

SCHOOL OF ARTS PRESS Newsletter





About us

School of Arts Press (SOAP) is Sunway University's School of Arts monthly newsletter in which we highlight and provide information on student and staff achievements, past events as well as a notification platform for upcoming events.

Issue highlights

In this month's issue, it is a busy month for the School of Arts! SOAP highlights lecturers' and students' achievements, a variety of exciting activities and projects, and the April 2023 School of Arts Orientation.

The School of Arts Press 📩

Advisor/Editor:

Elizabeth Edwin

Writers:

De Jia Xuan

Teoh Yu Wen

Designer:

Grace Tan Jia

CONTENTS

1. Message from the Dean
2. Prof. Bradley Freeman Speaks at 1st UST Angelicum International Media Congress
3. Ms Maslisa Zainuddin and Mr Firdaus Anuar Achieve SFHEA Status
4. Dr Fiona Wong Speaks on Malaysian Chinese Shophouse Research With Breda University Students
5. Dr Pauline Leong Emcees for Contemporary Media Masterclass
6. Prof. Sabine Chaouche Leads Major Performing Arts Editorial Project
7. Dr Goh Presents on Sustainability Projects at Pin Hwa Art Forum
8. Dr Fiona Wong Shared Wayang Kulit Kelantan Research in Kuching
9. Prof. Chaouche Delivers Lecture at the History of Universities Seminar, Berlin
10. Nurherda Antasya Makes Finalist for the MIFF Furniture Design Competition
11. Professor Dr Kenneth Holds Solo Exhibition at the University of Technology Sarawak
12. The School of Arts Welcomes New Students at April 2023 Orientation



Message From The Dean

The month of April was certainly a month of celebration for us at the School of Arts. We enjoyed the festivities of Hari Raya Aidilfitri, and celebrated the many milestones accomplished by our academic staff members and students. Additionally, we celebrated a brand new batch of students at our April 2023 orientation ceremony.

To the new students, I wish you the best student life here at the School of Arts. Meanwhile, I would like to welcome back the returning students and staff members - all the best for the upcoming semester!

PROF. MATTHEW MARSHALL



Prof. Bradley Freeman Speaks at 1st UST Angelicum International Media Congress

Prof. Bradley C. Freeman, Associate Dean of Education from the School of Arts, was invited to be a guest speaker at the congress which was hosted by the Bachelor of Arts in Communication Program of the University of Santo Tomas Angelicum College. The congress's theme was "*Media and the World*" and aimed to impart the roles of communication in connecting the world and convey the changing landscape of delivering and receiving information brought about by convergence. Prof. Freeman gave a talk on the topic of "*Changing World, Changing Media. Changing Media, Changing World*". He shared his invaluable knowledge with the attendees, providing them with a fuller understanding and appreciation of this critical topic.



(Photo Source: Prof. Bradley Freeman)

Ms Maslisa Zainuddin and Mr Firdaus Anuar Achieve SFHEA Status

The Department of Art, Design and Media's Ms Maslisa Zainuddin and Mr Firdaus Anuar, who have both received the Senior Fellowship of the Higher Education (SFHEA) status! This status is awarded to professionals who lead and support high quality learning, who are effective and inclusive in their practice, and whose influence goes beyond direct teaching or support for learning. In a nutshell, the status is meant to celebrate commitment in higher education teaching and learning. It is also internationally acknowledged by various institutions. Many congratulations on this wonderful achievement!



(Photo source: Sunway University)

Dr Fiona Wong Speaks on Malaysian Chinese Shophouse Research with Breda University Students

On the 3rd of April, Dr Fiona Wong was invited to be a guest speaker at a Fieldwork Programme in Sunway University. She shared her research on Malaysian Chinese shophouse facades to MA in Tourism Destination Management students and academics from Breda University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands. According to Dr Fiona, these shophouses are remnants of the past that hint at various stylistic influences and cultural contexts in their architectural facades. However, these abandoned shophouses risk being refurbished and demolished, wiping out history that defines Malaysians as a multicultural society.



(Photo source: Dr Fiona Wong)



Dr Pauline Leong Emceeds for Contemporary Media Masterclass

On the 5th of April, Dr Pauline Leong from the Department of Communication emceed for a masterclass by Dr Susie Khamis from the University of Technology Sydney (UTS). Titled "*Contemporary Media – Engaging Audiences and Stakeholders in Digital Contexts*", Dr Khamis shared about the evolving and converging media landscape in a concise, interactive session. Particularly emphasised was the importance of recognising opportunities and trends to create engaging and inventive content. The masterclass wrapped up with a brief breakdown of the various Communication-related courses offered by UTS, a Q&A session, and a group photo session.



(Photo source: Dr Pauline Leong)

Prof. Sabine Chaouche Leads Major Performing Arts Editorial Project



(Artwork source: Georges Clairin, image provided by Prof. Sabine Chaouche)

Prof. Sabine Chaouche contracted a major editorial project titled "The Contemporaries" with Editions Classiques Garnier that covers the lives of female performers from 1640 to 2000. The four-volume project, to be published in 2026-7, will include the biographies of approximately 80 women who were directors, reformers or played an important role in the history of performing arts. The first phase of the project (1640-1920) involves contributions from 33 academics from Europe and Canada, as well as more than 20 institutions. The project aims to shed light on the women's largely overlooked accomplishments in the history of performing arts.

