

# Sirik-Sirik Alas

Nik Mohd Husyaidie  
6 - 18 December 2021

### **Impermanence in the Outskirts of Forest**

As sentient beings, we humans cannot brush aside that nature is part of our life that nurtures our progress for survival. Nature has affected us in so many ways that without it, we are doomed. As basic as trees that can provide us oxygen, up to how natural resources can actually become the medicine to cure various health problems — we are indebted, dependent, and blessed to have nature as part of our life's journey.

On another note, nature also gives us plenty of inspiration in terms of giving life lessons. Nature does not hurry, but everything is accomplished accordingly. The river keeps on flowing graciously; flocks of birds fly off the sky freely as fast as they like; plants are just there doing plant things; everything is concurrently living its moment without having to rush out for attention or shouting out for fame. Furthermore, every natural being has its purpose. Even natural wastes could also benefit other beings, which to some extent, could teach us that we are not totally ill-fated when we are at our lowest.

### **Sirik-sirik Alas**

This meaningfulness in every part of life is what Nik Mohd Husyaidie tries to convey in his artworks. Titled Sirik-sirik Alas, Husyaidie presents to us the devotion of nature not through the living things, i.e. living trees or animals, but through dead or fallen leaves.

*“Fallen leaves are usually being ignored and considered as trash. However, they act as nutritional fertilizer to help surrounding trees to grow and flowers to bloom.”*

*– Nik Husyaidie.*

While working as a Peran (a comic) for three years in Makyong theatre during his study years in USM Penang, Husyaidie's part in Makyong was primarily involved with the nature of the forest, which has sort of affected his art practice. This exhibition is reflection of his experience of incorporating nature into Makyong, reinterpreted and transferred onto canvases, imbued with different compositions and colours. The title Sirik-sirik Alas was actually derived from Makyong's script that he had been working on, where 'sirik' means outskirts, while 'Alas' means forest. His artworks for this series are divided into three juxtaposition components: *Sirik-sirik Alas 6*, *Sirik-sirik Alas 7*, *Sirik-sirik Alas 8*; and three single pieces entitled *Sirik-sirik Alas 2*, *Sirik-sirik Alas 5*, *Usia Alam*.

When we look closely at his works, each component consists of three artworks with similar characteristics: the color and juxtapositioning of the leaves' texture. The aspect of repetition is apparent in each component as Husyaidie's monoprint technique reproduced seemingly identical shapes of the leaves, therefore blurring out any centralized subject matter. Attuned to how he views nature as a humble existence, he depicts the leaves as not directly facing opposite each other, conveying the message of respectfulness and modesty.

Artworks in Sirik-sirik Alas 6 component are made chiefly in hot colour, but pastel-ish against a sky-blue background; where the leaves are mostly in red, with only some are in the hint of yellow colour. Although in hot colours, these works in Sirik-sirik Alas 6 component nuance a calm, almost invokes therapeutic atmosphere due to its balanced tone colour that occupied every corner of the canvases.

Meanwhile, artworks in Sirik-sirik Alas 7 contain a somewhat similar juxtaposition of leaves, they are coloured mostly in blue, and some leaves have a tinge of red on their edges. Same as Sirik-sirik Alas 6 which background is sky-blue, Sirik-sirik Alas 7 artworks are almost monochromatic due to the dominance of blue colour. And because of this dominance and monochromatic blue colour, the leaves could be seen as if they are underwater, soaked and untouched, slowly decaying away, perhaps can be construed as fulfilling their purpose for the ecosystem of the macroinvertebrates.

On the other hand, Sirik-sirik Alas 8 artworks are more vivid in colour, with more disarray shapes of leaves, almost leaning towards a semi-abstraction manner. Sirik-sirik Alas 8/1, 8/2, and 8/3 are all in different colour palette but share the same chaotic impression initiated through their contrasting colours and distorted-shaped leaves.

