

SPECTACLE 2015

ART & DESIGN GRADUATION SHOW

8 APRIL -
16 MAY 2015

ART GALLERY, CHANCELLOR HALL
AND ART STUDIO,
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING
UNIVERSITI BRUNEI DARUSSALAM
JALAN TUNGKU LINK, GADONG BE 1410
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

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EXHIBITION INFORMATION

Wednesday, 8 April - 16 May 2015

Art Gallery, Chancellor Hall and
Art Studio, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Building
Universiti Brunei Darussalam
Jalan Tungku Link, Gadong BE1410, Brunei Darussalam.
Tel: (673) 2463 001 (Ext 1702)

Gallery Hours:

Mon. - Thurs. & Sat. : 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Guest of Honour:

Associate Professor Dr. Azman
bin Ahmad
Deputy Vice-Chancellor of
Universiti Brunei Darussalam

Enquiries:

Prof. Kong Ho, Associate
Professor of Art & Progra Leader,
or Dr. Martie Geiger-Ho,
Senior Lecturer Art and Creative
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Social Sciences,
Universiti Brunei Darussalam

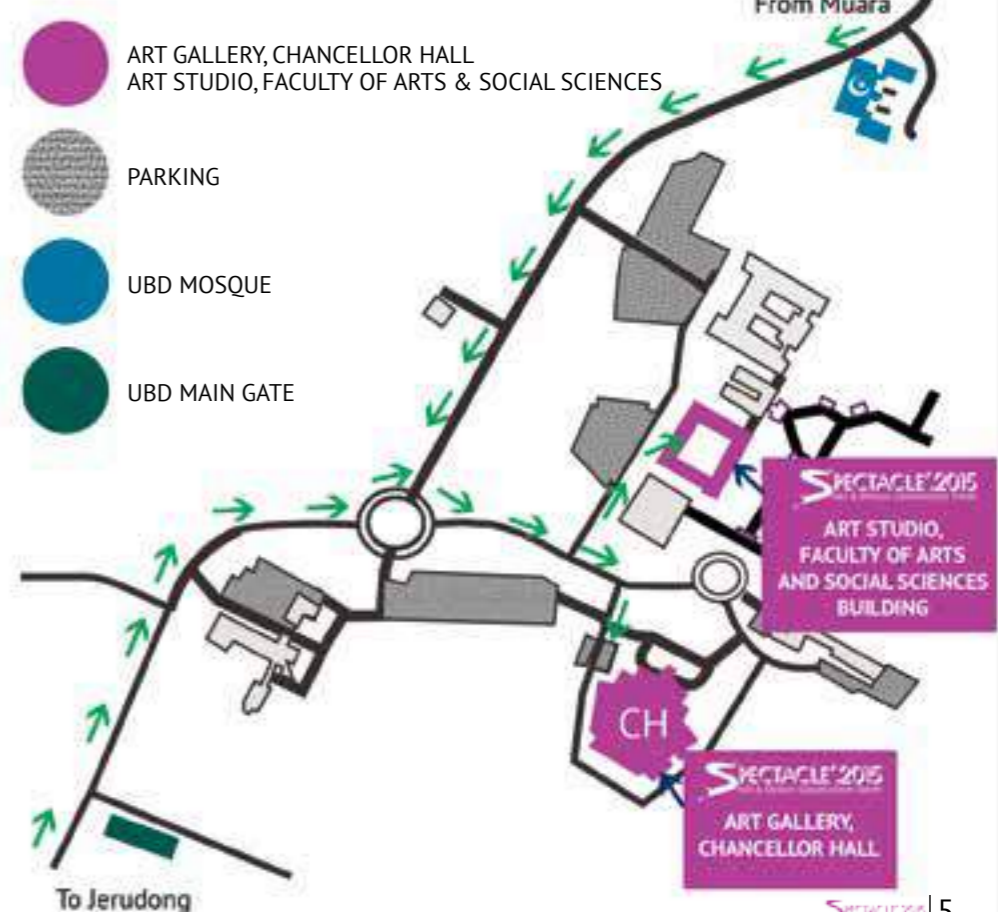
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Map of Exhibition Venues.



ABOUT SPECTACLE

In 2013, approximately 5,000 people visited the first Spectacle Art & Design Exhibition. The success of this event provided invaluable opportunities for the Bachelor of Art graduates to positively contribute to the wider community and make a difference.

A short history of Spectacle Graduate Exhibitions:

There were 21 students exhibiting in Spectacle 2013 and 27 students exhibiting in Spectacle 2014, and today this year's exhibition goes will be treated to the exhibits of 54 graduation Art and Creative Technology students.

SPECTACLE 2015

ART & DESIGN GRADUATION SHOW



SPECTACLE 2015

ART & DESIGN GRADUATION SHOW



Art and Creative Technology Teaching Staff. (From left to right):

Awangku Abdul Rahiman Pengiran Aliudin
Tutor of Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Dr. Martie Geiger-Ho
Senior Lecturer of Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Assoc. Professor Kong Ho
Creative Arts and Communication Programme Leader

Osman Mohammad
Adjunct Senior Lecturer of Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Muhammad Nuriskandar Mohd Hasnan
PhD in Art candidate
President of UBD Guild Alumni Association

PREFACE

Contemporary art and design can easily be located in galleries and museums, however people do not usually think about incorporating cutting edge art in their homes and other personal spaces. Contemporary art relies on innovative ideas, and touches on topics such as the way we live, and what is happening in our society. The content of the work often represents evolving historical, cultural, economic, and social process and changes that reflects contemporary concerns and interests. Spectacle 2015: Art and Design Graduation Show is a collective statement, which displays a part of what defines an individual, or a place, time, culture, or society. Each artwork and "mini-installation" environment represents an encapsulated focus on either a social issue or well referenced intellectual concern about what constitutes a work of art as an aesthetic object, and a component of contemporary local and global culture.

Spectacle 2015: Art and Design Graduation Show is the third graduation exhibition to be organized by the Art and Creative Technology (ACT) programme of Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD). Through cultural sensitivity, inventive imagination, and artistic exploration, 54 final year ACT majoring students have applied their art and design abilities to create new means for expressing views and concepts involving subjects ranging from personal loss and struggle events to social issues and formal Western and Islamic art. No matter what exhibition designs their capstone projects express, they all carry a unique story or creative concept. These stories or concepts are told through well-executed original paintings, murals, sculptures, photographs, videos, computer graphics, animations, product designs and mixed media installations. Taken in together, they form a pulse, like a beacon, that is Spectacle 2015.

