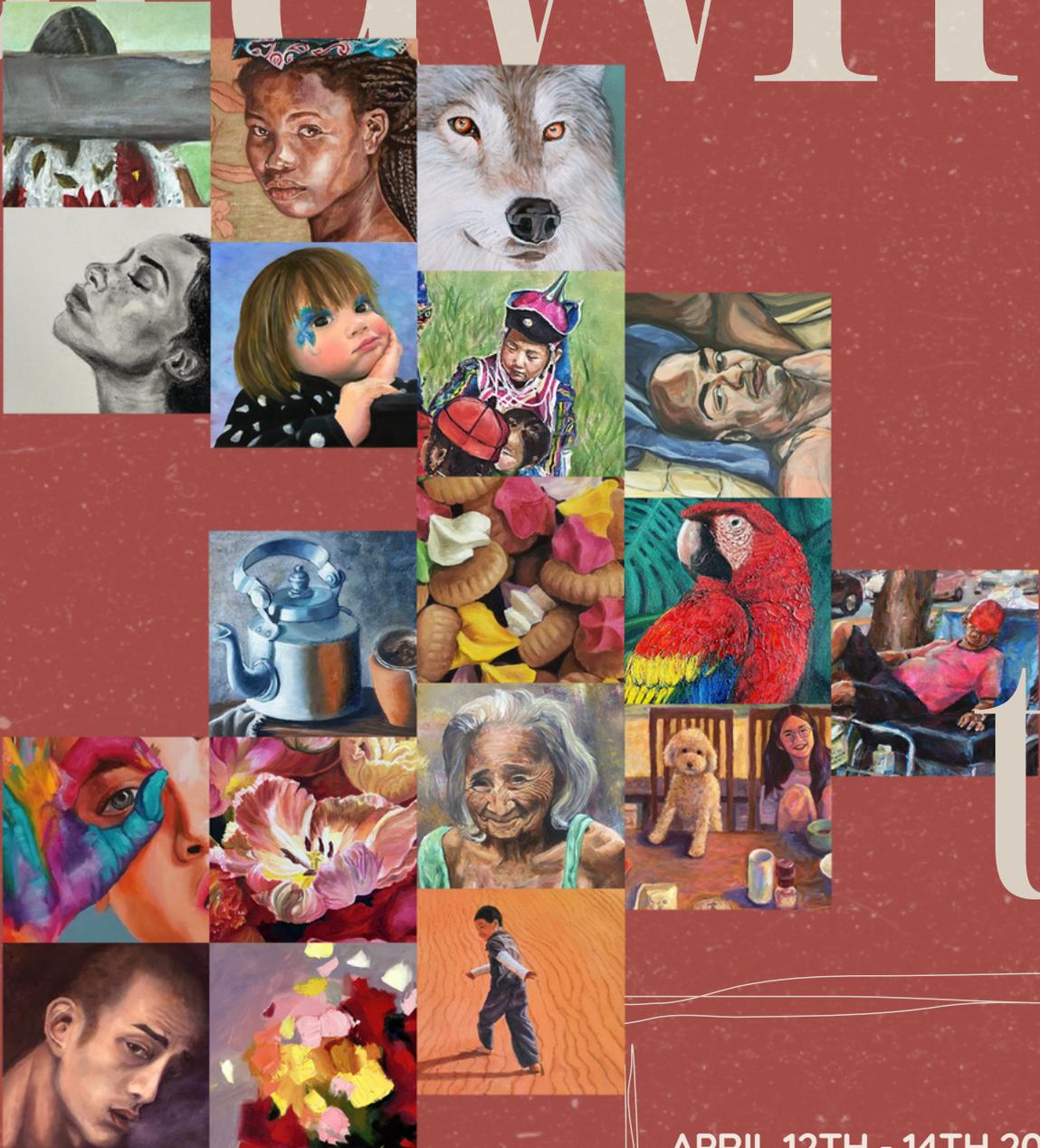


# Drawn



to

# Life

APRIL 12TH - 14TH 2024

THE ARTS HOUSE, GALLERY II  
SINGAPORE 179429

FULL  
CATALOGUE

**PARTICIPATING ARTISTS:**

**LE MATT (ARTIST MENTOR)**

**ANTONIO BRAVO**

**BHAVANA R KAPUR**

**蔡佩珊 / CAI PEISHAN**

**CHAN MI KI**

**ELISON LIM**

**HELEN TSAO BERNARDO**

**JENNIFER CHONG**

**KHUSHNAM PATEL / KHUSH**

**MICHELLE GOH (MIYA)**

**NOKIE**

**SHALLU SANSANWAL (DR)**

**SUE OLIVIER**

**TRACY NG**

**VIAN**

**VIOLA BRANDWOOD-QIU**

**WOEI TYNG**

**WONG LEE PHING**

**CURATED BY SHAUN TEO**

**PROUDLY PRESENTED BY ART MATTERS**

*Drawn*

# LE MATT

Artist, Art Educator,  
Art Studio Founder

SINGAPORE

*To*

*Life*



**有饭吃饭，有粥吃粥** (*Eat Rice When There Is Rice. When There Is Only Porridge, Eat Porridge*), 2023, Acrylic on canvas, 9 x 12 inches, \$750

In the 1930s, groups of women from Samsui ( 三 水 ) took up the heavy yoke of construction labourers in Singapore. The work is physically demanding: they dug soil and carried earth, debris and building materials in buckets hoisted from shoulder poles.

As of 2020, only one known Samsui woman remains. This piece is dedicated to the indefatigable, indomitable human spirit.



**After the Applause, Before the  
Curtain Falls**, 2021, Acrylic on  
canvas, 9 x 12 inches, \$750

Every act of creation is an act of emptying oneself, channeling time and energy to create a work that hopefully means something, touches someone. We wrestle with self-doubt and criticism, and yet tomorrow, Sisyphus rolls the boulder up the hill again, with a glint of pride in the eye.



**Everyone, A Breathing Universe,**  
2023, Acrylic on canvas, 9 x 12 inches,  
\$750

Maybe we love to look at stars  
because we were once made of  
them.



**Train 7 - Blink Of An Eye**, 2021, Acrylic on canvas, 30 x 40 inches, \$3500

As the afternoon sun scorches outside, their eyelids grow heavy and close as grandfather and grandson catches forty winks in the train.

In the blink of an eye, children grow up and one day may have grandchildren of their own. One day, they too might give up their rightfully reserved seat to their grandchildren so that the young can curl up and rest better.



**His Pink Majesty**, 2023, Acrylic on canvas, 24 x 30 inches, \$3200

Ensnared safely on his throne, the mechanical hum of traffic lulls the trishaw man to slumber. In the stream of time, things come and go. The first wisp of sunset, a metaphor for his industry, pierces the firmament.

