



*Artwork by Wang Lian-Ying*

An Exhibition by Taiwanese Women Artists

# ETHEREAL MINDS

Yang Yi Shiang | Huang Chia Ning | Wang Liang-Yin | Liu Hsin Ying



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World Trade Centre 2 Building, WTC Complex



# INTRODUCTION

PT Jakarta Land's World Trade Centre complex has been a byword for quality office space and property management services for over 40 years. Art is an integral part of a creative and productive office environment, and so we are presenting an innovative art program that includes public viewing of world class collections over the coming years.

Art at WTC has been running since 2013 and in its latest installment, we are delighted to present the Ethereal Minds; an exhibition that highlights the contemporary art of Taiwan. Curated by ISA Art and Design, this exhibition explores the poetics of paintings and the genuine nature that are inhabited by the artists into their internal conventions.

We are honoured to be able to collaborate with so many great individuals and parties, including the Spotlight Taiwan and Taipei Economic and Trade Office, and all the participating artists. We hope you enjoy the exhibition.

**Syahzan Kudus**

General Manager of PT Jakarta Land

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending "Ethereal Minds", an art exhibition of the works by Taiwanese women artists.

This is the very first time that paintings from four talented Taiwanese female artists are presented in the lobby of the World Trade Center 2 on the busiest street Jl. Jendral Sudirman in Jakarta for one month. Indonesian artists, art collectors and all other visitors will have opportunities to enjoy the beauty of Taiwanese art and culture, especially from women's delicate perspectives. It proves again that art is a language that can be spoken and shared across cultures and borders.

I would like to thank Jakarta Land and ISA Art and Design for their efforts in making this exhibition possible, my gratitude also goes to Taiwan's Ministry of Culture for the sponsorship and its project "Spotlight Taiwan" which helps bring Taiwanese culture to the world.

**John C. Chen**

Representative Taipei Economic and Trade Office

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The term 'ethereal' universally depicts an everlasting and delicate beauty. The cultural aspect of the Taiwanese identity emerged from an ambivalence and heterogeneity of the Chinese, Japanese and Western influences, allowing the existence of a 'third space' to manifest and flourish. Stating back to Hommi Bhabha's theory of 'the third space', a term derived from the colonial history, which drove and challenged female artists to hybridize their voice in order to be heard and understood. This gives a space provided for women artists. Moving ahead of it's time, the Taiwanese female artists' struggle shifted from fighting for equality to confidently celebrating their artistic creations. Instead of commanding attention from the wider public and industry towards the art, but acquiring the freedom to show it. Henceforth, the third space describes a place of mixed cross-cultural entanglements that result in great discoveries.

Ethereal Minds is an exhibition that incorporates the voices of four female Taiwanese artists. Their artworks manifest from their realities, coming from the deep internal coalescing of backgrounds, traditions, and contemporary ideologies. Time, place, and setting unify the artists' work into narratives that share voices and cultural symbols through a diversity of medium and context of the artists' distinctive visual language. Transcending from traditions, which transforms into modern and contemporary imageries conveying figments of the artists' imagination.

Calmness in calamity is shared throughout the works of Yang Yi Shiang's childhood memories. Strong nostalgic imagery gathers emotions of entanglement, disappointment, and unsettlement of contemporary living. Childlike figures painted into dark delicate realities are visually narrated throughout her paintings as almost distorted human characters illustrated with animalistic figures. The playful and domesticated settings create familiar yet unordinary scenarios.

While Wang Liang Yin's use of psychedelic colors and strong hues depict almost a phantasmagorical scenery that convey the artist's great influence by German painter Anselm Kiefer who believes that there are no beginnings but only endings. Settings and figures, which play on the topic of desire as a universal language, convey a harsh yet sweet reality.