The journey of these 54 gifted student artists and designers over the past four years of their ACT study has culminated in this graduation exhibition. This exhibition reflects not only the creative spirit and critical thinking of each person, but their collective consciousness as well. All of UBD's student capstone projects in some way answer the call of a collective responsibility towards illuminating topics like spiritual values, natural beauty, ethnical values, personal suffering and growth, social issues, and cultural heritage. Other timely themes are aesthetics, preservation of nature, animal protection, family policies, nostalgia, traditional crafts, abstract expression, art therapy, and imaginative video animation. This graduation exhibition proves how contemporary art and design can be a valuable component for connecting together this young generation's concerns through powerful visual expressions. Also, as part of their personal artistic expression, the students have diversified their work to include objects, both decorative and practical that can be marketed to the public in the future as part of Brunei's growing creative industries.

UBD's annual graduation exhibition is designed to not only showcase the artistic talents of its BA graduates majoring in the ACT programme, but also to share with the audience the students' visions for a wider acceptance of aesthetics and respect for culture, life, and the environment. Their capstone projects prove that their dreams are already turning to be a reality, making our society better and our future brighter. Contemporary art and design plays a significant role in shaping our perceptions about the life of people around the world. UBD's GenNext 2.0 Creative Arts and Communication programme with an interdisciplinary curriculum in art, design, communication, and English language is designed to foster diverse creative students who will become the driving force of future creative industries in Brunei Darussalam.

If you are interested in viewing innovative paintings, murals, sculptures, photographs, computer graphics, videos, animations, graphic designs, product designs and installations, then you will find Spectacle 2015: Art and Design Graduation Show, a spectacular visual art event. This year's graduation exhibition is professionally curated and displayed in the Art Gallery of UBD Chancellor Hall, and Art Studio of Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Building, and offers visitors the opportunity to leisurely enjoy a kaleidoscope of innovative and visually striking art and design works.

Assoc. Prof. Kong Ho and Dr. Martie Geiger-Ho
Associate Professor & Programme Leader, and Senior Lecturer
Creative Arts and Communication Programme
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Universiti Brunei Darussalam

art installations

collage
photography
paintings
sculptures

fine
mixed media
videography
illustrations

SPECTACLE



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SOCIAL

C O N T R O L

video installation

"Do you or do you not obey the rules?"

As a young woman who is borned and raised in Brunei Darussalam, it has come to my attention that I may be a target of aggression on the road, especially from men. My frustrations towards this aggressive behavior have drawn me to a conclusion that gender inequality may be a main reason. It may be a bias against men that men simply look down on women in Brunei Darussalam. My capstone project, video installation, is based on behavioral conduct of the Bruneian men towards women. I chose the highway driving phenomena as my subject matter for my project. Highway, also known as freeway, and driving may symbolize freedom, where people can escape from the harsh reality and act freely without conforming with the rules of our society. Through my artistic research, I have found a lot of argumentative data from different genders, races and age groups, which suggested that my initial argument about females as targets of aggression on the road may not always be true. I may be just an unlucky individual to encounter numerous bad behaving Bruneians not only on the road but other places as well. I begin to realize that the act of stereotyping is a major social issue here in Brunei and probably throughout the world too.

We stereotype gender and age the most. We intend to see women as weak and unskillful, men as hot-headed and aggressive, young people as inexperienced and reckless, and old folks as clumsy and slow. Bad behavior is not the cause of nature but nurture. In my capstone project, I intend to create a video installation, which emphasise the rules and etiquettes set in our society through nurture. My video offers not a common answer to the audience but a question to them: "Do you or do you not obey the rules?" With my video installation, I intend to enhance our usual tendency to blame others for their mistakes but we never considered ours. I expect my art installation may help the audience to reflect themselves of their own behaviours rather than focusing on others'. Also, I understand that my art may not really change an individual to a better person, but it may change an individual's perception of inequality, stereotype, and self-awareness.

fig. 1- Traffic light installation.

fig. 2- Social Control, 2014
Video, 1920 x 1080p, 25fps,
4 mins 49 secs.

"Sometimes, accidental or experimental or spontaneous art making may yield an unanticipated masterpiece."

MESSTERPIECE

3d animation installation

Hjh Nurul Erne
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Taking into interest of my passion for digital art, I decided to create an art piece based on multimedia, which includes sculpture, painting, photography, videography, graphic design, 3D animation and installation. I titled my capstone project as "Messterpiece". My project is about visualization of all kinds of mess and unexpected clutter, which accidentally turns out to be an astonishing masterpiece. Mess is always annoying to some people, especially to people who like to be neat and tidy. However, mess is unavoidable if we let our pets run freely in the house. Cats are the commonly known pets in Brunei Darussalam because of the religious dogma. Unfortunately, it is the characteristic of cats that like playing around in the house and leaving piles of mess behind. Nevertheless, not all messes are unattractive and awful. Similarly, not all well-organized compositions can turn to be masterpieces. Sometimes, accidents or experiments or spontaneous art making may yield an unanticipated masterpiece. My capstone project is based on my own story with my cat and my fascination of animal animation. In my project, I have created a cat character, named Abill, which is the real name of my own cat, by using Maya Autodesk, and designed a small studio setting similar to my own studio via Google SketchUp. Through my animated video coupled with the actual studio installation, I present how "messterpiece" is created to the audience. The "messterpiece" created by Abill is inspired by a very young artist, Aelita Andre, also known as the reincarnation of Abstract Expressionist, Jackson Pollock. I expect that my mixed media installation and animation will change the people's perceptions towards beauty and ugliness, order and disorder, harmony and disharmony. Not all messes are horrible or unpleasant; sometimes we may find beauty from accidental or unpredictable rendering.



