## artcommune gallery Pte Ltd 集菁艺社 'The Artist's Choice'

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## Veni, Vidi, Vici A Women Artists' Show Featuring Chen Cheng Mei, Chng Seok Tin, Hong Sek Chern and Wu Xue Li

Join artcommune gallery this august as we celebrate the creative ventures of four female artists who have continuously vivified our Singapore art scene with distinct traits and artistic expressions that exemplify the modern perceptive spirit. Before gender equality advanced this well in Singapore, many female painters who tried eking out an art career between the 1930s and the 1980s were relatively under-represented and under-appreciated by the general public.

*Veni, Vidi, Vici* (*I came, I saw, I conquered*) seeks to illuminate the aesthetic approaches and attitudes that shape the individual art-making journey of four long-standing Singapore female artists with varying backgrounds, styles and fortes – Chng Seok Tin (*b.* 1946 – ), Chen Cheng Mei (*b.* 1927 – ), Hong Sek Chern (*b.* 1967 – ) and Wu Xue Li (*b.* 1962 – ). While the former two belong to the pioneer lineage of NAFA-trained female artists, just as the latter two who stem from a younger generation, they had taken the courage to venture beyond regional borders and spend considerable periods of time training and painting abroad.

Over 20 exhibits ranging from oil and Chinese ink paintings, woodcut prints to sculptures are included in our eclectic assemblage for *Veni, Vidi, Vici.* In general the works reflect how these female artists seek out and tackle the ephemeral conditions of nature, the mediated characters of landscapes and the subjectivising of surface realities in their respective art production. The show hopes to examine the muchoften polarised role of the female artist as an inevitable agent of "feministic" craft in a sphere traditionally dominated by male artists and their aesthetic values. Do these four female artists experience an anxious need to carve out a visual style distinguishable from their male counterparts, and is there really an indelible essence of female subjectivity that can always be located in a work of art by a female artist? Clearly when we look past the issue of gender, we realise that the inherent desire to capture, create and conquer marks a universal quest in both the male and female artist, so how do these four female artists with their respective backgrounds articulate this pursuit?

Exhibition Period: 29 August – 7 September 2014 Venue: artcommune gallery (Address below)

Opening hours: 12 to 7 pm daily

Admission is free

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Here are the images to some of the artworks that will be on exhibit:



Wu Xue Li, Marina Sky Line, 2014, Oil on canvas, 120 x 200 cm



Chng Seok Tin, Dream Castle, 1988, Woodcut, 76 x 30 cm

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Chng Seok Tin, 靠山, 2013, Sculpture, 76 x 37 x 23 cm



Hong Sek Chern, Bukit Merah, 2012, Ink on Paper, 88 x 100 cm