### ***Usia Alam as Closure***

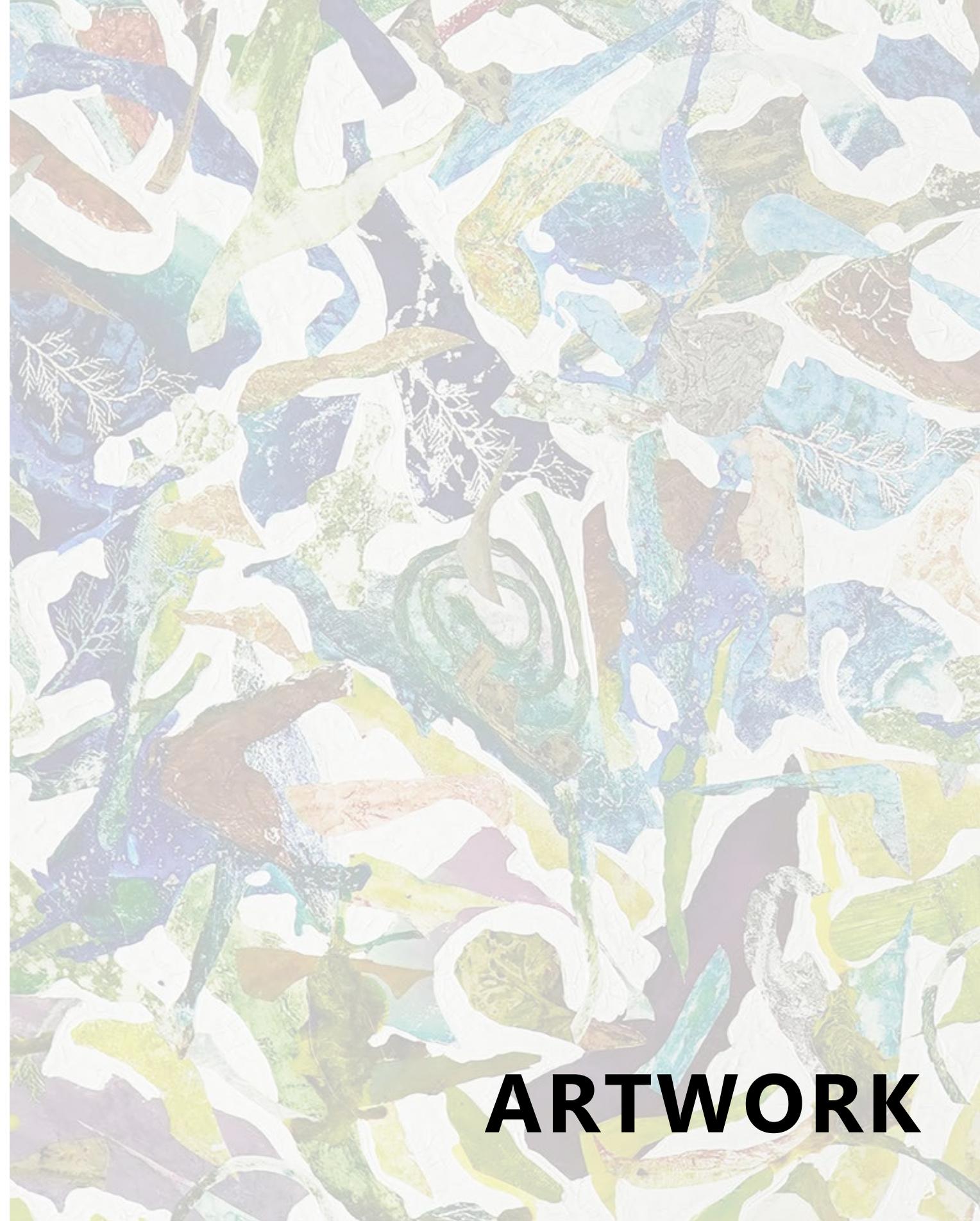
Upon looking at all three components (Sirik-sirik Alas 6, 7, and 8), it is ostensible that Husyaidie's thought process on reflecting nature concluded towards the idea of modesty throughout the painting process, impermanence, deterioration, and the short-lived of living beings. This can be seen in his single piece entitled *Usia Alam* that portrays almost no recognisable subject matter. In this painting, we can see that more and more pieces of abstracted leaves occupy all over the canvas. More colours were added, and there is almost no space for the background. *Usia Alam*, which translated to the 'age of nature,' somehow depicts the conclusion of life as an unimaginable, abstract ending.

Nazrul Hamzah

### **Artist Statement**

Human life and nature are inseparable, and they interact with each other, just like every other life. In making this artwork, I adopt the philosophy of a 'leaf.' Fallen leaves are usually ignored and considered trash. However, they act as nutritional fertilizers to help surrounding trees grow and flowers bloom.

Thus, we as humans need to continue giving what we can as much as possible. I transfer the textures onto a paper by applying the monoprint molding method in making these artworks. The molded surfaces are cut and shaped according to the desired form. The overlapping of the different elements and the emphasis on the bright background colors vividly highlight the sharp edges.



