A Matter of Mind
A SOLO EXHIBITION BY WONG SIEW LEE

Main Lobby, Balai Berita
The New Straits Times Press (M) Berhad
心缘

心，一切创作的缘起。

对我而言，艺术是一种表达方式，一个感性与理智的结晶。一副画，表面上虽然只是以点、线、面及色彩构成；但是，对于作画的人，其过程犹如禅修。它需包含潜意识及自觉的运用，以发挥得淋漓尽致。

抽象绘画，天马行空；但也非一味随心所欲。在创作的过程中需绞尽脑汁思考如何下笔。它超越了具相的限制，更充分反映着创造力与抉择。

我的创作皆缘自于日常生活的体验。偶然之下，一个念头、一点感触闪掠于脑海，使我有一股想将它呈现在画布上的冲动。因此，创作对我而言不仅能表达视觉的美感，它还挑战如何把讯息传达给观赏者。

传统的绘画技术离不开笔，但除了用笔，我也并用另类的作画方式，如：泼、划、滴、染，等。我相当喜欢透过这类的作画方式，无拘无束、自由自在地表达由心缘起的感受。

黄秀丽 于 2011
傅芝妮译
A Matter Of Mind
A SOLO EXHIBITION BY WONG SIEW LEE
September 5-30, 2011
Main Lobby, Balai Berita,
The New Straits Times Press (M) Berhad,
31, Jalan Riong, Kuala Kumpur.

Artist At Work  Oil On Canvas  41cm x 51cm  2007/11
FOREWORD

An Artist is an explorer.

Of the visible and invisible, the personal and societal, the soul and mind, our inner and outer worlds.

Welcome to ‘A Matter of Mind’, a solo exhibition of the artworks of the exciting artist Siew Lee!

Siew Lee’s explorations start by being an observer, who sees with heart, soul and mind. Then she is a thinker – who reflects on her observations, her values, and the larger complexity of life and reality, and synthesizes new thoughts from them. These new thoughts become objects of the mind, which she gives form to, with her choice of art materials and techniques, to become artworks that speak to us.

Siew Lee’s subjects are extensive, covering the sensory experience of being alive and expressing it in colors and emotions, exploring spirituality with religious iconography, presenting our world and her perceptions with an interesting interplay of thought, form, colors and creativity.

Siew Lee’s works are a delight to view, and worth the while to linger on; try to find the thought behind the artwork you see, the thought – ‘the object of the mind’ – that is embedded in the work, invisible to the eye, but visible to the mind.

Siew Lee’s prints have been exhibited in Europe, China, Japan and Malaysia, and her works have been collected by public and private collectors as well, both here and abroad.

I hope you enjoy the show and that it will be an experience for both your eyes and mind!

To Life!

SK Wong
Director
Information Designers

August 7, 2011 Penang, Malaysia
A Matter Of Mind

ARTIST STATEMENT

To me, art is merely a means of expression. Mind is the source of creation. Painting itself is meditation, although it may just be interpreted as splashes of colours, forms (in lines and planes) and textures to the viewer. Abstract painting goes beyond mimicking objects; it is self-reflecting on its own creation and full of decision. It requires the art (subconscious) and science (conscious) to function effectively.

The context of my works is in fact associated with my daily experiences. At certain instances, a thought sparks off in my mind, and I feel the urge to convey my emotion through visual perception. To me, every creation is a challenge to communicate, to get my message across other than merely a form of aesthetic appreciation.

Besides traditional painting techniques using brushes, I employ process painting techniques which involve pouring, spraying, dripping, scarping, staining and other non-brush applications of paint. A freedom of self-expression is an inner call to create artworks.

Wong Siew Lee
August 2011
The Mind And Matter Series

The idea of inserting Buddhistic element in contemporary abstract art inspired the creation of the Mind and Matter Series.

Once I attended a Buddhist retreat, the Reverend told us that the Buddha said everything in this earthly world consists of mind and matter, as in ourselves, our body (matter) will decay one day but our consciousness (mind) will never die, it will carry on..........

Mind is a state of surging energy, so is karma energy. Energy can neither be created nor destroyed. Whereas the clutters that make up life (matter) come and go. Matter is impermanent. Do not cling on to matter.

Wong Siew Lee
2008

Mind & Matter I  Oil & Acrylic On Canvas  61cm x 76cm  2008
Mind & Matter II
Oil & Acrylic On Canvas  58cm x 91cm 2008

Mind & Matter III
Mixed Media On Canvas  76cm x 183cm 2008

The Mind & Matter Series
Mind & Matter V  Mixed Media On Canvas (Oil, Acrylic, Collage, Gold Leaf)  120cm x 180cm 2011
Mind & Matter VI  Mixed Media On Canvas [Oil & Acrylic]  120cm x 180cm 2011
One Night In Danum  Mixed Media On Canvas  100cm x 200cm 2008
Purple is always associated with feminine, romantic, royalty, spiritual and even mysterious. To an artist who explores the visual aspect of color, purple is both cool and warm, it is the combination of cool blue and hot red. Purple has a duality characteristic, it may have a soft appeal but it can be vibrant and powerful as well. I relate purple to a woman who is soft and tender but in certain circumstances she may stand out strong and powerful.