Dr Goh Presents on Sustainability Projects at Pin Hwa Art Forum

Dr Goh Yi Sheng was recently invited to participate in an event organised by Pin Hwa to celebrate its 100-year anniversary. Held from the 8th to 16th of April, the event involved an art exhibition, art forums, and art demonstrations. As one of the panellists in the art forum alongside senior artists, Dr Goh shared about her academic journey and the importance of design in social sustainability projects. She also presented her projects, which ranged from senior citizens' flood experiences and needs during disaster response, time banking projects, sustainable housing design concepts, and so on.

(Photo source: Dr Goh Yi Sheng)



Dr Fiona Wong Shared

Wayang Kulit Kelantan Research in Kuching

Dr Fiona Wong from the Department of Art, Design and Media recently gave talks and shared her research on *Wayang Kulit Kelantan* (Kelantan Shadow Play) at five different occasions in Kuching, which is her hometown. With an emphasis on the puppets' design and the topic of cultural heritage preservation and conservation, she held sharing sessions to varied audiences. In a sharing session at the Pustaka Negeri Sarawak, Dr Fiona made a special arrangement with Kelantanese puppeteer Tok Dalang Rahim bin Hamzah, who shared about his profession. Besides knowledge sharing, she also discussed the possibility of more cultural- or knowledge-exchange programmes with arts educators and enthusiasts.



(Photo source: Dr Fiona Wong)



Prof. Chaouche Delivers Lecture at the History of Universities Seminar, Berlin

On the 18th of April, Prof. Sabine Chaouche was invited by Prof. Miles Taylor from the Humboldt University of Berlin to deliver a keynote speech. She focused on her latest book, which explored the student consumer cultures in Oxford during the Victorian era. While students' consumerist habits reflected a taste for extravagance, they were partly the result of aggressive new capitalist methods and standardised payment facilities. Prof. Chaouche's research provided a nuanced understanding of the Victorian era student culture, highlighting the complex interplay of social and economic factors.



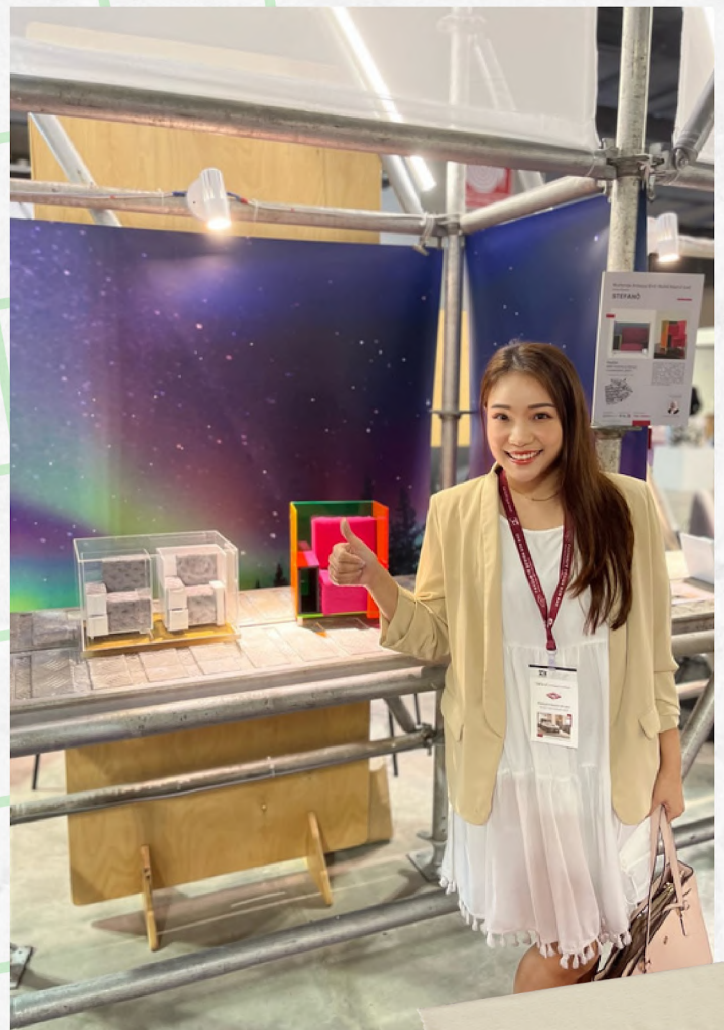
(Artwork source: George Cruikshank,
image provided by Prof. Sabine Chaouche)

Nurherda Antasya Makes Finalist for the MIFF Furniture Design Competition

Congratulations to Nurherda Antasya from the Diploma in Interior Design programme for becoming a finalist at the MIFF Furniture Design Competition! The competition, which has been held every year since 2010, celebrates the creative spirit of design and uncovers young talent to support Malaysia's thriving furniture industry. Organised in conjunction with the Malaysian International Furniture Fair (MIFF), the competition offered the best platform for emerging designers to showcase their innovative ideas before a global audience of furniture experts.