When he wakes, he can choose to go wherever he wishes. His faithful steed and throne awaits, the only horsepower of his car, his two *kar* (legs).



**Before The Coffee Gets Cold, 2024,**  
Acrylic on canvas, 16 x 12 inches,  
\$1600

Deep in the heart of Chinatown, a group of uncles, usually retired or jobless, convenes nearly everyday beneath a pavilion to sharpen their wits over a game of Chinese chess or checkers.

The air brims with their camaraderie, and time flies with good company.

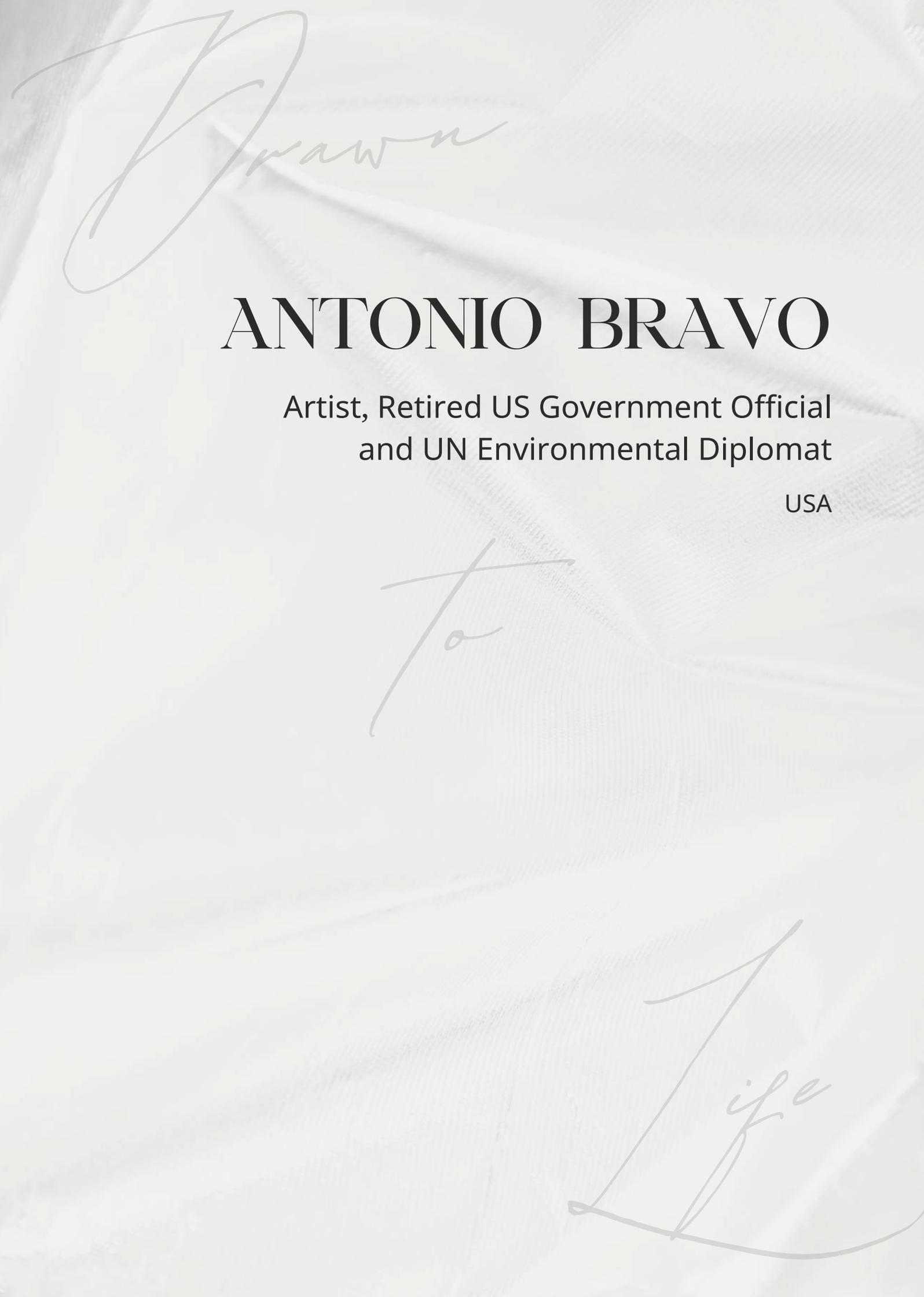


**Void Deck Wonderland**, 2021, Acrylic on canvas, 14 x 11 inches, \$1500

Growing up, one of the highlights after school was frequenting the mamak/mama shop and buying a snack for twenty cents.

It was a wonderful season in my life where little things can inspire awe and excitement. Looking back, the little things were big things of course.

Will air-conditioned convenience stores one day fully replace these charming shops? I hope not. I hope there is a pocket of charm and wonderment in your heart always.



# ANTONIO BRAVO

Artist, Retired US Government Official  
and UN Environmental Diplomat

USA

To

Life



**Bear Your Burden**, 2024, Acrylic on canvas, 30 x 40 inches, \$1100

Mexican women shoulder the responsibility of supporting their community and families. They nourish the stomachs of their families and the souls of their communities. They are selfless and obedient to their husbands and God. But they are frequently taken advantage of and are expected to create a peaceful world and empower men by giving them hope. They bear the burden of their culture.

