

DESIGN DECODED 2021 : ART EXHIBITION



*Decrypt your  
visual creativity*

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# Nor Aniswati Awang Lah Mohamad Hanif Abdul Wahab Wan Azrina Nadhirah Wan Abdullah Muhammad Ameer Hamzah Mohd Rani

## Qalbin Salim

The artwork is inspired from sacred art; Malay-Islamic traditional artisan which is support the spiritual life of those it surrounds, to instill a way of perceiving the world and the subtle realities behind it. Something look nice and attract human is not because of its physical look, but an electromagnetic energy produce by a certain geometric scale an proportion composition based on how Allah design It's creatures.

It is an abstract ornamentation by combining a horizontal square with a diagonal one produces an eight-pointed star (top right opposite). Like the double triangle, this double square is known as the seal (*khatam* in Arabic) of Solomon, for legends vary, and is starting point of a vast family of patterns. Repeating them in each square makes the fundamental pattern of stars and crosses opposite. Its unite and multiplicity but harmony in central, which is symbolised that life should considering 'give and take' to live harmoniously.

This pattern can also be seen as a tiling of smaller diagonal squares, half of which expand and the other half of which contract. For this reason it has, in recent times, been referred to as The Breath of The Compassionate, a name referring of the Great Master Ibn al-'Arabi which expound the divine Breath as the basis of creation, liberating the possibilities of four elements; Fire, Air, Water and Earth, should be constant and recycle, perhaps avoiding stagnant.

**And abase me not on the Day when (humanity) will be raised up. The Day whereon neither wealth nor sons will avail, except for him who comes to Allah with a pure heart. [Sûrat Al-Shu arâ', 26:87-89]**

The term 'Qalbin Salim' is translated as 'pure heart'. Its is often connected to a person who commits no sins, who is perfect. It means having certainty in Him and in the Hereafter, worshipping Him directly and without partner, and striving to improve our characters throughout our lives by doing righteous deeds that are pleasing to Him. And when we mess up: go back to Him, repent and seek His forgiveness and help in improving. It's a lifelong

process, but *inshâ'Allah* in the end, if we strive, we will all be counted as those who spent their lives seeking to attain *qalbin salim*.

The artwork tried to combine the Malay Traditional Minangkabau motive into a geometric abstract ornamentation composition to comeout with modern contemporary decorative design with traditional symbolic meaning of life in achieving 'qalbin salim'. Some traditional floral motive is adapted to bring back the Malay soul of culture and craft that have been abandoned.

Any floral like a star motifs represent the natural world, makrocosmic and microcosmic, tawhidic towards Allah, for prosperous life in the hereafter, while through the customary expression, 'Berpijak pada yang satu' or 'hidup berselimut adat, mati berkafan iman'. the 'jala-jala' motifs represent functional ventilation, which means that we should also consider the external environment in fulfill the needs within any building or encolsure.

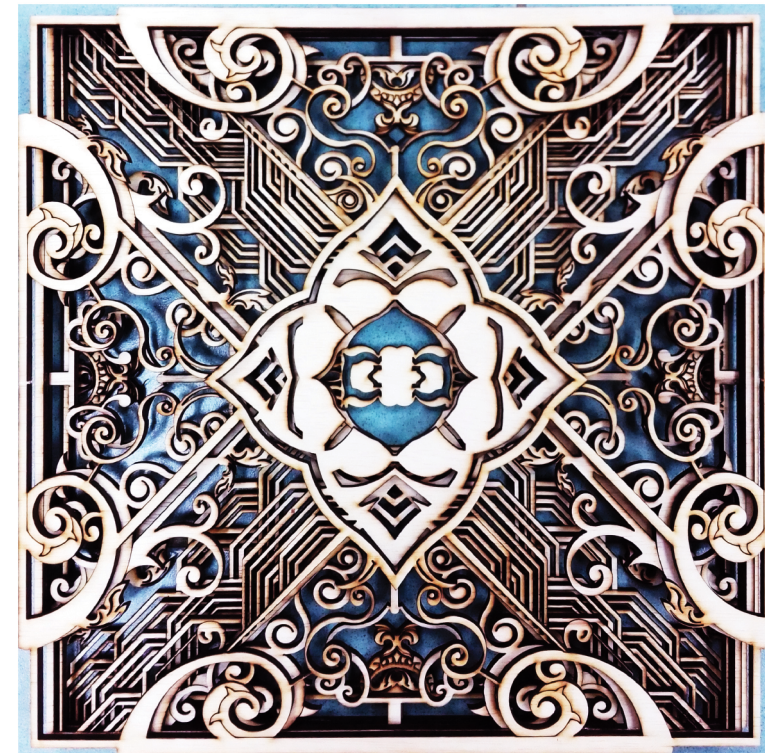
The first artwork with sunflower motifs represents the meaning of serenity and harmony at the end, which is at the centre. The Siriah Gadang motifs (flowers) represent joy in union, means the important of *Silaturrahim* in a community that will bring happiness.

The second artwork with the 'kaluk pakis' motifs represent the value of self-knowledge. The society should not lost the meaning and their culture identity. While the 'awan larat' (which consisting of flowers, root, stem, shoot etc) and the 'kuntum tengah' motifs represent a gentleness and wisdom with a symbols of grace piled on a good life.



NOR ANISWATI BINTI AWANG LAH  
MOHAMAD HANIF BIN ABDUL WAHAB  
Qalbin Salim

Laminated and Soft Plywood  
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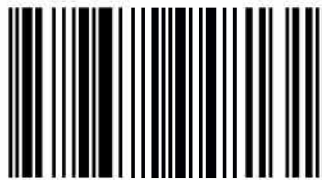


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