Wong Siew Lee
May 2011

A Gust Of Purple  Mixed Media On Canvas (Oil & Acrylic)  121cm x 90cm 2011
Some Politicians are good at showmanship, the parliament becomes a platform for life drama. Locally it is known as Sandiwara. This painting reflects the politicians with many faces who acted in Sandiwara.

Whenever we have a new Prime Minister, we have a new slogan flying in the air. This time it is “1MALAYSIA”. It is printed everywhere. We see it, smell it, hear it, everyday. To me, it is an overwhelming big Parade 1Malaysia.

Wong Siew Lee
July 2011

Parade 1Malaysia  Mixed Media On Canvas (Oil,Acrylic,Screen Print & Gold Dust)  92cm x 92cm 2011
Sandiwara  Mixed Media On Canvas (Oil,Acrylic & Silk Screen)  92cm x 92cm  2010
Kelip-Kelip, Kuala Selangor  Mixed Media On Canvas (Oil, Acrylic & Collage)  61cm x 92cm  2010
The Earth Song  Mixed Media On Canvas  74cm x 122cm 2009
The Noble Path  Oil On Canvas  30cm x 40.5cm 2007
Autumn Lyrics I  Oil On Canvas  27.5cm x 48cm  2011

Autumn Lyrics II  Oil On Canvas  26cm x 48cm  2011
Vigour  Mixed Media On Canvas (Oil & Acrylic)  25.5cm x 76.5cm (Triptych) 2011

Flourish  Mixed Media On Canvas (Oil & Acrylic)  25.5cm x 51cm (Diptych) 2011
Pearl Of The Orient  Mixed Media On Canvas (Oil & Acrylic)  25.5cm x 51cm (Diptych) 2011

Avalanche  Mixed Media On Canvas (Oil & Acrylic)  25.5cm x 76.5cm (Triptych) 2011
**Connected Variation Series**

These monoprints are created by combining different printmaking techniques - relief, intaglio, screen printing, chin colle and collagraph; connecting forms and design with overlapping printing; exploring the depth and breadth of visual expressiveness of mixed media.

*Connected Variation18* Monoprint 43cm x 69.5cm 2009
Connected Variation 19  Monoprint  43cm x 69.5cm  2009
Born into a tailor’s family. My childhood memory lingers on a family business of Tailoring, familiar tailoring equipment, scissors, threads, cloth, rulers ……
They meant a lot to me.

A Tailor’s Memory  Monoprint  43cm x 69.5cm  2009
A Stroll In Sunset  Monoprint  43cm x 69.5cm  2009
Gurney Drive’s Charm  Monoprint  43cm x 69.5cm 2010
Batu Ferringhi’s Lure  Monoprint  43cm x 69.5cm  2011
Let’s Go Camping At Muka Head  Monoprint  43cm x 69.5cm  2011
Pasar Malam  Monoprint  11.8cm x 14.7cm  2010

Prosperity  Monoprint  30cm x 10cm  2008
Dating
Monoprint
11.8cm x 14.7cm 2007

Full Flight
Monoprint
11.8cm x 14.7cm 2007
Take A Leave
Monoprint
11.8cm x 14.7cm 2011

Take Your Time
Monoprint
11.8cm x 14.7cm 2011
Gift
Monoprint
11.8cm x 14.7cm 2011

Dawn
Monoprint
11.8cm x 14.7cm 2011
Get Connected
Monoprint
11.8cm x 14.7cm 2011

A To Z
Monoprint
11.8cm x 14.7cm 2011
Wong Siew Lee  with artwork We Need Your Help  Mixed Media on Canvas  122cm x 90cm 2010
BORN

1959, Bukit Mertajam, Penang.

EDUCATION


AWARDS

2009  2009 Asia-Pacific Art Honourable Award. Awarded by the Committee of the Achievement of Asia Pacific Cultural Industry Exhibition and Awards.
2004  Consolation Prize. Pertandingan Melukis Bangunan Bersejarah Johor 2004
2002  Third Prize. 2002 Tanjung Heritage Art Competition.

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2003  SAKSI, National Art Gallery, K.L.
2005  The 5th International Mini Print Biennial, Cluj, Romania.
2005  In Print, Contemporary Print in Malaysia & British, National Art Gallery, K.L.
2007  Made In Local, ARTalk Gallery, Bangsar, K.L.
2008  The 13th International Triennial of Small Graphic Forms, Poland.
2009  31 Local Artists Group Exhibition, Seni Gallery, Kuala Lumpur.
2009  The 7th FOOT BRIDGE Asia & Africa Modern Art Exhibition, Hangzhou, China.
2010  PIPE 2010, Penang International Print Exhibition, Penang.
2010  Ketumbukan-SeniCetakAlternatif, Penang.

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Details From Mind & Matter II

Title Page:
Artist at Work

Back Cover:
Rising Sun

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Rising Sun  Oil on Canvas  41cm x 51cm 2008