimed canvas

150 cm x 130.2 cm

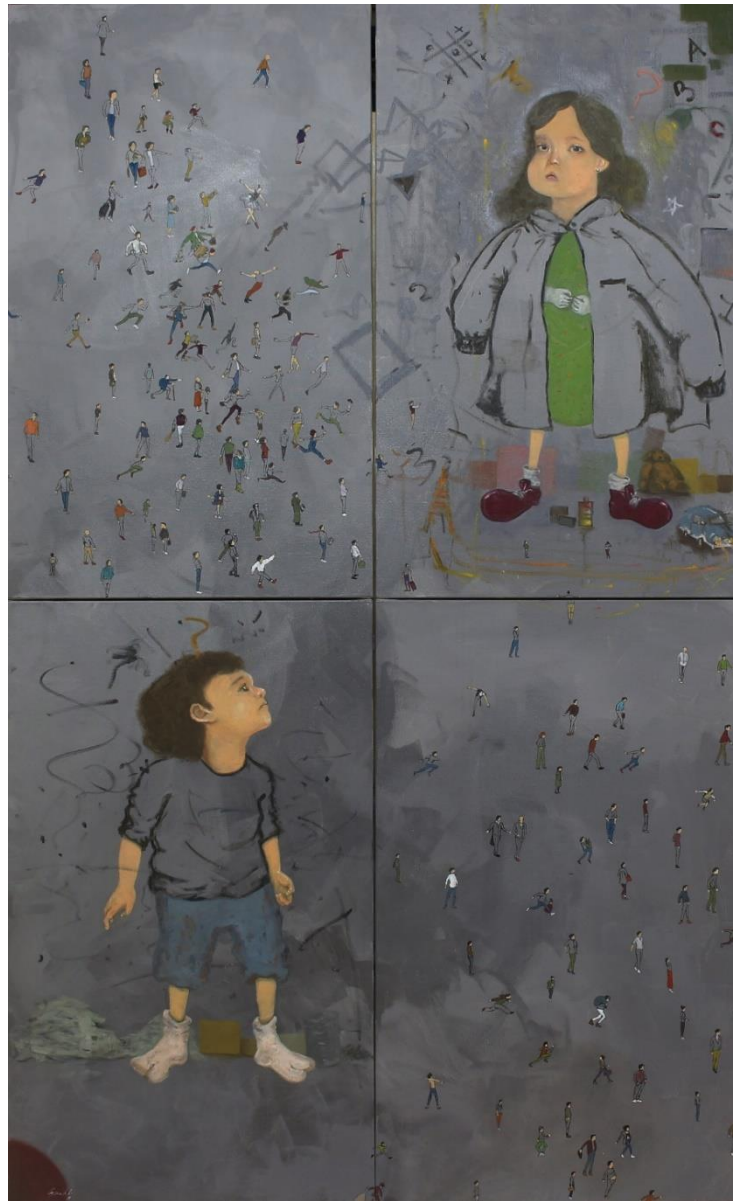
2019

Description

I still remembered that moment. I was inside the dark toilet and locked from outside by my nanny. I keep crying and yelling, nobody answers me.

But luckily, I have my mother in that period. She was the person who cares about me and takes care of me in that period. After a few years ago, I left my nanny.

Work 20



+/-
200 cm x 120 cm
Oil, acrylic and ink on canvas
2019

Description

In the real world, people often prioritize beautiful appearances over unattractive ones, leading to differences in how individuals are treated. Unfortunately, this often results in individuals taking others for granted and forgetting that everyone, including children, have inherent dignity.

Work 21



Nobody

100.5 cm x 80 cm

Oil on canvas

2019

Description

We are the nameless souls, bound together in solitude amidst this vast world. Whether adorned with the mark of conformity or bared in vulnerability before another, we traverse our existence in search of purpose.

Work 22



Life

Oil on canvas

137 cm x 132.5 cm

2020

Description

Although we were born in the same place, as we journey through life in this sometime dull world, we may feel like we're losing touch with our unique personality. Nevertheless, we persist in our pursuit of a better life and actively seek out ways to discover and express our true selves.

