

the coffee connoisseur (tcc) presents..

yin yang poetry: the realm of psychedelia
an exhibition of drawings & paintings by **Loh Khee Yew**

exhibition venue & presenter:

the coffee connoisseur "The Gallery"
51 Circular Road

drawings & paintings will be on display
from 4 September till 4 October 2008

Opening Hours :
Sunday to Thursday & Public Holidays 11:00am to Midnight
Friday, Saturday & Eve of Public Holidays 11:00am to 02:00am

Free to Public
General Enquiries: (+65) 6479 2445



fauna

56x45cm 2008 acrylic on paper

presented by:



the coffee connoisseur

in collaboration with:



Enabling great talents to
shine the way they deserve...

tcc's latest exhibition at "The Gallery" will be showcasing more than 30 unique drawings and paintings by Singaporean artist **Loh Khee Yew**

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yin yang poetry: the realm of psychedelia

an exhibition of drawings & paintings by **Loh Khee Yew**

Forthy-two years ago, I landed on a place that covered one-sixth of the earth's crust. My odyssey began when:

**I saw vast brown earth
I saw refreshingly green streams
I saw rustling yellow, orange, and red leaves
I saw white trees
I saw purple flowers
I saw black forests
I saw crimson plains
I saw blue mountains
I saw platinum rocks
I saw pink snow, dazzling against a canopy of greys,
This then, is the palette of colours extraordinary.**

This then, is the palette of colours extraordinary.

In this sixth solo exhibition, the paintings, drawings, and collages, showcase the unexplored realm of psychedelia, enriched with intense colour energies and spatial feeling.

It's exhilarating, listening to the symphony of Nature's colours. The repertoire is extensively colourful, varied, and balanced. One gets to enjoy the sensations of feeling colours of various chromas, hues and values, creating perspectives of depth illusions and forms. Changing colours caused by moving clouds, the chameleons, the illuminating jellyfish, create unfathomable moods. These moods vary from the colourless colours to vibrant psychedelia. Immersed in such moods, one feels intoxicatingly elated.

Nature has a way to show how adjacent colours co-exist contrastingly, differently, harmoniously; whilst intermingling into the cosmic space of silence, calmness, tranquility, and esoteric balance. This is the ambience of yin-yang poetry and synergy.

Excerpts:

Loh Khee Yew's unmistakable style makes him one of the stalwarts of the second generation of Chinese contemporary artists in Singapore. He is known for his different techniques and explorations of medium. His geometric rendering of nature's palette, for instance, is testament to his constantly evolving style. His works are unique and one-of-a-kind. In his paintings, he creates depth and space merely with the use of colour. In the more subdued pieces, bright colours are used to accentuate and uplift the other elements.

Loh Khee Yew's experimental nature can be witnessed in the unorthodox use of acrylic ink instead of the traditional ink used in Chinese brush calligraphy. The result is a brilliant fusion of the old and new. He absorbs the distinguishing qualities of two opposing elements and brings harmony and balance to this combination.

Pavita Mohan
Writer

Loh is clearly in love with line and color and all their potential. This is evident in many of his highly geometric and patterned paintings, which reference his background in graphic art. A work such as *Four Graces*, dominated by reds, yellows, and cream-colors, shows the richness of his expression, his awareness of space created through dense color. The color becomes line and the busy geometry of the background forms lends the piece a lively perspective. The figures within the surface seem to be dancing.

In his abstract series, the intense energy of swirling colors, at times harmonious, at times strongly contrasting.

The viewer is drawn into these works by Loh's sense of freedom, his desire to escape confines of a more structured form. In all his paintings Loh achieves a sense of the complexity of human movement and free expression that is essential to the vitality of his art.

Ian Findlay © 2004
Editor/Publisher, Asian Art News



foliage

45x60cm 2008 acrylic on canvas



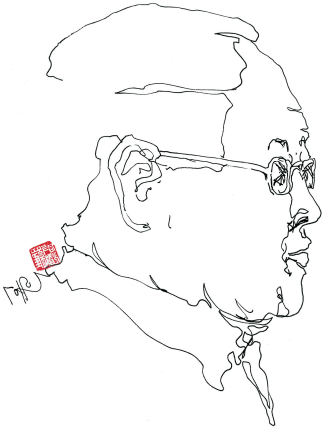
warm & neutral

45x60cm 2008 acrylic on canvas



venus sepia

42x62cm 2008 acrylic ink on canvas



Artist Profile – **Loh Khee Yew**

The eminent Loh Khee Yew can be aptly described as a humble genius.

Born in 1933, he is one of the pioneers of Singapore's design movement. In 1966, he left for Canada to study design at the Alberta college of Art on a Colombo Plan scholarship, graduating with a major in advertising. Later he pursued photography and printmaking in the Vancouver school of Art. He was the Dean of Design Faculty at LASALLE-SIA, College of the Arts (1992-95)

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He employs his signature technique-line drawing, to trace the organic form of nature's bounty and the human body in a truly unique and fascinating way. The composition rises out of the line's path leaving behind an intricate network of interwoven entities. His artistic evolution can be described as a period of personal research through experimentation, and meditative thinking.

drawings & paintings exhibition:

