



POST-AUCTION PRESS RELEASE  
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## **HENRY BUTCHER MALAYSIAN & SOUTHEAST ASIAN APRIL 2016 ART AUCTION ACHIEVES SALES ABOVE THE MILLION MARK**

**Kuala Lumpur** - On 17 April 2016 - Henry Butcher Art Auctioneers Malaysian & Southeast Asian Art Auction realized a total of RM1,06million from the 102 lots on offer . A success rate of 81.4% by lot was achieved and 28.4% exceeded the higher estimates.

Mr Lim Eng Chong, Director at Henry Butcher Art Auctioneers commented: "I am very gratified that our latest auction is able to achieve a success rate of 81.4 % in sales volume, selling 83 lots out of 102 lots up for auction. Though lower than our previous auctions, reflecting the very challenging economic and market conditions we are all facing, some of the very good works were well sought after and actively bid exceeding our higher estimates. Our efforts to introduce works from other countries received very positive response from the collectors, with many lots sold. I believe there is still healthy appetite for outstanding works, and rare works from established artists. I thank all our art friends, collectors and partners for their strong support and advice."

Bidders from 10 countries showed great interest for the collection of 102 works from Southeast Asia's established and contemporary artists. The best performer was Khalil Ibrahim's *Graceful Manners I* which sold at RM73,920 (Estimate: RM45,000-RM65,000); Dato' Tajuddin Ismail's *Eclipse over Echo Park* achieved RM40,320; Dr. Cheng Haw Chien's *The Rising Sun In Huang San* sold for RM33,600; Wan Wing Sum's *Untitled* achieved RM9,520, above its higher estimate of RM5,000 and *Four Seasons* achieved RM22,400. Out of 102 works, 68 works were represented by local artists, while 34 works were constituted by foreign artists. The percentage of local works sold was 80.8%, versus 85.2% of works sold by foreign artists, confirming our observation even from our last auction that there is growing interest for works from the Southeast Asian region. Foreign buyers from UK, Singapore and Philippines make up for 13% of buyers in this sale.

Bidders also showed sturdy interest for Dato' Tajuddin Ismail's *Boxscape Revisited II*, which sold for RM47,040 and *Mindscape - Phenomena No.3* achieved RM29,120, which exceeded its higher estimate after intensive bidding from the floor. Two other high-energy lots surprised the crowd, as bidders were quick to compete for contemporary artist Yee I-Lann's *Brothers In Arms* which achieved RM16,800 and *Sarang*, which sold for RM23,520, well above its higher estimate of RM12,000 signaling favorable demand for solid contemporary works.

In collaboration with One East Larasati, the auction presented nine pieces from the Indonesian regional auction house, with an interesting mix of contemporary and traditional artists such as F.X. Harsono & Arie Smit which respectively got bidders excited. 7 out of the 9 lots were sold.

Three lots at auction were won by online bidders as Henry Butcher Art Auctioneers delivered the live service to clients via an online platform. This effort to introduce online bidding to a wider audience successfully attracted bidders from Hong Kong, Singapore, China, Philippines, United Kingdom and Germany.

Other highlights include Zulkifli Yusoff's *Untitled 1994*, which typically captures the artist's affection for abstract figures that resemble totemic forms, reached RM10,080, 100% above the higher estimate. Dato' Sharifah Fatimah Syed Zubir's *Image 4*, a soothing piece that uses colors to depict music, divine truth and lyrical symbolism was sold at RM32,480, 80% above the higher estimate.

Dr. Cheng Haw Chien's *The Rising Sun in Huang San* was a crowd favorite, the acclaimed poet, artist and esteemed calligrapher's piece was seeing several bidders competing and achieved RM33,600, 80% above the higher estimate.

We are heartened that this auction reflects a widening of interest for works from the region as well as Chinese ink works, and participation of new and young collectors.

#### About Henry Butcher Art Auctioneers

Henry Butcher Art Auctioneers (HBAA) is Malaysia's pioneering fine art auction house specializing in Malaysian art. Since establishing its operations in 2009, HBAA has worked closely with all parties in the Malaysian Art community to foster healthy and sustainable growth of the local art market. The company's aim is to build awareness and foster stronger appreciation in the local and global community for Malaysia's and South East Asia's established and emerging artists. Furthermore, HBAA seeks to establish an open and transparent platform for the exchange of artworks in the secondary art market in Malaysia. HBAA prides itself in always striving to deliver the highest standards of service and professionalism to its customers and partners.

The complete catalogue is available online at <http://hbart.com.my/>.