Work 23



Busy Hour

122 cm x 122 cm

Acrylic, ink on board

2020

Description

White-collar workers spend much of their time sitting and typing, but it's important to remember that they are still human. They need to take breaks, change their positions, and deal with their own emotions.

To represent the serious atmosphere of the office, I use the colors grey, black, and white, along with lines and other elements.

Work 24





(Close up)

Interview

182.8 cm x 152.5 cm

Oil, ink, paper on canvas

2020

Description

The people look like toys, chosen by the boss based on their perceived value and what the boss needs from them.

Individuals are placed on a rack with price tags, waiting to be selected and put inside a box by the boss.

Work 25



Education

182.8 cm x 152.5 cm
Acrylic, ink on canvas
2020

Description

When we were kids, we were often taught by older people who tried to mold us in their own image.

The people seem to emerge from cans, and some of them are determined to 'rebuild' the baby. Others simply follow orders and take action, while some watch and talk without getting involved.

Work 26



Untitled

Oil on canvas

30.5 cm x 20.5 cm

2020

Work 27



Untitled

Acrylic on raw canvas

40.5 cm x 40.5 cm

2020

Work 28



Soul in the Shell

30.48 cm x 30.48 cm

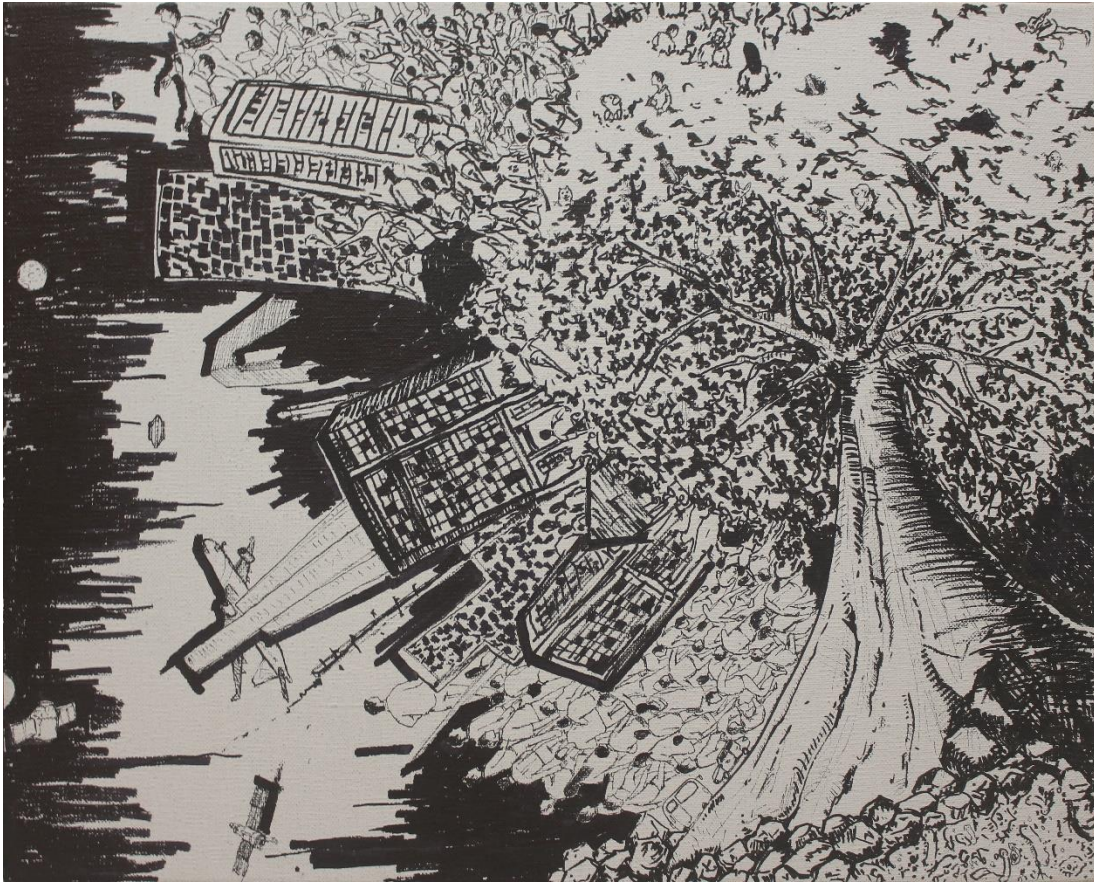
Oil and charcoal on canvas

2021

Description

This painting depicts my uncle after his lung cancer surgery. He slept on the hospital's bed and would absentmindedly stare at the ceiling. I used charcoal as my medium to draw the outfit that he wore in daily life while he was still alive

