

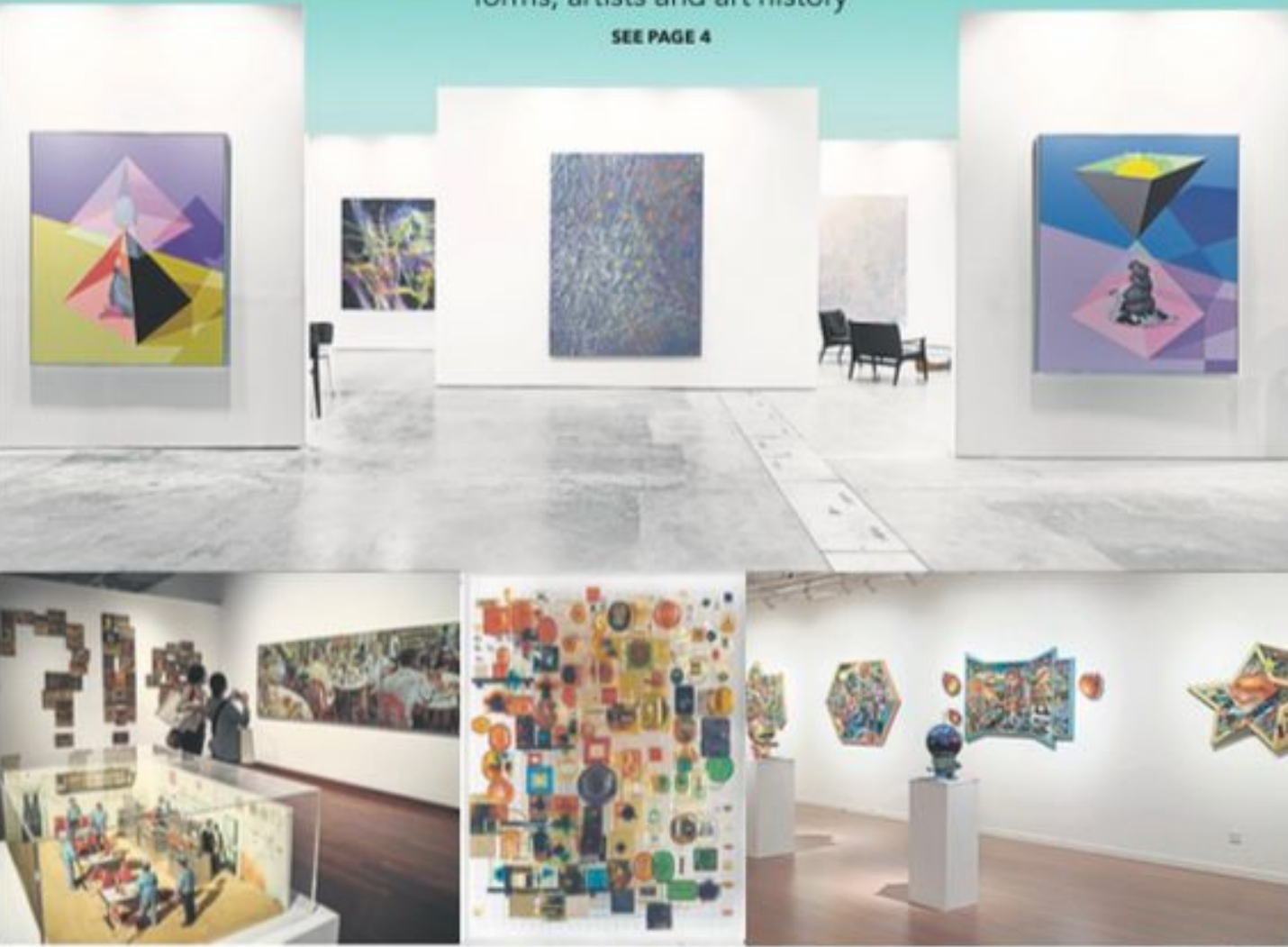
<p>CORPORATE/NEWS</p> <p>Economy poised for robust growth in 2024</p> <p>PAGES 20-21</p>	<p>WHEELS</p> <p>Mercedes-AMG CLA 45 S 4MATIC+ now available in Malaysian market</p> <p>PAGE 35</p> 	<p>LIFE & ARTS</p> <p>Alya Hatta, the young woman behind 'Garden of Us'</p> <p>PAGE 37</p> 
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KLCI 0.32 1,444.14	STI 32.90 3,185.79	DJIA 39.15 33,670.29	CPO¹ 7.50 3,569.50 <small>(RM/tonne 22 Oct 2023)</small>	OIL² 2.88 85.79 <small>(Brent/Barril US\$)</small>	GOLD³ 42.45 1,911.35 <small>(Bloomberg RM/oz)</small>
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Unveiling the canvas: Art investment for beginners

