

News Release

Artwork portraying the unity of human and nature wins the 13th UOB Painting of the Year (Indonesia) Award



Tranquility

Ms Ni Nyoman Sani, 13th UOB Painting of the Year (Indonesia) Award

Jakarta, 25 October 2023 – UOB Indonesia awarded the 13th UOB Painting of the Year (POY) (Indonesia) award to Ms Ni Nyoman Sani for her painting titled “*Tranquility*”. An abstract artwork composed using Gesso acrylic, glue and marble, the 48-year-old artist from Bali draws from local tradition and way of life to portray the relationship between human, culture and nature.

Growing up in Sanur, a coastal area in Bali, Ms Sani studied the nature and characteristics of the natural materials found there. Just like coral reefs debris washed ashore forming unique patterns over a long period of time, Ms Sani believes a similar process also occurs in humans, as natural cycles like space and time shape the body and soul.

Ms Sani said, “My artwork emphasises Balinese traditions where most rituals are based on a calendar system that adheres to natural cycles. As per the philosophies of *Bhuana Agung* and *Bhuana Alit*, the Balinese culture reflects a unity of rhythm between human life and nature, forming a complete ecosystem. *Bhuana Agung* represents the whole universe, while *Bhuana*



Alit refers to the souls of individuals residing in this universe. Through my artwork, I hope to remind others that everything that happens in nature can have an effect on humans.”

Ms Sani’s artwork impressed the panel of UOB POY judges, comprising Ms Melati Suryodarmo, Chief Judge and performance artist; Dr Agung Hujatnika, independent art curator and lecturer at the Faculty of Art and Design, Bandung Institute of Technology; and Mr Heri Pemad, Creative Director at Sarinah Art District Jakarta and founder of Art Jog.

Commenting on the winning artwork, Ms Melati said, “Ms Sani demonstrates her strong artistic abilities in composing an abstract painting resembling the remains of the coral reef she found in the coastal area of Sanur. By highlighting the philosophical context and her everyday living space and experience through her artwork, she also educates audiences on Balinese heritage and the influence of nature on the cultural psychology of spirituality.”

As the top winner of the 2023 UOB POY (Indonesia) competition, Ms Sani will receive a cash prize of IDR250 million. Her artwork will compete with the winning entries from Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam for the UOB Southeast Asian POY Award, to be announced on 8 November 2023 in Singapore. Ms Sani also stands a chance to take part in a one-month residency programme at the renowned Fukuoka Asian Art Museum in Japan.

Mr Hendra Gunawan, President Director of UOB Indonesia, said, “Congratulations to Ms Sani for winning the 13th UOB POY award in Indonesia. Her captivating artwork invites audiences to consider the roots of Balinese culture, bringing it to the fore. We are pleased to see the continued enthusiasm from the artists that contribute to the vibrant development of art in Indonesia through the 13 years of the UOB’s flagship competition in the country.”

“Indonesian art is flourishing. Buoyed by a growing, affluent middle class and interest from international patrons, numerous galleries and artist communities have developed, while major art events continue to fuel interest. At UOB, we believe that art can transcend language, culture, geography and time. We play an active role in connecting and strengthening bonds between communities across the region through our long-term support of visual arts. I congratulate this year’s winners on their achievements and hope they can use their awards as a springboard to continue pursuing their artistic careers.”

Artwork with social commentary on technological surveillance wins 13th UOB Most Promising Artist of the Year (Indonesia)



7°49'03.3"S 110°21'00.2"E

Mr Begok Oner, 13th UOB Most Promising Artist of the Year (Indonesia)

In the Emerging Artist category, Mr Begok Oner, a 25-year-old artist from Central Java, won the 13th UOB Most Promising Artist of the Year (Indonesia) award for his painting titled “7°49'03.3"S 110°21'00.2"E”. He was inspired by the concept of space distortion in the virtual world. The shape of the canvas and the depiction of the objects in his painting resemble images seen in a convex lens - a simple device that has been used for centuries to focus and magnify light. As a metaphor, this artwork refers to the notion that we are living in a surveillance society where every facet of our lives is monitored and recorded.

UOB Indonesia will exhibit 46 finalist artworks of the 13th UOB POY (Indonesia) competition, including the eight winning pieces at the Autograph Tower, Jakarta, Level 77. The exhibition is open to the public daily from 26 October to 5 November 2023 from 10am to 5pm.