Work 29



Connect

55.2 cm x 44 cm

Ink on canvas

2021

Everything is connected.

Work 30



Hero

40 cm x 30 cm

Oil, ink, acrylic on canvas

2021

A doctor carry the Malaysia flag to keep moving on. The 'Rakyat' really appreciates that we have such courageous medical personnel on the frontline battling against COVID-19 during this dark period. They lift us and protect our country. They are the true heroes!

Work 31



The moment of silence

60 cm x 30 cm

Oil, ink and acrylic on canvas

2021

Let us hold a moment of silence for those who died in COVID-19 pandemic.

Work 32



Sparrow

91.44 cm x 91.44cm

Oil and ink on canvas

2021

The sparrow may be small but all its vital organs are there. Like a little human in the earth, much like a miniature human on Earth. However, we humans continue to face our own struggles, working tirelessly each day to ensure the existence of our human world on this planet.

Work 33



Time

115.8 cm x 146.3 cm

Oil and ink on canvas

2021

Time cannot flow backward, and we can only continue moving forward with the current of time.

Work 34



“DABAO” (Take away)

70 cm x 70 cm

Acrylic and ink on canvas

2021

During the pandemic, we were faced with many challenges in our daily lives, such as being forced to get takeout food instead of dining in at restaurants. This created a sense of unease and uncertainty as we tried to adapt to new ways of living and staying safe.