Before making any investment, take the time to understand the art market by familiarising yourself with different art forms, artists and art history

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Growing pains: Balancing growth and fiscal discipline

Slightly expansionary Budget 2024 continues the momentum set by the Ekonomi Madani framework

by AUFA MARDHIAH

WITH unwavering commitment to stimulate the foundation of sustainable economic growth and enhance the well-being of the rakyat under a responsible fiscal regime, Prime Minister (PM) Datuk

Seri Anwar Ibrahim unveiled a slightly expansionary Budget 2024 last Friday.

Notwithstanding a prudent approach where the budget deficit is expected to be reduced to 4.3% of GDP (2023: 5%), next year's budget would still be the largest yet at RM393.8 billion (2023: RM388.1 billion) with RM303.8 billion allocated for operating expenditure and RM90 billion for development.

Carrying the theme of "Reforming the Economy, Empowering the Rakyat", Budget 2024 is the second

instalment of the Belanjawan Madani, which Anwar said continues the momentum set by the Ekonomi Madani framework.

Revenue Enhancement

To bolster the government's revenue base, several measures will be taken, including increasing the Sales and Service Tax (SST) to 8% from 6%. However, essential sectors like food and beverage and telecommunications industry are exempted from this increase.

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FBMKLCI Index

► MOST ACTIVE COUNTER (Oct 13, 2023)

NAME	LAST DONE	CHANGE	VOLUME ('00)
MMAG HOLDINGS BHD	0.01	-0.005	2,230,353
UEM SUNRISE BHD	0.83	-0.015	1,210,936
KNM GROUP BHD	0.115	-0.005	667,332
WIDAD GROUP BHD	0.55	0.005	621,668
SSF HOME GROUP BHD	0.25	-0.015	566,251
SAPURA ENERGY BHD	0.055	0.005	551,829
SARAWAK CONSOLIDATED INDUSTRIES BHD	0.51	-0.005	543,693
GREEN OCEAN CORP BHD	0.01	-	536,259
MALAYSIAN RESOURCES CORP BHD	0.48	-0.01	515,107
EKOVEST BHD	0.54	-0.01	513,011

The evolution of art galleries represents an artistic journey that spans from colonial influences to a dynamic contemporary landscape

by AUFA MARDHIAH

MALAYSIA is celebrated for its rich cultural tapestry, breathtaking landscapes, captivating heritage and a thriving art scene.

The evolution of art galleries in this country represents an artistic journey that spans from colonial influences to a dynamic contemporary landscape.

These galleries now serve as the canvas upon which Malaysia's artistic identity continues to flourish.

Art enthusiasts will find a growing number of art galleries in key locations across the country, particularly in cities like Kuala Lumpur, Penang and Johor Baru, as well as smaller galleries scattered across various regions.

The Malaysian Reserve (TMR) engaged three galleries to find out their reason for being an upcoming exhibitions.

G13 Gallery: Nurturing Contemporary Malaysian art

One of Malaysia's standout art galleries is G13 Gallery, nestled in Kelana Square, Petaling Jaya.

G13 Gallery is dedicated to promoting and showcasing contemporary Malaysian art, making it a prominent player in the local art scene.

The gallery's approach involves identifying and collaborating with artists who exhibit not only potential but also depth and relevance in their work.

The gallery is committed to promoting Asian art and has actively engaged in regional art fairs.

Through cross-border collaborations, artist residencies and exhibitions, G13 Gallery fosters synergy among artists from both domestic and international backgrounds.

It is known for its regular exhibitions, which feature a diverse range of artistic expressions, including paintings, sculptures and installations.

These exhibitions often shed light on the evolving trends and styles within the Malaysian contemporary art scene.

Moreover, the gallery actively participates in art initiatives that encourage the growth of the local art community, encompassing exhibitions, artist talks and workshops designed to engage art enthusiasts, collectors and the general public.

G13 Gallery director Kenny Teng has always had a deep passion for art and a desire to support talented local artists.

"Opening my own gallery was a way for me to create a space where their work could be showcased and appreciated by a wider audience," he told TMR.