# **ARTWORK**



**Sirik-sirik Alas 2**

139x200cm | Mixed Media on Canvas | 2021

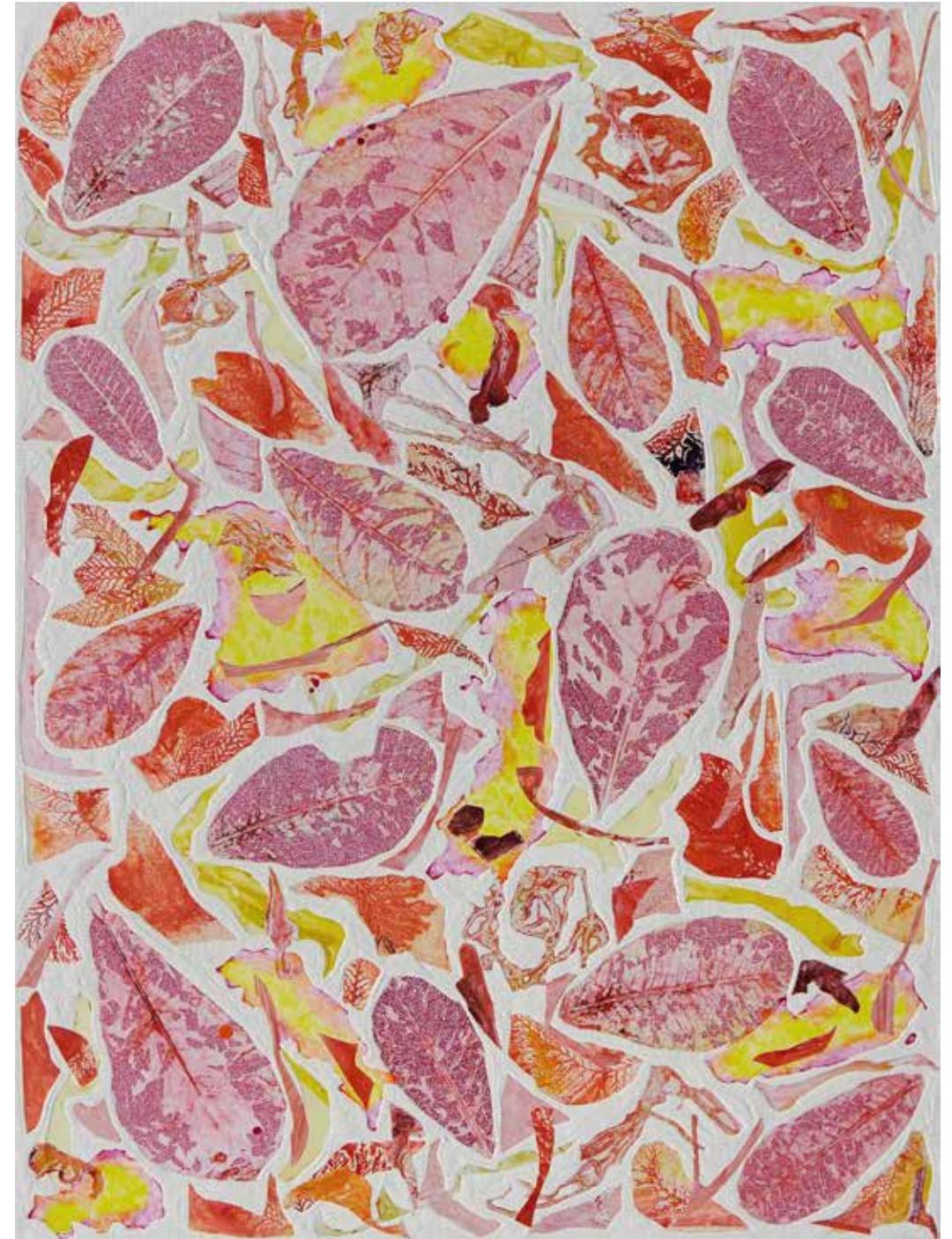


**Sirik-sirik Alas 5**

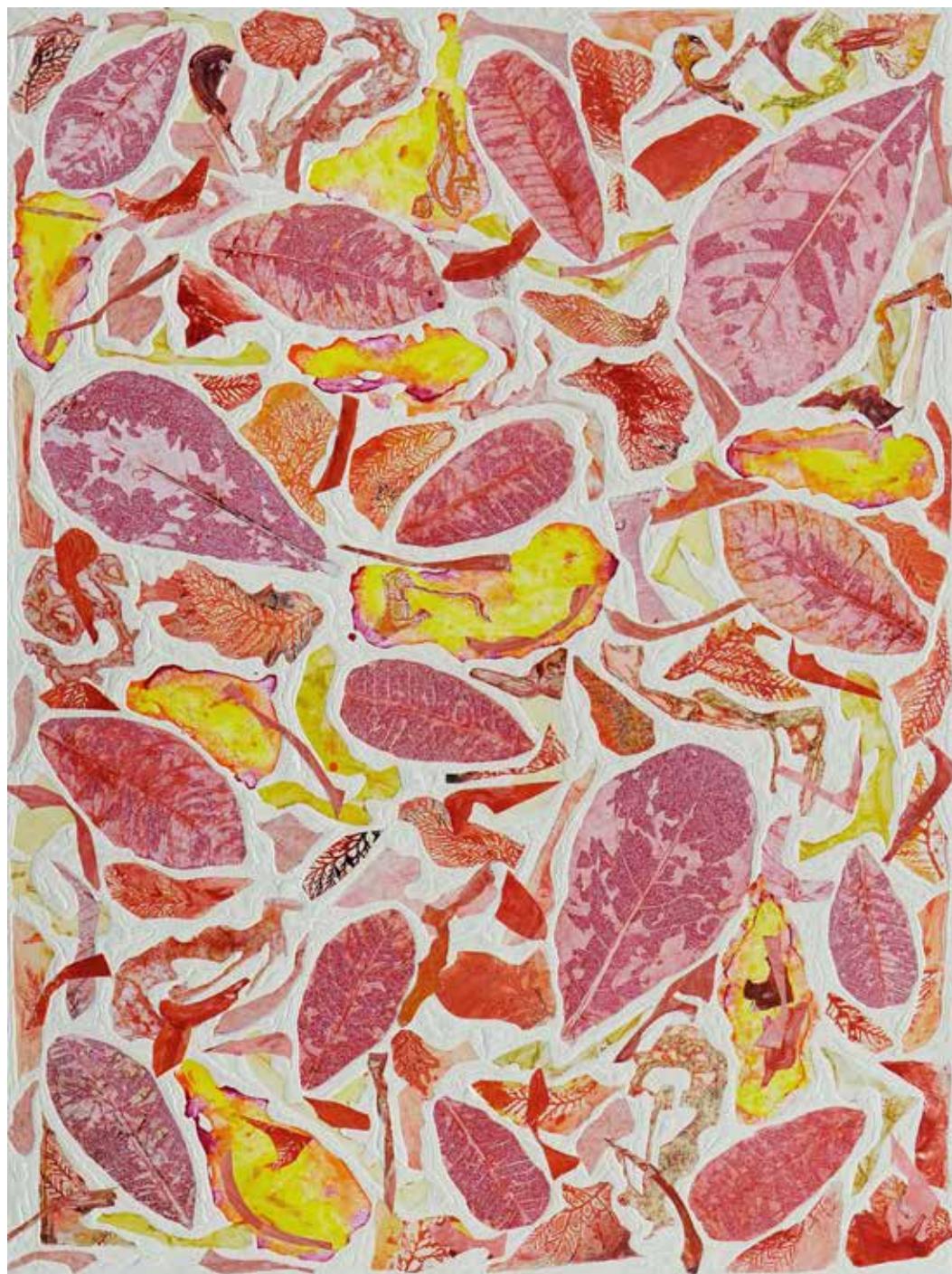
