

FOREWORD

Born in Singapore in 1979, Aaron Gan is a talented yet pragmatic watercolour painter unbounded by techniques or subjects. His desire to create the next masterpiece propels him to constantly challenge himself.

As an ardent collector of art, I find his wide breadth of subjects in the watercolour medium, ranging from birdcages to water buffaloes, most refreshing. It also speaks volumes of his innovation and desire to break free from the boundaries of traditional watercolours.

In 2012, he was one of only 3 Asian artists, and the only Singaporean, to participate in the International Watercolour Biennial in Belgium. He was also the first ever Singaporean artist to be featured in *Artist's Palette*, one of Australia's leading art magazine.

His direction towards developing contemporary aesthetics has been well received by the arts community; with two consecutive sold-out solo exhibitions in 2013 and 2014. His works are collected widely both in Singapore and internationally. He has also found support from corporate clients such as Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Keppel FEL, GIC and others.

Aaron comes from a distinctly unique background. To quit one's job and plunge into painting full-time at the age of 33 with a family, a child and an 80% pay cut takes guts, some may even say it is foolhardy. Yet a decision as such can only be undertaken by someone with an unwavering conviction to his art.

Today, Aaron stands as one of the most exciting artist of his generation. He has stepped into the next phase of his artistic development: inventing an entirely new language in watercolour.

With this introduction, I invite you to explore the inner workings of his mind as well as discovering a whole new frontier, one where paintings not only represent what can be seen, but rather what cannot be seen.

Koh Seow Chuan

Chairman, Visual Arts Cluster Advisory Board

