

BIBI CHEW

*What if.....*

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SHALINI GANENDRA FINE ART

May 17 – August 15, 2017

## What if.....

**What if...** marks established and celebrated Bibi Chew's first solo exhibition in her career of over thirty years.

Specially developed works explore the relationship of individual to geography and features three series: 'The MAP is upside down', 'The RIVER is floating' and 'Landed'.

In, The RIVER is floating, Chew uses a mastered technique of layered cutout to explore the appearance, impact and more subtle meanings of land and its tributaries. *"How do we see land, how do we experience it? Are we entitled to the emotions that we project on it? Can we possibly preserve it?"* - were questions that inspired the artist's creative impulse.

In Landed, she uses acrylic for highlight of images that, with their organic sensibilities, could represent not only Malaysia's territories but leaves, bark and soil in them.

The Map, an overhead, mobile and grounded installation, invites audience participation in discovering varying territorial placement and the view of land overhead.

Chew's work have a wonderfully deceptive simplicity, drawing the viewer into a meditation on what they might have come to expect from nature while now considering alternatives: *"What if the land or water is above us? What if we could view the map from opposite angle? What if we are able to view the interior/inside of the land or water from above our eye level? What if the land or water is lighter than what we think?"*

How would these changes in perspective, interaction and experience impact the way we live?

*What if.....*

We look forward to your participation.

**Shalini Ganendra**

# BIBI CHEW (b. 1969, Malaysia)

Moved by ideas of cultural identity, Bibi Chew takes on challenging issues of race, environment and gender, creating commentary through familiar objects. She has carved, stitched and layered pieces into a united form. Her work speaks of a delicately controlled self with underlying hidden meanings.

## Awards

2012-13 - Nominated for Smithsonian Artist Research Fellowships, Smithsonian Institute, Washington DC, USA  
2005 - Awarded a Travel Grant to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Fukuoka Asian Art Triennale 2005, Fukuoka, Japan by the Ministry of Arts, Culture & Heritage Malaysia  
2002 - Awarded a Travel Grant to an ASEAN Country ( Vietnam ), organised by National Art Gallery Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
2001 - Honorable Mention, The Philip Morris Art Awards, Malaysia – ASEAN 2001, organised by National Art Gallery Kuala Lumpur & sponsored by The Philip Morris Group of Companies  
2000-2001 - Major Award Recipient, Young Contemporary Awards 2000, organised by National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

## Public Art Project

2016 – *PublikArt* - a public art and place-making initiative that seeks to increase the livability and cultural vitality of Iskandar Puteri, Johor. Her work titled “*catch me if you can ...*” is being displayed permanently at Puteri Harbour Park, Nusajaya, Johor.

## Collections

National Visual Arts Gallery Malaysia  
Bank Negara Malaysia  
Petronas Gallery Malaysia  
Australian High Commission, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Shalini Ganendra Fine Art, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia  
Rimbun Dahan (Angela Hijjlas & Hijjlas Kasturi), Kuang, Malaysia  
HOM Art Trans Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
G13 Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Singapore Ministry of Information and the Arts, Singapore.  
Head Quarters, Golden Key National Honour Society, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

## Recent Group Exhibitions

2017 - *GOODEARTH – Artistic Inspirations, Earthly Relationships*, Petronas Gallery, KLCC, Malaysia.

2017 - *Boundaries of [dis] Beliefs* - Post-Truth exhibition by Fergana Art in-conjunction with MAP Fest 2017, White Box, MAP, Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

2016 – 2017 - *Retro-Biennale*, National Visual Arts Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

2016 - *LOOK To SEE* - as part of Gallery Weekend Kuala Lumpur (GWKL) 2016, Shalini Ganendra Fine Art, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia.

2016 - *Al-Kesah – Homage to Ismail Zain*, Petronas Gallery, KLCC, Malaysia.

2016 - *Transit A2* – exhibition in aid of MARS, a non-profit art archive and research support centre, organized by HOM Art Trans Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

2016 - *Full Contact* (a group & joint collaboration project by artists from Japan, Malaysia, Jordan, Philippines and Indonesia), Art Space Tetra, Hakata City, Fukuoka, Japan.

2016 - *Barehands – Asian Artist Residency Project Exhibition - Oshima Island inspired Project*, Ashiya Gallery, Fukuoka, Japan.

2015 - *Art Kaohsiung 2015*, Kaohsiung, Taiwan.

2015 - *Barehands – Asian Artist Residency Project Exhibition* (participated artists From Malaysia, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines & Jordon artists), Gedung Yayasan Pusat Kebudayaan (YPK), Bandung, Indonesia.

2015 - *My Story My Strength* – Doodle for Change Exhibition, The Star Pitt Street, Penang.

2014 – 2015 - *Recent Collections* (2012, 2013, 2014), National Visual Arts Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

2014 - *Kali Ini Kita Bersama* – Women Art Exhibition, curated by U-Wei bin Haji Saari at Morne Art Gallery, Menara MARA, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

2014 - *1 CARE – Social, Humanity, Environment*, an art exhibition curated by Shia Yih Yiing at the Kuala Lumpur & Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall (KLSCAH), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

2014 - *The Good Malaysian Woman* – Ethnicity. Religion. Politics, curated by Sharmin Parameswaran and Sunitha Janamohanam, Black Box, MAP Publika,

2014 - *My Country*, a collaboration exhibition between Shalini Ganendra Fine Arts and the Louis K. Meisel Gallery, NY, USA.

