

Syahbandi Samat

Born: 1992 in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia

Self-taught artist

Drawing from personal experience and observation, the stupefying technical skills of young artist Syahbandi Samat, using primarily ball-point pens, has been gaining wide attention from the Malaysian art scene in recent years, particularly since winning the 2011 cycle of the Malaysian Emerging Artist Award (MEAA), and more recently, the Young Guns Award 2016.

His keen interest in art began while still in secondary school, experimenting with various mediums before settling on using the ballpoint pen, catalyzed by his discovery of artworks by Spanish artist and poet Juan Fransisco Casas. His earlier works were portrayals of myths and fairy tales, through the artist's own interpretive lens, at times twisted but in a humorous sense. Since then his artistic creations have become more introspective, projecting his concerns and fears into surrealistic viewscapes that are often intriguing at first glance.

Syahbandi takes the ballpoint pen well beyond the implement's typical role as a writing instrument, fueled by his determination and hard work, continuously improving his skills as a visual artist, and is definitely a talent to watch in the coming years.

Awards (selected)

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| 2016 | Young Guns Award 2016 , by HOM Art Trans, Kuala Lumpur |
| 2011 | Winner , Malaysian Emerging Artist Award (MEAA) |

Solo Exhibitions

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| 2020 | <i>Museum Mimpi</i>
(MONOCHROME - six in one solo) | Artemis Art website online exhibition
Originally planned for Breeze Art Space, BSD City, Tangerang, Indonesia (Art Serpong Gallery X Artemis Art) |
| 2018 | Dichotomy | Galeri Titikmerah, Art Row, Publika, Kuala Lumpur |
| 2017 | Bond, Boundaries & Bondage | Galeri Titikmerah, Art Row, Publika, Kuala Lumpur |
| 2016 | Moral Compass | Hoopla Lounge, Kuala Lumpur |

**Group Exhibitions (selected)**

2022	Art For All	GMBB KL, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (with Artemis Art)
2021	Intuitive Perceptions	Artemis Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (virtual exhibition at https://www.artemisartgallery.com/intuitive-perceptions/)
2020	Letter to Basquiat	Artemis Art, Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	OPPO Art Jakarta Virtual 2020	Online virtual art fair, via https://artjakarta.com/ (with Artemis Art)
	Gallery Weekend 2020: Right Here! Right Now!	Artemis Art, The Backroom KL, Core Design Gallery, Richard Koh Fine Art, and Suma Orientalis - in Kuala Lumpur & Petaling Jaya, Malaysia
	UNTHOUGHT KNOWN	Greydea Studio, TTDI, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	Conversation with Basquiat	Artemis Art, Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2019	Art Jakarta 2019	Jakarta Convention Center (JCC), Jakarta, Indonesia (with Artemis Art)
	Hotel Art Fair Bangkok 2019	W Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand (with Artemis Art)
	Melukis	Balai Seni Menara Maybank, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	AArt Citizen Art Shanghai 2019	Twelve at Hengshan, Shanghai, China (with Artemis Art)
	#SKULL	G13 Gallery, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia
	It's Lit	Segaris Art Center, Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	Art Tainan 2019	Tayih Landis Hotel, Tainan, Taiwan
	Darah Muda	A.P. Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2018	Sanubari (Art Expo Malaysia 2018)	MATRADE Exhibition & Convention Centre (with Artemis Art)
	Publika Art Show	The Boulevard, Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	Merah Putih Biru Kuning	G13 Gallery, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia
	Masks and Stories	Artemis Art, Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	Sembilan Art Residency Group Exhibition	Kedai K7, Malacca, Malaysia
2017	(Im)Possibilities	Galeri Chandan, Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	Primer For A Language	Artemis Art, Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	The White Mask Visual Art Exhibition	White Box, MAP@Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	Mampu Art Market	ChinaHouse, George Town, Penang, Malaysia
	We Are 5 Artemis Art's Fifth Anniversary Exhibition	White Box, MAP@Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	Collective Individuals	Hin Bus Art Depot, George Town, Penang, Malaysia
	Mimpi Jadi Landskap	Taksu KL, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	XS	Galeri Titikmerah, Art Row, Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	Collective Individuals KL	Urbancsape House, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	Mampu Art Market	Hin Bus Art Depot, George Town, Penang, Malaysia
	Private Affairs 2	Galeri Chandan, Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	Journey: Inaugural Group Exhibition by Sembilan Art Residency Program	Creative Space 2, Artiseri @ Seri Pacific Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



