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In the Eye of the Red Dot

Public art behind the museum

Pedas-Pedas, the red pepper sculpture outside the back entrance of the National Museum, is about to migrate elsewhere on the museum grounds – but not to fear, spice lovers. In its place is *In the Eye of the Red Dot*, created by local artist Yeo Chee Keong, which is set to be revealed mid-September. The prototype shown here is just a fraction of its eventual size: the real deal will measure around 4m high.

Created in response to the theme of 'The Red Dot, Today and Tomorrow', the bouquet-shaped sculpture is made of highly polished stainless steel that literally reflects its peaceful surroundings. Visitors are encouraged to interact with the piece and peer into a kaleidoscopic world, reflected by cleverly placed internal mirrors.

Yeo is no stranger to the local art scene; his works have been showcased extensively both here and overseas, and he has won prizes such as the National Arts Council's Young Artist Award and the Asia Pacific Breweries Foundation Singapore Art Prize. *In the Eye of the Red Dot* is a continuation of his playful artistic style, and is reminiscent of his other works, such as the playful 'A Yoga and Pedicure DIY Session on the Beach'. **GP**



Art

Three to see Dear Painter

National Day might be over, but there's no reason to stop celebrating all things local. The latest exhibition at Sundaram Tagore Gallery features specially commissioned works by nine local and locally based artists. **Gwen Pew** asks three of them to tell us more about their pieces



WARREN KHONG
'#087'

'This work is an advancement of my latest series, which explores the notion of materiality as an idea in painting. "#087" employs light, colour and reflection as paint, to blend different colours without actually mixing any paint. I was also investigating the use of different materials and how materiality influences my painting. This work is a result of these two threads coming together.'



SHUBIGI RAO
'Fictioneering'

'The work alludes to my interest in fictive fact, half-truths and elaborate hoaxes. It's inspired by my childhood adventures in reading history, science, and geography textbooks, science fiction, obscure folklore and nonsense verse, and being unable (or not needing to) find distinctions between them. The series glosses over as much as it claims to reveal, much like fiction and, of course, factual accounts.'



JEREMY SHARMA
'Melatone'

'This is a continuation of my exploration of polystyrene foam [as a material]. The work depicts a section of the far side of the moon, which we never see. I obtained the data from a source that collects information from orbiters in space, then reconstructed it on the material. I'm trying to see what it means to look at an extra-terrestrial landscape through philosophical, scientific and mythological perspectives.'

Dear Painter is at Sundaram Tagore Gallery from Sep 4-Oct 25.