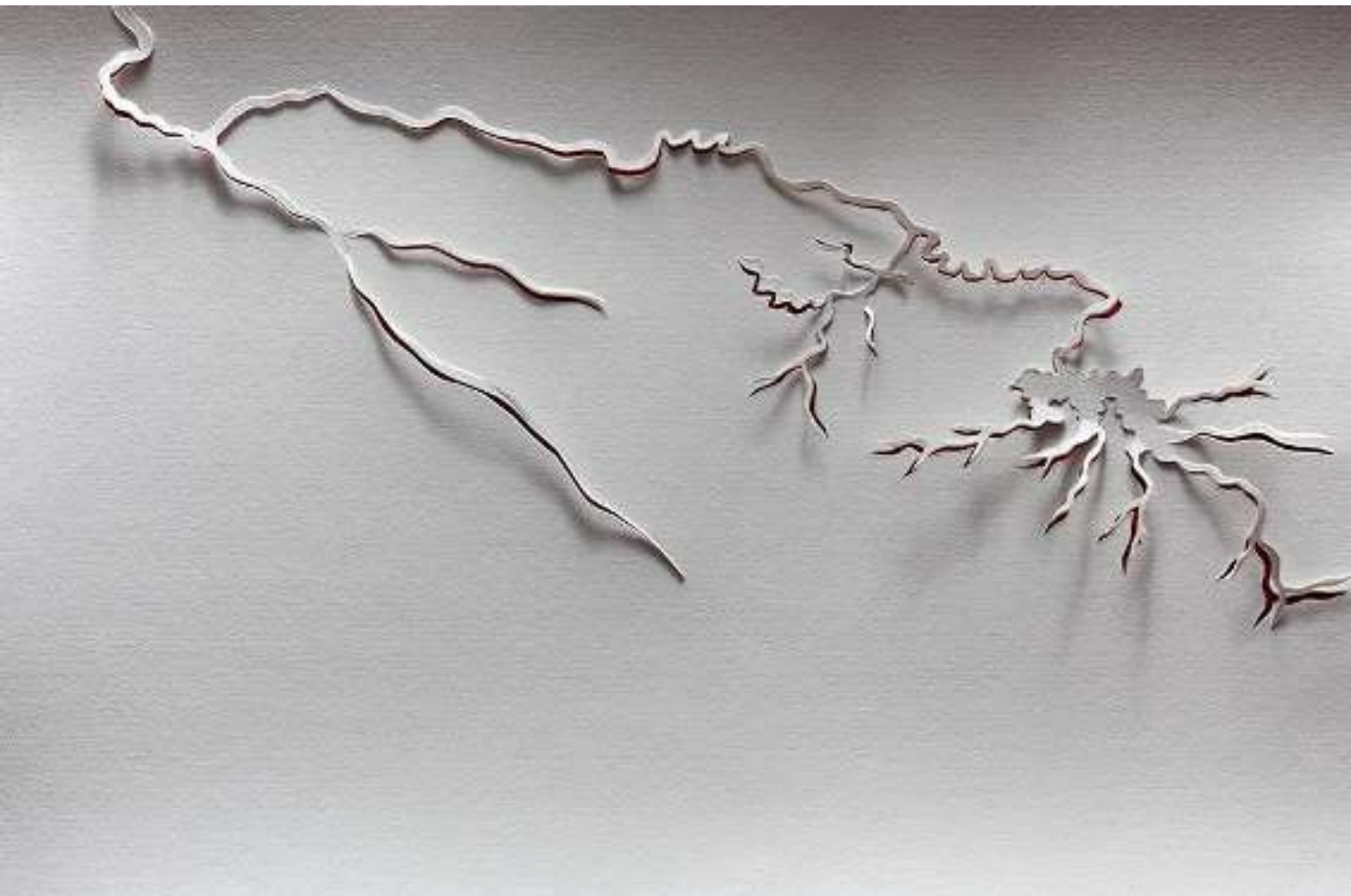
2013 - *A Journey of Self Discovery*, a charity art exhibition in aid of Nalanda Centre, joint collaboration by NN Gallery and Nalanda Centre, Selangor, Malaysia.

2013 - *Blooming* – female artist's painting exhibition, the Kuala Lumpur & Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

