



For Immediate Release

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7 Ways of Seeing : Cult Gallery's First Young Artists Show Promises A Fresh Look At Art

Continuing their tradition of introducing new artistic perspectives through their annual Sisters in Islam show and distinct art exhibitions with new mediums like stone lithography, Cult Gallery is featuring a young artists show for the first time. **CULT Gallery** has selected seven young artists with unique art practices to display in their art space in Bukit Tunku. *7 Ways of Seeing* urges its viewers to see with new eyes through the artistic observations of young Malaysian artists who have already developed unique identities and bold art practices despite being relatively unknown.

A nod to John Berger's *Ways of Seeing*, an influential collection of seven essays that broke new ground for alternative perspectives on art and art criticism, *7 Ways of Seeing* presents seven separate bodies of work that each challenge social and aesthetic conventions around us. Though varied in style, medium, and philosophy, each of these seven artists' unique observations of the world around them shape their artistic identities. By displaying each artist's body of work, CULT Gallery offers its audience an opportunity to familiarise themselves with these emerging identities before their respective solo shows in the near future.

Engaging with topics of varying scales- from issues of gender identity to the theories of psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud- these artists bring into play mediums as familiar as acrylic and as offbeat as plastic water bottles.

With a background in performance art and a recent Fine Art postgraduate from UiTM, **Ain Rahman** expresses her artistic versatility through varying mediums including mixed media installations, charcoal drawings, and new media or video. Her extensive creative process begins with filming herself before using selected frames as references for her greyscale self-portraits.

Ain's intricately webbed sculptures are inspired by the formal qualities of diamonds, as seen in its experimentation with light and shadow.

Painter **Hana Zamri** draws inspiration from her experience with multiple landscapes and cultures- a result of her nomadic upbringing that brought her to fascinating locations across the Middle East, Africa, Southeast Europe and Asia. Hana's textural paintings touch on the various facets of identity such as the body, language, and locality, using rich topographies of landscapes to define and redefine her fluctuating sense of self. In this show, she starts experimenting with expressive words and mark making on canvas, expanding her artistic practice.

Haz Yusup boldly defies the taboos of representing nudity through her intimate portrayals of the naked body. She paints in a distinctly cool-toned and muted palette - revealing the artist's admiration of Italian Renaissance paintings which spurred her to study art in Europe. Her paintings invite viewers to see nude figures as more than just a site for eroticism, and instead as a symbol of strength, vulnerability, and simplicity. Haz's figures dare its viewers to embrace both male and female bodies in their raw and natural states, to steer us away from the "male gaze" and hypersexualisation.

The seven participating artists are **Ain Rahman, Amir Mansor, Faiz Mahdon, Hana Zamri, Haz Yusup, Mazlan Samawi, and Nia Khalisa.**

7 Ways of Seeing will launch at and is available for viewing at **CULT Gallery from 29th March to 12th April 2021. Due to Covid-19, viewing will be by appointment only.**

About CULT Gallery

CULT Gallery is a private art gallery showcasing modern and contemporary art from Malaysia and the Asian region.

For viewing appointments and booking enquiries, kindly contact:

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