

# izmerahmad

College of Fine Arts & Design University of Sharjah, Box 27272 Sharjah, UAE  
Email [iahmad@sharjah.ac.ae](mailto:iahmad@sharjah.ac.ae) / [izmer.ahmad@gmail.com](mailto:izmer.ahmad@gmail.com)

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## PROFILE

Dr. Izmer Ahmad currently teaches studio art at College of Fine Arts & Design, University of Sharjah, UAE. His academic and studio research interests at the present include Contemporary Art, Modern Southeast Asian Art, Contemporary Drawing, and The Body. He is both a publishing scholar as well as an exhibiting artist.

*Academic Specialization: Painting; Drawing; Art History & Theory*

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## EDUCATION

**PhD (Interdisciplinary Art History)**  
University of Victoria, B.C, CANADA  
Graduated 2008

**MFA (Visual Arts)**  
University of Victoria, B.C, CANADA  
Graduated 1996

**BFA (Visual Arts)**  
University of Lethbridge, Alberta, CANADA  
Graduated 1992

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## CURRENT POSITION:

**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR**  
Fine Arts Program, College of Fine Arts & Design, University of Sharjah UAE

### Courses:

Fine Arts: Context ( <i>Studio Course</i> )	(Undergraduate)
Fine Arts: Research Project ( <i>Studio Course</i> )	(Undergraduate)
Fine Arts: Major Project ( <i>Studio Course</i> )	(Undergraduate)
Personal & Professional Development	(Undergraduate)
Cultural Studies Dissertation	(Undergraduate)

## ADMINISTRATIVE PORTFOLIO:

**FINE ARTS PROGRAM COORDINATOR**  
College of Fine Arts & Design, University of Sharjah

- Chair of the Fine Arts Program Council
  - Prepare Accreditation Application for Fine Arts Program
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- Strategic Academic Planning
- Developing new curriculum
- Student & Academic Affairs
- Working Committee for Graduation Exhibition
- Executive Member of the College Council
- College Recruitment Committee
- College Study Plan, Curriculum & Accreditation Committee
- College Grievance Committee
- Special Committee to develop promotion criteria for College of Communication & College of Fine Arts & Design. University of Sharjah, UAE

## PREVIOUS POSITION:

**2008 - 2015 SENIOR LECTURER**  
Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang

### Courses taught in 2011-2015:

Research Methodology & Studio Practice ( <i>Studio Course</i> )	(Posgraduate)
Contemporary Art Theory ( <i>Theory Course</i> )	(Postgraduate)
Selected Topics in Visual Arts ( <i>Theory Course</i> )	(Postraduate)
Thesis Writing & Exhibition ( <i>Studio + Theory</i> )	(Postraduate)
Final Year Art Project ( <i>Studio Course</i> )	(Undergraduate)

### Courses taught in 2008-2010:

Introductory Painting ( <i>Studio Course</i> )	(Undergraduate)
Intermediate Painting ( <i>Studio Course</i> )	(Undergraduate)
Advanced Painting ( <i>Studio Course</i> )	(Undergraduate)
Introductory Drawing ( <i>Studio Course</i> )	(Undergraduate)
Two-Dimensional Studies ( <i>Studio Course</i> )	(Undergraduate)
Theories of Art ( <i>Theory Course</i> )	(Undergraduate)

### PhD Supervision

Johan Othman. Dissertation Title: *Performative Gendering: Analyzing the Representation of Gender in the Myth of Medea*. Universiti Sains Malaysia. **Graduated in 2015.**

Emelia Ong. Dissertation Title: *Hybridity & Resistance: Sino-Malayan Identity in Early Modern Malaysian Art*. Universiti Sains Malaysia. **Graduated in 2014.**

### M.A Supervision

Elham Shafaei. Thesis Title: *The Potential of Local Plant Fibers to Produce Handmade Fine Art Papers for Drawing & Painting*. Universiti Sains Malaysia. **Graduated in 2013.**

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Sareh Abouali. Thesis Title: *Representation of Women in Safavid Paintings*.  
Universiti Sains Malaysia. **Graduated in 2014.**

Mansoureh RajabiTanha. Thesis Title: *Re-Thinking Oriental Rug: Developing Cross-Cultural Design for Persian Rug Using Indonesian Batik Motifs*. Universiti Sains Malaysia. **Graduated in 2014.**