The gallery's current headlining artists include Nik Shazmie, Shafiq Nordin, Syed Fakaruddin, Khairudin Zainudin, Rafiee Ghani, Kow Leong Kiang and Yuki Tham.

In December, G13 Gallery will unveil a 300-page publication titled "The Artist's Studio", featuring 17 artists and their creative spaces.

This publication coincides with a group exhibition showcasing the works of these talents.

In January 2024, G13 Gallery plans to host

Galleries celebrate Malaysia's vibrant art scene



Pic courtesy of Kenny Teng

G13 Gallery's current show 'Between Worlds' showcases artworks by Shafiq Nordin and Nik Shazmie



Pic courtesy of Kenny Teng

Teng has always had a deep passion for art and a desire to support talented local artists



Pic courtesy of Sophia Shung

YONGL explaining his works, 'Eating The Hills', who uses photography to raise awareness of current affairs



Pic courtesy of Sophia Shung

Shung says Suma Orientalis is not just a place to view art but also a space for conversations

a solo exhibition featuring the latest works by Khoo Sui Hoe, offering a glimpse into his recent artistic journey.

Suma Orientalis: Where Art Meets Discourse

Suma Orientalis, located in Damansara Heights, Kuala Lumpur, is another standout on the Malaysian art gallery scene.

Its name is a fusion of "Suma" which is Sanskrit for "flower" and "Orientalis" is Latin for "Land of the East", symbolising the marriage of Eastern and Western artistic influences.

Sophie Shung, an art appraiser and the gallery director, emphasised that Suma Orientalis is not just a place to view art but also a space for conversations, both about art and life.

As one of the qualified members of the International Society of Appraisers (ISA) in Asia, Shung offers art appraisal services for various purposes, such as audits, legal matters, taxation and insurance.

Suma Orientalis prides itself on seeking art that combines beauty with intellectual depth.

The gallery curates the presentation of artworks with careful consideration of the spatial environment, aiming to allow visitors to not only imagine but also experience how they could integrate art into their own lives.



Pic courtesy of SARENG

SARENG exhibition at CIMB Artober 2023, MITEC. It actively nurtures emerging artists, elevating the local art scene's vibrancy and impact on daily life

The gallery features both established and emerging artists.

Eng Hwee Chu and Wong Woan Lee champion female narratives, addressing the complexities of modern society's expectations on women.

Young local artists like Jane Stephanny, Lith Ng, Wong Xiang Yi, Louise Low and Oli explore gender-related themes in their work.

Additionally, Suma Orientalis places a spotlight on photo artists, including Chong Kok Choon and YONGL, who use photography to raise awareness of current affairs.

In the coming month, the gallery will host the third solo exhibition of Tan Choon Ting, a young Malaysian artist who graduated in Taiwan, from Oct 14 to Nov 19.

SARENG: Fostering Local Talent, Creating Art Discourse

SARENG is a relatively young but dynamic art gallery founded in response to the growing interest in visual arts, art collecting, and emerging talents in Malaysia.

Located in Damansara Heights, Kuala Lumpur, SARENG is more than an art gallery; it is an embodiment of its founders' passions, personalities and their vision of beauty in art.

SARENG actively nurtures emerging artists, elevating the local art scene's vibrancy and impact on daily life.

The gallery's co-founder Syukur Ali and gallery director Chong Wei-Hsiang believe that the power of art can unite people and raise awareness on crucial topics like inclusivity, identity and expression.

The gallery strives to provide a platform for young and emerging artists, guiding them toward sustainable full-time careers in the art world.

SARENG represents a diverse range of artists including Amir Mansor, Amirul Yazid, Hisyamuddin Abdullah, Ong Cai Bin, Arif Fauzan Othman, Sabri Idrus and Anuar Rashid.

Despite being only a year old, the gallery has achieved significant milestones, including participation in CIMB Artober 2023, organising art talks, building relationships with institutions like Bloomberg and the Asia Art Archive, as well as staging multiple exhibitions. The gallery is now planning its first artist residency abroad in 2024.

Overall, Malaysian art galleries, including G13 Gallery, Suma Orientalis and SARENG, collectively contribute to the nation's vibrant art scene by supporting local and international artists and fostering meaningful art discourse.

With a commitment to nurturing talent and engaging with the public, they are instrumental in shaping Malaysia's evolving artistic identity.



Pic courtesy of SARENG

Ali (right) and Chong believe that the power of art can unite people and raise awareness on crucial topics like inclusivity, identity and expression