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TRANSCENDENCE

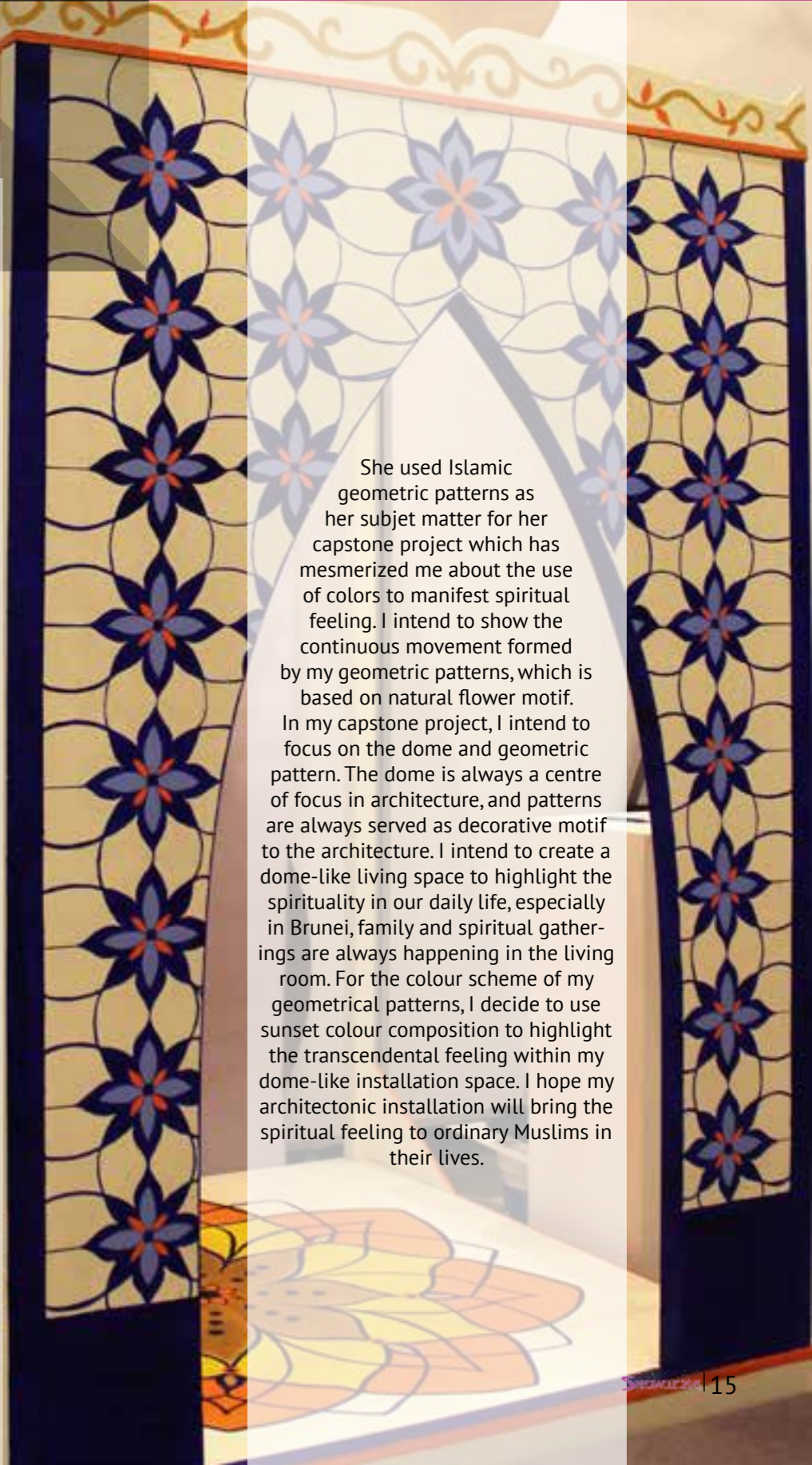
mixed media, architectonic installation

I have always wanted to know about architecture and geometrical patterns. I find that it is challenging in matters of research and understanding the content and reason behind certain architectural features that were built. I have always been fascinated by one word – Transcendence. From my understanding, transcendence gives an idea on the rising of something above the normal limit. In my capstone project, I have realized that these two subject matters are the content of my work. I have always involved myself with creating geometrical patterns. However, I would have to find a connection between the geometrical patterns and Islamic architecture. Since I am very keen in learning about architecture, therefore I decided to use my capstone project to conduct my artistic research in pattern designing and architecture.

My capstone project is also inspired by a former project, titled "Glimpse of Sacred Art" by Mimi Omarali during Spectacle 2014.



She used Islamic geometric patterns as her subject matter for her capstone project which has mesmerized me about the use of colors to manifest spiritual feeling. I intend to show the continuous movement formed by my geometric patterns, which is based on natural flower motif. In my capstone project, I intend to focus on the dome and geometric pattern. The dome is always a centre of focus in architecture, and patterns are always served as decorative motif to the architecture. I intend to create a dome-like living space to highlight the spirituality in our daily life, especially in Brunei, family and spiritual gatherings are always happening in the living room. For the colour scheme of my geometrical patterns, I decide to use sunset colour composition to highlight the transcendental feeling within my dome-like installation space. I hope my architectonic installation will bring the spiritual feeling to ordinary Muslims in their lives.





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WINDOWS TO INNER PEACE

pattern design installation



My capstone project 'Window to inner peace' is a set installation, consisting of a series of hand painted plexiglas sheets with pattern motif, which are mounted together to form a window panel. The painted plexiglas sheets with natural wooden frames offer visually striking lighting effect similar to a stained glass effect. My window panel is designed to be an individual's complete artwork. At the same time, it can integrate with other light sources to project dynamic effect of light and shadow onto the surrounding space. My project is about contemplative expression. Through traditional Islamic art, primarily the architectural ornamentation found in window,s I intend to present to the audience a sense of spiritual uplifted feeling by appreciating the intricate, harmonious pattern designs on my window panel. I am always fascinated by the abstract biomorphic carving on the window panels of traditional Islamic architecture. Most of the motifs are usually based on nature, such as the floral motif; while others are related to geometry and calligraphy. I feel that the beautiful intricate details of the Islamic patterns really inspire me. In my set installation, I intend to illustrate the intricacy and the complexity of Islamic pattern designs, which always carry a sense of harmony and tranquility. The painted pattern design should allow light to shine through the divided space and add another beauty when it juxtaposes with its own casted shadows. My set installation is designed to explore the spatial possibilities of surface effects, light and shadow, repetition and transformation, figure and ground relationship. Instead of using traditional Islamic wood carving technique for my window panel, I decided to use the traditional stained glass painting technique. I find that this technique is unique and contemplative even though it is a time consuming process. I really enjoy painting the pattern as it has a soothing and calming effect. Every brushstroke to me is a form of meditation and it is contemplative. In my opinion, the genuine beauty of hand painted brushstroke can never be achieved or accomplished digitally. My art is a contemplative form of art, which has a spiritual significance to the audience and myself. I hope my art can help individuals to feel uplifted in his or her daily life. I believe that this contemplative feeling is achieved by the transformation of earthly materials into the subtlest reflection of Divine Presence on earth.