139x200cm | Mixed Media on Canvas | 2021



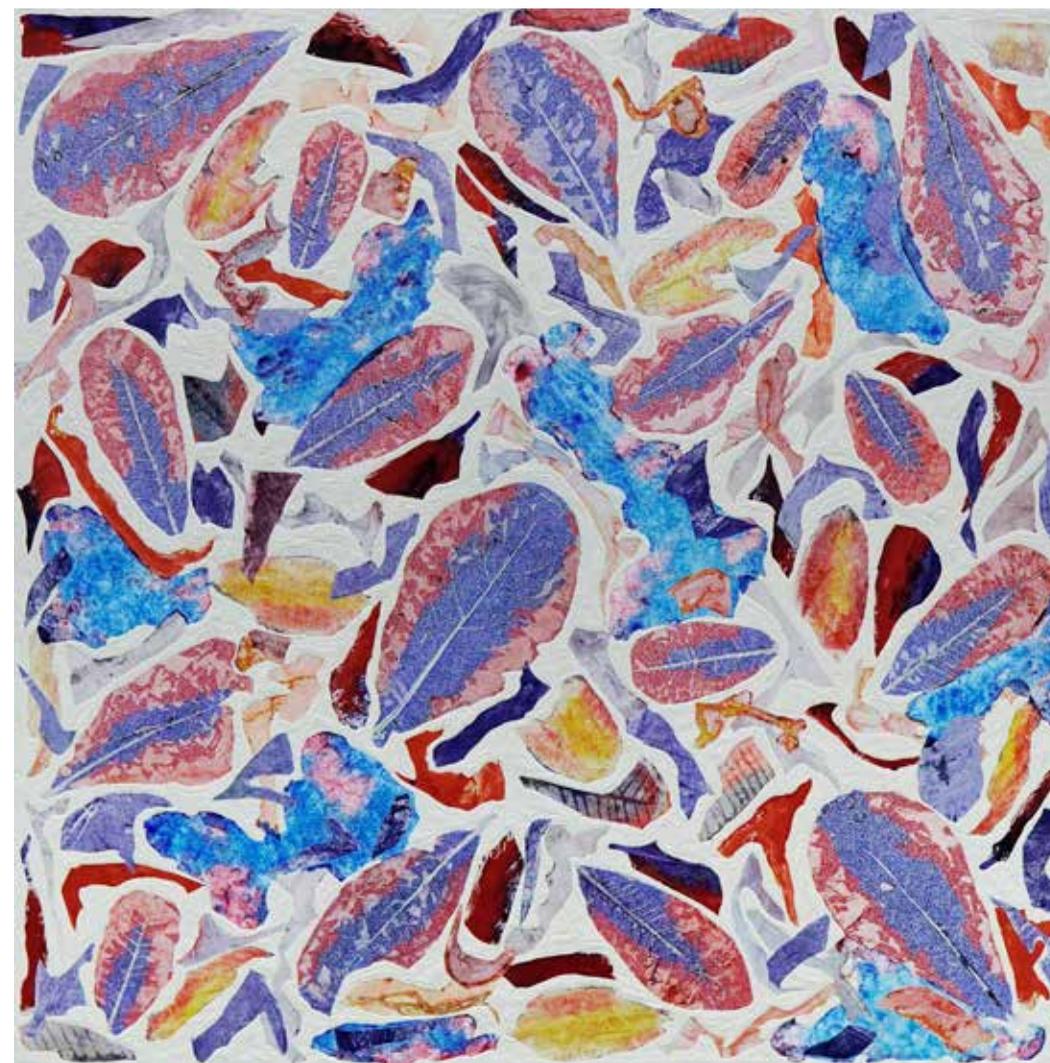
**Sirik-sirik Alas 6/1**  
101x76cm | Mixed Media on Canvas | 2021



