## **Press Announcement**

Well-known water-colourist, Chang Fee Ming celebrates and and pays homage to the places that he fondly calls home, exhibiting a combination of old and latest works titled **From South China Sea...To Mount Agung** in a two-part exhibition.

From 9<sup>th</sup> July to 10<sup>th</sup> August 2012 the exhibition (From South China Sea...) will be on display at Pipal Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur with a sequel exhibition (To Mount Agung) at Komaneka Fine Art Gallery, Ubud Bali from 15<sup>th</sup> July to 16<sup>th</sup> August 2012.



Bayang-bayang Dayang-dayang (Shadows of the Maidens)

2012, Watercolour on paper (56 x 76 cm)



On the way to Besakih 2012, Watercolour on paper (56 X 76cm)



Aku bukan pendatang (I'm not an immigrant) 2009, Watercolour on paper (56 x 76 cm)



*Motherland* 2012, Watercolour on paper (56 X 76cm)

In the winter of 2008, Chang Fee Ming found himself in the "secret part" of the Louvre Museum - dark, wet and cold underground sewer tunnels- where a director friend was shooting a movie. Far from his comfort-zone, the claustrophobic and unfriendly atmosphere triggered his darkest thoughts and ignited all unleashed angst. The result: a body of work that was so unlike any that he has produced before. Thick in emotions that have long been yearning for release, the 2009 Visage series was undecidedly Chang Fee Ming's "graffiti wall"- an outlet for all that could not be expressed, a space to set his mind and soul free.

Rage and frustrations appeased, Chang Fee Ming sought refuge in his two favourite places on earth: the North-Eastern coast of Peninsular Malaysia and the island of Bali. Under the hot tropical sun, dark thoughts soon evaporated while the monsoon rain gradually washed away melancholic disillusions. Back in his elements, the artist recovers his joie-de vivre. He now returns with a series that captures his rich encounters with people of these lands- men and women so deeply rooted in their tradition and beliefs, yet pragmatic in making a place for them-selves in a fast changing world.

## About the Artist

Born in Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia in 1959, Chang Fee Ming is a self-taught artist who began his career in the early 1980s. Since then he has become one of Asia's most highly regarded artists working in watercolour. His works are acclaimed, exhibited and collected throughout the world, and have appeared regularly at auction at Christie's and Sotheby's since 1995. Several books have been published about his work, including The World of Chang Fee Ming (1995), The Visible Trail of Chang Fee Ming (2000), Mekong (2004), Mekong Exploring the Source (2008) and Imprinted Thoughts (2009) which was published in conjunction with his exhibition at Singapore Tyler Print Institute (STPI). In 2010 he launched two publications: a book of travel sketches. Sketching Through Southeast Asia, and Visage, which features a new body of work that was inspired by his experience as Tsai Ming Liang's quest observer during the shooting of the same title film Visage at Louvre Museum in 2008. For over 20 years, his subject has been the people and places of South East Asia, portrayed through an extraordinary grasp of texture and light, as well as vibrancy of colour and composition. His works are suffused with pathos as well as beauty. He is currently based in Kuala Terengganu, although he returns frequently to Bali, his second home. He spends much of his time travelling through Asia. In his own words: "To travel and see and paint is for me a way of learning, part of my life philosophy".

Website: http://www.changfeeming.com

## **Exhibition venues:**

Part 1- Chang Fee Ming: From South China Sea...(dates: 9th July – 10 August 2012) Pipal Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur S-215, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, The Gardens Mall, Mid Valley, Lingkaran Syed Putra, 59200 Kuala Lumpur Malaysia (P): +60 (0)3 2201 0892 (F): +60 (0)3 2282 6942 Email: pipalfineart@yahoo.com

Part 2- Chang Fee Ming: To Mount Agung. (dates: 15thJuly – 16 August 2012) Komaneka Fine Art Gallery, Ubud-Bali JI. Monkey Forest, Ubud Gianyar 80571 Bali, Indonesia (P) +62 361 976090 (F) +62 361 977140 Email: gallery@komaneka.com

For more information, or high-resolution copies of images used in the press announcement, or to arrange for an interview with the artist, please contact:

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