On the other hand, Huang Chia Ning's hyper realistic oil paintings raise the question of meaning and value towards inanimate objects. Simplistic expression of her paintings through the style of hyperrealism is identified as a way of expressing real life and how objects are perceived the way they are. However, Huang possesses a peculiar interest in the process of pixilation taken from fragments of photographs, as she believes that they do not limit the imagery from truth and reality. Her paintings are an expression of the liberating absorption of meanings and values of inanimate objects, as the objects convey naive incorporation.

Malaysian-based Taiwanese artist, Liu Hsin Ying uses her art as a collage of fragments of thoughts that she collects in her mind. With Hockney-esque colors, Ying gathers her mix of memories that translate into subtle abstraction. Her process and methods embody a collage of mental imageries, which become Liu's place of contemplation and thought.

Ethereality and contemporary usually do not go hand in hand. However through the use of poetic narratives and individualistic perspectives, the works of these artists unify their concepts and imageries. Transcending from delicate fragmented memories projected into otherworldly surrealist etherealities.

# Yang Yi Shiang

Yang Yi Shiang (b. 1981, Keelung Taiwan) lives and works in Keelung, Taipei. Yang Yi-Shiang's paintings are largely nostalgic and personal, recording fragments of her life and feelings. They strike the audience with their concepts and sharp sensitivity expressed upon the unsettlements, disappointments, and entanglements of contemporary living. She uses mixed media: pencil, acrylics, paper to create different textures on the canvas, creating a space to convey the stories she wants to tell.

Yang yi Shiang worked briefly as a painting teacher until her debut exhibition, 'Spirit of Travel,' at Espace Louis Vuitton, Taipei in 2013. She also participated in group exhibitions at institutions including Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts, Taiwan (2014); Keelung Cultural Center, Taiwan; and National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, where her work was included in the Young Artist Collection (2013).

She has won the Keelung Art Prize and the first prize at Da-Dun Fine Arts Exhibition, Taichung, Taiwan. Her paintings are largely nostalgic and personal, recording fragments of life and feelings, they strike the audience with their concepts and sharp sensitivity expressed upon the unsettlements, disappointments, and entanglements of contemporary living.

*"To my way of thinking, the fundamental elements of painting are becoming an instrument for the transmission of emotion. It is the consciousness, which develops a close connection with human beings."*





## Barber Shop

2018  
Mixed Media on Canvas  
65 x 53 cm  
IDR 52.500.000



## Make Believe

2017  
Acrylics and Pencil on Canvas  
100 x 80 cm  
IDR 80.000.000





## Immerse

2018  
Mixed Media on Canvas  
130 x 80 cm  
IDR 96.500.000



## Water Park

2019  
Acrylics and Pencil  
on Canvas  
130 x 80 cm  
IDR 92.500.000



## The Small Adventures in Daily Lives

2018  
Mixed Media on Canvas  
130 x 80 cm  
IDR 96.500.000



# Huang Chia Ning

Huang Chia Ning (b.1979, Taipei) received her formal education in Yuan Ze University, Taiwan and continued her masters in the Institute of Plastic Art, Tainan National University of The Arts, Taiwan.

Inspired by snapshots or some casually taken photographs, Huang does not have a certain method on selecting the theme or an ideal regulation to follow. She refers herself as a container carrying different visual experiences. The viewers can find the artist's life fragments and personal sense of humor through the pictures she draw, for example, an unfinished dinner/lunch box, flock of sparrows on a lawn, and even the kitchen waste in a sink. Huang concretes her pile of experiences with oil paints, turning into her still life works. She does not adhere to accurately interpret pictures from the photos but more focuses on how images produce visual experiences by oil paints and brushstrokes.

A communicator to reflect the experiences of self-consciousness from the artist, at the same time to carry out a dialogue between contemporary digital information and modern paintings.

Huang Chia-Ning's first artwork to be offered at auction was Un-Presentable-i at Christie's Hong Kong in 2017. She has won many awards including the Taipei Arts Award (2007), Union Art Award by Union Bank (2000) and fellowship of the National Cultural and Arts Foundation (2009). Huang Chia-Ning's works are also featured in Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts, Taipei Fine Arts Museum and many private collections.