Work 35



Hero II

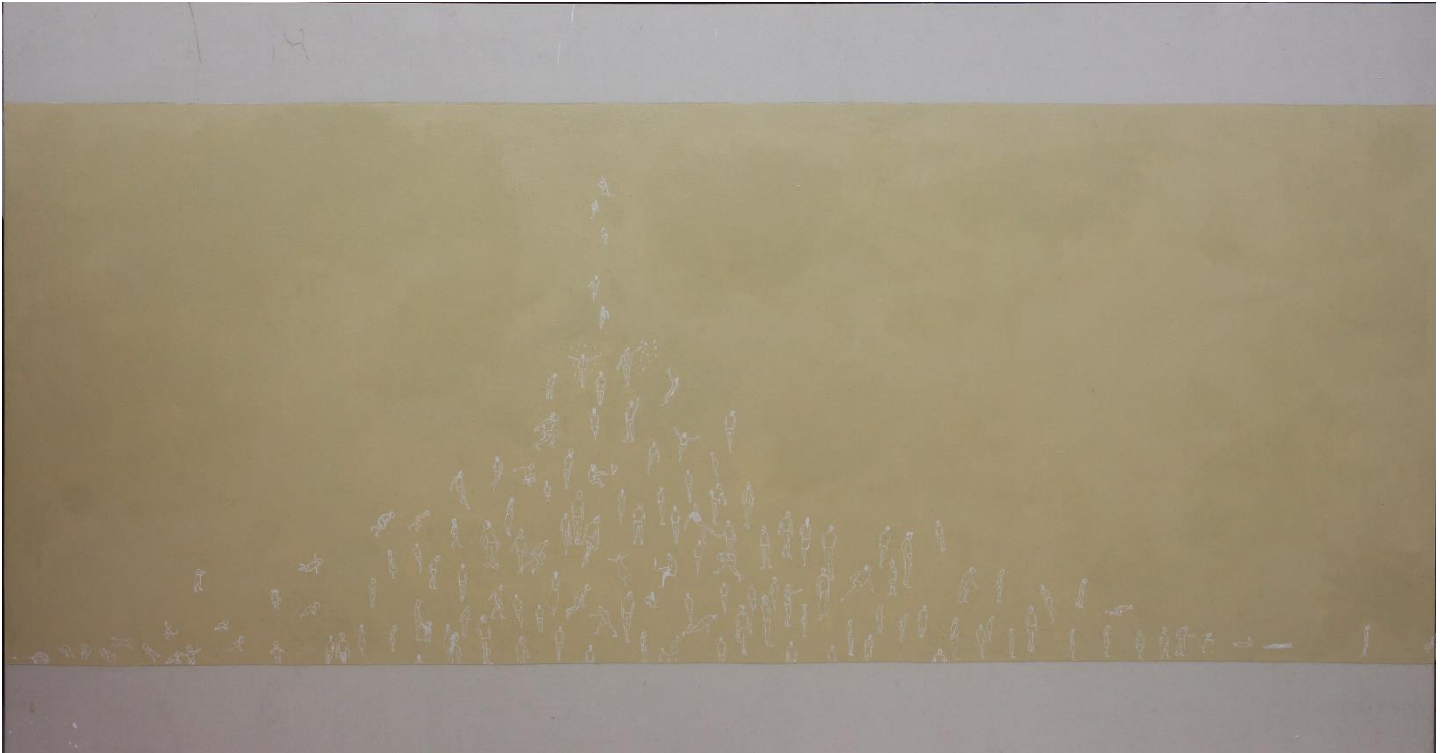
96 cm x 136 cm

Oil, acrylic and ink on canvas

2021

A doctor carries the Malaysia flag to keep moving on. The 'Rakyat' really appreciates that we have such courageous medical personnel on the frontline battling against COVID-19 during this dark period. They lift us and protect our country. They are the true heroes!

Work 36



Human life

136 cm x 96 cm

Ink and acrylic on canvas

2021

This artwork depicts a simple narrative of the journey from a sperm swimming towards an egg, the formation of the placenta, the gradual development into a baby, then growing into a child, adolescent, and eventually reaching middle age. From there, the individual slowly progresses towards old age, ultimately walking alone towards the end.

Work 37



Crowd, Less and Arrange

Oil, receipt and face mask on canvas

90.2 cm x 44.5 cm

2022

This painting depicts the phenomena I witnessed during the pandemic. It portrays the shift from crowded gatherings to sparsely populated streets, and the sight of people queuing in an organized manner. Interestingly, it captures the noticeable difference in air quality, which has become fresher since the implementation of stay-at-home measures.