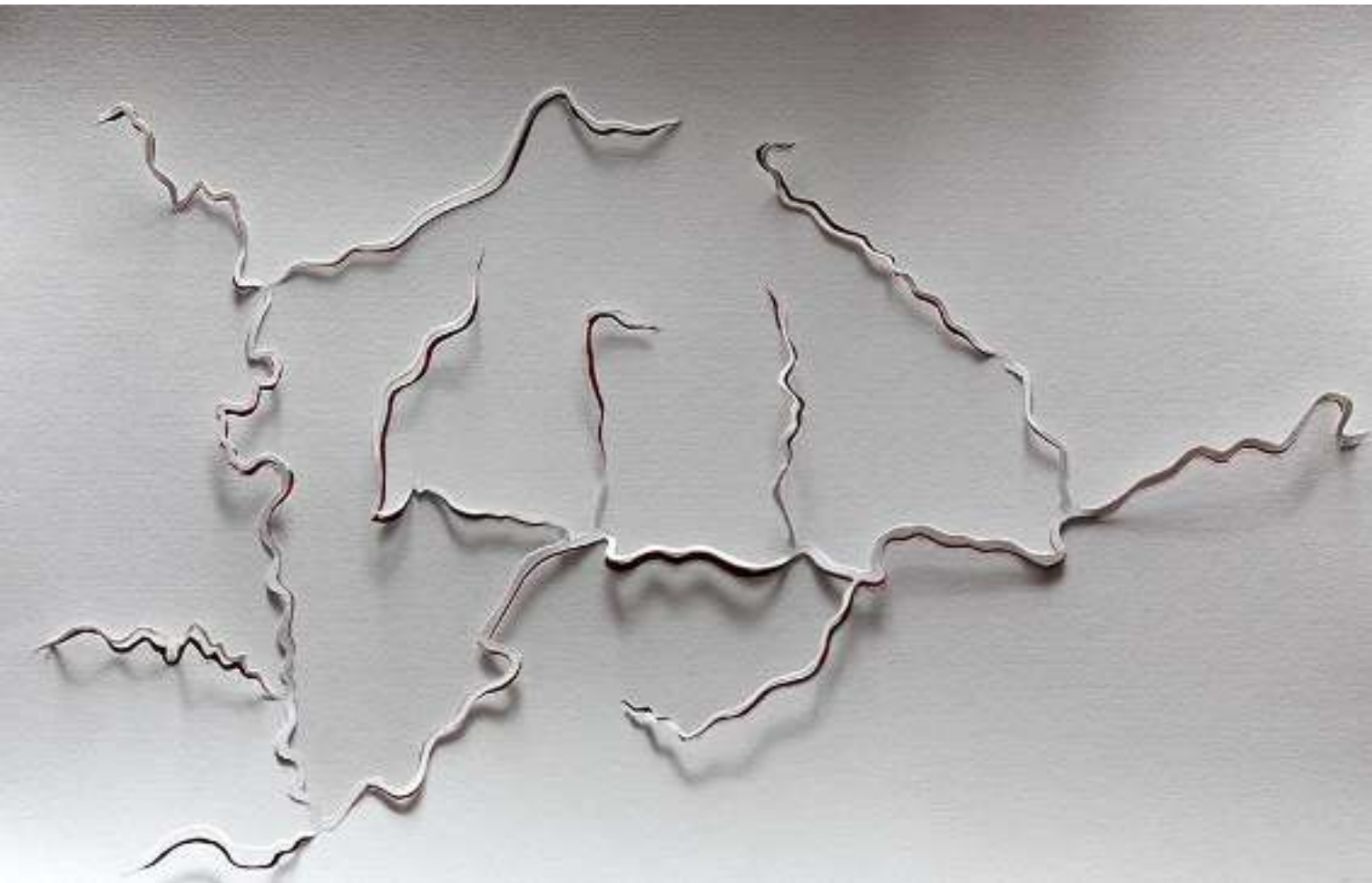
2013 - *Midterm* – an exhibition showcasing five exceptional, mid-career Malaysian artists, Shalini Ganendra Fine Art & Residency, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia.



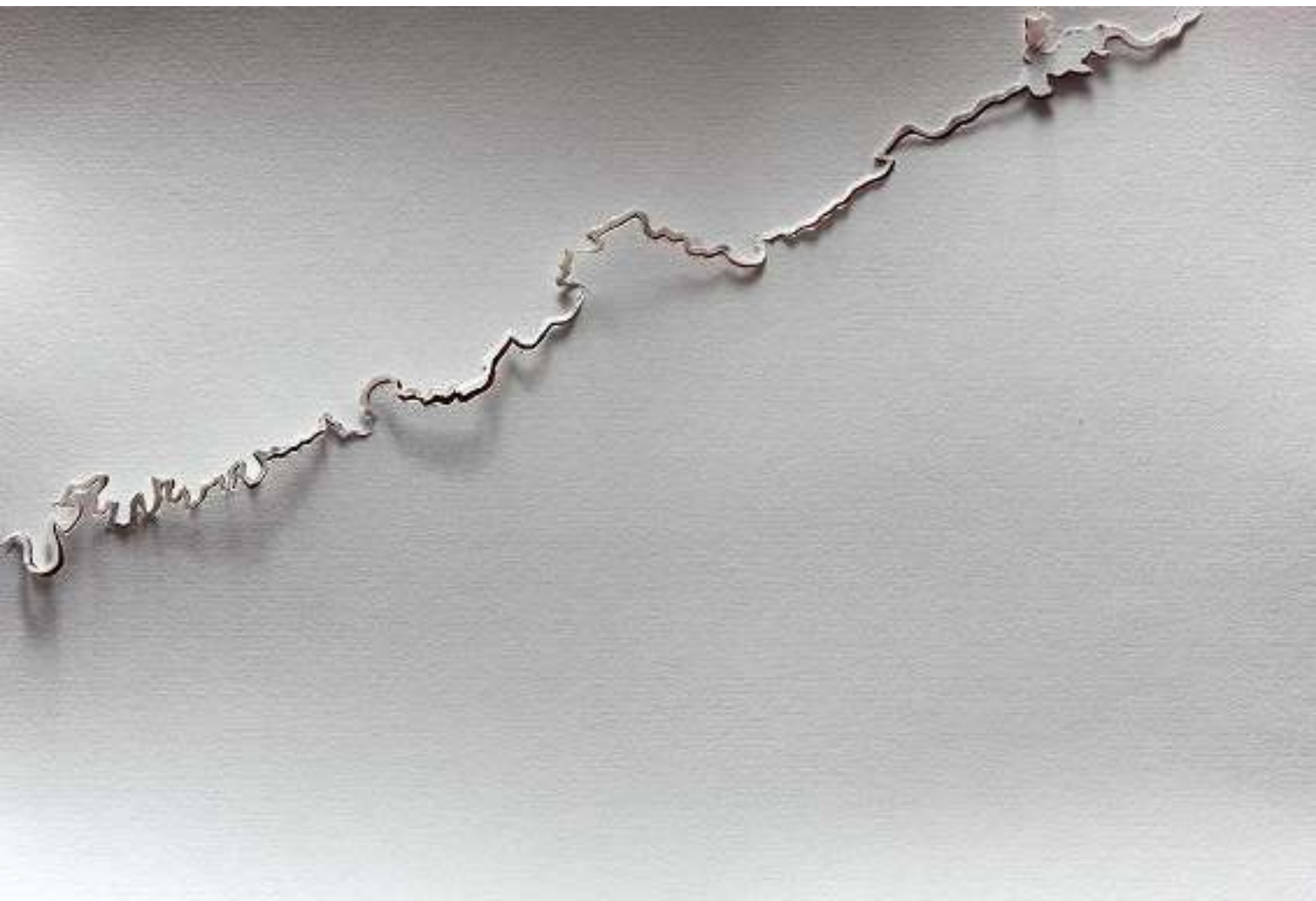
Bibi Chew, *What's Up? Map Down...*, Mixed media, MDF board, steel bar & plate, bolt, nuts and rollers, total installation measurements: 97.5 ft x 228 ft