As a finalist, Nurherda participated in the Finalists' Design Showcase, where she displayed her creative and eye-catching furniture that focuses primarily on comfort and versatility for students. Her furniture design and style is inspired by the designer Nawwar Shukriah Ali, who is known for her use of iridescent films and plexiglass in her work.



(Photo source: Dr Nicole Fu)

Professor Dr Kenneth Holds Solo Exhibition at the University of Technology Sarawak



(Photo source:
Prof. Dr Kenneth Alan Feinstein)

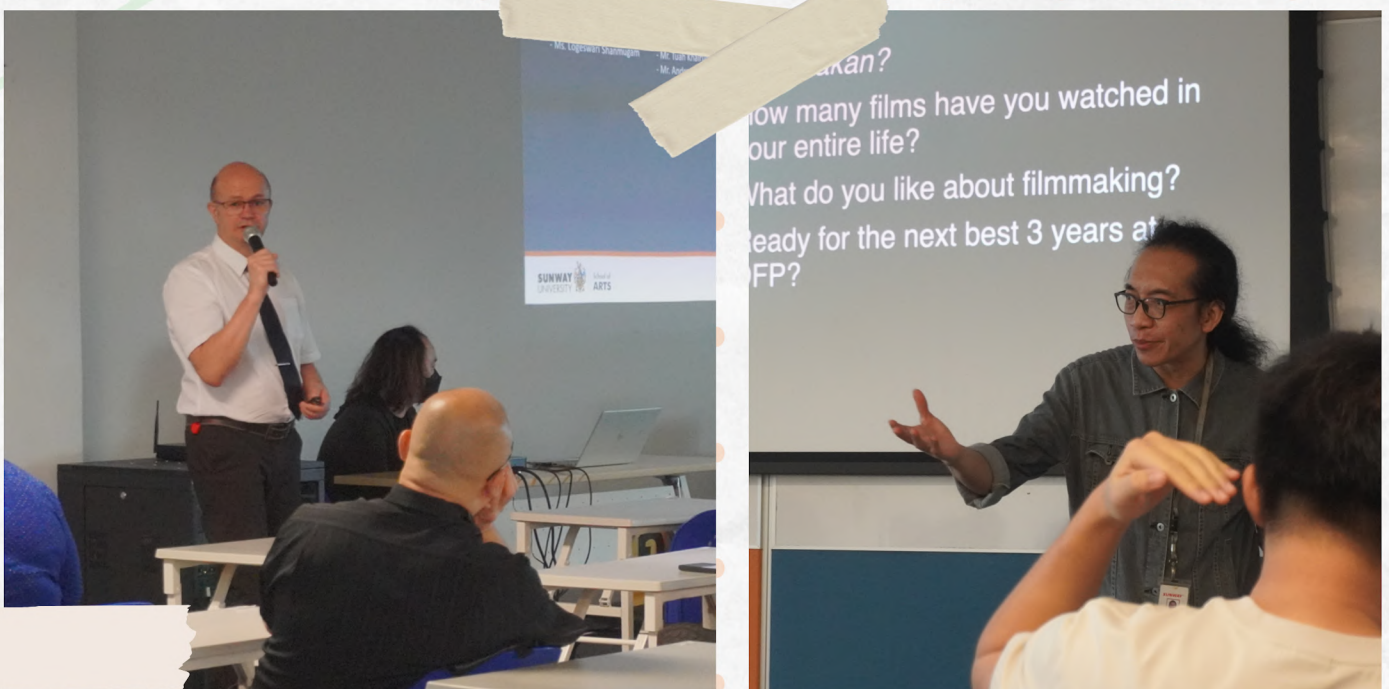
Professor Dr Kenneth Alan Feinstein, Associate Dean of the School of Arts, recently held a solo exhibition. The exhibition, titled *"My Head is My Only House Unless It Rains"*, was held at the SBE Gallery at the University of Technology Sarawak in Sibul. The installations of the exhibition were works done from Professor Dr Kenneth's residency in Lisbon, Portugal. Alongside the exhibition, he gave talks and had an accompanying workshop.

The School of Arts Welcomes New Students at April 2023 Orientation

On April 25th and 26th, the School of Arts welcomed the newest intake of students at our orientation session! On the first day, about 180 students gathered to meet and hear from the Dean Prof. Matthew Marshall and learnt about important information that will prepare them for their learning journey at the School of Arts.

On the second day, the students were split into their respective departments and programmes to meet with their Heads of Department and Programme Leaders. The orientation concluded with a comprehensive tour of the School of Arts' facilities, led by their seniors.

Welcome once again to the April 2023 intake!



(Photo source: Roger Liew)



(Photo source: Roger Liew)



**Thank you for reading the
April 2023 issue of the School of
Arts Press Newsletter.**

**Click on any of the links below to
follow us on social media and
subscribe to the newsletter.**