*Drawn*

# BHAVANA R KAPUR

Artist, Architect

INDIA

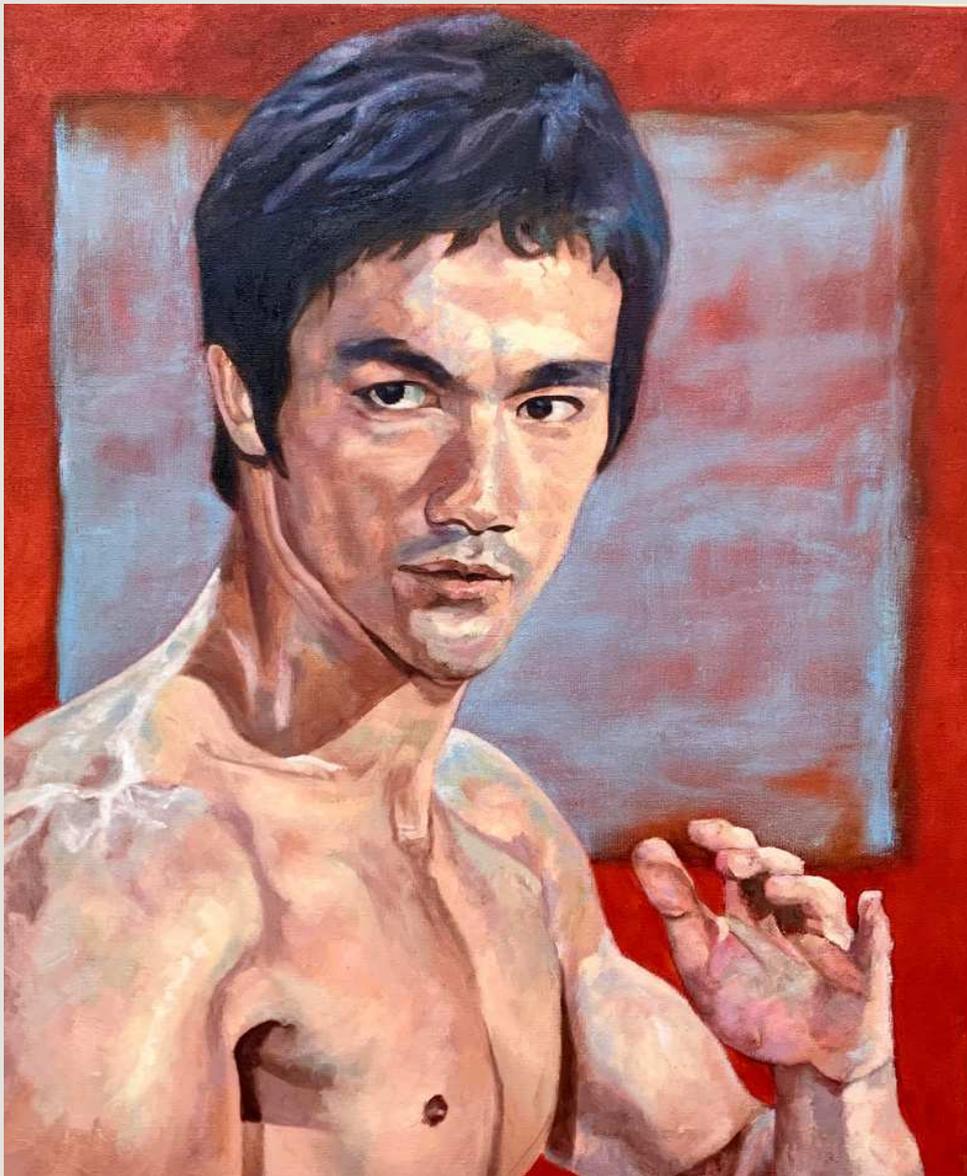
*To*

*Life*



**Flower Girl**, 2020, Oil on  
linen, 70 x 90 cm, \$3000

I am no beauty queen  
I am just beautiful me.



**Enter the Dragon**, 2021, Oil on linen, 50 x 60cm, \$1750

In this painting, I would like to give tribute to Bruce Lee and Mark Rothko: legends who have inspired millions over the years and continue to do so.

Bruce Lee is legacy of self expression, equality and pioneering innovation.

The red background, depicting his fiery personality and the blue symbolising his resilience, his calm and controlled state of mind, is a contrast to his fury.

A dynamic combination of fire and water.

*Drawn*

蔡佩珊 CAI PEISHAN

Artist, Sales Merchandiser

SINGAPORE

*To*

*Life*



**Snow Wolf**, 2022, Oil on canvas,  
46 x 56 cm, \$650

这一幅画的灵感来自Matt 老师，他画了人与狼的作品，深深吸引了我。

狼是狗的祖先，狗是狼的后代——狗很忠心，狼很独立。狼永远站在最高峰，我就勇敢把它给画了出来，激发自信。人生有起有落，只活在当下，不害怕勇敢向前。在爬到最高一层，看一看风景，原来世界这样的美好，感恩所有的一切。

This artwork was inspired by my mentor's artwork which featured a wolf, which deeply attracted me.

Dogs are loyal while wolves seem solitary, aloof. I sought courage and confidence in the subject, and akin to life, there are mountains and valleys to overcome. The view at the top is always worth the climb, and the world is truly beautiful.



**Guilin View**, 2023, Oil on canvas,  
61 x 46cm, \$500

这一幅画是小桂林，太阳旭日东升，赶紧拍了下来。望下去水波泛出秀色，上山景物明净，就一笔一画慢慢地画了出来，细心的涂上了油画色彩。

能量也升起，美丽的早晨，谢谢Matt老师让我有个舒服的画室里，自我提升完成这幅画。

As the sun climbs over the eastern horizon, I hurriedly snapped a photo of Little Guilin with its picturesque beauty and meticulously painted the splendid view.

I am thankful to re-create this view of a beautiful morning rising with energy in a comfortable studio, allowing me to complete the work to satisfaction.