Bibi Chew, *Perak*, acrylic and watercolour paper, 42 cm x 29.7 cm



Bibi Chew, *Pehang*, acrylic and watercolour paper, 42 cm x 29.7 cm

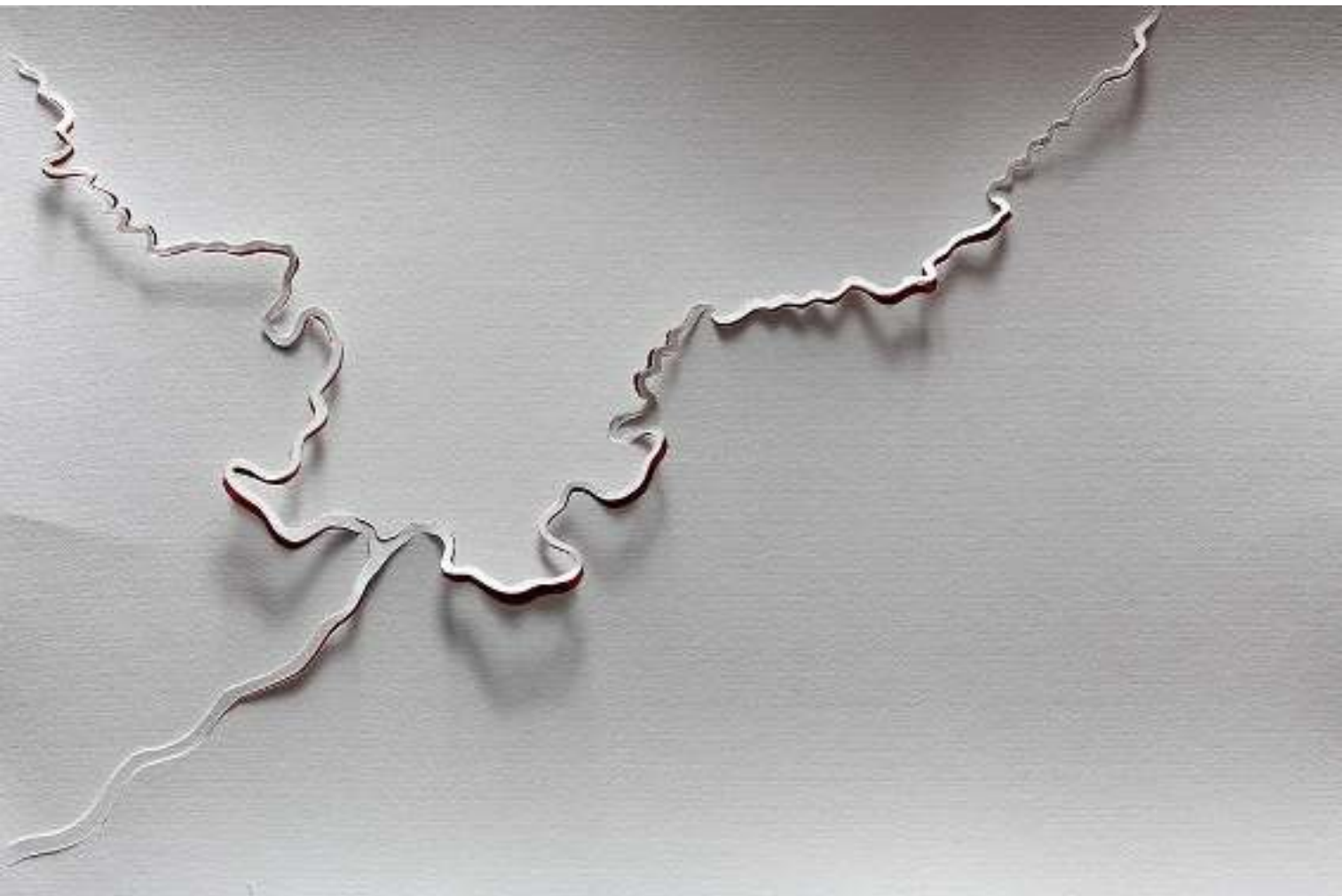