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SEPARATIVE- SELF

mixed media painting

In a world of primacy and social stratification between men and women, children and adults, our self-identity could be heavily defined and shaped by other attributes that are dominated by the perception of society. A perception of which self-worth and which identity is superior to the other and this refers to masculinity attributes, which are valued more than those considered feminine. Whilst individuals of feminine struggle to liberate themselves from the attributes that are bounded for them, the attempt is inevitably unattainable because false independence is created through a form of domination as shaped by our own culture. This is when Catherine Keller defined 'Separative-Self' as an attempt to separate however she can never succeed. It is as she described as "an ego armored against the outer world and the inner depths". Consequently, feminine qualities are systematically devalued in a patriarchy that inevitably disrupting human motivation and personality.

As a female artist, I channel my focus on creating a personal statement through my capstone project to liberate from the impact of gender stratification, mainly concerning with the devaluation of feminine qualities. I intend to bring about individual self-worth and identity in a society and taking into considerations of the fundamentals being of a woman, and the kind of inborn roles that she has to live with. The dependence that she sought for should not be seen as a burden, but rather as a cycle of life that we all depend on. With my two mixed media paintings and their low-relief texture formed by joint-compound and air-dry clay, I am able to direct audience focus to various visual impacts on multi-layered symbolic images of feminine formed by photomontage, a unique technique of Dadaism. Through two five-feet high by three-feet wide panels, I invite audience to examine the manifestation of my feminist paintings. I hope my paintings present the inequality of perceptions that have been shaped by our mind and how it affects individual motivation and self-worth and turns someone as important as those who are of masculine qualities.



Fig. bottom right: Work in progress; the presentation of the artwork on 5'x3' panel.





Wan Zahidah Metussin

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ASMARA

THE ROOSTER

3d sculpture



fig. 1- 'Asmara' in jawi calligraphy carved on copper sheet.



fig. 2- Work in progress. Making the rooster's head.

the artifacts displayed at the Brunei Museum The most common patterns of Bruneian antiques are mythical dragons, Jawi calligraphies and floral patterns. I intend to build six feet high futuristic rooster sculpture to represent the legendary fierce rooster character. I designed my futuristic rooster sculpture a steampunk look because it represents steam-powered machinery of Futurism and the fantasy of Surrealism. Also, I decorated the metal sheets with black engraved lines to show the rugged appearance and details of the assembled parts. Moreover, I applied a lot of screws, bolts and nuts to assemble the metal sheets, the screws, the bolts

I have always been fascinated by Bruneian legendary folklores, especially the rooster fighting tale. There are various oral versions of this rooster fighting tale but none in written version. I decided to use my interpretation of this traditional folklore as the subject matter of my capstone project.

I titled my project as "Asmara, the Rooster" which is a futuristic mechanical rooster sculpture built with welded scrap metals. I intend to use real iron as major material of my sculpture because it represents the tough metal in building combat weapons. For the outer layer of my mechanical rooster, I apply aluminum foils and copper sheets embossed with patterns found mostly from

and nuts to enhance the steampunk style. I hope my sculpture reminds the audience about the significance of our creativity and traditional culture. Through building my legendary rooster, I embellish the oral tale character to the industrialized steampunk rooster, which merges the past and modern features in one artistic form.



fig. 3- Side view of 'Asmara', The Rooster.



Mohd Marzuki bin Hj Abu Bakar

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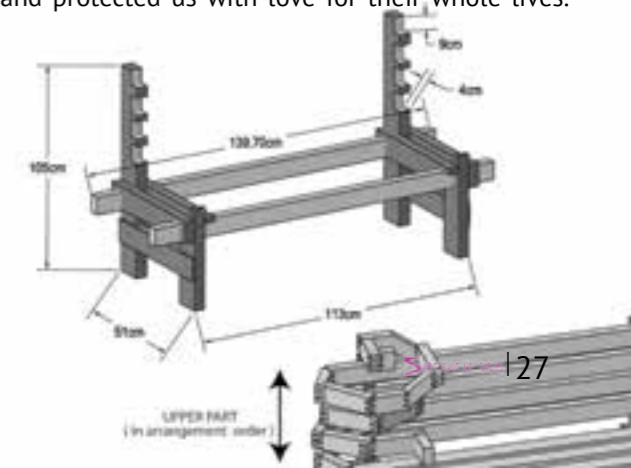
INCOMPLETE SCENERY

sculpture installation



The idea of my capstone project originated from my 14-year memory of the last recalled moment with my deceased father. I titled my capstone project as "Incomplete Scenery" to depict one short fragments of my memory with my father spending together in our garden. I still remember that moment when he was resting himself on a bench quietly and enjoying all the work he had done in our garden on that day. After he passed away, our garden always seemed incomplete and to me, it did not look like it used to be. Something seemed missing. After 14 years, his image, the way he acts and the phrase he likes to say are always resonating in my mind.

My capstone project is a sculptural installation with emphasis on carpentry work. The main component of my installation is a noticeable wooden bench. The special feature of my bench is that the design of my bench is shaped in a human form, which represents the last memorable posture of my deceased father sitting on the bench in our garden. The aim of my installation is not only to create a memorial to remember my deceased father but also to remind the audience to treasure the time with our beloved parents. Nostalgia helps us to cope with the feeling of loss and loneliness, and keep happy memorable moments alive. During the construction of my installation, I felt that I have reconnected with my beloved father. Undoubtedly, our memories shape our identities. I still enjoy doing woodworking, which I learnt from my deceased father. I hope my installation help to raise public awareness of treasuring every moment with our family because we do not know when will our last day with them be. Therefore we should cherish the time with them, especially our parents who have raised and protected us with love for their whole lives.