**Spring 2004**    **ADJUNCT FACULTY**  
**Visual Arts Department, University of Victoria, BC, CANADA**  
**Courses:** Introductory Drawing; Intermediate Painting

**Fall 2003**    **ADJUNCT FACULTY**  
**Art Department, University of Lethbridge, CANADA**  
**Courses:** Introductory Drawing and Introductory Painting

**1997 - 2001**    **LECTURER**  
**Fine Arts Department, Universiti Sains Malaysia, MALAYSIA**  
**Courses:** Visual Foundation; Two-Dimensional Studies; Drawing and Painting (Introduction, Intermediate and Advanced)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Publications by Izmer Ahmad (Journal Articles)**

Ahmad, I., "The Calligraphic Subject: The Body and Social Power in Malaysian 'Abstract Expressionism'". Submitted for *WACANA SENI Journal of Arts Discourse* (Accepted. In-Press).

Auzani Zeda & Izmer Ahmad, "Illuminates: Abstract Animation Through Projection Mapping" Submitted for *Digital Creativity*. (currently under review).

Ong Ian Li & Izmer Ahmad, "Expressions of Hybridity as Strategy for Malayan Nationalism: Selected Artworks in Modern Malayan Art" in *WACANA SENI Journal of Arts Discourse*, 2015.

Ong Ian Li & Izmer Ahmad, 'Hybridity as Expression of a Diasporic Community: Selected Nanyang Artist', *Malaysian Journal of Performing and Visual Arts* 1(1), 2015.

Elham Shafaei, Izmer Ahmad & Adnan Mat, 'Handmade Paper for Drawing and Painting: A Study on The Use of Mengkirai Fibres to Produce Fine Art Papers' in *WACANA SENI Journal of Arts Discourse*, 2013.

Elham Shafaei, Izmer Ahmad & Adnan Mat, 'The Wonder of Kantan: The Use of Torch Ginger Fibers to Produce Fine Art Papers for Drawing and Painting' in *SPAFA- SEAMEO (Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation) Journal*, 2013.

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Elham Shafaei, Izmer Ahmad & Adnan Mat, 'The Use of Malaysian Banana Fiber to Make Art Papers' in *Hand Papermaking* 28(1) Summer 2013: 8-11.

Mansoureh RajabiTanha & Izmer Ahmad, 'Towards a Cross-Cultural Design by Integrating Batik Motifs into Persian Carpet Design' in *International Journal of the Malay World & Civilization* 1(1), 2013: 111-23.

Chuah, K. & Ahmad, I., 'Predicaments and Promises: Reflections on Art Writing in Malaysia and Singapore' in *Asian Art Archive*, Hong Kong, August 2010 (online periodical: [http://www.aaa.org.hk/newsletter\\_detail.aspx?newsletter\\_id=884](http://www.aaa.org.hk/newsletter_detail.aspx?newsletter_id=884)).

Behnood, M., Tousi, A., Baboo, S. B. & Ahmad, I., 'The Evolution of Goat Motifs in Ancient Iranian Art' in *The International Journal of Arts & Society*, Vol. 5, 2010.

Ahmad, I., 'Fathering "Garden": Note on the Cover Art' in *College Literature* 30(1), 2003 (*Special Issue: Algeriad*), Chester: West Chester UP, 2003.

#### **Publications by Izmer Ahmad (Book Chapters):**

Ahmad, I. "Love, Desire, Nation: A Reading of *Gadis Menumbuk Padri*" (Book Chapter) in R. Joseph (et.al.), *Dato' Hoessein Enas from his Personal Collection*, Kuala Lumpur: Ilham Tower, 2016.

Ahmad, I., 'The Body in Modern Malaysian Art' (book chapter) in Yong, Beverly et.al. *Imagining identities, Narratives in Malaysian Art*, KL: Rogue Art, 2012, pp. 252-61.

