

THE CONTRIBUTOR'S PROFILE

contributor: shalini ganendra
 occupation: gallerist
 i.m... doing what i can to help make
 malaysia a happening art destination!

www.shaliniganendra.com



Living with Fine Art

Artists constantly seek inspiration in their everyday life. They feel the experience and subsequently pour out their thoughts and emotion onto a canvas, creating an artistic masterpiece. So imagine if they could come and live in our colourful country Malaysia. Now that is an experience of a lifetime. The gallerist of Shalini Ganendra Fine Art (SGFA) herself, Shalini, shares with us the idea of creating the **Vision Culture Art Residency (VCAR)** programme, where foreign artists can live at the gallery and exchange ideas with our local artists in the process.



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Explain to us the concept(s) of VCAR?

The basic premise of VCAR is to enrich cross cultural experience and dialogue. To explain this in a more detailed manner, the VCAR aims to develop artistic interactions and experiences. The Residency offers shared studio space, public lecture and exhibition spaces, and resource centre to further this purpose.

The VC Residency period also runs for a minimum of 2 months, and is only for one mid-career artist at a time. The criterias that we look for in an artist is to have an exhibition record, are independent and creative thinkers and they would need to have a clear vision of what they want to accomplish.

How did the idea of starting the Vision Culture Art Residency come about?

Art Residencies can be enriching and dynamic, for participating artists, hosting institutions and community generally. SGFA has always had the vision to host Residencies and with the move into Gallery Residence, Voila – It happened!

Is there a fee required off the artists to be part of the residency?

The gallery provides accommodation and studio space at Gallery Residence. The artist covers everything else including travel and living expenses.

Share with us any other future plans of Shalini Ganendra Fine Art.

In addition to exhibitions, SGFA makes art approachable through dialogue. The Vision Culture Lectures brings international art luminaries, (famous curators such as Debra Diamond, Smithsonian; Christopher Phillips, International Center of photography; Antoine D'Agata, Magnum) for free public lectures that all are welcome to attend.

The ART HUG programme that we started in 2011 continues with gusto and hosts children to interact with artists and curators in the drawing and discussion sessions.

And then of course, there is the Art Residency which brings exciting and award winning foreign talent to our shores – starting with Claudia Cannizzaro. **I.M.**

Read about Claudia Cannizzaro's work and her experience living in Malaysia for the first time on next page >>