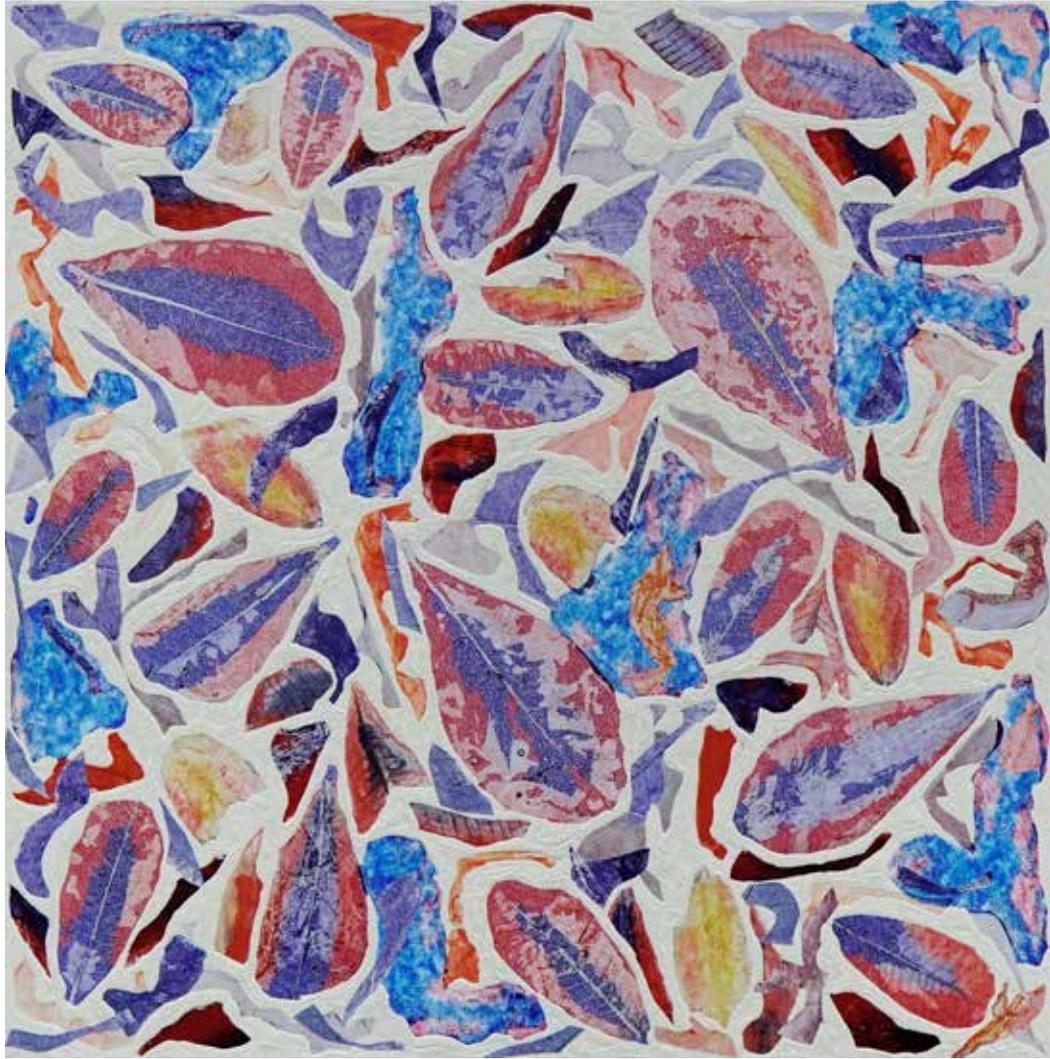
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101x76cm | Mixed Media on Canvas | 2021



