

Iona Danald

Born: 1994 in Sarawak, Malaysia

Bachelor of Science, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, University of Aberdeen, Scotland

Iona Moira Evemarie Danald is a Bidayuh artist who works with textile and, oil and acrylic on canvas. Her work is the expressive exploration of mental health issues and her journey to recovery.

Identifying as Bidayuh and working primarily with textile, Danald's work is an exploration of femininity, mental health and recovery. Trained in Electrical and Electronic Engineering at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, Iona left her role as a Research & Development Engineer in 2017 to focus on her mental health. Through her journey of recovery, Iona rediscovered her initial life's dedication – her commitment to working with the less fortunate and people with disabilities through visual arts. She helped adults with disabilities and taught art therapy during her residency at Asia Community Services' Stepping Stone, Penang, and volunteered to teach remedial classes at St Mary's Primary School, Kuching, in 2019. Currently, she's an art teacher at Mont Kiara, Kuala Lumpur.

Iona is the Winner of Spotlight 2019 by Penang Art District and Malaysia Emerging Artist Award Finalist 2019. She has participated in numerous group exhibitions in Kuching, Penang and Kuala Lumpur. AYE: Across Sarawak and Scotland is her first solo exhibition.

Awards

2019 Winner, Spotlight 2019, Penang Art District
Finalist, Malaysia Emerging Artist Award 2019

Solo Exhibitions

2020 **AYE: Across Sarawak and Scotland** Ming Fine Art @ St. Jo's, George Town, Penang, Malaysia

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Group Exhibitions (selected)

2020	Common Threads	The Back Room KL, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2019	B&W	Artemis Art, Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	Young & New VII	HOM Art Trans, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	Art Showdown	Bayu Gallery @ ChinaHouse, George Town, Penang, Malaysia
	RRRWARRR!!! Maybank Emerging Women Artist Show	Balai Seni Maybank, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	Malaysia Emerging Artist Award 2019 Finalists Showcase	White Box, MAP@Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	Beginnings – Open Studios Penang	Gudang, George Town, Penang, Malaysia

Media Coverage (selected)

- 2021 **From Engineering to Art, From Sarawak to Scotland**, Penang Monthly, March 2021
https://penangmonthly.com/article.aspx?pageid=20146&name=from_engineering_toart_from_sarawak_toscotland
- 2020 **Common Threads Of Contemporary Textiles**, Front Row, on The Bigger Picture, BFM 89.9 podcast, broadcast on September 22 2020
<https://www.bfm.my/podcast/the-bigger-picture/front-row/common-threads-of-contemporary-textiles>
- Textiles bridging cultural divide**, The Star, August 26 2020
<https://www.thestar.com.my/metro/metro-news/2020/08/26/textiles-bridging-cultural-divide>
- AYE : Across Sarawak and Scotland, a solo exhibition by Iona Danald**, Penang Art District, August 7 2020
<https://penangartdistrict.com/aye-across-sarawak-and-scotland-a-solo-exhibition-by-iona-danald/>
- Uncovering female inwardness through ‘AYE: Across Sarawak and Scotland’**, Haruna Matata (blog), July 25 2020
<https://harunamatata.com/uncovering-female-inwardness-through-aye-across-sarawak-and-scotland/>
- Iona Danald: A textile artist weaving to heal**, Penang Art District, May 28 2020
<https://penangartdistrict.com/iona-danald-a-textile-artist-weaving-to-heal/>
- 2019 **A spotlight on artistic talents**, Bulletin Mutiara, November 19 2019
<https://www.buletinmutiara.com/a-spotlight-on-artistic-talents/>