*Drawn*

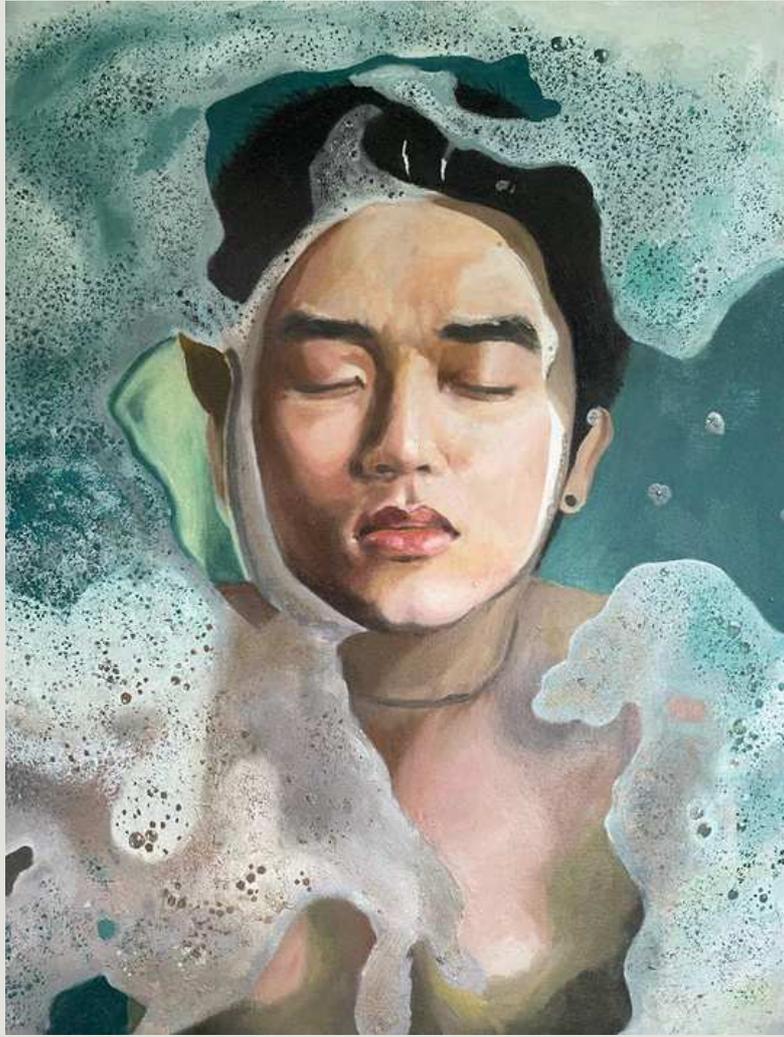
**CHAN MI KI**

Artist, Regional  
Communication Manager

SINGAPORE

*To*

*Life*

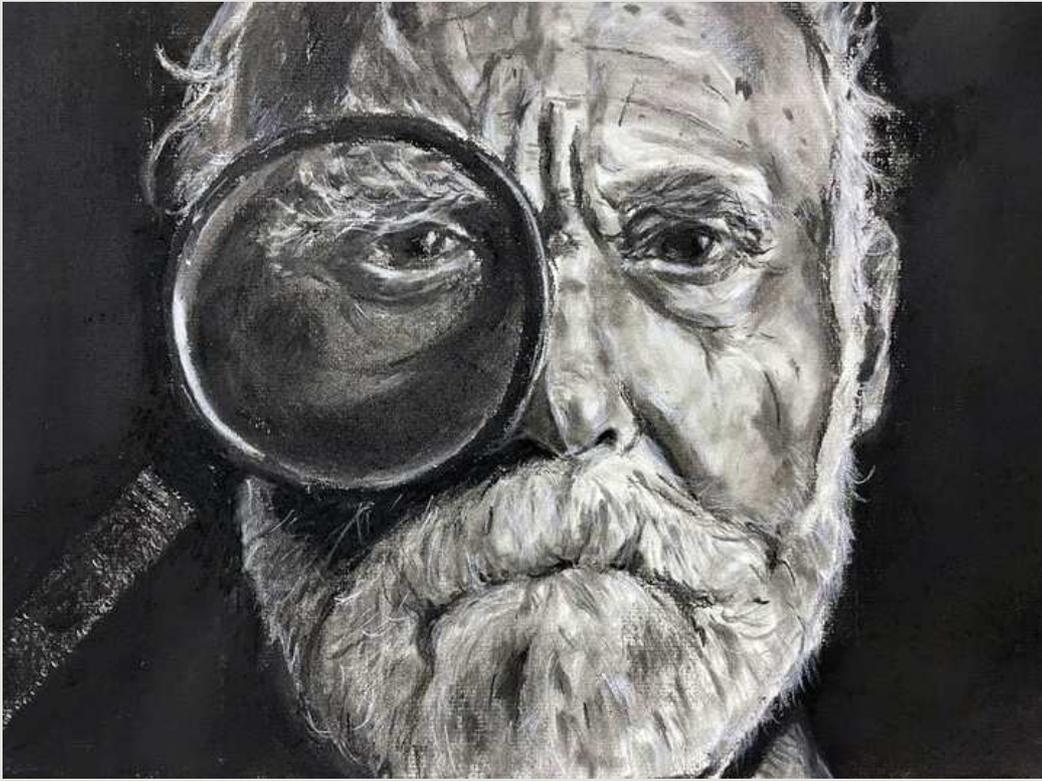


**Breathe**, 2020, Oil on canvas, 18 x 24 inches, \$2200

The sense of unfulfillment in life often fills one with despair, an emptiness of dreams unachieved, actions unfinished and hopes unaccomplished.

This painting, a reflection of the anguish felt, depicts the subject half-submerged in water, drawn in an emotional vortex that pulls the viewer in, swirling their minds around and giving little reprieve for any breathing space.

Caught in the deep end of the subject's mental and emotional state, the painting invites the viewer to draw deeper and deeper in with him, almost to the point of surrender.



**Through the looking-glass, 2023, Charcoal on paper, A3, \$550**

‘Through the looking-glass’ is a poignant charcoal rendering capturing the essence of lifelong curiosity and perpetual wonderment. In this compelling piece, an elderly man adorned with a crown of white hair gazes intently through a magnifying glass with one eye. Despite the passage of time and the weight of years reflected in his visage, his insatiable curiosity is evident. The man’s enduring thirst for knowledge suggests that even in the twilight of life, he remains engaged with the world, seeking to unravel its mysteries until his last breath.

Through the subtle interplay of light and shadow, the drawing conveys a sense of depth and complexity, inviting viewers to contemplate the timeless pursuit of understanding and the boundless capacity of the human spirit for exploration.

‘Through the looking-glass’ is a powerful reminder that curiosity knows no age limits, inspiring us to embrace a lifelong journey of discovery and enlightenment.



**Soul free**, 2022, Charcoal on paper, A3, \$550

This portraiture captures a moment of serene introspection and inner freedom. At its centre is a young woman, her head tilted back with closed eyes, lost in a world of her creation. Her expression is pure bliss, suggesting a detachment from the constraints of the external world.

Charcoal adds depth and texture to the image, enhancing the sense of contemplation and tranquility. Through this portrayal, the viewer is invited to reflect on the beauty of solitude and the liberation within one's thoughts and dreams.

'Soul free' serves as a poignant reminder of the profound peace that can be discovered when we allow ourselves to disconnect from the chaos of the outside world and journey inward.

*Drawn*

# ELISON LIM

Artist, Tertiary Educator  
(Associate Professor)

SINGAPORE

*To*

*Life*



**Daydream**, 2021, Oil on canvas, 30 x 30 cm,  
\$680

In “Daydream”, a young girl is in her own world far from the maddening crowd. The delicate brushwork highlights her rosy, cherubic cheeks and a playful hint of face paint, while her polka-dot coat adds a dash of carefree charm against the soft blue backdrop. Her eyes gleam with curiosity as she takes in all that is happening around her and her slight smile hides a brewing mischief. The joy of childhood innocence!



**Snow Leopard - Out on a Prowl 2024,**  
Acrylic on canvas, 24 x 18 inches, \$980

‘Snow leopard - out on a prowling’ captures the penetrating look of a snow leopard out on a hunt, an embodiment of nature's untamed spirit.

The painting conveys the animal's raw presence and survival instinct against the harshness of its mountain habitat, with eyes that reflect the cold beauty of its icy reign.



**Whiskers in Monochrome**, 2022,  
Charcoal on paper, 30 x 21cm,  
Private Collection

“Whiskers in Monochrome” captures the essence of feline elegance through the interplay of light and shadow. This charcoal drawing emphasizes the watchful gaze and the delicate whiskers of a tabby cat, rendered in a grayscale that displays the animal’s natural poise.

*Drawn*

**HELEN TSAO  
BERNARDO**

Artist

AUSTRALIA

*To*

*Life*



**naiman khüü**, 2024, Oil on canvas, 30 x 30 inches,  
Not for sale

In her painting 'naiman khüü', meaning "8 Children" in Mongolian, Helen used vibrant colors to show the beautiful traditional clothing worn by Mongolian kids.

