

PRESS RELEASE

SurfaceScapes

Valerie Ng



*Live in the sunshine, swim the sea,
Drink the wild air's salubrity.*

– From “Considerations by the Way” by Ralph Waldo Emerson

Singapore, 12 Aug 2012—Mulan Gallery is proud to present *SurfaceScapes*, an exhibition showcasing new paintings by Valerie Ng. The exhibition will run from 22 September to 27 October 2012. Our opening reception will be held on 21 September 2012.

Inspired mostly by the landscape and the elements from the artist's recent residency in Finland, the works in this collection are an exploration of the shifting light, mood and colours in the composition of the landscape with weather variances,

and the transformation in organic shapes and forms as a result of atmospheric changes.

Moments of landscape conditions and transitions in the atmosphere are collated and captured in the abstract. Positioning the eye alternately far afield and up close, the landscape and subtle shifts in nature's movements form the fundamental basis for these compositions, which are then layered over and syncretised with colours – transiting, emerging or obscured – and textures of surfaces in extreme close-up using evocative gestural strokes.



Swirling snow in the wind and the resulting white landscape after, an approaching storm, and a captivating sunset or sunrise are all vividly captured on the canvas, testaments to the manifold changes of the elements from the immense to the minute, whilst changing hues impart a spectrum of moods, from calm placidity to extreme volatility, when forces of nature build up and escape or create elemental shifts in the atmosphere.

Evocatively expressed in oils on canvas and mixed media piece on papier-mâché, the works in *SurfaceScapes* continues in Ng's characteristically dynamic study of colour, light, depth, form and texture, and outlines a potent thesis on nature, movement and light.

ARTIST PROFILE

Inspired by the natural elements, hues and shapes in the environment, **VALERIE NG**'s paintings are dynamic explorations in colour, light, depth, form and texture in the abstract expressionist style. Through a unique transfer of energy in the action of painting, Ng's works strike a dynamic balance between strokes and subtle variations, imparting a sense of mood and movement on the surface.

Ng is the winner of the First Prize in the Abstract category in the UOB Painting of the Year 2004 Competition as well as a Highly-Commended Award in 2006. She also received a Distinction in the 2007 Malaysian Art Competition and was selected for the Young Contemporaries Malaysia exhibition in 2006.

A Malaysian based in Singapore, Ng has been extensively exhibited, most notably at the Singapore Art Museum and the National Art Gallery of Malaysia. She participated in Singapore artist collective instinc in 2006, and has completed artist residencies in Vermont (USA), Iceland and Finland. Her work can be found in corporate and private collections in countries around the world, including Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, New Zealand, UK, USA, Mexico, Germany and Sweden.

EXHIBITION HISTORY

Solo Exhibitions

- 2009 *Elemental Shifts*, The Substation, Singapore
- 2007 *Veneer*, The Salon @ Que Pasa, Singapore
- 2007 *Reconstructions*, Pitch Black, Singapore
- 2006 *Chaos into Light*, instinc, Singapore
- 2005 *Moving Textures*, Wetterling Teo Gallery, Singapore
- 2004 *Distractions*, 23 Emerald Hill, Singapore

Group Exhibitions

- 2011 *Can I Have Some Too?* Art Complete, Volvo Art Loft, Singapore
- 2011 *Squares Invasion*, Instinc Gallery, Singapore
- 2011 *Glimpses*, Singapore Embassy in Berlin, Germany
- 2011 Tokyo Book Art Week, Art Space, Japan
- 2010 *Is That A Temple?*, Evil Empire, Singapore
- 2010 *Seeing is Believing* Art Auction, SCYA/SCB, Asian Civilisations Museum, Singapore
- 2010 ARTSingapore: Contemporary Asian Art Fair, New Finds Gallery, Singapore
- 2010 *Poetry in Action – Women's Lives*: Women in Arts Festival, SCWO Centre, Singapore
- 2009 *Convergence*, Telok Kurau Gallery & Instinc, Singapore
- 2008 Pameran Poskad '08, House at Dempsey, Singapore
- 2008 Inspired Art Fair, Spitalfields Market, London, UK
- 2008 *Random Starts*, Volvo Art Loft, Singapore
- 2007 Young Contemporaries 2006, National Art Gallery, Malaysia

- 2007 Malaysian Art Competition 2007, Johor Art Society, Malaysia
2007 Singapore Art Exhibition 2007, Singapore Art Museum
2006, 2007
Art ± RM 1000, Valentine Willie Fine Art, Malaysia
2006, 2007, 2009, 2010
Pictures of Asia Fine Art Auction, Larasati, Singapore
2006, 2007
Red/Read and *text/txt* Artist Book Exhibitions, Artisan Books Melbourne, Australia
2006 *The Form and Soul of Johor: Contemporary Art from Johor*, National Art Gallery, Malaysia
2006 3rd International Miniart Exchange, Queen B's Gallery, Canada
2006 *Parallel Journeys*, Public Art Space, Pan Pacific Hotel, Singapore
2006 *Mono-Chromatic*, Instinc Gallery, Singapore
2005 ARTSingapore, Wetterling Teo Gallery, Suntec City, Singapore
2005 *Unspoken Words*, Instinc Gallery, Singapore
2005 *Bottomline. Chinese*, Jendela Gallery, Esplanade, Singapore
2004, 2006
23rd & 25th UOB Painting of the Year Exhibition, Jendela Gallery, Esplanade, Singapore
2003 Anthropology Gallery, Holland Village, Singapore
2003 National Libraries (Seng Kang and Marine Parade Branches), Singapore
2002 The Summer Foundation Group Show, Slade School of Fine Art, London, UK
1995 Melbourne Fringe Festival, Australia

AWARDS

- 2007 Distinction, Malaysian Art Competition 2007
2006 Two Highly-Commended Certificates, 25th UOB Painting of the Year, Singapore
2004 First Prize – Abstract Medium, 23rd UOB Painting of the Year, Singapore

EDUCATION

- 2002 Alternative Foundation in Fine Art, Slade Summer School, Slade School of Fine Art, University College of London, UK
2001 Introduction to Graphic Design, Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design, London
1993–1995 Bachelor of Computing (Computer Science), Monash University, Melbourne, Australia

RESIDENCIES

- 2012 Arteles Creative Center, Finland
2010 Nes, *Skagatrönd*, Iceland
2009 Vermont Studio Center, USA



Exhibition Details

Title of Exhibition : ***SurfaceScapes***

Exhibition Period : 22 September to 27 October 2012

Exhibition Opening : 21 September 2012

** Please refer to the attached list of artworks to be presented in the exhibition, and contact us for more hi-res images.*

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Featured Works

<p>1. <i>Tempest</i> 2011</p> <p>150cm (h) x 150cm (w) Oil on Canvas</p>	
<p>2. <i>Wild Air</i> 2012</p> <p>180cm (h) x 140cm (w) Oil on Canvas</p>	

3. *Undercurrents*
2012

91.4cm (h) x 172.7cm (w)
Oil on Canvas



4. *Excavate*
2010

180cm (h) x 180cm (w)
Mixed media and acrylic on
papier-mâché



5. Obscured
2012

150cm(h) x 150cm (w)
Acrylic on Canvas



6. Airstream
2012

150cm (h) x 50cm (w)
Oil on Canvas



7. *Midnight Run*
2012

150cm (h) x 150cm (w)
Oil on Canvas



8. *Fleeting*
2011

180cm (h) x 90cm (w)
Oil on Canvas



9. *Wider Sun*
2012

70cm (h) x 180cm (w)
Oil on Canvas



Horizon Fire
2012

70cm (h) x 180cm (w)
Oil on Canvas

