

Artist Bio

Minstrel Kuik (b. 1976, Malaysia) left her hometown Pantai Remis at 18 years old. After earning a Bachelor of Fine Art degree in Taiwan, she obtained her master's degree in photography in Arles, France. Kuik works across a range of mediums, including photography, drawing, poetry, textile, mixed-media assemblage and installation, with a focus on women's writing (*Écriture féminine*).

The access to different cultures through her multilingual education has come amid the first awareness about the politics of place, gender and identity, to which her migratory body has to constantly conform or reinvent. With a belief that the private space is the major battlefield of ideological, political and economic interests, she explores art as a historical trajectory where the personal mutation through the process of reading, thinking, making, revisiting and counterbalancing is traceable, and hopefully, reflective and transformative.

Kuik has exhibited widely in Southeast-Asia and overseas institutions such as National Gallery Singapore; Singapore Art Museum; Museum of Contemporary Art Taipei; Horsham Regional Art Gallery, Australia; Ilham Gallery, Malaysia; FotoFest, Houston; Photoquai, Musée du quai Branly, Paris; Higashikawa Photo Festival, Higashikawa, Japan; and at the Lishui Biennial Photography Festival in China.

Her awards include the Regional Winner of one-month Fukuoka Asian Art Museum residency (2015); Winner of the UOB Painting of the Year (2014) for the Established Artist Category, Malaysia; Winner of the International Photographer Award (2013), Higashikawa Photo Festival Japan. Public collections include: the Michelangelo and Lourdes Samson Collection, Singapore Art Museum (SAM), Higashikawa International Photo Festival (Japan), United Overseas Bank (Singapore).

Curriculum Vitae

Minstrel Kuik Ching Chieh

Sex: Female

Birth date: 12 Oct. 1976

Nationality: Malaysian

Address: 4-M, Mewah Court, Jalan Bukit Indah, 43000 Kajang, Malaysia

E-mail: minstrelkuikchingchieh@gmail.com

Phone: + 6012 3823002

EDUCATION

- 2003-2006 Master in photography with first class honors, National Superior School of Photography of Arles, France.
- 2000-2003 Diploma of Fine Arts with honors in photography, School of Fine-Arts of Versailles, France
- 1995-1999 BFA in Oil Painting, Department of Fine Arts, National Taiwan Normal University, Taiwan

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Story Time, The Back Room, Malaysia
- 2021 Memory Games for A House in Motion, Richard Koh Fine Art, Malaysia
- 2020 She who has no self, Horsham Regional Art Gallery, Horsham, Australia
- 2019 Merdeka, the Lonesome Club, Richard Koh Fine Art, Singapore
- 2018 Old Wave Brings Empty Shells, Cross Art Projects, Sydney, Australia
- 2017 P for Place, Lumenvisum, Hong Kong
- 2016 After-image: Living with the Ghosts in My House, Wei-ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2015 After-Image: The One, the Many & the Unrepresentative, Run Amok Gallery, Penang, Malaysia
- A Kneeling Posture, Art Stage, Singapore
- 2008 See the Water, Alliance Française at Lorong Guerney. Gallery of Taylor's University College, Help University, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2003 Does it burn? T'cha Gallery, Paris, France

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 The Plantation Plot, ILHAM Gallery & KADIST, Kuala Lumpur
Paradise is at the tip of a needle, Linda Neo & Albert Lim Collection, Primz Gallery, Singapore
- 2024 Everyday Practice, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore
Strategies of Dissent, +n by UR-MU, Kuala Lumpur
Not just in Black and White, Steve Wong Collection, GDP, Kuala Lumpur
Crossing Sea 03: In Times to Come, DECK, Singapore
- 2023 Living Pictures: Photography in Southeast Asia, National Gallery of Singapore, Singapore
- 2022 A Short History of Instant Noodles, A+ Works of Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
A+ Preferred, A+ Works of Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Steep and Sample: Possible Futures/Impossible Present, A+ Works of Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Travel Agency, A+ Works of Art, Artspace@Helutrans, Singapore
CIMB Art and Soul: Curtain Call, A+ Works of Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2021 As We Were, Michelangelo & Lourdes Samson Collection, Helu-trans, Singapore
- 2020 In Our Own Frame: 15th Year Celebration, Richard Koh Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2019 Art-staged: No Booth, Richard Koh Fine Art, Singapore
Stories We Tell to Scare Ourselves, Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei, Taiwan
- 2018 Against the Day, OUR ArtProjects, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Art Stage, Richard Koh Fine Art, Singapore
- 2017 Imagined Communities, Nationalism & Violence, Rubber Factory, New York, USA
We Are Here, Richard Koh Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Photography & Place, Angkor Photography Festival, Cambodia
Where Does the Future Get Made? Lishui Biennial Photography Festival, Lishui, China
On Attachments and Unknowns, Sa Sa Bassac, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Collective/Individuals, Urbanscapes, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Our Studio Selves, Art Space, Sydney, Australia
- 2016 The Immeasurable Here, Outlet Gallery, Brooklyn, U.S.A
The Past is Never Where You Think You Left it, Wei-ling Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2015 Making Durian, Run Amok Gallery, Penang, Malaysia
Person(a), Black Box, Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
My Story, My Strength, Women's Center for Change, George Town Festival, Penang, Malaysia