With deliberate and detailed strokes, she highlights the intricacies of each costume, while using gentle strokes to contrast with the open expanse of the Mongolian field as the background.

*Drawn*

# JENNIFER CHONG

Artist, Market Consultant

SINGAPORE

*To*

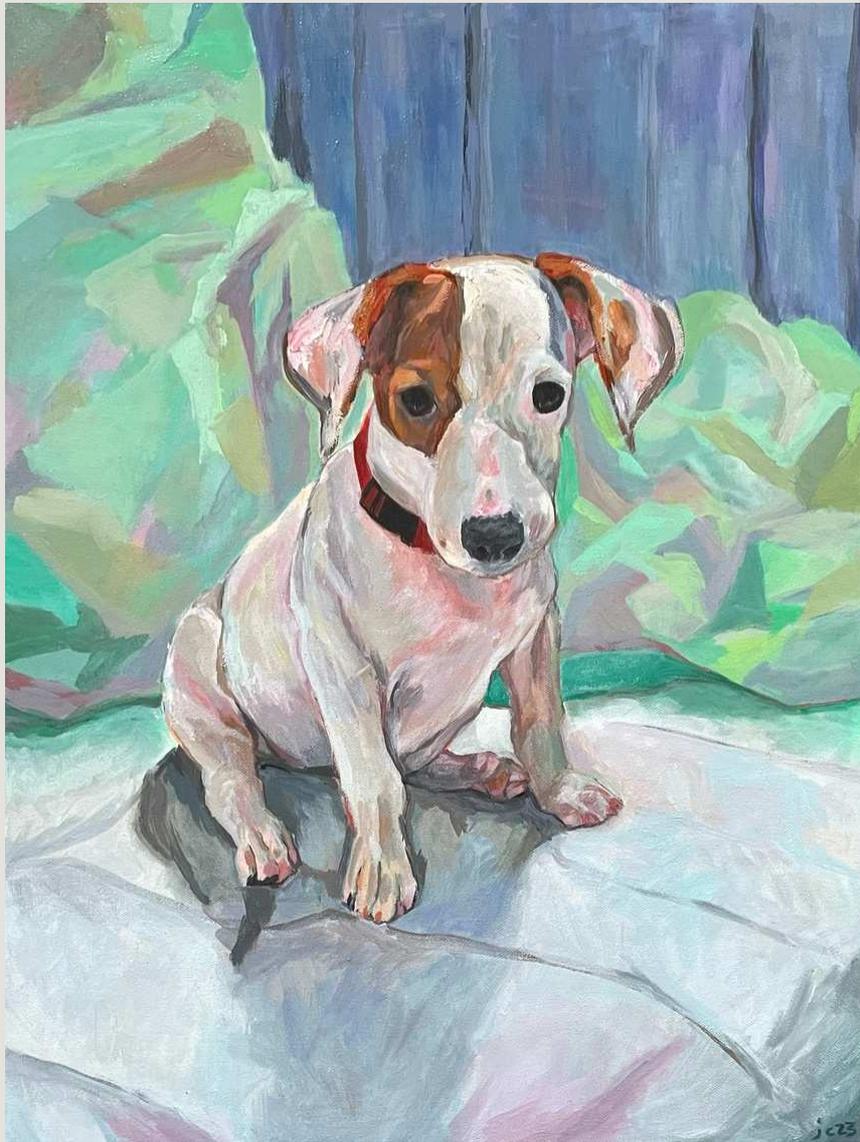
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**Man and dog**, 2018, Acrylic on canvas, 30 x 40 inches, Not for sale

‘Man and dog’ was inspired by Modigliani’s ‘Red Nude’ but it took on its own form when the artist decided to depict the relationship between the man and his dog in a contrasting manner.

The man is relaxing on the sofa, comforted by the presence of his dog near to him but could the dog want to be somewhere else instead?



**Cotton**, 2023, Acrylic on canvas, 24 x 30 inches, Not for sale

In memory of Cotton, the Jack Russell.

2003-2020

Cotton was a dog that belonged to the artist's sister-in-law and the artist had the privilege to spend time with her when she lived with her sister-in-law for a few months. Cotton was dearly loved by the family and the artist wanted to commemorate her for the joy she brought to the family through the expression of vibrant colors. This is the first time the artist experimented elements of abstraction in her artwork.

*Drawn*

**KHUSHNAM PATEL  
/ KHUSH**

Artist, Teacher

INDIA

*To*

*Life*



**Towards the Morning Light**, 2023, Oil on canvas, 24 x 30 inches, \$1700

The cool shades of morning with a red blemish of the turban, the only warm colour on the scene.

This is a place i want to be.

Walking next to the donkeys, listening to the shepherd's stories, the hooves hitting the rock, the shepherd's shoes scrunching the pebbles underneath. All this bathed in an ethereal morning glow.



**Cutting Chai**, 2022, Oil on canvas, 16 x 20 inches,  
Not for sale

One cup of tea is never enough. The big kettle ensures that. The familiar aromas of ginger and cardamom bring back memories of pre-porcelain and china cup days.

The sweet tea flavoured with spices, heavy on milk and love continues to be my favourite. The play of light and dark, the bowl of Indian trail mix, the broken sieve, the caramel colour of the tea is high on nostalgia, comfort and the smell of home.

*Drawn*

**MICHELLE GOH  
(MIYA)**

Artist, Business Officer

SINGAPORE

*To*

*Life*



**Letter Writer**, 2024, Oil on canvas, 20 x 20 inches, \$1800

Where I grew up, there's a letter writer by the side of the market. They are an essential part in the early days where there are migrants workers who were illiterate. It helps to keep in touch with their families/relatives back home.

This painting is a wonderful exploration in colors as the original reference was black and white. I also had to research and decipher the smudgy Chinese characters in the photo, and it became a thorough calligraphy exercise as much as a painting too.



**Gem Biscuits**, 2022, Oil on canvas, 12 x 12 inches, \$980

The gem biscuit is a colourful traditional biscuit which I used to eat as a child.

I am drawn to the vibrant candy colors, and here I have playfully used a trompe l'oeil technique where the biscuits appear to be falling out of the canvas.



**Cinnamon Sticks**, 2021, Oil on canvas,  
14 x 10 inches, \$880

You will find this spice in most homes. Some believe the cinnamon is a great energy booster, among other health benefits it provides.

I opted for a complementary color palette, but was also interested in creating the different textures of the sticks, powder and wooden surface.