Bibi Chew, *Selangor*, acrylic and watercolour paper, 42 cm x 29.7 cm

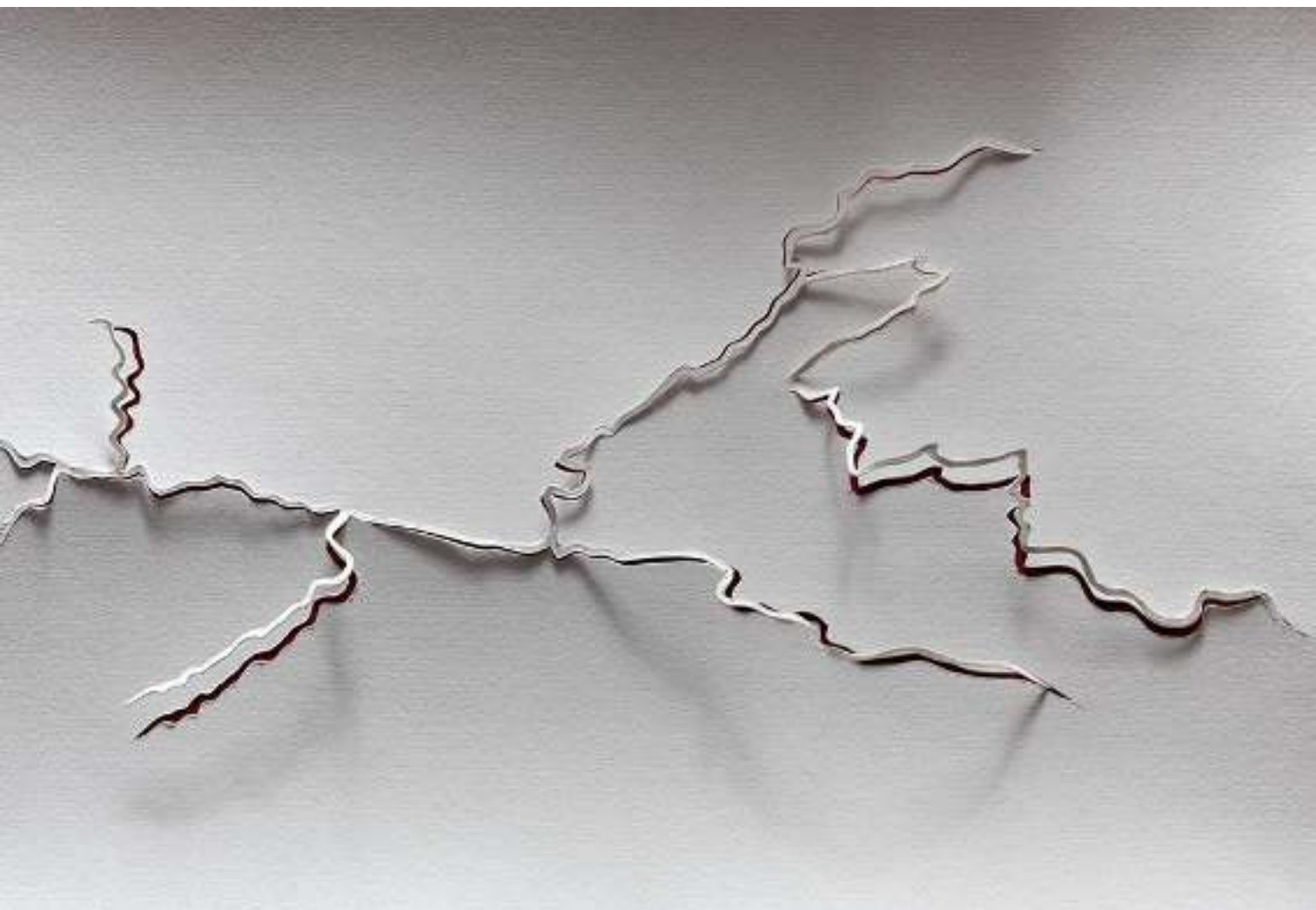




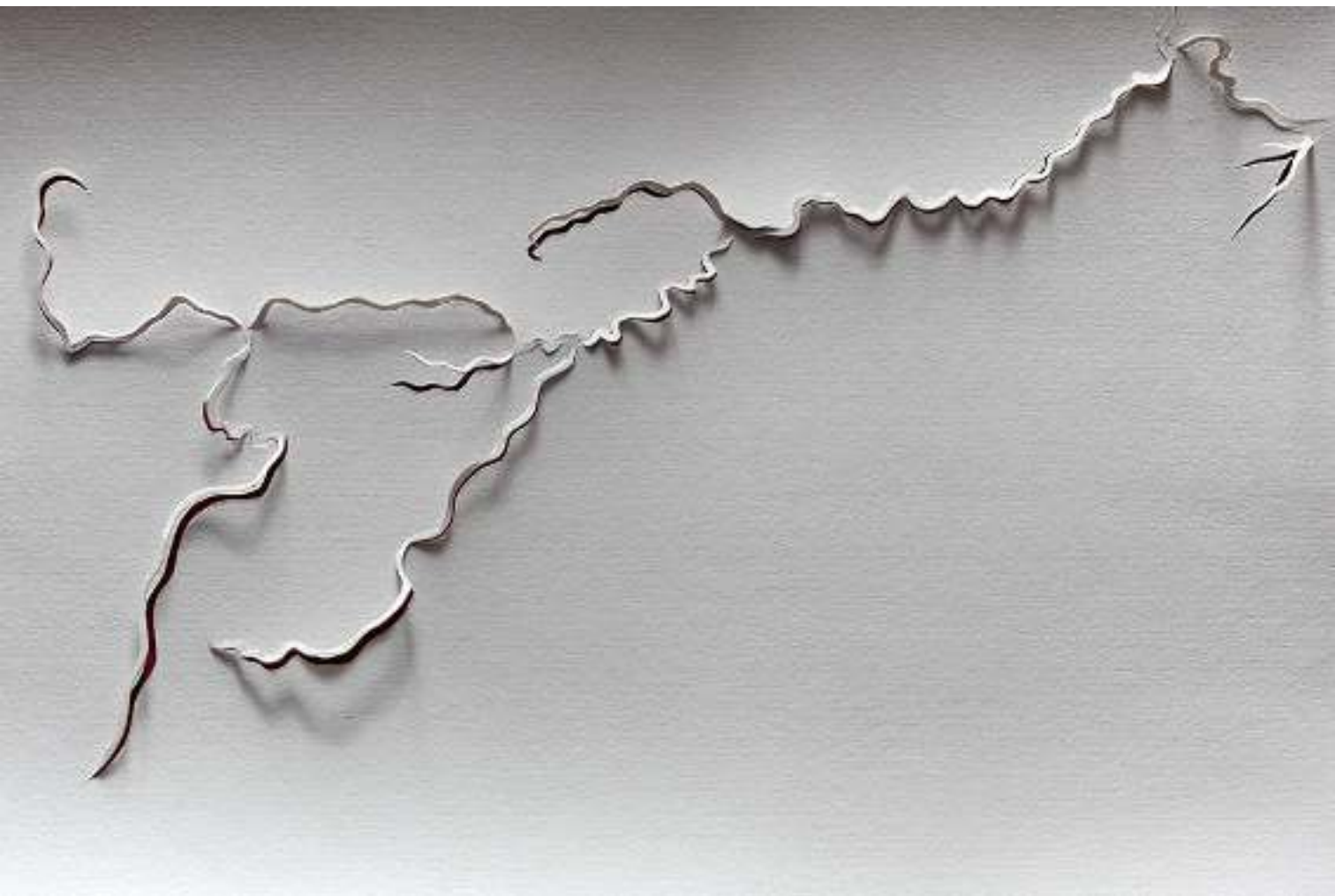
Bibi Chew, *Kuala Lumpur*, acrylic and watercolour paper, 42 cm x 29.7 cm