- Ends -

Notes to media:

The winning artworks from the 13th UOB POY (Indonesia) competition are:

Established Artist Category

No	Artists	Artwork	Award	Prize (IDR)
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1.	Ni Nyoman Sani	Tranquility	13 th UOB POY (Indonesia) Award	IDR250 million
2.	Faisal Azhari Palito Perak	History Story #2	Gold Winner	IDR100 million
3.	Anastasi Astika Pramesti	Somber Sentience 1	Silver Winner	IDR80 million
4.	I Gusti Agung Gede Jemana Murti	Phantasma 2	Bronze Winner	IDR50 million

Emerging Artist Category

No	Artists	Artwork	Award	Prize (IDR)
1.	Begok Oner	7°49'03.3"S 110°21'00.2"E	2023 Most Promising Artist of the Year (Indonesia)	IDR55 million
2.	Nathaniel Pius Amaris Heru Brahmana	<i>Emosi Jiwa</i> (Emotional Soul)	Gold Winner	IDR40 million
3.	Sultan Putra	Dear Mothers	Silver Winner	IDR25 million
4.	Zeta Ranniry Abidin	Stay Alive With Knowledge	Bronze Winner	IDR20 million

About UOB and Art

UOB's involvement in art started in the 1970s with its collection of paintings by Singapore artists. Today, the UOB Art Collection has more than 2,600 artworks, made up primarily of paintings from established and emerging Southeast Asian artists.

UOB plays an active role in communities across the region, most notably through its long-term commitment to art. As the leading patron of the arts in Asia, the Bank continues to make art accessible to a wider audience through a diverse range of visual art programmes, partnerships and community outreach across the region.

The Bank's flagship art programme is the UOB Painting of the Year competition, which was started in 1982 to recognise Southeast Asian artists and to offer them the opportunity to showcase their works to the wider community. The competition was extended to Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and in 2023, to Vietnam. It is now the longest running art competition in Singapore and one of the most prestigious in Southeast Asia.

Over the past 41 years, the competition has cultivated and advanced the careers of many artists in Singapore. Notable among them are Mr Goh Beng Kwan (1982 winner), and the late Mr Anthony Poon (1983 winner) and Mr Chua Ek Kay (1991 winner), who received the Singapore Cultural Medallion, Singapore's most distinguished art award.

The competition has also recognised talents from across the region through the UOB Southeast Asian POY award. Previous winners include Chomrawi Suksom from Thailand in 2022, Mr Saiful Razman from Malaysia in 2021, Mr Prabu Perdana from Indonesia in 2020, Mr Anagard from Indonesia in 2019, Mr Suvi Wahyudianto from Indonesia in 2018, Mr Sukit Choosri from Thailand in 2017, Mr Gatot Indrajati from Indonesia in 2016, Mr Anggar Prasetyo





from Indonesia in 2015, Mr Antonius Subiyanto from Indonesia in 2014 and Ms Stefanie Hauger from Singapore in 2013.

Together with the UOB POY winning artists, UOB also runs art workshops for underprivileged and special needs children regularly. At these workshops, the young learn art techniques from art professionals and award-winning artists.

In recognition of the Bank's long-term commitment to art, UOB was presented with the Singapore National Arts Council's Distinguished Patron of the Arts Award for the 18th consecutive year in 2022.

About UOB Indonesia

UOB Indonesia is a subsidiary of United Overseas Bank Limited, a leading bank in Asia with a global network of around 500 offices in 19 countries and territories in Asia Pacific, Europe and North America. UOB Indonesia established in 1956. UOB Indonesia's service network comprises 122 branch offices and 124 ATMs across 42 cities in 16 provinces in Indonesia. UOB Indonesia's banking services are accessible through its regional ATM network, the ATM Prima and Bersama networks and the Visa network.

UOB Indonesia is committed to providing quality products and excellent customer service. The Bank offers various banking products and services categorised into digital bank, personal financial services, business banking, commercial banking, corporate banking, global markets and investment management. UOB Indonesia is rated AAA (idn) by Fitch Ratings.

The Bank has a strong retail customer base through its wide range of saving products, mortgage services and credit cards. UOB Indonesia's banking services are also accessible in Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand through hundreds of UOB ATMs.

UOB's award-winning digital bank, TMRW, serves Indonesia's generation of enterprising and digitally-savvy customers by providing a better, personalised banking experience through the use of data and customer feedback. Through TMRW, the Bank is committed to helping customers meet their financial goals as they build a better tomorrow.

UOB Indonesia is also focused on helping companies with their expansion plans and has supported many enterprises from industries such as construction, mining, real estate and the services sector in their expansion into Indonesia.

UOB Indonesia believes in being a responsible financial services provider and it is committed to making a difference in the lives of its stakeholders and in the communities in which it operates. Just as the Bank is dedicated to helping customers manage their finances wisely and to grow their businesses, UOB Indonesia is steadfast in its support of social development, particularly in the areas of art, children and education.

For further details on UOB Indonesia, please visit www.uob.co.id





For more information, please contact:

Fatma Tri Hapsari

Vice President

Strategic Communications and Brand

Email: fatmatri.hapsari@uob.co.id

Maya Rizano

Senior Vice President

Head of Strategic Communications and Brand

E-mail: maya.rizano@uob.co.id

