



UKK/600-01/05 (74)

## MEDIA RELEASE

### FROM TELUK INTAN TO SOUTH KOREA, ZULKEFLI JAIS REPRESENTS MALAYSIA AT GWANGJU BIENNALE 2024

**10<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2024** – The National Art Gallery of Malaysia is proud to announce that **Zulkefli Jais**, an innovative artist and winner of the **Young Contemporary Major Award 2023 (BMS23)**, has been **selected to represent Malaysia** at the esteemed **Gwangju Biennale 2024**. This contemporary visual arts event will be held in **Gwangju, South Korea**, from **7th September to 1st December 2024**.

Supported by the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MOTAC), Teluk Intan Municipal Council, and Tourism Malaysia, Zulkefli Jais's selection for the Gwangju Biennale 2024 marks a significant milestone for emerging Malaysian artists seeking global recognition. He has become a prominent figure in Malaysia's dynamic art scene. Through his distinctive site-specific work, Zulkefli exemplifies the flourishing artistic talent in Malaysia.

Zulkefli Jais will showcase his innovative work, notably the extended version of his **“Project Temporary Marking.”** This artwork continues from its initial installation in Teluk Intan, Perak—a town significant to the artist as it is where he was born and raised. Formerly known as Teluk Anson, Teluk Intan is renowned for its leaning tower, which symbolizes the town's history. His project explores how the town's historical buildings and geography shape its identity, focusing on themes of trauma and loss.

**“Project Temporary Marking”** combines geography and psychology to offer new perspectives on geopolitics, delving into lived experiences and memory. The exhibition demonstrates how art can express loss and transformation, using real and virtual examples to showcase art's positive societal impact. The construction of the Hanging Vest Monument begins with a squat, brick-built foundation and progresses stage by stage as the vest is lifted in small sections starting from the feet, marking significant progress in the construction of the monument.

Accompanying the artwork will be a short documentary lasting 6 minutes and 2 seconds, which will be shown repeatedly throughout the exhibition. This documentary will reveal the dark history surrounding Menara Condong, incorporating the sound of its chiming bell. The bell will ring every hour, aligned with Malaysian Standard Time (MYT), bringing a piece of Menara Condong's essence to Gwangju, South Korea. In between each chime, the sounds from the audience will be a part of the artwork, representing the normality of everyday life.

Additionally, we would like to extend our deepest appreciation to the curators from the National Art Gallery of Malaysia, Erry Arham Azmi, and Syahrul Niza Ahmad Zaini, for their essential contributions from the curatorial perspective.

In conclusion, **“Project Temporary Marking”** underscores the National Art Gallery of Malaysia's dedication to supporting and empowering local artists. By showcasing Zulkefli Jais internationally, we reaffirm our commitment to nurturing Malaysian talent and promoting its global presence. Moreover, our support for local artists through initiatives such as the Young Contemporary (BMS) demonstrates our ongoing effort to advance Malaysia's artistic community and provide opportunities for its artists to thrive on the world stage.

---

*Issued by:*

**Corporate Communications Unit**

**NATIONAL ART GALLERY OF MALAYSIA**

No. 2 Jalan Temerloh, Off Jalan Tun Razak, 53200 Kuala Lumpur

Tel.: 03-40267000 Fax: 03-40244998

E: [ukk@artgallery.gov.my](mailto:ukk@artgallery.gov.my) W: [www.artgallery.gov.my](http://www.artgallery.gov.my)

**For Media Enquiries:**

**National Art Gallery:**

**Zuriyadi Sarpin**

T: +60 11 1005 5207

E: [zuriyadi@artgallery.gov.my](mailto:zuriyadi@artgallery.gov.my)

**Intan Syazwina Suhaimi**

T: +60 19 998 5884

E: [syazwina@artgallery.gov.my](mailto:syazwina@artgallery.gov.my)