Hjh Rawaida
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Tinggal

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My capstone project, titled "Why can it be me?" is about animal protection. In my mixed media installation, I juxtapose two contrasting situations for cats in Brunei Darussalam: a domestic cat placed indoors being pampered and protected, while a stray cat is wandering outdoors hoping to find a home. I decided to build two slotted cat sculptures situated in two seemingly opposite world, an interior space of a warm living room and an exterior space of an abandoned house.

I set the domestic slotted cat sculpture next to the window to represent the well-being life with a caring pet owner. I intend to use the slotted structure to create space within the cat body for placing certain symbolic items to represent the comfortable, healthy and happy conditions, which a domestic cat enjoys. My white domestic slotted cat sculpture symbolizes an ideal adorable

sculpture, mural installation

"WHY CAN'T IT BE ME?" - STRAY CAT.

doll-house environment, which depicts the good fortunate of a domestic cat. While on the opposite side, the filthy slotted stray cat is wandering around the window, which separates two realities. Filled with jealousy and misery, the black stray slotted cat sculpture represents loneliness, inequality and emptiness. I believe that every cat should be equal and each cat needs food, care and attention. I don't believe that black cats bring bad luck and white cats lead to good fortune. Through my sculptural installation, I

hope to raise public awareness that it is our responsibility to protect the animals and to stop cruelty to animals. Also, it is our responsibility as humans to spay or neuter our cats to lower the population of stray cats in our community. Ignoring the stray cat problem in our society will not help to find a way for them to have a better life, but actual actions to protect animals can make a difference.



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IMAGINARIUM

free flow mural art installation

Imaginarium, an art installation, would bring viewers' subconscious minds at ease and amusement at the same time. By taking viewer's attention away from the harsh realities of life, my installation resembles the illusory imaginary space, which only our minds could create and appreciate. Using the concept of psychedelic art within a free-forming space, I create shapes and forms, which exist in a physical space to showcase the intangible visual relationship. It is hard to portray my art intent in words. However, my art installation offers temporarily a form of escapism from unpleasant realities. My installation consists of seemingly endless free flow curvilinear motif, which merges with the vivid colours and contrasting elements, stretches out through the installation space with no limit. My art intends to explore freedom and openness where one's mind can travel around the kaleidoscopic atmosphere of imaginative space. By using the concepts of Optical Art and Psychedelic Art, I incorporate the illusory movement and colour contrast to my installation space. Different wave-like forms combined with variety of lines is the main aspect of my installation. Also, the optical illusory lines and irradient colours play a big role in my installation. I expect my art will bring the audience into a psychedelic phase, which gives the whole installation a sense of momentum driven by a swirling abstract pattern. My abstract art installation symbolizes the endless flow of time and space, like a timeless stream with continuous intervals but no end points. The content of my art installation is to let our minds wonder aimlessly with amazement and exploration of endless imaginations. I hope my art can help audience to free their minds and enjoy the movement & colours, which may also be experienced as a form of ecstasy to our imagination.





Hjh Zuliana Hj Jolkifli

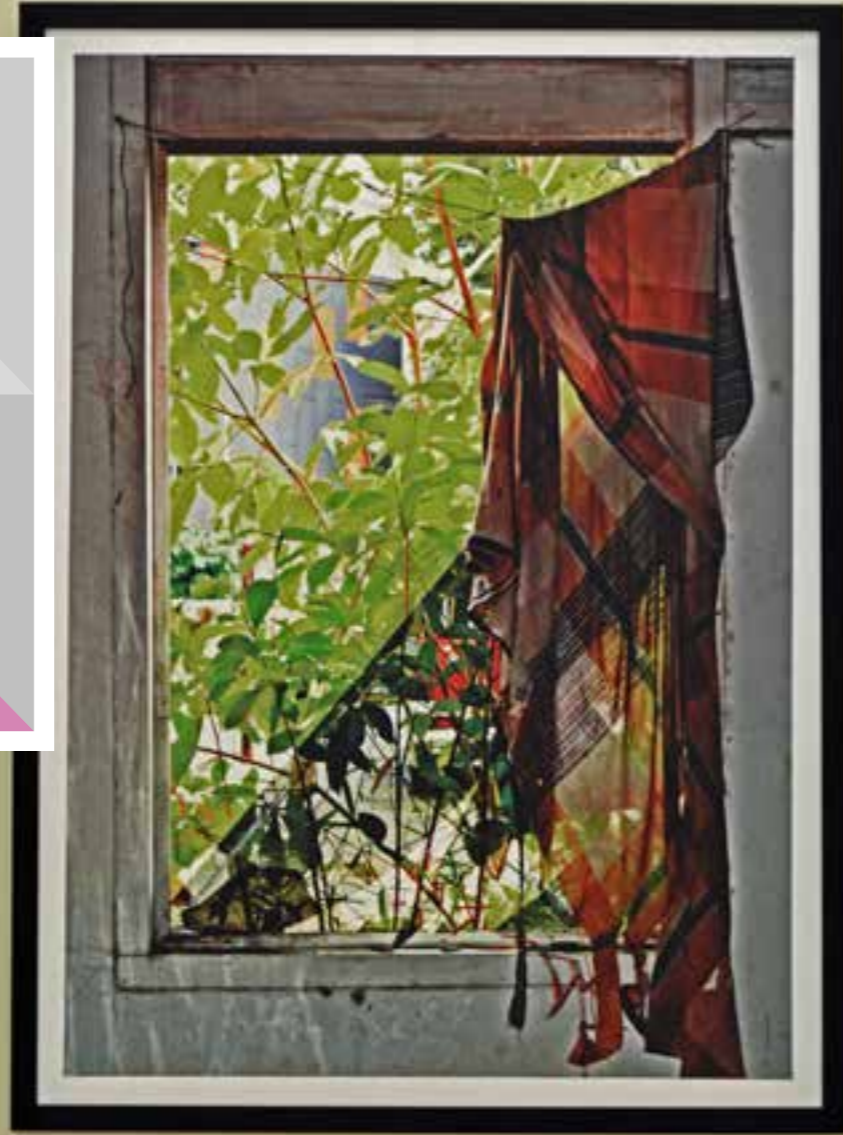
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BEAUTY AMONG THE RUINS.

photography installation

As a documentary photographer, I learned that capturing an image through my camera gives full satisfaction and a challenging experience in my life. I photograph spontaneously and enthusiastically. For me, I see the world differently. My camera is an eye for other people to see what they haven't seen. In my work as a documentary photographer I captured a series of photographs of the hidden phenomenon of human pattern versus natural pattern that can be found inside abandoned houses. My curiosity began when I started to notice the existence of the abandoned house in my village that has been there for many years. It made me question myself, what is left behind? How does it look like inside? Curiosity of the history and the reason behind the abandonment are the reasons why I explored and captured the photos of abandoned houses. Beauty among the Ruins reveals inside the abandonment where there is beauty in imperfections and natural cycle of growth and decay. Remnants of the past and the ruins of the structure of the houses are so beautiful and interesting that makes me to photograph every detailed part of the houses.