*Drawn*

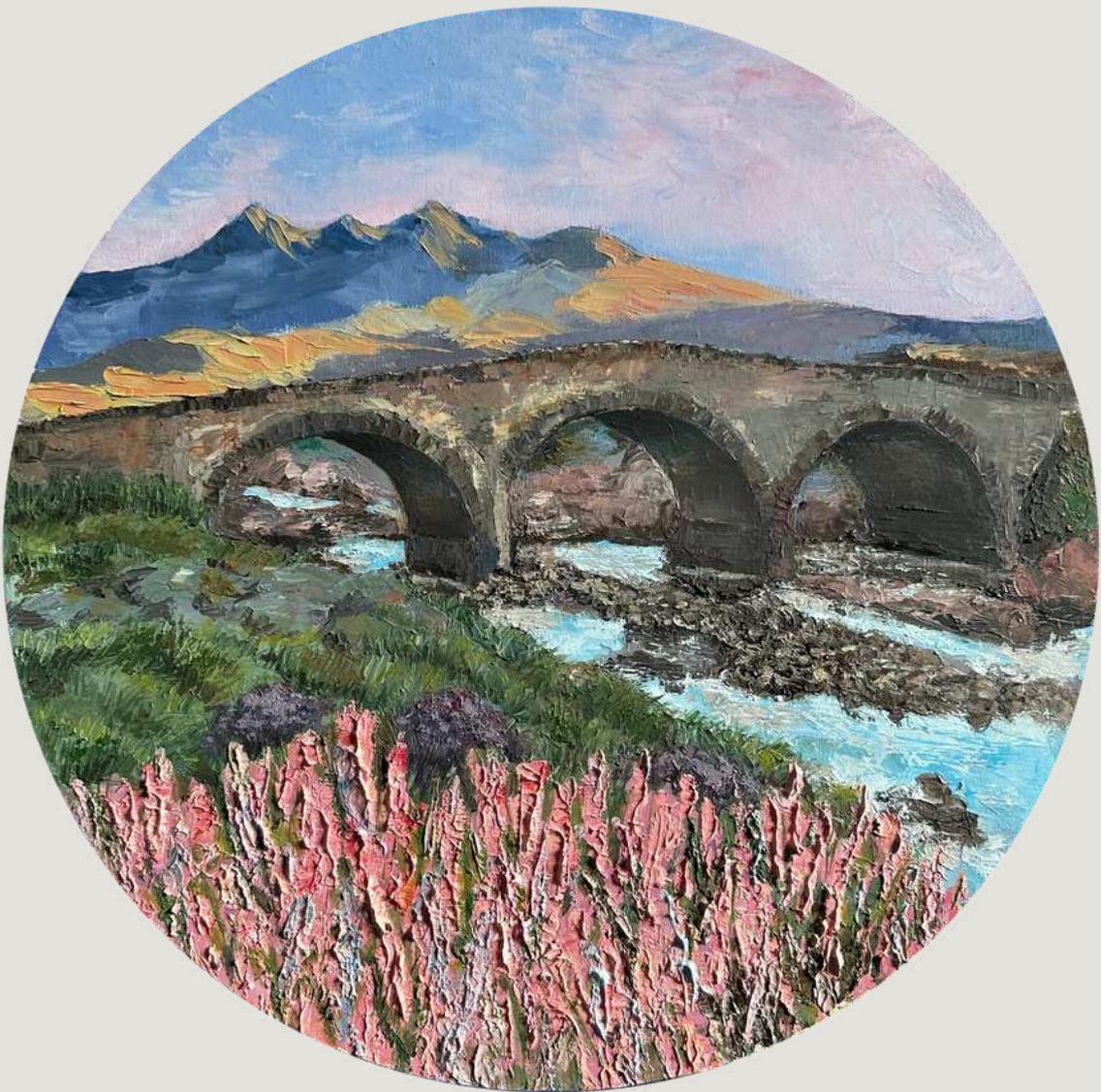
**NOKIE**

Artist, Energy Data Analyst

THAILAND

*To*

*Life*



**Memories**, 2021, Oil on canvas,  
Diameter 20 inches, \$800

The painting is a heartfelt tribute to Scotland, the place that holds sentimental value to Nokie. It resonates with her memories of the Scottish Highlands. The choice of a palette knife for the artist's first attempt adds a bold and textured dimension to capture the scenic Scottish outdoors.



**Macaw**, 2022, Oil on canvas, 20 x 16 inches, Not for sale

The Scarlet Macaw holds a special place in the artist's heart, given that her name, 'Nok,' means bird. The vibrant colors of this South American native bird are accentuated by the thoughtful addition of Hibiscus and Heliconia, complementing its beauty with native flora. Monstera leaves serve as a reminder of the painting's creation during the Covid lockdown, when the plants gained so much popularity.



**Swim**, 2021, Oil on canvas, 18 x 24 inches, \$900

The artist initially intended the Koi painting for Feng Shui in her home, but as she immersed herself in the process, she fell in love with capturing the graceful movements of the two beautiful fish. The intricate detailing of fins and tails, set against the backdrop of five water lily leaves, not only aligns with Feng Shui principles but also reflects a newfound admiration for the elegance of these aquatic creatures.

