

CHONG SIEW YING

Born: 1969, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Lives and Works: Malaysia

Full Artist Biography

Chong Siew Ying left Malaysia for France in 1990 to pursue her studies in Fine Art. There, she enrolled at the École des Beaux-Arts de Versailles and later at the Parisian printmaking centre, Atelier63. Returning to Malaysia in 1998, she held her first solo show in Kuala Lumpur in the same year. From 2000 - 2001, she travelled to the United States of America where she spent 7 months in New York City and 2 months at the Vermont Studio Centre in Vermont. She returned to Paris in 2001 and travelled back and forth between Paris and Kuala Lumpur until 2011. She has since moved back permanently to Kuala Lumpur. Her career has spanned a large number of solo and group exhibitions in Asia, as well as across Europe and the USA.

Chong Siew Ying's practice is grounded in both Eastern and Western painterly sensibilities. Although well known for her dynamic gestural brush strokes and expressive compositions, she continues to develop new techniques and approaches to subject matter to explore painting as a distinct form of visual poetry. A lyrical and elegant painter, her work is profoundly emotive, embracing broad themes such as nature, human sentiments, as well as referencing on literary themes and concepts. As a restless and curious artist, travel continues to be an important influence on her practice. A true voyageur, she has undertaken epic journeys overland from Europe to Asia, absorbing and patiently observing the diverse cultures and landscapes along the way. Emerging from her work is therefore a complex understanding of place, expressed through the perennial theme of human connection, homeland and belonging.