

an hour @ the museum

In this weekly column, we visit museums and art spaces and highlight what you must see if you have only an hour to spare.

Canadian stone lithographer Ken Pattern has been living in South-east Asia for more than 20 years. The Jakarta-based artist, who spends about four months every year at a studio in Vancouver, is inspired by South-east Asia's rich landscape. He creates sketches, stone lithographs and paintings which have been exhibited across Asia, Europe and North America.

When: Till Wed, 11am - 6pm (Mon - Fri), 10am - 3.30pm (tomorrow), closed on Sun **Where:** One East Asia, 30 Bideford Road, 03-02
MRT: Orchard/Somerset **Admission:** Free
Tel: 6737-1819 **Info:** www.oneeastasia.org

Deepika Shetty

1 OLD SINGAPORE, 2005 (right)

Stone lithograph

Pattern believes stone lithography helps bring out every little detail of something he has seen, such as this image of Old Singapore, which he encountered during his first visit here in 1967. The technique involves drawing an image on a heavy limestone block. Once the drawing is complete, it is fixed through the use of a solution of gum arabic and nitric acid, called an etch. The last process involves printing. It is a tedious and often back-breaking process.



2 ODE TO ANN SIANG HILL, 2011 (left)

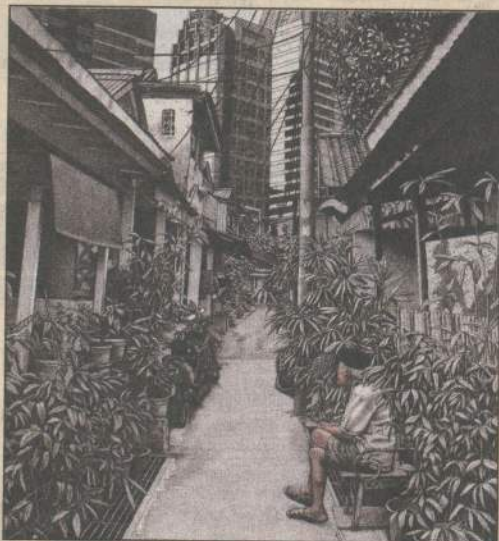
Pencil drawing

The artist says that while Singapore has done a remarkable job of retaining and restoring some of its old buildings, some end up looking new. "As an artist, I like things which are broken down and used as they have more character," he says. He found one such building on a visit to Ann Siang Hill. It was an image he could not get out of his head and he recently created this work for the show.

3 EYEWITNESS, 2009

Stone lithograph

Pattern likes to juxtapose the old with the new to show the changes sweeping across much of Asia. In Eyewitness, he captures an old man sitting in front of his house in a Jakarta kampung alley behind Jalan Sudirman. He seems to be silently observing the steel and glass skyscrapers going up all around him.



PHOTOS: KEN PATTERN/ONE EAST ASIA

4 HOME DELIVERY, 2007

Stone lithograph

This work captures one of the women vendors who ply their trade in the labyrinth of alleyways that make up Jakarta. The woman in this piece is searching for customers to buy her homemade food.

5 TUKANG BUBUR AND TUKANG TAHU (below)
Stone lithograph

Pattern's art records traditional vendors such as *Tukang Bubur*, who sell traditional rice porridge, and *Tukang Tahu*, who sell tofu. Each vendor has his own distinct call as he tries to attract customers. With modernisation, such sights and sounds are disappearing from many Asian cities.



6 KALI SUNTER, 2007 (right)
Stone lithograph

Kali Sunter is a river in Jakarta, along which homes made of bamboo poles can be found. Due to the constant migration of people from the countryside seeking their fortune in the city, many newcomers find that the only place to construct a home is on the precarious river bank.



8 PRESERVE (below)
Acrylic on canvas

This painting carries a message to preserve what is left of the rainforests. "These forests are the lungs of the world," says the artist. "It has taken thousands of years to build this rich biodiversity and it deserves to be honoured and respected."



7 RAINFOREST, 2009 (left)
Acrylic on canvas

Nature and environmental concerns are key themes in the artist's work. This painting is part of a series titled *Signs Of Our Times*. It focuses on the loss of natural habitat, including rainforests. The painting within a painting offers a peek into the future as deforestation takes place across much of Asia.

