



SUMA ORIENTALIS

**MASS
AGAINST
MASS**

LOUISE LOW

19 Sept - 3 Oct 2020

www.sumaorientalis.com

Just when all of us have experienced home confinement during MCO, nothing is sweeter than the taste of freedom. Freedom, an abstract concept, as invisible as it could be, represents the struggle between individuals and society.

Hailing from thought-provoking body-related imagery such as the deployment of lingerie as her subject matter, Louise Low has moved on to explore the correlation of freedom, man and society. In this solo exhibition at Suma Orientalis, she will be showing her recent artworks of such contemplation. Though this exhibition was conceptualised way before the pandemic, one can expect to comprehend this body of work quite nimbly, under the context of the current global health crisis and political unrest which have uncannily demonstrated to us how undivided individual destiny is from the collective influence.



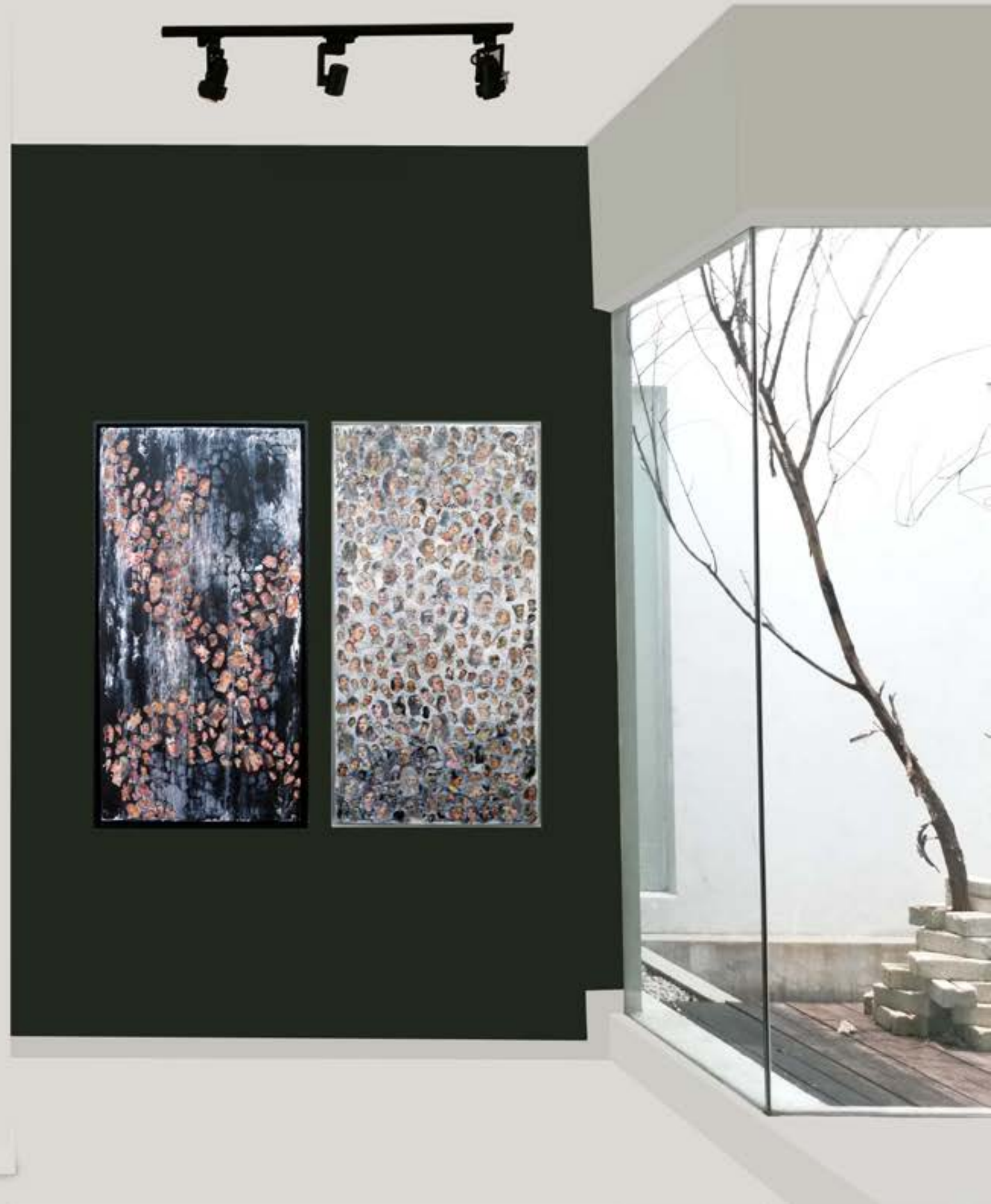
Yes

2019
Dimension Variable
Fiberglass with motor

While the mass shapes and condemns individuals simultaneously, each being is hence presented with binary options - to submit or to rebel. Drifting faces, some painted while the rest are collaged images extracted from mass publications, are mottled in a gentle sense of indifference. Low's use of mass media images is a reflection on the degree by which the Fourth Estate has interfered with the contextual circumstances.

Low fills her works with faces, and sometimes intentionally whitewashes them again or even conceals them. The bleak visual is seemingly a depiction of the delusional realm we are living in, yet the cold, equanimous facial expressions may connote a supposition the artist attempts to challenge the audience with — is being stoic a wiser option of mankind, if man's existence is more of a scientific mass rather than a cloud of spirit? Speaking of options, Low also questions the existential freedom of mankind — just how unencumbered is man as a lonely being among the herd? When we are free to make a choice, are we free from its circumstances?

