

A celebration of diversity

By DENNIS CHUA

“CITRA Warna Malaysia,” a solo exhibition by rising artist Kuen Stephanie, showcases the diversity of cultures in Malaysia.

The exhibition, which began on Oct 6 and ends on Oct 31, features vibrant works which explore community, identity and family.

Among the works are Kuen’s “Kampung”, “Chinatown” and “Indian” series.

“While each painting is part of a series highlighting a particular ethnic group, in totality, the pieces selected depict the kaleidoscope of cultures that is Malaysia,” said Kuen.

“I believe our differences should be celebrated and that art can bridge the gap between the ethnic groups, especially in times of political turmoil.”

Kuen also attempts to evoke a remembrance of things passed and passing in her work.

Born in Kuala Lumpur in 1967, Kuen is a self-taught artist who specialises in abstract figurative art.

She graduated with a diploma in graphic arts from the Malaysian Institute of Art in 1987.

Kuen has been exhibiting her paintings since 2000 and has had two successful solo art exhibitions at the Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre (KLPAc) in Sentul Park in 2007 and early 2008.

Her first exhibition was “The Essence of a Tropical Life in the Kampung” while her second was titled “A Bowl Full of Memories”.

Her works have also been exhibited at the Anugerah Gallery (2000), Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (2007) and Artseni Gallery (2007) in KL, and at the Seoul Museum of Art in South Korea (2008).

The exhibition is opened daily from 9am to 5pm. Venue: New Straits Times, Balai Berita, Jalan Riong, KL.

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Kuen believes that art can bridge the gap between the ethnic groups.