Ahmad, I., '(re)Marking the Mark of Drawing: Body, Mind and the Promise of Death' in Safrizal Shahir et.al., *1<sup>st</sup> Malaysian International Drawing Marathon*, Penang: School of the Arts, 2011

Ahmad, I., 'The Artist Sojourn: Recent Works by Tan Nan See' in NN Gallery, *The Artist Sojourn*, KL: NN Gallery, 2011

Ahmad, I., 'The Relevance of Critical and Contemporary Theories in Arts-Based Research' in Galeri Petronas, *Bicara Sifu*, Kuala Lumpur: Galeri Petronas, 2011

Ahmad, I., 'Seni Dalam Konteks (*Art in Context*)' in *STPM Exhibition 2011*, Penang: School of the Arts, 2011

#### **Publications by Izmer Ahmad (Conference Proceedings):**

Ahmad, I., 'Tracking the Beast: Drawing Research, Thinking & the Investigative Position' (conference proceeding), *UNIDCOM / IADE's 6th International Conference's Senses & Sensibility: Advertising, Design, Marketing*,

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*Photography and Visual Culture in the RIGHT PLACE*, Lisbon, 6th - 8th October, 2011.

Chuah, K., Ahmad, I. & Ong, Ian Li, 'Chinese Diaspora and the Emergence of Alternative Modernities in Malaysian Visual Arts" (Conference Proceeding), International Conference on Humanities, Society and Culture (ICHSC), 2011.

#### **Publications ABOUT Izmer Ahmad :**

'Inverted Bird No. 2', Original Painting published in *Dubai Art Guide* 2016.

'14 Thought Provoking Pieces on Display'. *New Straits Time*. 17 March 2014.

'Exploring the Life of an Art Professor'. *StarJob*. 27 October 2012.

'The Potent Power of Images'. *New Straits Time*. 14 Sept. 2012.

'Minden Drohte um 1920 auszusterben'. 1998.

'Figure With Broccoli'. Painting published for the cover of *In Our Own Voices Learning and Teaching Towards Decolonization* (Proma Tagore, ed.), Winnipeg: Larkuma, 2006.

Five Original Drawings published in Marrouchi, M. *Presence of Mind: Edward Said at the Limits*, New York: SUNY Press, 2004.

'Garden'. Original Painting published for the cover of *College Literature* 30(1), 2003 (*Special Issue:Algeriad*), Chester: West Chester UP, 2003.

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#### **JOURNAL REFEREE**

2017 Reviewed Manuscript # WS-OM-05-16-0037 entitled " Changing Approaches: Installation Produced in the Malaysian Art World" for *WACANA SENI Journal of Arts Discourse* (Publisher: Universiti Sains Malaysia) (**SCOPUS-INDEXED**).

Reviewed Manuscript # WS-OM-05-16-0037 entitled WS-OM-08-16-0056 - Wood Engraving on Selected Events in the Malay-Indonesian Region for *WACANA SENI Journal of Arts Discourse* (Publisher: Universiti Sains Malaysia) (**SCOPUS-INDEXED**).

Reviewed manuscript # WS-OM-02-16-0008 entitled "Consumerism Value Through Artwork Production by Malaysian Artist " for *WACANA SENI Journal of Arts Discourse* (Publisher: Universiti Sains Malaysia) (**SCOPUS-INDEXED**).

2016 Reviewed the manuscript entitled "Intuitive Neo-Plastic art of Mondrian and Zen concept of no-mind" for *The Malaysian Journal of Performing and Visual Arts* (Publisher: Universiti Malaya) (**PEER-REVIEWED**).

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Reviewed the manuscript entitled "Artistic experiment through local agency" for *Malaysian Journal of Performing and Visual Arts* (Publisher: Universiti Malaya) (**PEER-REVIEWED**).

- 2013 Reviewed the manuscript # WS-OM-03-12-0004.R1 entitled "ORTOGRAFI MULTIGRAFIK DALAM WACANA IKLAN PRODUK KECANTIKAN BERBAHASA JEPUN (Multigraphic Orthography in the Advertising Discourse of Japanese Beauty Product)" for the *WACANA SENI Journal of Arts Discourse*. (Publisher: Universiti Sains Malaysia) (**SCOPUS-INDEXED**).

Reviewed manuscript # JSSH-0650-2012 "READING OBJECTS: A PARADOX OF INTERPRETATION IN MALAYSIAN CONTEMPORARY ART" for *Pertanika* (Publisher: Universiti Putra Malaysia) (**SCOPUS-INDEXED**).

Reviewed manuscript # WS-OM-10-12-0009 entitled "THE RHETORICAL FUNCTION OF PORTRAITS FROM BENIN (NIGERIA)" " for *WACANA SENI Journal of Arts Discourse* (Publisher: Universiti Sains Malaysia) (**SCOPUS-INDEXED**).