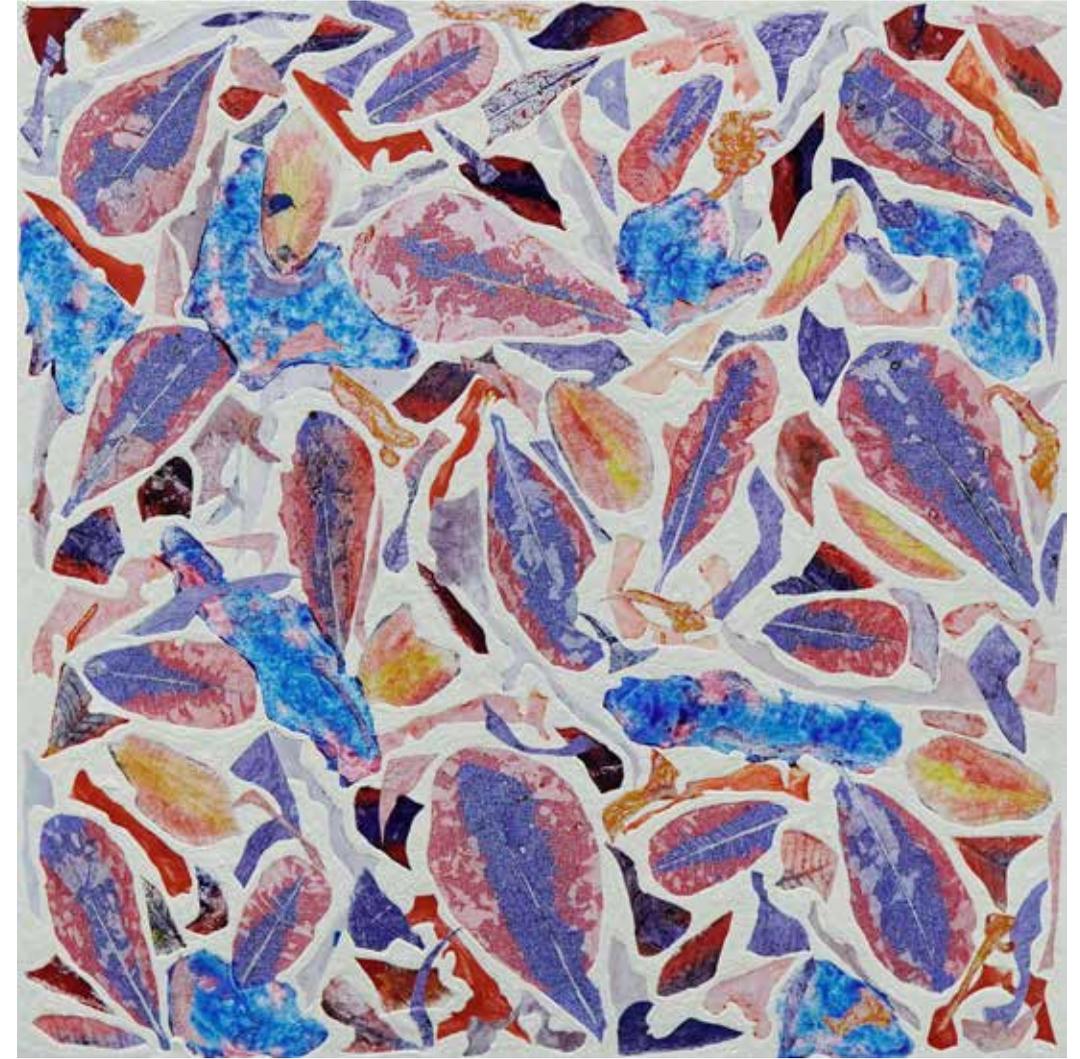
**Sirik-sirik Alas 6/3**  
101x76cm | Mixed Media on Canvas | 2021