*"The significance of the photo selection is actually what drives me to stop, look back and self-analyze, further attempting to question myself as to their form and composition as a means of then pondering the connections between myself, others and the world in general."*





## Dandelion

2017  
Oil on Canvas  
138 x 185 cm



## Snails

2009  
Oil on Canvas  
180 x 227 cm



## Coil

2018  
Oil on Canvas  
152 x 190 cm

# Wang Liang Yin

Wang Liang Yin (b.1979, Taiwan) pursued her arts training at the Taipei National University of the Arts, Taiwan. Wang Liang-Yin's work depicts a dream that is both sweet and harsh. Referencing Anselm Kiefer, she believes there is never a beginning, but only an ending. When one steps towards the limit of cognition, the real, the unreal, the memorized and the imagined are often interlaced and juggled just like the many tentacles of an octopus. The stimulation to sensation, original desire, reality and illusion, memory and imagination, eternity and disappearance, all of these are the issues explored by Wang Liang-Yin's creation. The limitation between material and human being is remote and vague in artist's mind, but it is an absolutely veritable border of spirit.

Wang's artworks are collected by National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, Art Bank Taiwan and Taipei Fine Arts Museum for many times, and are not only selected by Kaohsiung Award , but also won the first prize of New Perspective Art in Taiwan Dimensional Creation Series , Long Yen Foundation Creative Arts Award, Chang Hsing Lung Award and many more. She has exhibited in cities including Germany, USA, UK, Japan, Korea, and China.

*"Wang uses human desire, a shared language of humanity, to make a circus, carousel..., and become intimate metaphors with a certain degree of spiritual abstraction and expressiveness. "*





## Spray and Rainbow

2019

Acrylic on Canvas

140 x 194 cm

IDR 285.000.000



## Balance Practicing

2019

Acrylics on Canvas

182 x 156 cm

IDR 285.000.000

# Liu Hsin Ying

Liu Hsin Ying (b.1991, Taiwan) was trained at the Art Students League, New York in 2013 and at the Department of fine arts, Taipei National University of The Arts, Taipei, Taiwan, graduating in 2015. She works in a variety of medium and approaches such as painting, drawing inspiration from the personal and cerebral. She is currently based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Liu Hsin Ying adapts an abstractionist style that conveys the collecting process of her thoughts and processes. The colors which can be described as Hockney-esque can be visually identified along with the organic shapes and tones. Liu Hsin Ying uses these distinctive elements to translate her collective moments and memories that go through an artistic analysis during the creation of her works. Using internal intuitive through processes, with what is familiar and turning it into something unordinary.

Her latest works from a solo show at Richard Koh Malaysia titled 'Somewhere Down The River' is constructed of a poem written by the artist herself, translating it into colorful abstract imagery.

Liu Hsin Ying has been in various solo exhibitions including 'A Period of Time' at the Soul Art Gallery Taipei (2013), 'Please Give Me a Shape in One Piece' thought spoke at the Richard Koh Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur Malaysia and 'Somewhere Down The River' which is one of her latest solo shows at Richard Koh, Malaysia. She has also exhibited in many group exhibitions throughout Taiwan and Singapore. One of her awards include the Outstanding Art Prize in Taipei National University.

*"My art conveys a sense of confusion to me. In acknowledging the confusion, I get to formulate questions or a preliminary understanding in order to approach it"*







## Landscape II

2018  
Acrylic, Pastel on Canvas  
108 x 150 cm  
IDR 40.000.000



## Two

2018  
Acrylic, Pastel on Canvas  
108 x 150 cm  
IDR 40.000.000



## Cloud

2018  
Acrylic on Canvas  
180 x 130 cm

# ETHEREAL MINDS

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15 October - 15 November 2019

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