2016	Exploration x Expression Sembilan Art Residency Season 4 Exhibition A Raya Celebration Of Generation In Art In Our Own Way 2 Versus Animal Vice Versa Lukis EhWauBulan Art Showcase MY1LOFF: The Art Inside L`Officiel House Mampu Art Market Mampu Art Market Kuching Gaul	Port Commune, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia Henry Butcher Curate, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Balai Seni Visual Negara, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Chinahouse, George Town, Penang, Malaysia Artemis Art @ Galeri Rumah Jati, Yogyakarta, Indonesia Open Studio at Ruang Sementara, Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Whitebox, Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Urbanscapes House, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Hin Bus Art Depot, George Town, Penang, Malaysia ChinaHouse, Kuching, Malaysia Hin Bus Art Depot, George Town, Penang, Malaysia
2015	X-Individuals 02 Extreme Potrait Melukis Puisi: Sebuah Pencitraan Puisi-Puisi Pryan Habib	Art Accent, Bangsar Village II, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Gallery Chandan, Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia White Box, MAP@Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2014	Siti: An Iconic Exhibition of Dato' Siti Nurhaliza Malaysian Eye Project READrawing Singapore Affordable Art Fair	Atelier Gallery, Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Organized by Parallel Contemporary Art, Malaysia Galeri Petronas, Suria KLCC, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia F1 Pit Building, Singapore
2013	Locals Only 2013 NAFAS Residencies Cycle 2 Showcase X-Individuals 01 M50 Selamat Hari Malaysia	Taksu KL, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Langgeng Art Space, Yogyakarta, Indonesia Gallery Chandan, Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Art Accent, Bangsar Village II, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia White Box, MAP@Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2012	Locals Only 2012 MARS Transit A4 Exhibition Malaysian Emerging Artist Award Winner Showcase	Taksu KL, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia House of Matahati, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia White Box, MAP@Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2011	Life and Nature Malaysian Emerging Artist Award 2011 Finalist Showcase	Pelita Hati Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Pusat Kebudayaan Soka Gakkai Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2010	Artriangle by House of Matahati	National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Residencies

- 2015 Sembilan Art Residency Program (Season 4), Seremban, Malaysia
2012 NAFAS Residency, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

In The Media (selected)

- 2020 **“Right Here! Right Now! in Kuala Lumpur”** – Art & Market, October 8 2020
<https://www.artandmarket.net/news/2020/10/8/right-here-right-now-in-kuala-lumpur>
- 2018 **“Masks And Stories: An Art Exhibition On Our Many Faces”** – The Daily Seni, June 30 2018
<http://www.dailyseni.com/v4/masks-and-stories/>
- “The Jungian Persona: “Masks & Stories” @ Artemis Art, Publika”** – Tailored Raw, July 4 2018
<http://www.tailoredraw.com/2018/07/04/the-jungian-persona-masks-stories-artemis-art-publika/>
- “Kreativiti zahir perasaan kasih”** – Harian Metro, July 5 2018
<https://www.hmetro.com.my/nuansa/2018/07/354468/kreativiti-zahir-perasaan-kasih>
- 2017 **“Young Guns exhibition series features 16 hotshots”** – The Star, January 14 2017
<http://www.star2.com/culture/arts/2017/01/14/young-guns-exhibition-series-returns-with-16-young-hotshots/>
- “The Borak-Borak Sessions: The Kilometrico Master”** – Masses Magazine, April 28 2017
<http://masses.com.my/features/borak-borak-session-master-kilometrico/>
- “The collective spirit”** – The Star, May 3 2017
<https://www.pressreader.com/malaysia/the-star-malaysia-star2/20170503/281814283765364>
- “The White Mask: The Visuals Of Cyberpunk Malaysia”** – The Daily Seni, August 24 2017
<http://www.dailyseni.com/v4/the-white-mask-the-visual-of-cyberpunk-malaysia/>
- “Group show focuses on connections between making and reading art”** – The Star, September 12 2017
<https://www.star2.com/culture/arts/2017/09/12/primer-for-a-language/>
- 2016 **“Moral Compass by Syahbandi Samat”** – ArtQulture, March 12 2016
<https://artqulture.com/2016/03/12/moral-compass-by-syahbandi-samat/>
- “Exploration & Expression”** – BFM Radio (Front Row, The Bigger Picture), May 20 2016
<https://www.bfm.my/sembilan-art-residency-exploration-expression>
- “Exploration & Expression @ PORT Commune”** – Art KL-itique, May 29 2016
<http://artklitique.blogspot.com/2016/05/exploration-x-expression-port-commune.html>
- “Working the art circuit”** – The Star, June 19 2016
<https://www.star2.com/culture/arts/2016/06/19/working-the-art-circuit/>
- “Myriad of marvels”** – The New Straits Times, July 17 2016
<http://www.nst.com.my/news/2016/07/158924/myriad-marvels>
- “With ballpoint precision”** – The Sun, November 6 2016
 (original: <http://www.thesundaily.my/news/2045186>)
 (adapted: <https://www.columnlife.com/index.php/biographies/item/297-syahbandi-samat>)
- 2015 **“Keunikan karya medium pen”** – Kosmo!, June 1 2015
 (online: http://ww1.kosmo.com.my/kosmo/content.asp?y=2015&dt=0601&pub=Kosmo&sec=Varia&pg=va_02.htm)
 (clipping: https://umlib.um.edu.my/newscut_details.asp?cutid=13479)
- “Meet The Sarawakian Who Makes Epic Drawings Using Kilometrico Pens”** – Cilisos.my, November 29 2015
<https://cilisos.my/meet-the-sarawakian-who-makes-epic-drawings-using-kilometrico-pens/>
- 2011 **“Luahan mata pen”** – Utusan Malaysia, December 24 2011
http://ww1.utusan.com.my/utusan/info.asp?y=2011&dt=1224&pub=Utusan_Malaysia&sec=Hiburan&pg=hi_06.htm