Bibi Chew, *Negeri Sembilan*, acrylic and watercolour paper, 42 cm x 29.7 cm



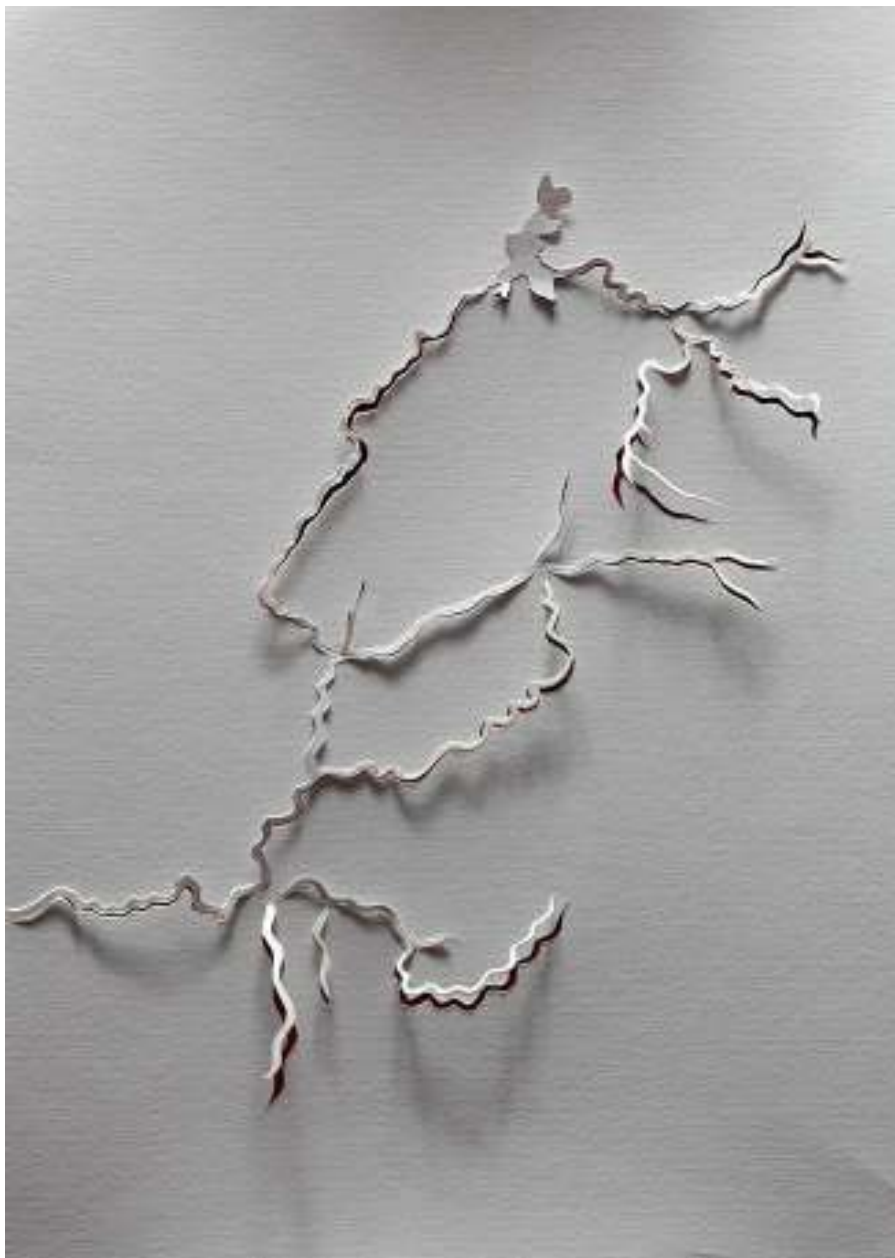
Bibi Chew, *Sarawak*, acrylic and watercolour paper, 42 cm x 29.7 cm



