

## News Release

### Artwork portraying fragmented picture of idealism wins the 2024 UOB Painting of the Year (Indonesia)



***The Idol of Unmoved Uncaused Cause Mover***  
*Mr Muhammad Yakin, 2024 UOB Painting of the Year (Indonesia) Award*

**Jakarta, 16 October 2024** – UOB Indonesia presented the 2024 UOB Painting of the Year (POY) (Indonesia) award to Mr Muhammad Yakin for his painting titled “*The Idol of Unmoved Uncaused Cause Mover*”. An artwork composed using acrylic ink, musou black ink, iridescent and gold leaf on linen, the 32-year-old artist from Bukittinggi expresses how the modern individual’s pursuit of ideals is shaped by diverse figures, ideas and ideologies.

Mr Hendra Gunawan, President Director of UOB Indonesia, said, “Congratulations to Mr Yakin for clinching the top award in the 14<sup>th</sup> UOB POY award in Indonesia. His maturation as an artist through our competition is a testament to UOB Indonesia’s commitment to nurturing creativity and fostering artistic talent as part of our dedication to art.”

“Indonesian and Southeast Asian art holds a unique place in reflecting our shared history, culture, and aspirations. UOB Indonesia is proud to support the thriving artistic communities in



this region, providing a platform for emerging and established artists to tell their stories, inspire others, and contribute to a vibrant future in art. We are pleased to see the growing quality and quantity of entries being submitted to the UOB POY each year. These artists' exceptional works have made this year's competition a true celebration of artistic talent and innovation, and we look forward to witnessing their continued contributions through their artistic careers."

Mr Yakin said, "My artwork emphasises the journey of finding one's personal identity which is rarely fully authentic, as it is drawn from idealised versions of collective influences. With the constant flow of information and ideas, our identity becomes a mosaic of the people we admire, the lessons we learn, and the world around us. Through my artwork, I hope to encourage others to embrace the complexity of their own growth, that personal development is an evolving process shaped by both the people around us and the world we navigate."

The 14<sup>th</sup> UOB POY (Indonesia) panel of judges comprise 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, founder of Art Jog, Artina, and Art Bali.

Commenting on the winning artwork, Ms Suryodarmo said, "Mr Yakin combines his personal experiences with a reflection on today's world, creating a well-balanced composition of knowledge and insight. His development as an artist is evident, having moved from winning the UOB Most Promising Artist of the Year in 2019 to now being recognised as the 2024 UOB POY winner. He also demonstrates his ability to experiment with different mediums, enhancing the complexity and richness of his art. This impressive growth, along with ability to seamlessly blend diverse references in his work, is what led the judges to select him as this year's winner."

As the top winner of the 14<sup>th</sup> UOB POY (Indonesia) competition, Mr Yakin will receive a cash prize of IDR250 million. His artwork will compete with the winning entries from Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam for the UOB Southeast Asian POY Award, to be announced on 13 November 2024 in Singapore. Mr Yakin also stands a chance to take part in an overseas residency programme sponsored by UOB.

Mr Hilmar Farid, Director General of Culture, Ministry of Education of the Republic of Indonesia said, "The UOB POY competition has contributed to strengthening relations between countries in the Southeast Asia region. Through this event, we see how art becomes a universal language that transcends borders, geography and culture. I would like to congratulate the winners, and all parties involved in organising UOB POY. We hope that the winning artworks



can inspire us to better appreciate the beauty and richness of our culture, and encourage us to continue to innovate and work for the advancement of Indonesian art.”

**Artwork with social commentary on Indonesia’s cycle of oppression wins 14<sup>th</sup> UOB Most Promising Artist of the Year (Indonesia)**



***Catatan Belakang (Backnote)***

*Mr Bawana Helga Firmansyah, 2024 UOB Most Promising Artist of the Year (Indonesia)*

In the Emerging Artist category, Mr Bawana Helga Firmansyah, a 21-year-old artist from West Java, won the 2024 UOB Most Promising Artist of the Year (Indonesia) award for his painting titled “*Catatan Belakang (Backnote)*”. The artwork intelligently raises the issue of feudalism which still remains in Indonesia's social structure. Through a collage of books laced with charcoal and pastel drawings, Mr Firmansyah re-excavates historical documentation that is often caught up in the romance of the independence revolution. This work speaks with an indirect picture of the complex relationships between colonialism, feudalism, and militarism.

UOB Indonesia will exhibit 49 finalist artworks of the 14<sup>th</sup> UOB POY (Indonesia) competition, including the eight winning pieces at the A.A. Maramis Building, Jakarta, Building A, level 2. The exhibition is open to the public daily from 17 to 27 October 2024. Opening hours from 17 to 26 October is 10am to 9pm, and 27 October 2024 from 10am to 8pm.

**- Ends -**

Notes to media:

The winning artworks from the 14<sup>th</sup> UOB POY (Indonesia) competition are:

No	Artists	Artwork	Award	Prize (IDR)
1.	Muhammad Yakin	<i>The Idol of Unmoved Uncaused Cause Mover</i>	2024 UOB Painting of the Year	IDR250 million
2.	I Wayan Sudarsana	<i>Tubuh di Antara Tubuh (Bodies among Bodies)</i>	Gold Winner	IDR100 million
3.	Diana Puspita Putri	<i>Puan Hari Ini (Today's Women)</i>	Silver Winner	IDR80 million
4.	Immartyas Ghinaa Renata Aziizah	<i>Existence is a Voyage on a Broken Vessel</i>	Bronze Winner	IDR50 million

#### Established Artist Category

#### Emerging Artist Category

No	Artists	Artwork	Award	Prize (IDR)
1.	Bawan Helga Firmansyah	<i>Catatan Belakang (Back Note)</i>	2024 Most Promising Artist of the Year	IDR55 million
2.	Mar Kristoff	<i>Forever?</i>	Gold Winner	IDR40 million
3.	Lena Guslina	<i>Titian Sunyata</i>	Silver Winner	IDR25 million
4.	Suriabumi Santipurna	<i>Terjerat (Entangled)</i>	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 40 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 Ms Pratchaya Charernsook from Thailand in 2023, Mr 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 18<sup>th</sup> consecutive year in 2022.

### **About UOB Indonesia**

UOB Indonesia is a subsidiary of UOB, 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. Established in 1956 through PT Bank Buana Indonesia, PT Bank UOB Indonesia was formed after a merger with PT Bank UOB Buana, which marked the existence of UOB Indonesia for more than a decade in Indonesia.

UOB Indonesia's service network comprises 42 branch offices, 82 sub-branch offices and 140 ATMs across 44 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 also offers a full suite of corporate/commercial products, including a range of treasury and cash management products and services. UOB Indonesia is 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](http://www.uob.co.id)

**For more information, please contact:**

**Fatma Tri Hapsari**

Strategic Communications Head

Email: [fatmatri.hapsari@uob.co.id](mailto:fatmatri.hapsari@uob.co.id)

**Maya Rizano**

Head of Strategic Communications and  
Brand

E-mail: [maya.rizano@uob.co.id](mailto:maya.rizano@uob.co.id)

