

**Indah – The Hidden Beauty of Nature. A new exhibition of the work of local artist Narong Daun from the Sarawak Heritage Society in conjunction with Jabatan Muzium Sarawak**

For the third year in a row, the Sarawak Heritage Society is holding a key exhibition of the artwork of a prominent local artist at the Sarawak Museum's dedicated art gallery from 21<sup>st</sup> May 2014. This year, we are proud to announce a retrospective of the work of Narong Daun, charting her life journey from batik artist to freeform silk painter. Titled Indah – The Hidden Beauty of Nature, we welcome you to see



Sarawak's nature through the unique viewpoint of one of Sarawak's present and future art stars.

Narong has been painting professionally for 15 years. Starting as a batik artist, Narong worked at Fabriko for three years before taking up her role as artist in residence at the Artrageously Ramsey Ong gallery on Main Bazaar in 2001. Under Ramsey's guidance, she threw away her sketch book and pencils and threw away her tjantung, opting instead for the freeform outflow of creativity that characterizes her work today.

A blaze of colour, Narong's paintings on silk depict scenes drawn from Sarawak's abundant nature. But this is a nature reworked and reimagined by the artist herself. As Narong herself says, she wants to combine realistic beauty with her own vision and imagination. So hornbills and heliconia dance across canvases of impossible intensity that represent not only what she sees, but also what she feels.

Her art is an expression of herself and her movement away from the stricter traditions of batik painting has given her the freedom to find her own path. Honing her skills over the last few years as artist in residence at Technographic, Narong has completed her evolution from traditional craftsman to contemporary artist. Her work blends elements of native Sarawak culture with the eternal rainforest into a vibrancy that reveals a new level of hidden beauty.

Running for three weeks, this exhibition is the third in a series co-hosted by SHS and Jabatan Muzium Sarawak to showcase the work of artists depicting aspects of

Sarawak's cultural heritage. So come to the Sarawak Museum for a glimpse of colour, movement, culture, nature and beauty – Indah.

For further details, please contact SHS on 016 808 0938.