*Drawn*

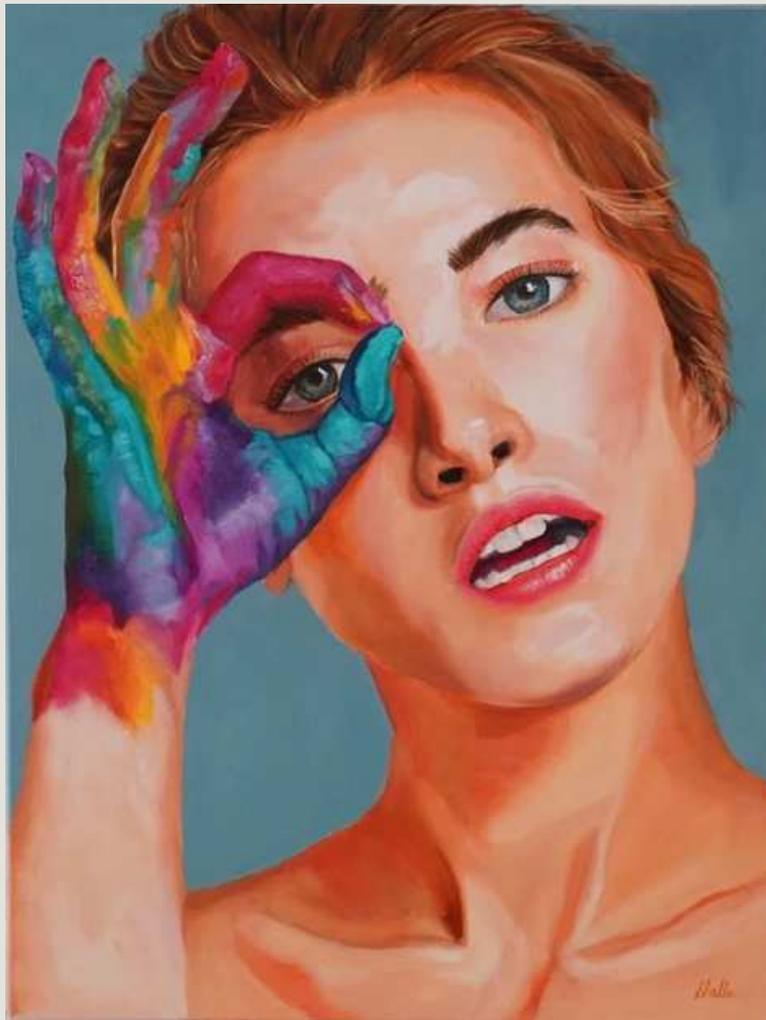
**SHALLU  
SANSANWAL  
(DR)**

*To*

Artist, Researcher

INDIA

*Life*



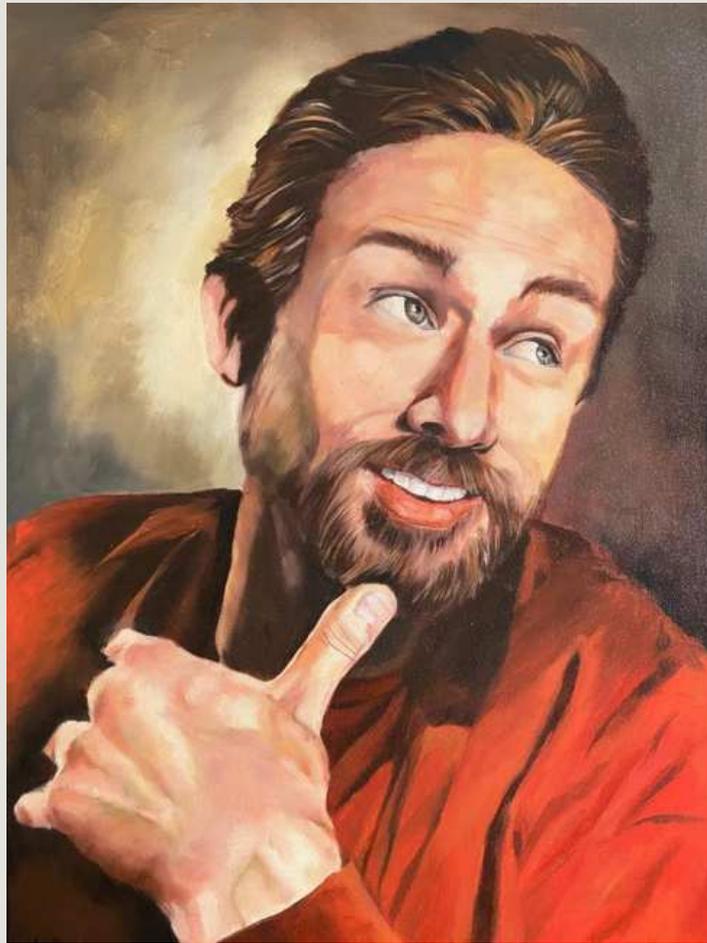
**Holi**, 2023, Oil on canvas, 18 x 24 inches, \$2200

"I fell in love with a world through her eyes".

---Atticus

This art piece was created to depict the plethora of emotions associated with colour. What keeps surfacing in my memory is the colour on the hands in Holi (Indian festival of colours). The emotions, twinkle in eyes, hand painted with vibrant colours, silent bubbling impatience to colour anyone who comes near, the loud roar of children laughing, adults joining in and whole sky filled with rainbow colours.

Feminine charm and beauty bridge all these emotions and moments together with colour, thus presenting 'Holi' both as subject and concept.



**Portrait of Brooklyn**, 2023, Oil on canvas, 18 x 24 inches, \$2200

‘Portrait of Brooklyn’ has been composed using Zorn Palette (from a black and white reference) to depict mood, emotions, and vibrancy in a single piece.

This piece of art was created to complement ‘Holi’. Masculine energy and lightness of the mood with a deeper sense of calm has been depicted through restricted palette and subdued colours.

This piece balances the colourful expression of emotions through use of vibrant vermillion, and calmness and masculine gentleness and assertiveness through hues of black and ochre, thus adding depth to both subject and concept.

*Drawn*

**SUE OLIVIER**

Artist, Advertising

SOUTH AFRICA

*To*

*Life*



**Are you looking at me?**, 2020, Oil on canvas, 30 x 40 inches, \$1500

This is part of a 'humanimal' series, an attempt to blur the boundaries between the terrestrial and the ethereal. I tried to capture a contemplative, everyday atmosphere while juxtaposing it with an arresting challenge in the fin.

Personally, I see the augmentation as more reptilian than fish, but I leave it to you as the viewer to decide.



**Nude 2**, 2021, Oil on canvas, 24 x 28 inches,  
\$1000

I always think that the male form is so much more interesting than the female. In this painting I wanted to use colour and texture to portray strength, confidence and unapologetic masculinity. But the vulnerability of nakedness was an unexpected outcome.

*Drawn*

**TRACY NG**

Artist, Customer Service,  
Sales & Supply Chain Asia

SINGAPORE

*To*

*Life*



**Coffee and Toast**, 2021, Acrylic on canvas, 24 x 30 inches, \$2500

This artwork brings back fond memories of the good old times with my parents in the coffee shop, savoring the traditional 'kopi' and toast. I've used warm hues to evoke a sense of nostalgia and sentimentality of a bygone era.



**Aged Gracefully**, 2024, Acrylic on canvas,  
18 x 24 inches, \$1800

How would I be when I grow older ? I would like to age gracefully of course. One of the most popular aging quotes from Frank Lloyd Wright, the famous architect: “ The longer I live, the more beautiful life becomes.”

My outlook may not always be achievable when faced with setbacks or physical problems but I can focus on the positive aspects and remaining positive, open and flexible.



**Childlike Joy**, 2023, Acrylic on canvas, 20 x 16 inches, \$1800

I chose this little joyful girl as my first portrait because it's like a mirror of me as a child.

I long for returning to a childlike state and rediscover the joy of playfulness and simplicity. I've used simple, blending brushstrokes to capture the joyful and adorable expression, and vibrant colors like green and blue to associate with energy and happy emotions.

*Drawn*

**VIAN**

Artist

SINGAPORE

*To*

*Life*



**Lunch with Blossom** 2022, Acrylic on canvas,  
31x 31 inches, \$1200

I enjoy painting things that make me smile. Watching my daughter Blossom sitting at home, with the dogs, enjoying her lunch with the warm sun shining in from the side window inspired me to capture that sweet moment in time.

I chose warm glowy colours for the things that are closer to the light like the dining table, Blossom, our poodle Brownie and cooler colours for our Maltese Snowy and the floor.



**3 little ones**, 2023, Acrylic on canvas, 20 x 16 inches, \$800

It is always a joy watching my 3 dogs basking in the sun.

I wanted to capture the different expressions on their faces. Momo enjoying the breeze, Snowy doing his yawn and Brownie just chilling.