In my project, I focused on a series of documentary photographs of abandoned houses that had human patterns and natural patterns such as pattern of the obsolete curtain, the pattern from dilapidated structure and pattern that accidentally existed by the evolution of mother nature.



Dk Azimah Pg Azahari

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STOP, THINK & DRIVE

photography, video installation

fig. 1- The Last Call, 2014,
Video, 1280 x 720p,
3 mins 06 secs.



Sometimes a story can be beneficial to some people indirectly. Some people may take a story seriously while some may just take it as a trifling matter. However, every story carries a message, which may be inspiring as a scholarly address. A great storyline may have impactful effect on people's minds, which may last for a long time. Quoted above is a part of my script writing of a 3-minute video for my capstone project. My video tells a short story of a teenage couple, who quarreled over something that led to a reckless driving accident. My project, titled "Stop, Think & Drive", aims to increase the awareness of road safety in Brunei Darussalam, especially in relation to the growing number of fatalities caused by severe driving accidents. In other words, my capstone project is to design a road safety campaign to raise public awareness about the consequence of reckless driving. In my video installation, I incorporate not only a 3-minute video but also posters shown the aftermath of car accidents. For effective posters, powerful images can be extremely crucial. In my posters, I used strong facial expressions to convey direct messages to the viewers. I am fascinated by the portrait photographs of Michael Shindler, an Expressionist photographer, I believe that powerful portrait images can help to open the eyes of audience in seeing the aftermath of car accidents. With my video installation and related poster designs, I hope audience will have positive feedbacks from my road safety campaign, and eventually persuade them to Stop, Think & Drive safely.



Mohd Aqqil
bin Mohd Arriffin

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Many of us may forget the fact that what keeps everything in place is a force, called "gravity". Without it, everything simply floats around constantly. After experimenting on how paint moves, I realize that gravity plays an important part in flowing and dripping of paint. My capstone project explores different ways of manipulating acrylic paints in order to place emphasis on gravitational force. My installation is all about composition of colours and patterns with emphasis of movement formed by the gravitational pull. I intend to captivate the freedom in the process of art making through vivid colours and dynamic movement of paints in my project. My art installation is influenced by Abstract Expressionism, especially the Colour Field movement. In my installation, I expect to create a three-dimensional abstract painting with the unpredictable patterns

REPERCUSSION OF GRAVITY

mixed media installation

and colour shapes created by multi-layered installation. I hope I can change people's minds in appreciating the art making process more than the end result and the beauty of abstract colour patterns through my 3D painting installation. Coupled with colour patterns are a series of heavy brushstrokes in my installation, which represent movement formed by physical action. I am fascinated to not only colour field effects but also action painting movement. Perhaps, what makes my installation more interesting is the usage of irradant acrylic colours and dynamic composition of diverse colour or brushstroke panels. I believe that all these seemingly random patterns and brushstrokes are pull together under certain natural hidden forces, which people do not realize because it is so common to them.



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EMERGE

light installation

I have always been fascinated by Bruneian patterns of the 'Air Muleh' on various infrastructures and on our traditional costumes. Air Muleh is a kind of fluidic spiral patterns, which are the popular patterns in Brunei as well as throughout the world. This spiral pattern has been used to decorate official buildings as well as the Sultan's Palace since the first Sultans of Brunei Darussalam. At the same time, the use of the 'Air Muleh' design prevails in Brunei and helps to preserve our traditional Malay cultural art. My capstone project is a set installation, titled "Emerge," which is about connecting both traditional and contemporary pattern designs to explore more possibilities in pattern designs. My set installation is designed to examine light and shadow, as well as stationary and dynamic movement by juxtaposing both geometric and organic patterns. It is my intention to merge both traditional Islamic pattern and Art Nouveau decorative patterns into a harmonious expression. I hope my pattern design will raise public awareness of similarity between traditional Islamic art and modern Western art.





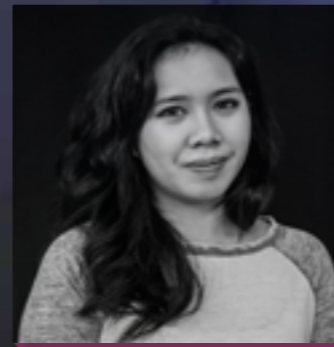
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DRAWING WITH LIGHT

photography, painting

My Capstone Project focuses on the cross-linked relationship between photography and painting. My idea comes from my passion in photography and my interest in painting. I like to take pictures of whatever things that draw my attention and whenever I see something unique to me. At the same time, I enjoy appreciating paintings, which I can hold my gaze for hours in studying all the details. My capstone project, titled "Drawing with light," addresses the mutual fundamentals between painting and photography. My concept is to blur the differences between photography and painting through my photographic/rendered artworks with my personal family inherited objects as my subject matters. Photography and painting not only can record our memories but also transcend them into our precious family history. I intend to visualise and explore the connection between documentary photography and still-life paintings. I explore different techniques, such as photographic images transferred on canvas, paintings displayed on light boxes, and paintings on photographic prints. I expect to fool the viewer's eyes in distinguishing the difference between photography and painting through my photographic/rendered installation. Through experimenting various photographic and rendering techniques, I gained a great deal of satisfaction. I understand that there are still a lot of possible techniques, which I need to explore. I hope my art installation can draw people's attention and help inspire them for their interests, hobbies or professional fields. There is no limitation in art or in our imaginations.



