

## Contributors

**Ian Stephen Baxter** (PhD) is a music lecturer and a research fellow of the Borneo Heritage Research Unit, Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Heritage, Universiti Malaysia Sabah.

**Chong Lee Suan** is a music lecturer attached to the Faculty of Creative Technology and Heritage, Universiti Malaysia Kelantan.

**Eddy Izuwan Musa** is an avid photographer, specializing mainly in documenting people and culture. He is currently pursuing his Masters by research, at the School of the Arts, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM).

**Elham Shafaei Darestani** is a practising artist and academic scholar whose works have been exhibited and published world-wide. Her artistic and academic endeavours stem from her interest in womanhood that is grounded in embodied subjectivity, where intellect and emotion are localized and pulsate through regions of the body. This investigation has culminated in her recently completed PhD on the relationship between melancholia and creative/intellectual life.

**Farhad Fakhrian Roghani** has served as an artist, professional photographer and lecturer of photography for more than 35 years. He graduated with a Bachelor and Master's degree in Fine Arts in Photography from the Art University, Iran, in 1989 and 1998 respectively. He obtained his PhD in Fine Arts from USM in 2017. He is currently a Faculty Member and Associate Professor in the Photography Department in the Art Faculty, Azad University in Iran.

**Fauzi Naeim** is currently pursuing his PhD in Film Studies on Bela Tarr and Heidegger. He lectures on art and animation at Universiti Kuala Lumpur—Malaysian Institute of Information Technology. Interests include philosophy (both Continental and Islamic), semiotics, existentialist literature and cinema, experimental animation, Sufi metaphysics, painting and drawing. He reads comics profusely too.

**Izmer Ahmad** received his MFA (Visual Arts) in 1996 and PhD (History in Art) in 2008 from the University of Victoria, Canada. Being trained as a visual artist as well as an academic researcher, he is both a publishing scholar as well as an exhibiting artist. His academic pursuits are cultivated from his consciousness as a painter that has been reconfigured into the realm of the body and its implication in modern Malaysian art.

**Jinky Jane C. Simeon** is a music lecturer and a research fellow of the Borneo Heritage Research Unit, Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Heritage, Universiti Malaysia Sabah.

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**Nur Afifah Vanitha Abdullah** (PhD) serves as a Senior Lecturer at the Malay Excellence Research Center, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. Nur Afifah completed her PhD dissertation in 2009, entitled “Development and Change in the Malay Opera in Sarawak, 1914–2004”. Her research and publications cover subjects on Malay traditional theatre, theatre and people with disability, experimental theatre, ritual in the contexts of performing arts, and Malay film criticism.

**Safrizal Shahir** is a lecturer at the Fine Art Section, School of the Arts, Universiti Sains Malaysia. He obtained his BA (Applied Art) with specialisation in fine art from Universiti Malaysia Sarawak and MA (Art History) from the University of Adelaide. His research interests include studio practice (drawing and print-media) and art history (Islamic art and Malaysian modern art history).

**Saniah Ahmad** is a creative arts lecturer attached to the Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Heritage, Universiti Malaysia Sabah.

**Sarena Abdullah** (PhD) is a Senior Lecturer at the School of the Arts, USM. She recently received the London, Asia Research Award, given by the Paul-Mellon Centre, London and Asian Art Archive, Hong Kong. She was one of the Field Leaders for the “Ambitious Alignments: New Histories of Southeast Asian Art,” a research project led by the Power Institute, The University of Sydney and funded by the Getty Foundation in 2015.

**Maine Saudik** is a sociology lecturer attached to the Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Heritage, Universiti Malaysia Sabah

**Premalatha Thiagarajan** is a Senior Lecturer and the Head of Dance Department at the Cultural Centre, University of Malaya. She received her PhD in Critical Dance Studies from the University of California Riverside, USA, in 2012. Through her doctoral research, she pioneered the study of Indian dance practices in Malaysia. Besides a dance scholar and an academician, she is also a vivid practitioner of Bharata Natyam.

**Cheryl Chelliah Thiruchelvam** is currently affiliated to the Advertising Department at Universiti Tengku Abdul Rahman, Kampar; while pursuing her PhD in art history at the School of the Arts, USM. She has been in the education industry for the past 10 years, and comes from an advertising and design background. She is keen and interested in writing critiques or commentaries about the local art scene.

**Zainurul Rahman** is a scholar in Visual Culture and Graphic Communication and has been a faculty member at USM since 2012. She obtained her Masters and PhD in Melbourne, Australia. She has also worked with the industry as a visual communicator for over 15 years. Her research covers Malaysian visual identity, design and heritage, visual archives & artefacts, popular visual culture, Malaysian *kampung* and design research.