- 2008 Sixth solo, *yin-yang poetry - the realm of psychedelia @ the @ the coffee connoisseur (tcc)* "The Gallery", officiated by Mr Lee Suang Hiang, President & CEO of LASALLE College of the Arts, September 3 - October 4
Nuspiration @ Bhaskar's arts gallery, officiated by Mr Milenko Prvacki, Dean, Fine Art Faculty, LASALLE, February 8 – 14.
- 2007 Fifth solo, *yin-yang poetry: the unfinished finish* presented and @ the coffee connoisseur (tcc) "The Gallery", 51 Circular Road and organized by art-management.com, officiated by HE Mr Alan Virtue, High Commissioner of Canada to Singapore, July 12 – September 23.
- 2005 *Maiden Inspirations* – group exhibition of Loh Khee Yew & his students – Lina Lee, Linda Haverkamp, Yvonne Tan, Glennery Besson, Josefin Loh, showcasing abstract expressionism, chateau d'arts gallery, Singapore.
- 2004 Fourth solo, *concerto of colours @* chateau d'arts, officiated by Jonathan Besson, reviewed by Ms Bridget Tracy Tan, NAFA curator & Jan Findlay, Asian Art News, June 12 – July 4.
Magnificent Seven, showcasing works of 7 established artists – Dr Earl M T Lu, Teo Kim Liong, Loh Khee Yew, S. Namasivayam, Sim Tong Khern, Wong Kian Ping, Chia Hearn Chek, October 7 – 23.
- 2003 *uncovering pink & blue*, chateau d'arts gallery, Singapore.
Setup Jo Studio @ Bishan Park 2, catering to heartlanders on art, pottery, jewellery & design.
- 2002 *different strokes*, MITA atrium, Hill street, officiated by Mr Brian Howard, President, LASALLE-SIA & reviewed by Ms Parvathi Nayyar, Business Times.
nusense by group 90, NAFA gallery, Singapore, 30 October.
- 2000 *Singapore Nokia* art exhibition, Singapore Art Museum, 18-30 January.
Third solo. *of line poetry & colours*, Paragon art gallery, Singapore, officiated by Mr Nigel Smith, President, Designers' Association Singapore, March 16 – 22.
- 1998 *the image nude* by group 90, Orchard Point, Singapore, July 17 – 21.
- 1997 *Singapore art 97*, Suntec City – August.
- 1996 Second solo, *the lines are my eyes*, gallery 21, Riverwalk Galleria, Singapore, officiated by Bro Joseph McNally, President, LASALLE-SIA, reviewed by Dr Elsie Yu, June 21 – 25.
- 1995 *art in asia*, Suntec City, Singapore.
- 1993 *art in asia*, World Trade Centre, Singapore.
- 1992 *the figure in art*, exhibition & forum by group 90, NAFA gallery.
- 1991 *multi-media masters of LASALLE*, Oriental Hotel, Singapore.
Invigorating works of 8 masters, Paragon.
- 1990 First solo, *homage to the line*, Empress Place gallery, officiated by Dr Earl M T Lu, Chairman, Singapore Art Museum, reviewed by Bro Joseph McNally & T K Sabapathy.
figurama by group 90, NAFA gallery, Singapore.
- 1975 Chairman, *uni-art* exhibition, National Library, Singapore.
- 1974 Exhibition organizer of the Singapore Art Society.



the coffee connoisseur

- **An Art Space for Everyday Use:**

At the coffee connoisseur Circular Road art boutique caffè we have created an Art Gallery where a whole range of works by both local and foreign artists will be featured through exhibitions that are organized on a quarterly basis.

The old heritage building that is situated at Singapore's historic river district lends itself perfectly to an art gallery. The ground floor offers the more conventional seating for those in a rush, while those who want to escape from the outside pressure and stress can slip upstairs out of sight and away from the sounds of the busy street.

Here the ambience is totally laid back as you find beanbags that let you sink into oblivion are scattered across the space. Where you can take your time to peruse art magazines provided and enjoy the paintings on the wall. Art, like a great cup of coffee, shouldn't be rushed.

tcc created this very special art space in a city that seeks to nurture the arts because we want art to communicate in a relaxed atmosphere. And let's face it, it's so easy to relax over a great cup of coffee.

The artists whose works appear at *tcc* "The Gallery" have a wonderful opportunity to reach a wider audience through a space that is frequented by people from many areas of work, and especially those who may not have the time nor inclination to visit more conventional art spaces like museums and galleries.

- **Special Partnerships:**

tcc recognises the benefits not only of supporting the arts by forging creative partnerships with people who specialise in the arts, we also let art experts do what they're good at while we get on and do what we're best at – providing excellent service and great coffee.

We work exclusively with art-management.com, a company dedicated to promoting and managing visual artists both in Singapore and overseas. art-management.com has, from its beginning focused on linking the artists it represents with leading brand names in a way that will be of benefit to both artist and brand. *tcc* is the latest in a long list of leading brands that art-management.com has been proud to work with.

Claude Verly, Managing Director and Founder of art-management.com has commented in relation to his partnership with *tcc*, "One of the biggest challenges in managing art and artists in Singapore today is finding new and unusual venues in which to present the art, and then matching up the artist with the venue. This venture with *tcc* takes art-management.com into a new phase; together we take art into the public arena rather than relying on people coming to the art. At the *tcc* "The Gallery", the art will be there always for people to realize them.

Through art-management.com, *tcc* is able to support the artist in terms of providing an art space that is totally rent-free and driving awareness for them through media publicity and events.