

Early Sales at Art Stage Singapore Show Demand for Japanese, Indonesian Stars

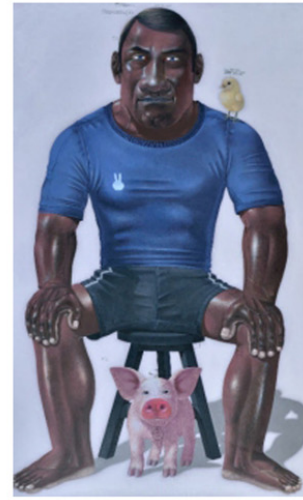
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Takashi Murakami's "And Then x 6 (Red Dots: The Superflat Method)" sold for US\$550,000 at Galerie Perrotin.

by Adeline Chia

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Masriadi's "Peaceman" sold for US\$350,000.

SINGAPORE — The mood was buoyant as the doors closed on the opening VIP night of **Art Stage**, with galleries seeing healthy sales with some six-figure star pieces snapped up.

Galerie Perrotin led the charge with the sale of Japanese A-list artist **Takashi Murakami**'s acrylic-on-canvas for \$550,000. The painting, titled "And Then x 6 (Red Dots: The Superflat Method)," was sold to a Korean doctor. Other big-ticket items sold by the Paris- and Hong Kong-based gallery were a painting by Japanese Superflat artist **Aya Takamo**, called "Across Two Hundred Years We Send Our Blessings," which went for \$85,000, as well as a work by top Indian artist **Bharti Kher** at €55,000 (\$73,4000).

Over at **Sundaram Tagore Gallery**, which has branches in New York, Hong Kong, and Singapore, a pair of waterfall paintings by Japanese master **Hiroshi Senju** was went home with an American collector based in Singapore for \$415,000.

On the Southeast Asian front, artists from Indonesia, which was described by Art Stage fair director **Lorenzo Rudolf** in his pre-fair introductory comments as "the strongest country with the strongest art scene," took the lead. Auction darling **I Nyoman Masriadi** proved his appeal once again at Singapore's **Gajah Gallery**, with two works sold. "Peaceman," a monumental painting depicting a man with a pig at his feet and a rooster at his shoulder, was sold to a Hong Kong collector for \$350,000. A smaller piece, titled "Dirty Talk" and portraying a group of people gossiping, went for \$200,000 to an Indonesian collector. Two smaller works by Sumatran-born artist Yunizar also sold for \$24,000 each.

At **Nadi Gallery**'s booth, Yogyakarta-based **Handiwirman Saputra**'s pair of turquoise acrylic-on-canvas sold for more than \$150,000, while fellow Yogyakarta artist **Yuli Prayitno**'s painting-sculpture of a blackboard went for \$21,000.

The Koreans also had a fair showing. Germany-based Korean artist **SEO**'s "Mobiler Raum im Garten IV," a painting of two beagles on an elaborate carpet, went for €40,000 at **Galerie Michael Schultz**, which has branches in Berlin, Seoul and Beijing, while two editions of a so-called "skinny" sculpture titled "Lantern Man" by **Yi Hwan Kwon** sold for \$42,000 each at **Gana Art** from Seoul.