*Drawn*

**VIOLA  
BRANDWOOD – QIU**

Artist, Management  
Consultant

UK

*To*

*Life*



**Hope**, 2023, Oil on canvas, 18 x 24 inches, \$1380

My dear friend Laetitia was savouring a cup of tea while bathed in winter sunlight at her London home. Her mind adrift, hoped for some magical encounters to unfold soon. Have you spotted the stuffed fox plant pot outside the window? A gift from me, quietly kept her company, adding a playful touch to this calming scene.



**Life in Bloom**, 2023, Oil on canvas, 12 x 16 inches, \$450

These exquisite parrot tulips, with their vivid and dynamic colours, evoke fond memories of travel and friends' gatherings. I use it as my phone wallpaper, as they are a constant source of joy, and bring smiles to my daily life.



**Celebration**, 2023, Oil on canvas, 12 x 16 inches, \$450

The Covid years have instilled in me a profound appreciation for life's fleeting joys and modest victories. So with each toast, "Chin-chin, to many happy returns!"

*Drawn*

# WOEI TYNG

Artist, Yoga Teacher

MALAYSIA

*To*

*Life*



**Rejoice**, 2023, Oil on canvas, 45 x 60 cm, \$1300

‘Rejoice’ is a portrayal of a vase overflowing with vibrant flowers in full bloom. Each petal and stem bursts with life, radiating a sense of vitality and abundance.

I painted this to capture the fleeting splendor of flowers and celebrate the cycles of growth and renewal. The painting invites the audience to a renewed sense of awe and appreciation for the wonders of the natural world.



**Golden Derby**, 2023, Oil on canvas, 30 x 40 inches, \$2800

"Golden Derby" captures the spirit of a majestic thoroughbred horse in full stride. With flowing lines and vibrant hues, its mane billows in the wind as it races toward victory.

The inspiration behind 'Golden Derby' stems from loyalty, freedom, and inner strength.

*Drawn*

# WONG LEE PHING

Artist, Engineer

SINGAPORE

*To*

*Life*

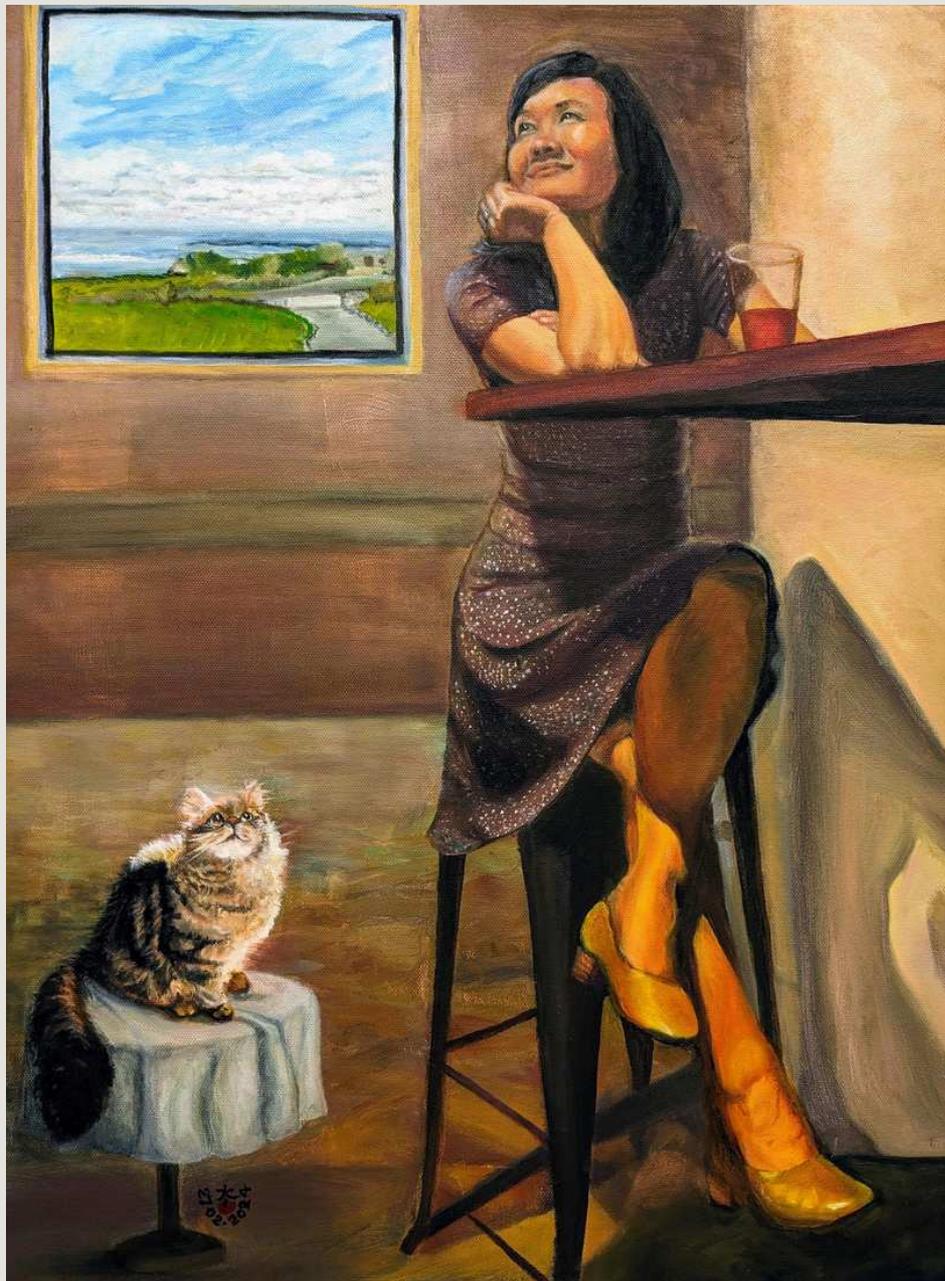


**The World is Your Oyster, Respect and Love,**  
2023, Oil on canvas, 40 x 30 inches, Not for sale

It was beautiful capturing the moments when the boys first laid their footstep on Wadi Rum in 2008.

It was even more memorable when I held onto them tightly to keep them warm from the desert chill in the Bedouin camp, in the middle of the night. I wish that the boys will spread an equal, if not greater, warmth to the boundless world, to keep her diversified yet harmonious.

跑吧，孩子，以爱和敬重，在这大同世界里，去接纳和被认同。



**Let the Inside Out**, 2024, Oil on canvas,  
18 x 24 inches, Not for sale

Do you occasionally feel your soul  
traverse through space and time to a  
once familiar corner of a street, or a hill  
slope, or a seaside?

That brief exit of your soul is like a short  
holiday, giving you the burst of  
freshness to recharge your tired mind.  
神游。

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