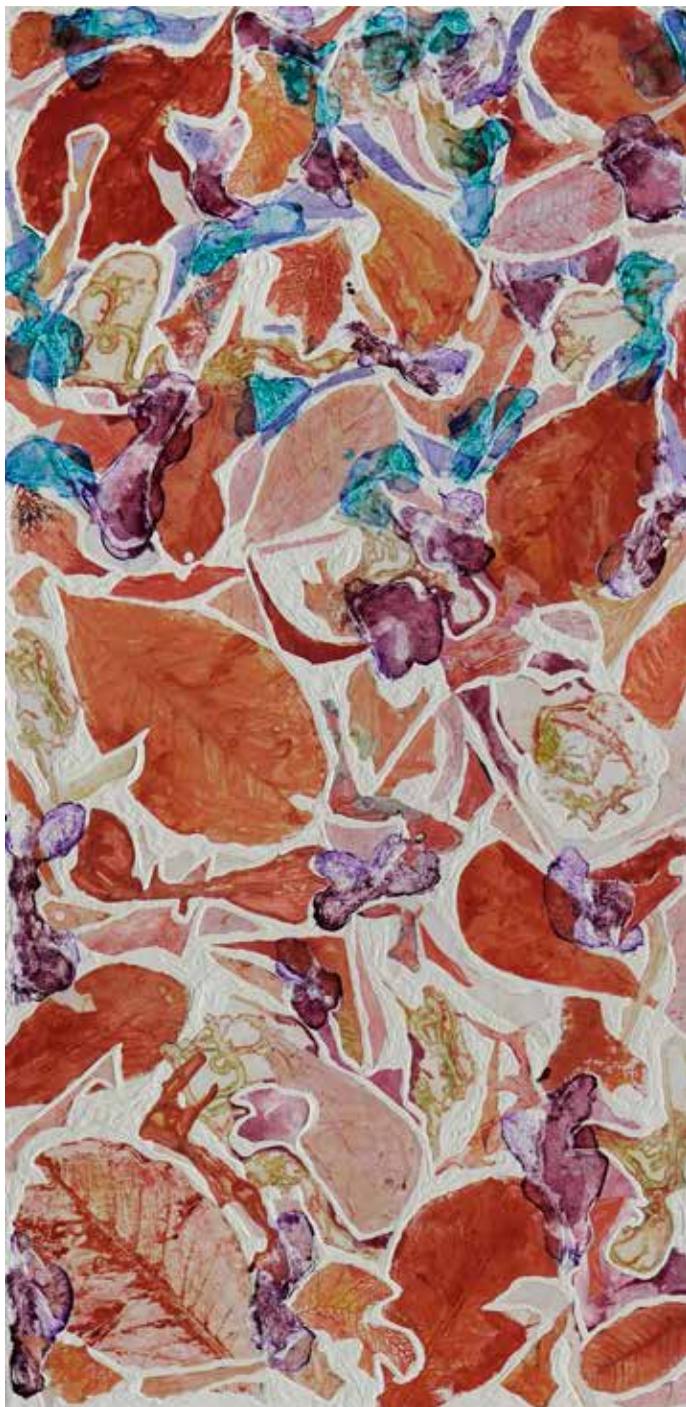
**Sirik-sirik Alas 7/1**  
91x91cm | Mixed Media on Canvas | 2021