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CURIOUSER AND CURIOUSER

painting installation

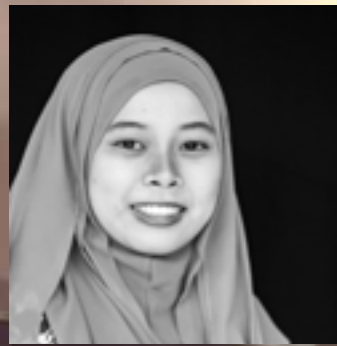
My capstone project is inspired by fairytales that I have been growing up with since my childhood. I designed an imaginative character and build it with mixed media to form a three-dimensional sculpture for my project. My own interpretation of a character, as well as developing my own creation from the exploration of this character. From my research and inspiration, I have discovered a certain character that I could well-enough relate to for my project, and I began to do some primary research on the character. My character is originally inspired by the well-known Cheshire Cat of the famous fairytale "Alice in Wonderland. I am fascinated by this character because Cheshire Cat is an enigma and less people understand its thoughts. Through my research, I realize that "Alice in Wonderland" was created during the era of immense change in the arithmetic world. Therefore, I decide to incorporate some mathematical elements in my surrealistic sculptural installation. My surreal sculpture comes with a cat head coupled with a wide grin, which represents my interpretation of Cheshire Cat. Purple and pink colours are the major colour scheme of my surreal cat-like sculpture, which is borrowed from my inspired. The body of my surreal cat is composed in a spiral shape made by wielding metal rods. According to the end of the story; Cheshire Cat fades away and leaves only its spiral stripes behind. Also, I



insert a fluorescent light tube within the spiral pole not only to light up my surreal sculpture but also to create the surrealistic atmosphere for my sculptural installation. I intend to use the illuminated light to make the stained Perspex glow in order to create certain imaginative moods for the audience. My surreal cat sculpture is attached to the trunk of a tree, which also served as a platform for my sculptural installation. The whole setting represents how the Cheshire Cat is first encountered by Alice. The background for my surreal sculptural installation is a wide open book form with written quotes from the Cheshire Cat. My intention is to let the



audience feel that my sculptural installation is actually telling them a story. I hope my sculptural installation will convey a message to the audience that every imaginative character may have a story to tell, and each artist may have his or her unique way to tell his or her story.



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NATURE OF KODOK-KODOK

textile design installation

The title of my capstone project is "Nature of Kodok-kodok." It is my intention to dedicate my project to perceive Kodok-kodok, a traditional medicine flower from extinction. I believe that it is not only the healing value of this flower that is precious but also its aesthetic value has inspired me to use it as the subject matter for my mixed media installation. My installation emphasises on the use of Kodok-kodok pattern. I applied the pattern on my curtain, lampshade and wallpaper design. Also, I made use of the unique traditional devore technique, also known as burnt-out and screen print. This devore technique is not easy to master and requires more practice, time and patience. However, it is important to revitalize this traditional craftsmanship as it is relevant to my chosen subject matter – Kodok-kodok. Through my installation, I hope the audience, especially the young generation, will appreciate the traditional craftsmanship and cultural values. If Kodok-kodok can inspire me in my capstone project, then I am sure that our tradition will also inspire others for their artistic endeavours.



Mohammad Izam
Hj Ahmad

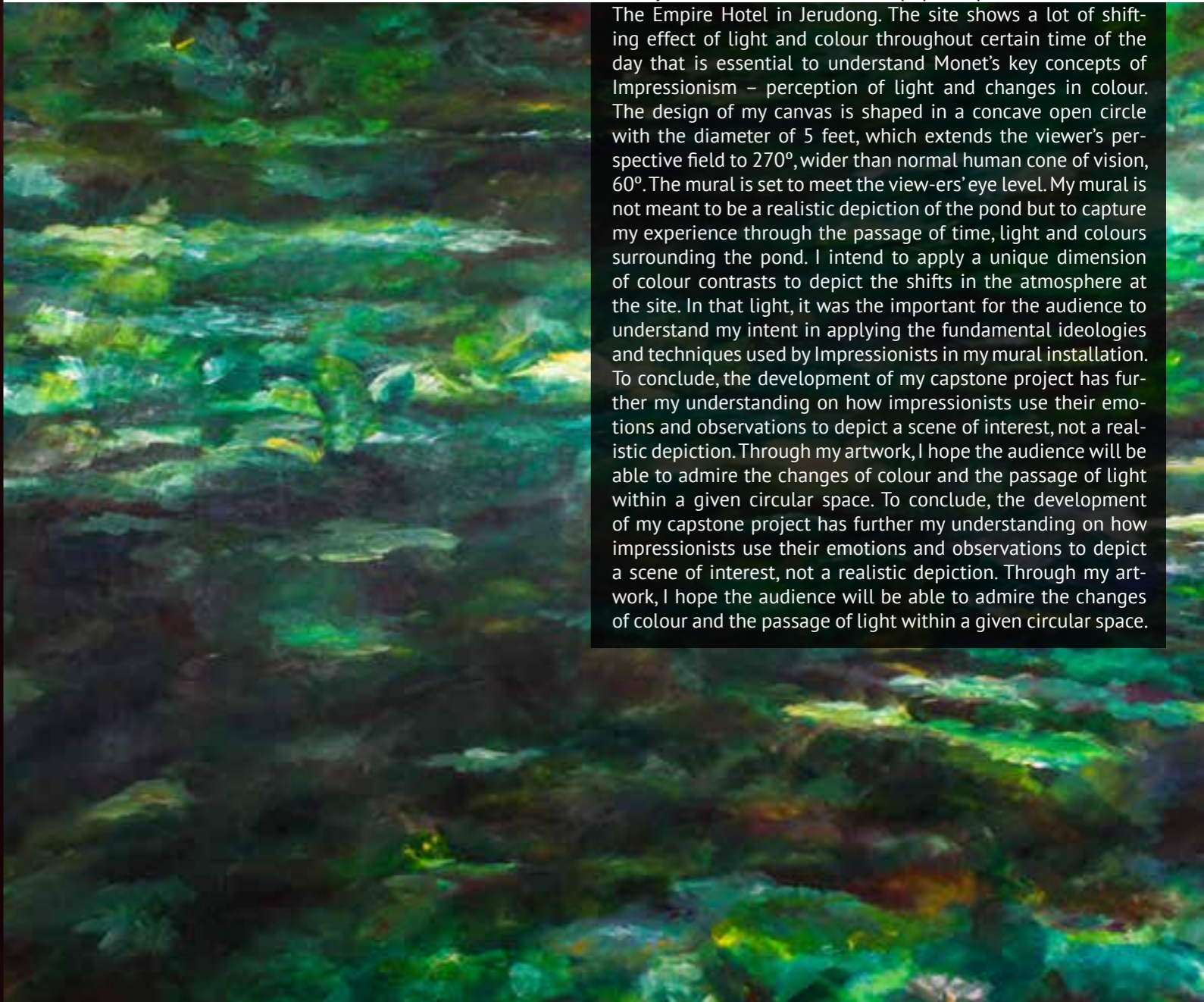
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WITHIN A FIELD OF LIGHT & COLOUR