Work 38



Reincarnation

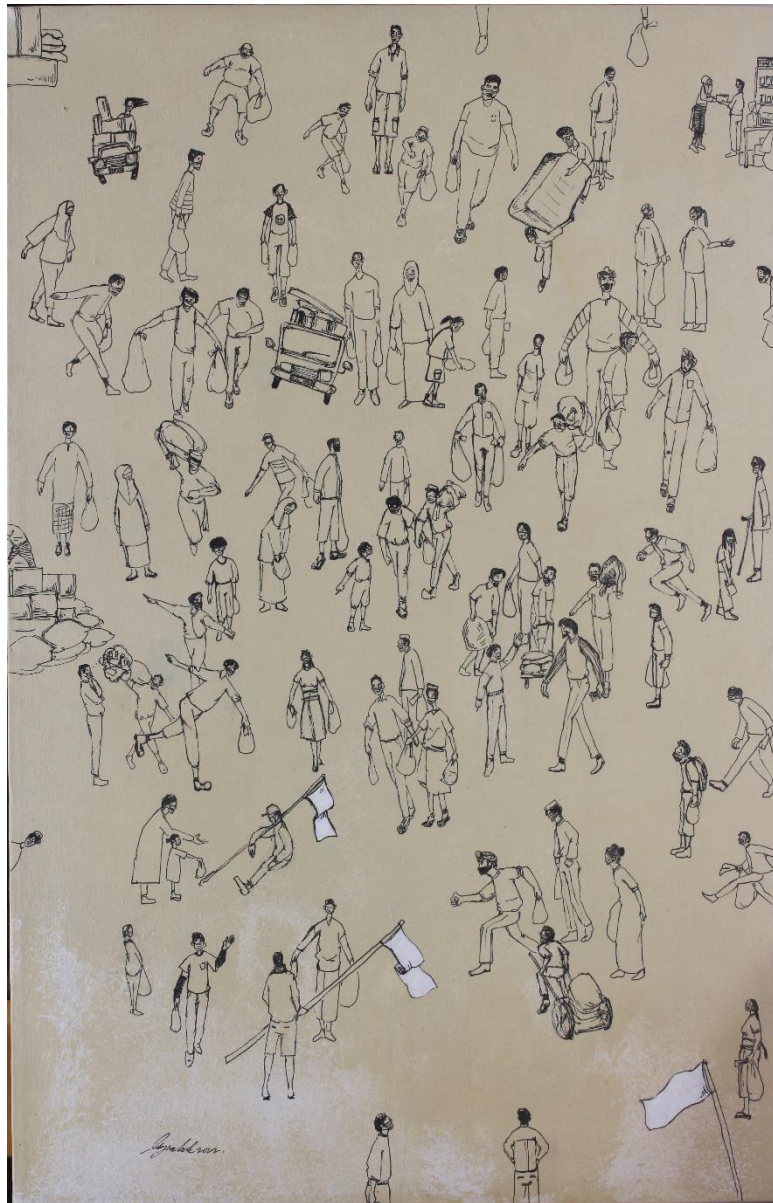
Acrylic on canvas

122 cm x 122 cm

2022

A painting that tells the story of reincarnation. It depicts a cycle from nothingness to existence and back to nothingness. This artwork specifically portrays the life of a woman.

Work 39



White Flag

Ink and Acrylic on canvas

75 cm x 45 cm

2022

The white flag has become a symbol of needing assistance from others during the pandemic.

Work 40



Humans in every corner

Charcoal on canvas

127 cm x 96 cm

2023

I attempted to depict a 2D Earth and humans from unconventional angles, challenging perceptions. This thought-provoking artwork invites reflection on alternative perspectives and the limitless possibilities that emerge when we question conventional understanding.