- Pause, Photo Bangkok, BACC, Bangkok, Thailand
- Only A Fragment, Richard Koh Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2014 Family Snaps – Photography in Southeast Asia, Chiang Mai City Arts & Cultural Centre, Chiang Mai, Thailand
- 刻舟求剑 - Pulau Melayu - Lost & Found, Lostgens', Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Fall into The Sea to Become an Island, George Town Festival, Run Amok Gallery, Penang, Malaysia
- Eating Wind, VT Artsalon, Taipei, Taiwan
- The Good Malaysian Woman, All Women's Action Society & Interpr8 Gallery, Map Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Women's Voices-International Photography Exhibition 2014, Soulangh Cultural Park, Tainan City, Taiwan
- My Country, Shalini Ganendra Fine Art in cooperation with Louis K. Meisel Gallery, New York, USA
- 2013 The Home Series, Higashikawa Photo Festival, Higashikawa, Japan
- M for Malaise, Magasin de Jouets, Arles, France
- Eating Wind, Run Amok Gallery, Penang, Malaysia
- 2011 Melaka Art & Performance Festival (Visual Art Program), Melaka, Malaysia
- Cross+scape, Asean-Korea Contemporary Media Art Exhibition, Kumho Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea. Jeonbuk Museum of Art, JeonJu, Korea. GoEun Museum of Photography, Busan, Korea.
- Photoquai 2011, Musée du quai Branly, Paris, France
- Review: KL, Datum Kuala Lumpur Architecture Festival, Map, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Tanah Ayeh, Valentine Willie Fine Art and Selasar Sunaryo Art Space, Bandung, Indonesia
- 2010 3 Young Contemporaries, Valentine Willie Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur
- Through the Looking Glass, The Annex, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; 2902 Gallery, Singapore
- 2009 International Discoveries II, FotoFest, Houston, USA
- Secured Area, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2008 Entry Points Community Project, 1948 art space, Sri Kembangan New Village, Malaysia
- Out of Berlin, Pass the picture, The Annex, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2007 Artsfest, Cork Institute of Technology (CIT), Cork, Ireland
- Future Image, Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design & Technology, Dublin, Ireland
- Out of Berlin, Pass the picture, Goethe Institute, Berlin

- Sharing Space: Contemporary Photography of Malaysia & Japan,
 Biennale of Kuala Lumpur International of Photography, The Annex, Kuala Lumpur,
 Malaysia
 Photos Divers, Festival of Levallois, Levallois, France
 2006 Work in Progress, International Festival of Photography of Arles, Arles, France
 1999 Sales 0.99, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, Taiwan

PROJECT

- 2012-2013 刻舟求剑 - Pulau Melayu - Lost & Found, art project initiated by 4 Malaysian Chinese artists in order to engage more exchange and discussion
 2007 Future Image, selected among 10 Asian emerging photographers to participate digital photography workshop organized by Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), Ireland
 2006-2007 Involved in glass sculpture and photography project conducted by American artist, Robert Wilson
 2005 Photographic documentation of renovation of Byrd Hoffman Watermill Foundation, New York, USA
 Involved in installation project of Brazilian resident graffiti artists Os Gemelos, Annual Watermill Center Benefit, New York, USA
 Photographic documentation of Summer Program 2005 of Byrd Hoffman Foundation Archives, including Robert Wilson's rehearsals, site-specific installations, performances, conferences, etc.

AWARD

- 2015 Regional Winner of one-month Fukuoka Asian Art Museum residency, collaboration between FAAM and UOB Painting of the Year
 2014 Winner of UOB Painting of the Year for the Established Artist Category, Malaysia
 2013 Winner of International Photographer Award, Higashikawa Photo Festival, Higashikawa, Japan
 2010 Short-listed for Photoquai's Residency for project "Merdeka, the Lonesome Club"
 2006 Six-months scholarship by French Embassy in Malaysia for higher studies in France

1994-1999 Excellent academic performance for Overseas Chinese Students, National Taiwan
Normal University, Taipei, Taiwan

PUBLIC COLLECTION

Singapore Art Museum, Singapore

Higashikawa International Photo Festival, Hokkaido, Japan