- 2012 Reviewed manuscript # KAJH-OA-10-2011-0036.R1 entitled "ART CRITICISMS VERSUS ART WRITINGS: THE MALAYSIAN SITUATION" for *KEMANUSIAAN The Asian Journal of Humanities* (Publisher: Universiti Sains Malaysia) (**SCOPUS-INDEXED**).

- 2011 Reviewed manuscript # KAJH-OA-06-2011-0011 entitled "AN APPRAISAL OF THE AESTHETIC DIMENSION TO THE AFRICAN PHILOSOPHY OF CLOTH" for the *KEMANUSIAAN The Asian Journal of Humanities*. (Publisher: Universiti Sains Malaysia) (**SCOPUS-INDEXED**).

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## ART EXHIBITION

**BRIDGE : Izmer Ahmad, Robert Bechtel, George Ho, and Yoko Takashima.**  
CASA Gallery, Lethbridge, Alberta, CANADA. 9 Jan-26 Feb 2016.

**PENANG TEACHERS ART CIRCLE EXHIBITION.** Penang State Art Gallery. 10-23 September 2014.

**WHISPERS.** Solo Exhibition. GaleriSeniMutiara, Penang. 2014.

**OASIS 2013: USM School of the Arts Faculty Exhibition.**  
Muzium&GaleriTuanKuFauziah USM. 10-30 October 2013.

**2013 Korean Society of Design Trend (Malaysia) International Design Exhibition.**  
Muzium & GaleriTuanKu Fauziah USM. 22 Feb - 22 March 2013.

**Sensation of Images.** Solo Exhibition. GaleriSeniMutiara, Penang. 2013.  
**Encountering Islam: Collecting, Scholarship and Contemporary Visions.**

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**Encountering Islam: Collecting, Scholarship and Contemporary Visions.**  
Maltwood Museum and Gallery, Univ. of Victoria, Canada. 2003.

**Philip Morris Malaysian Art Exhibition/Competition**  
(Honourable Mention). National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. 2000.

**Minden Meets Minden.** BUZ Cultural Centre, Minden, Germany. 1998.  
**Four Plus Plus: USM Fine Arts Faculty Exhibition.** Penang State Art Gallery.  
Penang, Malaysia. 1997.

**Musafir: Two Emerging Malaysian Artists.** Open Space, Victoria, BC, Canada.  
1997.

**Lull: MFA Thesis Exhibition.** University of Victoria, BC, Canada. 1996.

**Sleeper.** Eaton Centre Gallery, Victoria, BC, Canada. 1996.

**B.F.A Show.** University of Lethbridge Art Gallery, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada.  
1992.

**Juried Exhibition.** University of Lethbridge Art Gallery, Lethbridge, Alberta,  
Canada. 1992.

**An Ethnographic Observation.** Trianon Art Gallery, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada.  
1992.

**Untitled: An Exhibition of Drawing and Painting.** Trianon Art Gallery, Lethbridge,  
Alberta, Canada. 1992.

**Sleight of Hand.** Trianon Art Gallery, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada. 1992.

**Intimacies.** Trianon Art Gallery, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada. 1991.  
**Drawing Exhibition.** Crownest Pass Gallery, Crownest Pass, Alberta, Canada.  
1991.

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## AWARDS

Postgraduate Incentive Grant. Universiti Sains Malaysia. 2010.  
Incentive Research Grant. Universiti Sains Malaysia. 2009.  
University of Victoria President Award. 2005-07.  
Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada Doctoral Award.  
2005-2007.  
Asian Art Society Award. Victoria, B.C, Canada. 2005.  
ASHES Fellowship. Universiti Sains Malaysia. 2003-06.  
Honorable Mention. Phillip Morris Malaysian Arts Award. 1999.  
ASTS Fellowship. Universiti Sains Malaysia. 1994-96.  
Federal Scholarship for International Tertiary Education. 1989-92.

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**EDITORIAL** Editorial Board for *WACANA SENI: Journal of Arts Discourse*. Publisher:  
Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, MALAYSIA (**SCOPUS-indexed**).

Editorial Board for *Malaysian Journal of Performing and Visual Arts*. Publisher:  
Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, MALAYSIA.

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