In the quiet alley of deep thoughts, we can almost hear George Orwell saying, "you just got to say to yourself, 'I'm a free man in here.'" — he tapped his forehead — "and you're all right."



detail

Drifters are The King Makers

2020

122x61cm, diptych
oil pastel, acrylic and
collage on canvas





detail

**Somewhere
in This World
There are
Those
Affected by
What You
Have Done**

2020

15x243cm each panel
ceramic in test tubes,
metal holder on wood





detail
**Condemned
with
Freedom**

2019
set of 6, 33x33cm each
acrylic and collage on
board with rope and
bearing





Yes, No and Perhaps, They Are All Answers

2019

59x55cm (L)

71x50cm (C)

56x56cm (R)

acrylic and kinetic
mechanism on board



detail

**It's Either
What They
Believe In
or What You
Believe In,
Yet Truth Lies
in Neither
One**

2020

226x180cm

mirror, oil pastel and
collage on repurposed
satellite dish





The Existential Freedom

2020
33x65cm
acrylic and collage
on board with
rope and bearing



The Existentialist and His Friends

2020
33x91cm
acrylic and collage
on board with
rope and bearing

- Education**
- 2010 Bachelor in Contemporary Art, University of Tasmania (UTAS), Hobart, Australia.
- 2002 Diploma in Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur College of Art (KLCA), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

- Awards**
- 2014 Sasaran International Arts Festival, Malaysia.
- 2010 Art Residency, Theertha Red Dot Gallery, Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- 2007 Special Jury Prize, Mekra Citra, Galeri Shah Alam, Shah Alam, Malaysia.
- 2004 First Prize, Watercolour Competition, Tanjong Heritage Art Competition, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

- Solo Exhibition**
- 2011 **Symphony and Oppression: Studio at Straits**, Straits Collection, Georgetown, Penang, Malaysia.
- 2010 **Three Four Five Eight**, Horus & Deloris Contemporary Art Space, Sydney, Australia.
- 2008 **Love Me Now**, Lookiss Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

- Group Exhibition**
- 2015 **Bangladesh**, India, Nepal & Malaysia Fusion Visual Arts, Mutiara Gallery, Penang, Malaysia.
- The Breakthrough Project**, The Gallery @ Starhill, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- The Extreme Portrait**, Gallery Chandan, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- The Grass Is Greener in This Side**, Core Design Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 2014 **Recover After the Storm**, Vietnam Fine Arts Museum, Hanoi, Vietnam.
- The Good Malaysian Women**, Black Box, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 1 Cares**, Women Group Show, KLSCA, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

- Malaysian And Indonesian**, Galeri Seni Mutiara, Penang, Malaysia.
- Come Close**, Hin Bus Art Depot, Penang, Malaysia.
- Grande- Great Art and Design**, Core Design Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- Sasaran International Art Festival**, Jeram, Kuala Selangor, Malaysia.
- 2013 **Chiang Mai Art Symposium**, Chiang Mai, Thailand.
- Young Malaysian Artist – New Object(lon) li**, Galeri Petronas, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- Art to Public**, Kakifest, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 13**, Warehouse, Penang, Malaysia.
- 2012 **12**, Warehouse, Penang, Malaysia.
- Interpretasi: Pembinaan Bermula**, White Box, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Rescube**, Warehouse, Penang, Malaysia.
- The Young Contempo Auction**, Matrade Exhibition, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 2011 **Nine Artists**, Women Artists' Colloquium Exhibition, Theertha Red Dot Gallery, Sri Lanka.
- 2010 **International Women Artist Show**, Theertha Red Dot Gallery, Sri Lanka.
- 1+1=1 International Artists Exhibition**, Theertha Red Dot Gallery, Sri Lanka.
- Hands Up**, Academy Gallery, University of Tasmania, Australia.
- Make Me A Sandwich**, Graduate Exhibition, University of Tasmania, Australia.
- 2009 **Summer School Program**, University of Tasmania, Australia.
- 2008 **Pameran Shah Alam Terbuka**, Galeri Shah Alam, Shah Alam, Malaysia.
- More Than Conquer**, Jw Marriott Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 2nd International Art Expo Malaysia**, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 2007 **Visit Malaysia**, Flora Festival Exhibition, Putrajaya Convention Centre, Putrajaya, Malaysia.

Louise Low
 B. 1984
 Kuala Lumpur
 Malaysia

- Life Drawing Workshop**, Lookiss Art Gallery, Ampang, Malaysia.
- Mekar Citra**, Galeri Shah Alam, Shah Alam, Malaysia.
- Christian Art Festival Show**, Genting Highland, Malaysia.
- National Day Exhibition**, City Art Gallery. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 2006 **Opening Show**, Lookiss Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- Lookiss Auctions**, Lookiss Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- KLCA Graduation Show**, The Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 6813+ Art and Craft Guild Exhibition**, Aoyama Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 2005 **Lion Club Serenity Charity Book Project**, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia.
- The 3rd International Tashkent Biennale**, Uzbekistan.
- Anniversary Group Show**, Metro Fine Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- [4] Medleys**, Artalk Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- The 23rd Korea New Art Festival**, Metropolitan Art Gallery, South Korea.
- Splashes of Colours Project**, Th Koid Foundation, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- Tanjong Heritage Art Competition**, Matta Heritage Building, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- 2004 **Nokia Upstart Art Competition**, Ramsay Ong Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- Bank Negara Art Competition**, Gallery Bank Negara, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



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