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The Art Journey of Lim Tze Peng

This upcoming exhibition at artcommune gallery takes you on a journey through veteran artist Lim Tze Peng's five decades of artistic evolvement. Our curated show features 30 artworks that traverse various styles and mediums, charting the artist's dedicated pursuit and progressive aesthetics. On exhibit are his early ink paintings of Old Singapore scenes (1970s – 80s) and still life compositions; 1990s ink landscapes that capture the decorative customs and idyllic charms of Bali; early-2000s trees-inspired series; and works that attest to his calligraphic innovation in the recent decade.

Born in Singapore in 1921, Lim Tze Peng immersed in calligraphy and painting since young and became a full-time artist after retiring as the principal of Chung Cheng High School in 1982. He enjoys critical and commercial success with his nostalgic ink compositions of Old Singapore landscapes as well as highly stylised series of modern calligraphy. He was awarded the Cultural Medallion in 2003 in recognition of his invaluable contribution to Singapore's artistic heritage.

Lim Tze Peng's perseverance in capturing fast-disappearing Singapore street scenes and buildings amid a period of rapid modernisation in the 1980s led to a distinct portfolio of ink landscapes that continues to charm the modern audience. Also an avid traveler, his artistic sojourns had taken him to destinations including Bali, Paris and China, where he continued to build on his dynamic repertoire of ink and oil compositions.

The artworks featured in this exhibition will provide an interesting window into the different periods of Lim Tze Peng's creative career. In particular, the period of 2004 – 2006 marked a significant trajectory in his practice. The interim series that surfaced along this period will shed light on how his early 'muddled calligraphy' works and trees-inspired paintings characterised by elegant and virile tapestries of strokes evolved into a modern series of calligraphic work that bridges the divide between painting and calligraphy.

Contact Information

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Selected art works on exhibit are:



Colour Calligraphy, Undated, Ink and colour on paper, 100 x 103 cm



Provision Shop, Undated (c.1980s), Ink and colour on paper, 68 x 68 cm



Still Life, 1995, Ink and colour on paper, 67 x 67 cm



Gestures in Ink VI, 2005, Ink and colour on paper, 68.6 x 137.2 cm



Chinatown Remembered IV, Undated, Ink and colour on paper, 68.6 x 68.6 cm



Tree - Movement VII, 2004, Ink and colour on paper, 82.6 x 151.1 cm