painting installation

After admiring Claudé Monet's famous Blue Water Lilies at the Musée d'Orsay in Paris in person, the idea of creating an artwork that share the similar impression to audience becomes a challenge concept for my capstone project. Monet's series of mural-size water lilies paintings, based on his grown white water lilies in his water garden built in his property at Giverny in France, filled with raw emotions that can be felt by just standing next to it. I was marvelled at his artistic brush strokes and colourful use of paints, which creates a dream like state of mind. Based on my personal experience with Monet's water lilies painting, I expect to achieve similar expression in my mural installation, which is intended to explore the imaginative depth and diverse colours in an individual's field of vision. My mural installation represents the way I perceive my chosen subject matter – a natural pond environment, in a visual expressive manner. This can be achieved by conveying the sense and emotion depicted through a special design arch canvas mural, which creates an experience for the viewers to be engulfed within a field of colours. The subject matter of my mural is based on an unpopular pond situated near

The Empire Hotel in Jerudong. The site shows a lot of shifting effect of light and colour throughout certain time of the day that is essential to understand Monet's key concepts of Impressionism – perception of light and changes in colour. The design of my canvas is shaped in a concave open circle with the diameter of 5 feet, which extends the viewer's perspective field to 270°, wider than normal human cone of vision, 60°. The mural is set to meet the view-ers' eye level. My mural is not meant to be a realistic depiction of the pond but to capture my experience through the passage of time, light and colours surrounding the pond. I intend to apply a unique dimension of colour contrasts to depict the shifts in the atmosphere at the site. In that light, it was the important for the audience to understand my intent in applying the fundamental ideologies and techniques used by Impressionists in my mural installation. To conclude, the development of my capstone project has further my understanding on how impressionists use their emotions and observations to depict a scene of interest, not a realistic depiction. Through my artwork, I hope the audience will be able to admire the changes of colour and the passage of light within a given circular space. To conclude, the development of my capstone project has further my understanding on how impressionists use their emotions and observations to depict a scene of interest, not a realistic depiction. Through my artwork, I hope the audience will be able to admire the changes of colour and the passage of light within a given circular space.





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My capstone project is a three-dimensional mural painting of natural beauty found in Temburong, Brunei Darussalam, which I titled "Priceless Wild". "Priceless" means so precious that its value cannot be determined and "Wild" represents living or growing in the natural environment. It is my intention to depict the natural wonders, a priceless rainforest in Brunei Darussalam. I love the nature, especially the breathtaking scenery of rainforests, streams and waterfalls. Natural beauty is not only good for tourism or economics but also important to normal human life and environmental protection. In my project, I intended not only to show the beauty of Bruneian natural wonder but also to let audience understand individual responsibility in keeping this natural beauty alive. In Brunei, 80% of the country is covered by dense tropical rainforests, which are the oldest rainforests in the world. However, most of the Bruneian rainforests may not be preserved in the future because of the deforestation caused by the rise of population in Brunei and the

demands on urbanization. Therefore, it is imperative to raise public awareness of environmental protection and keeping the wildness for our next generation. Through my 3D mural, I hope to be an initiator in preserving a tiny scenery of the tropical rainforest by depicting it in my multi-layered 3D mural. I am interested to capture the warm light shining through a dense rainforest, which not only illuminates the beauty of the nature but also suggests the biodiverse ecosystem in our rainforests. Acrylic plexiglas is the surface for my multi-layered mural. Coupled with the back lighting, the transparent layers of plexiglas with various rainforest images will magnify the beauty of nature in my painting installation. The use of multi-layered Plexiglas not only creates depth of the dense rainforest but also form a visual stunning scenery of tropical forest. I expect viewers to stay connected to the nature through my painting installation, which manifesting a realistic feeling of being in the wilderness.

PRICELESS WILD

mural painting installation



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TAKE A MOMENT

space installation

Stress is an unavoidable fact of life. As humans, our minds are never at rest, even when we are sleeping. As a university student, my major concern is that many students are unconsciously under a lot of stress, which they have forgotten what it feels like to be fully relaxed. Stress without any relief may lead to negative health problems later in life such as, diabetics and depression. Therefore, it is important for everyone to take a small step to relax from our harsh realities. Based on Jared Green (2011) research and my personal experience, strolling around nature can boost performance and beneficial for both our minds and body. In our daily lives, we spend most of our time indoors and we hardly have time to connect with nature. Therefore, my capstone project is designed to create a stress free zone – an art installation for relaxation. Relaxation is a powerful means against stress and the goal of relaxation is to unwind our muscles and calm our minds. My art installation, titled as "Take a moment," is to create a physical space, which audience can escape from the world of distraction and anxiety for a moment, and give them a chance to mentally and physically recharge in their daily lives. My installation is also constructed for visitors to explore their five senses with various colours, textures, smells, sounds and tangible touches. Sensing through sighting, tasting, smelling, hearing and touching of the installed elements within my installation, I hope audi-

ence will enter a meditation stage to focus their minds for a while in order to reach a moment of relaxation. Light and shadow play important roles in my installation, which are manifested through a lotus-like fabric wire lantern and the natural light from the gallery windows. Light and shadow help to connect audience with nature and provoke interest to the details and atmosphere of my installation space. The smell and taste of ginger tea are a part of my installation. On one side of my installation, I set up a bamboo internode panel to serve as prayer wheels for audience to touch and create the sound like xylophone. Also, I have applied natural herb to create an entrance hanging herb-bags and use gravels, rocks and real grass to create a maze like floor for the visitors to feel when they enter my installation space. Melinda Smith (2014) noted that the best way to relieve stress is through our five senses and it is the key to quick stress relief. I expect my art installation may serve as an art therapy to our daily stressful lives and lead to a growth of sensibility towards nature.



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