Bibi Chew, *Sabah*, acrylic and watercolour paper, 42 cm x 29.7 cm



Bibi Chew, *Perlis*, acrylic and watercolour paper, 29.7 cm x 42 cm



Bibi Chew, *Kedah*, acrylic and watercolour paper, 29.7 cm x 42 cm

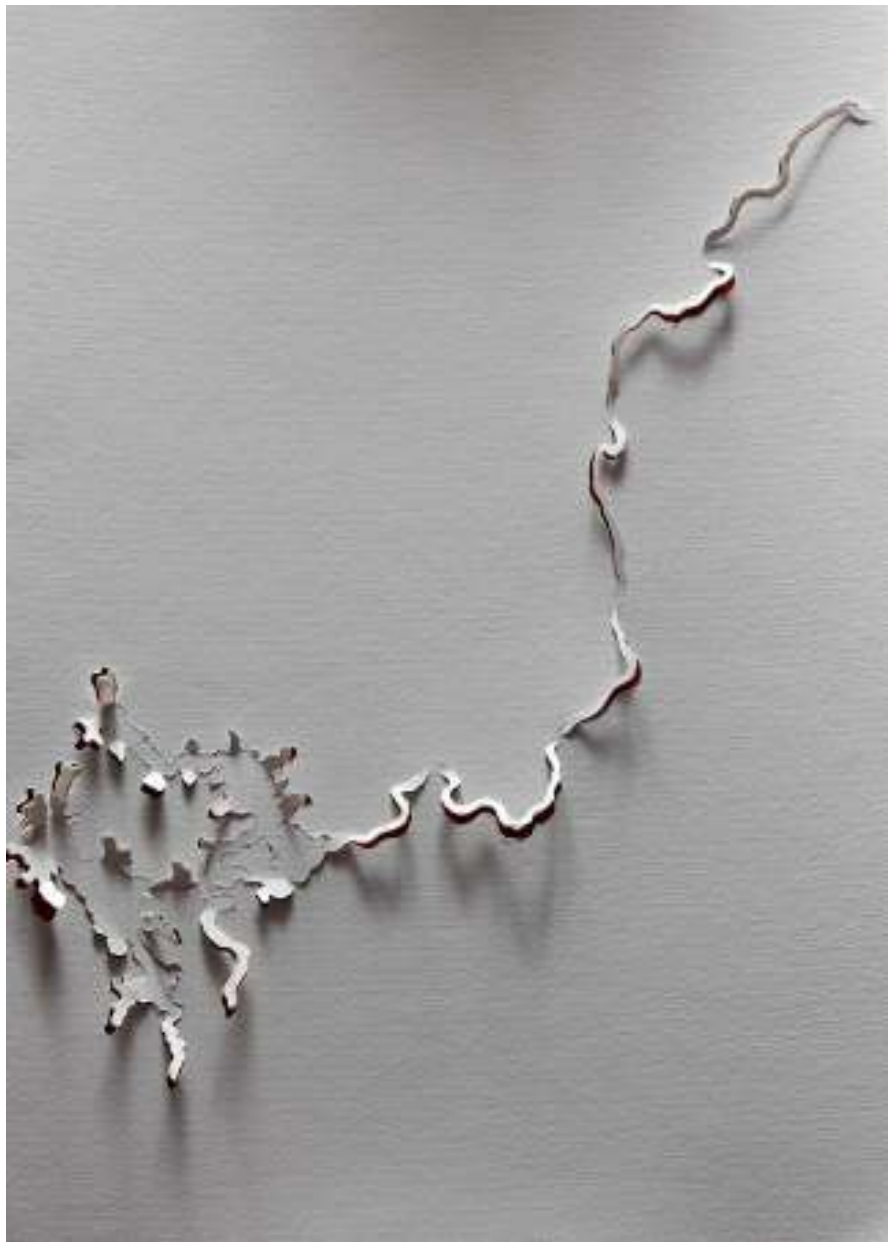


Bibi Chew, *Pulau Pinang*, acrylic and watercolour paper,  
29.7 cm x 42 cm

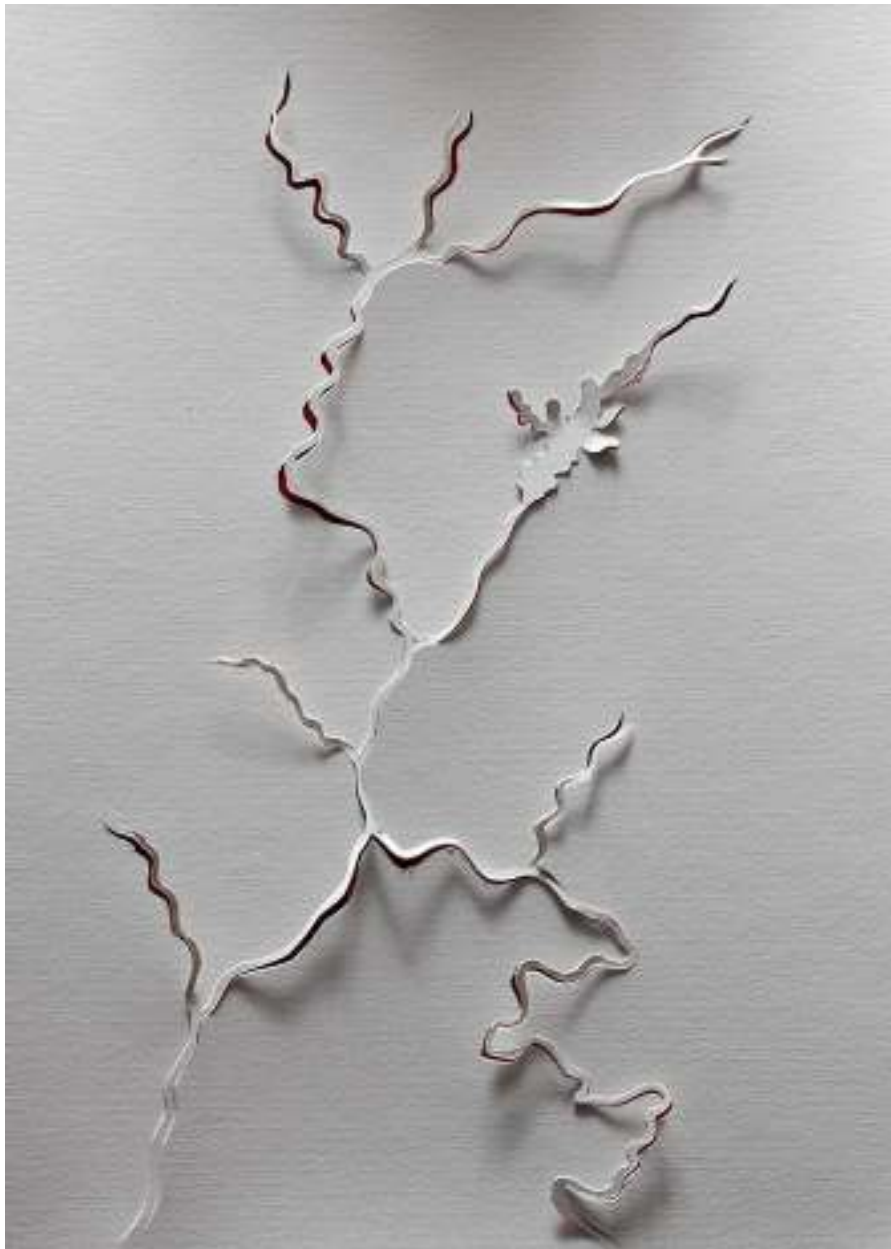


Bibi Chew, *Kelantan*, acrylic and watercolour paper,  
29.7 cm x 42 cm





Bibi Chew, *Terengganu*, acrylic and watercolour paper,  
29.7 cm x 42 cm



Bibi Chew, *Melaka*, acrylic and watercolour paper,  
29.7 cm x 42 cm



Bibi Chew, *Johor*, acrylic and watercolour paper, 29.7 cm x 42 cm



Bibi Chew, Landed 1, acrylic ink on watercolour paper, 40 cm x 30 cm, 2016



Bibi Chew, Landed 2, acrylic ink on watercolour paper, 40 cm x 30 cm, 2016



Bibi Chew, Landed 3, acrylic ink on watercolour paper, 40 cm x 30 cm, 2016



Bibi Chew, Landed 4, acrylic ink on watercolour paper, 40 cm x 30 cm, 2016



Bibi Chew, Landed 5, acrylic ink on watercolour paper, 40 cm x 30 cm, 2016





Bibi Chew, Landed 6, acrylic ink on watercolour paper, 40 cm x 30 cm, 2016



Bibi Chew, Landed 7, acrylic ink on watercolour paper, 40 cm x 30 cm, 2016



Bibi Chew, Landed 8, acrylic ink on watercolour paper, 40 cm x 30 cm, 2016



Bibi Chew, Landed 9, acrylic ink on watercolour paper, 40 cm x 30 cm, 2016



Bibi Chew, Landed 10, acrylic ink on watercolour paper, 40 cm x 30 cm, 2016



Bibi Chew, Landed 11, acrylic ink on watercolour paper, 40 cm x 30 cm, 2016



Bibi Chew, Landed 12, acrylic ink on watercolour paper, 40 cm x 30 cm, 2016