Work 41



Pasar Malam

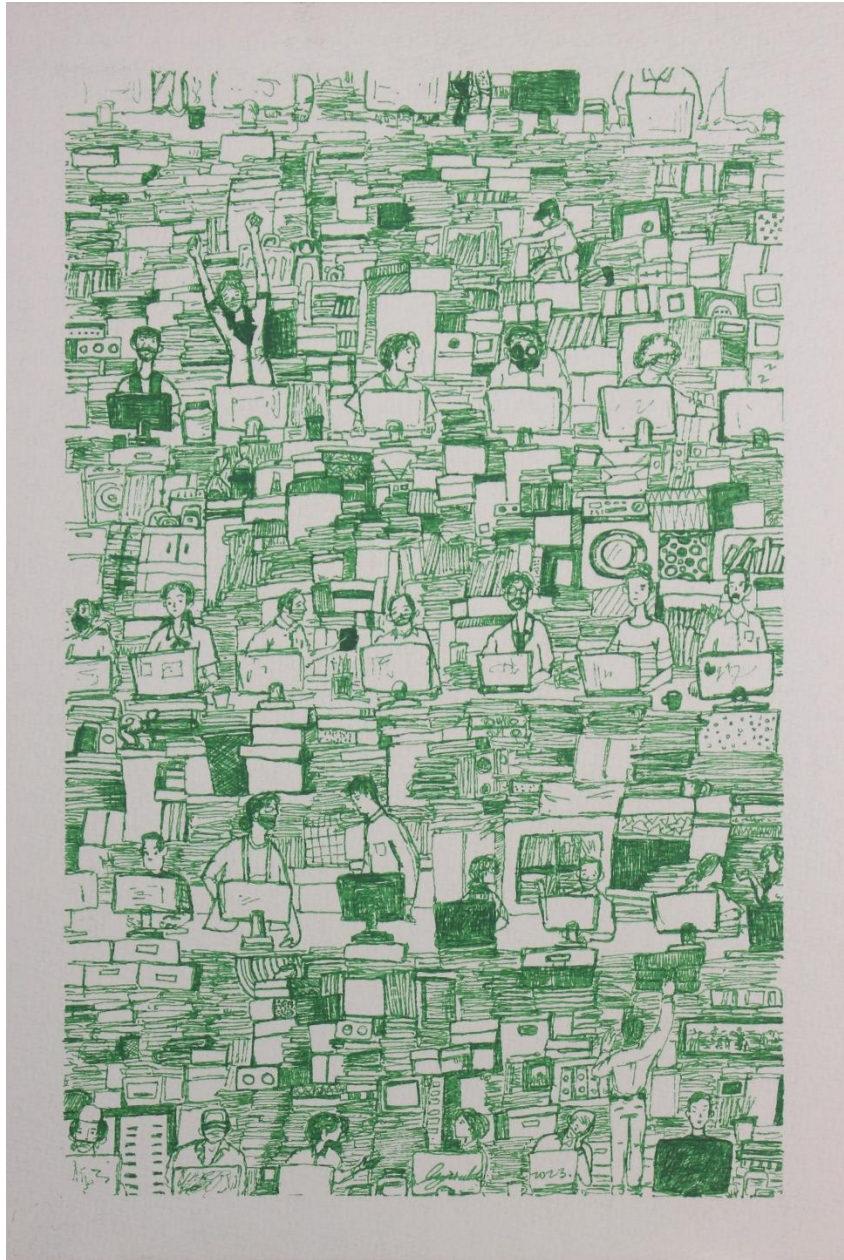
Charcoal on canvas

81.5 cm x 56 cm

2023

"Pasar Malam" is a unique cultural feature of Malaysia, referring to the night markets that are held regularly in various locations across the country.

Work 42



Typing

Ink on water colour paper

29.4 cm x 20 cm

2023

“DIDIDADIDA.....”

“X@#*s*^%%X@#”

“hahahaouuahhhorrhhh”

“Hey! U know...bablabla”

Work 43



Stuff

124 cm x 123 cm

Acrylic on canvas

2023

“Workingworkingworkingworking.....buybuybuybuy.....workingworkingworking.....buybuybuybuybuybuy.....workingworkingworking.....buybuybuybuybuybuy.....buybuybuybuybuybuyworkingworking.....buybuyubuy OR RMRMRMRMRMRMRMRMRMRMRMRMRMRMRMR.....”

The above sentence reflects my current feelings.

Living in this world, we cannot avoid buying some daily necessities. Sometimes, we also purchase things that are unnecessary or even go unused. Over time, this accumulation becomes unnecessary waste and burden...

Work 44



Black N white Candy

54 cm x 54 cm

Acrylic on canvas

2023

Every person is an individual. They have different personalities, reflected even in their unique clothing choices. Even when placed in black and white lines, they remain one of a kind.

Work 45



- / =

120 cm x 63 cm

Self-test kit and acrylic on plywood

2023

I take the self-test kit I previously used and use it as a source of inspiration for my artwork. I add unique characters in my own artistic style and focus on the working class. The story revolves around the period of the pandemic when individuals needed to utilize self-test kits to confirm whether they had contracted COVID-19. I choose the symbols "-", and "=" as the title of the artwork, instantly evoking associations with COVID.

Work 45



Skin Colour

Oil and Acrylic on canvas

2023

Description

I was pleasantly surprised when someone told me that their primary school-aged child asked, "Why is there a question about 'Bangsa'? We are Malaysians!"

It's heartening to see such awareness and inclusivity in young children, as they proudly identify as Malaysian rather than solely emphasizing their Chinese ethnicity.

The child's understanding and inclusive outlook inspired me to create these pieces. In the artwork, you can notice that all humans remain uncoloured, represented in white. This symbolizes my intention not to classify them based on their race as Malaysians. Instead, I painted different skin colours on the background, representing the diverse races present in our country. I want to emphasize that while these races are part of our unique Malaysian culture, they should not be the basis for classification. Our diversity should be celebrated, not used to separate us.