**Sirik-sirik Alas 7/2**  
91x91cm | Mixed Media on Canvas | 2021



**Sirik-sirik Alas 7/3**  
91x91cm | Mixed Media on Canvas | 2021



**Sirik-sirik Alas 8/1**

122x60cm | Mixed Media on Canvas | 2021



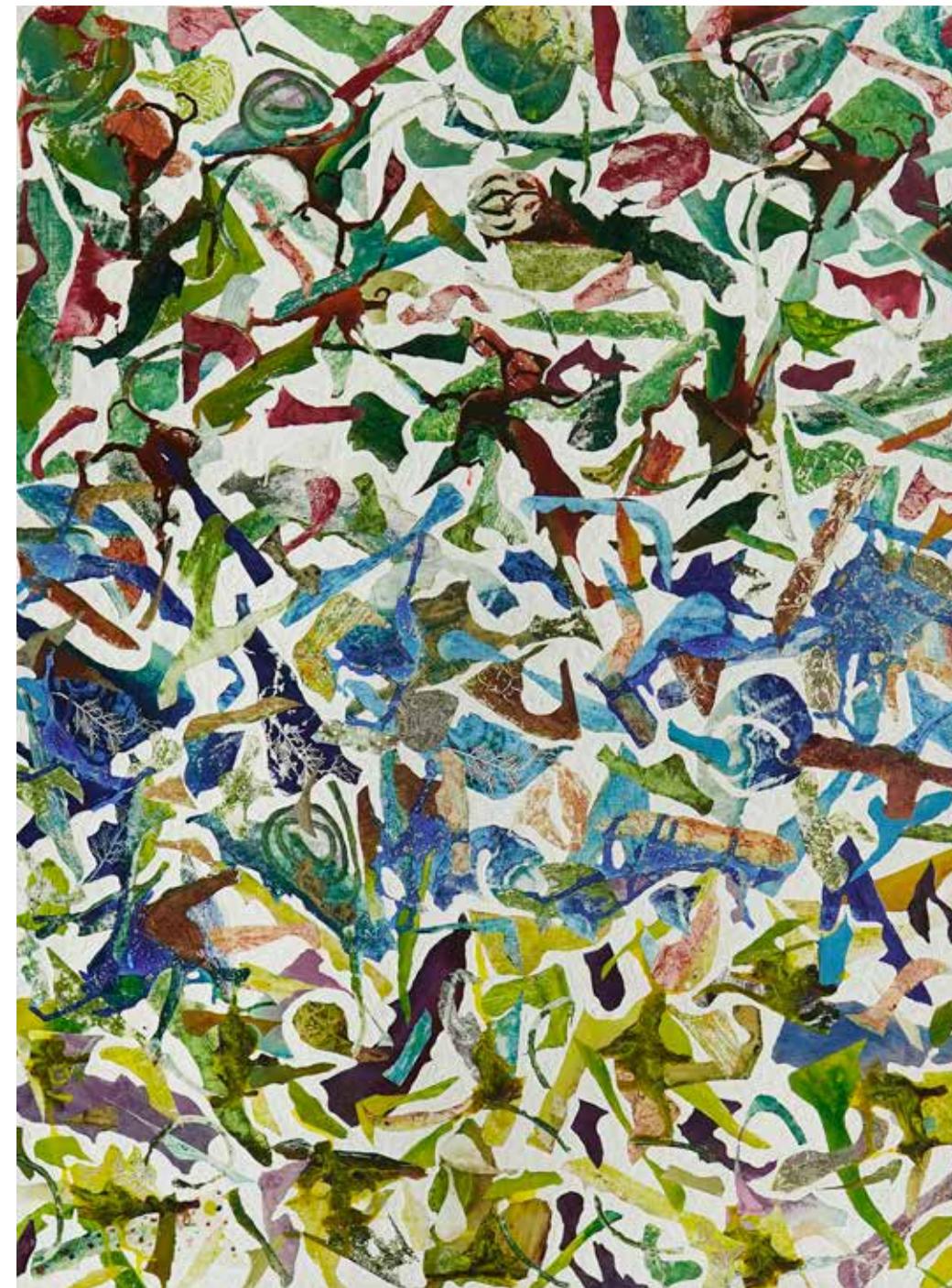
**Sirik-sirik Alas 8/2**

122x60cm | Mixed Media on Canvas | 2021



**Sirik-sirik Alas 8/3**

122x60cm | Mixed Media on Canvas | 2021



**Usia Alam**

122x91cm | Mixed Media on Canvas | 2021



**Sirik-Sirik Alas**  
Nik Mohd Husaidie  
10 - 24 December 2021





## Nik Mohd Husyaidie

Born 1990, Kelantan, Malaysia.

### EDUCATION

- 2016 M.A Visual Art and Design, Universiti Sains Malaysia
- 2013 B.A Hons, Fine Art. USM, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Major (Painting), Minor (Acting & Directing)

### SOLO EXHIBITION

- 2021 Sirik-Sirk Alas, G13 Project Room, G13 Gallery, Kuala Lumpur

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 Penang Art Open Exhibition, Penang State Museum, Georgetown, Pulau Pinang.  
SPOTLIGHT by Penang Art District, Pulau Pinang.  
ASYAAF, Asian Students and Young Artists Art Festival, South Korea.  
Uncertainty Dissolves, Museum and Gallery Tuanku Fauziah, USM, Pulau Pinang.
- 2019 Auction, Heart For Rohingya, Foyer Dewan Sri Pinang, Pulau Pinang.
- 2018 Constructed Environmental and Shared Experience, Galeri Seni, UPSI.  
Togetherness, Bookxcess @ Tamarind Square, Cyberjaya, Selangor.
- 2017 Longing Memories Trio, Hom Art Trans, Kuala Lumpur.  
All Young & New Malaysian Artist 2017, Hom Art Trans, Kuala Lumpur.
- 2016 Penang Art Open Exhibition, Penang State Museum, Georgetown, Pulau Pinang.  
Visual Redux, By Satu: Creative Collective, Hin Bus Depot, Pulau Pinang.  
Kelantan Art Open Exhibition, Kelantan State Museum, Kelantan.
- 2015 Peripetia, M.A, Penang State Museum, Georgetown, Pulau Pinang
- 2013 Final Year Project, B.A, Museum and Gallery Tuanku Fauziah, USM, Pulau Pinang.
- 2010 Monster From The Crypt, Gallery 27, USM, Pulau Pinang.

### COMMISSION WORK

- 2018 Four Season Hotel Kuala Lumpur, Hom Art Trans, Kuala Lumpur.  
Pavilion Hotel Kuala Lumpur, Art Pioneer Studio Limited, Shanghai China.

## **ABOUT G13 GALLERY:**

G13 Gallery identifies and collaborates with the artists that show potential, relevance, and depth in their works. The gallery aspires to develop synergy between artists domestically and internationally, and it achieves this through cross-border collaborations, residences, and exhibitions. G13 Gallery aims to realize a greater appreciation for Asian art, has been actively participating in multiple regional art fairs over the past few years.

Published in conjunction with the exhibition :

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G Thirteen Gallery Sdn Bhd

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