Bibi Chew, Landed 13, acrylic ink on watercolour paper, 40 cm x 30 cm, 2016





Bibi Chew, Landed 14, acrylic ink on watercolour paper, 40 cm x 30 cm, 2016

*For inquires, please contact*

## SHALINI GANENDRA FINE ART

Shalini Ganendra Fine Art's holistic approach to art representation and expertise in the contemporary art of Asian emerging regions has established the organisation's distinctive presence as a placemaker and advisor. Representing some of Malaysia's most promising talent, SGFA has developed exhibition and educational programming that promotes cultural encounter and engagement.

SGFA's award winning, purpose built Gallery Residence has been twice nominated for the Aga Khan Architecture Award, and was one of the first spaces to receive Malaysian Green Building Index (GBI) certification. The space plays host to the multi-disciplinary, presenting an eclectic range of art and design for contemporary collecting, including visual art, bespoke ceramic, jewellery and textile.

Advisory services include collection management, valuation, exhibition coordination and sourcing.

Educational and research programs led by SGFA are important facilitators of engagement and cross cultural development within and with South East Asia, and SGFA's VC Lecture Program contributions have just been published by UNESCO Observatory as its Arts in Asia issue.

SGFA is committed to Exhibition, Education & Experience, informing eye and collection – with **Quality Distinction**.

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*Tues - Sat: 11am - 7pm . Public holidays, by appointment.*

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