



Gillman Barracks
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Art Fair | Press Release

Asia NOW 2025

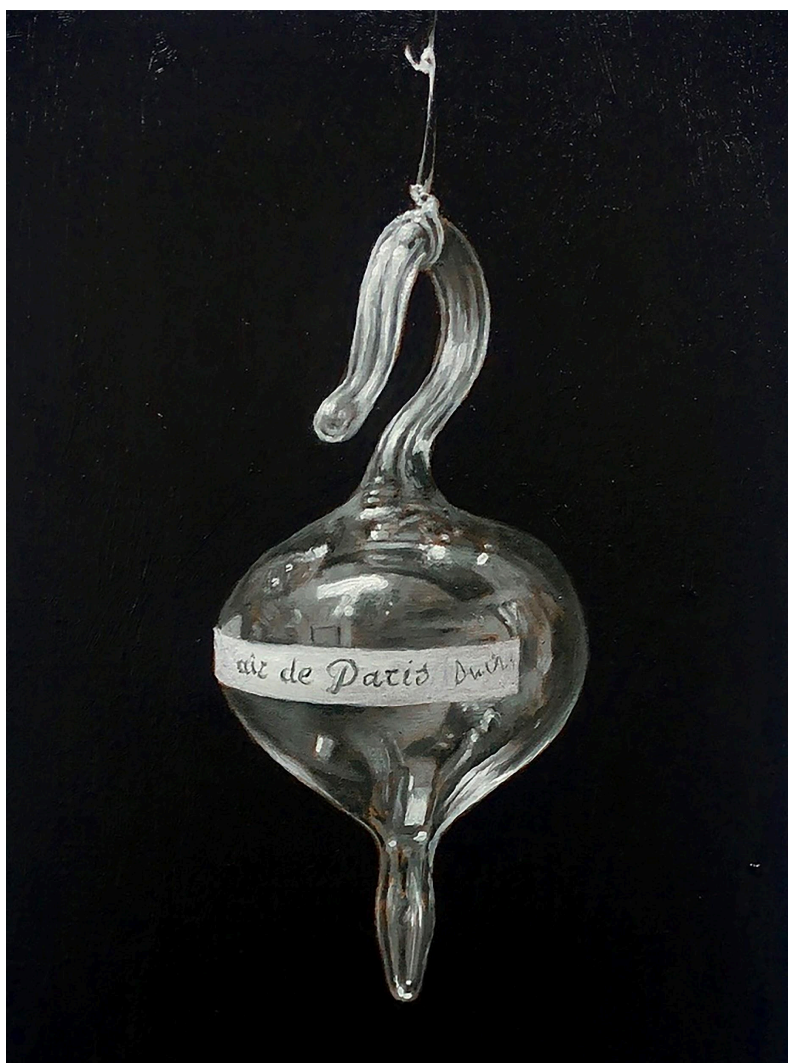
Noor Mahnun (Anum) & Filippo Sciascia

Booth S12

VIP Preview: Tuesday 21 October

Public Days: 22-26 October

Monnaie de Paris, 11 Quai de Conti, Paris, France 75006



Filippo Sciascia, *About Marcel Duchamp (2)*, 2022. Courtesy of the artist and Yeo Workshop.

October 2025, Paris — This autumn, Yeo Workshop is delighted to present a duo exhibition by **Noor Mahnun (Anum)** and **Filippo Sciascia** at **ASIA NOW – The Paris Asian Art Fair**, now in its 11th edition. The exhibition unfolds around a shared premise: **Asia as a site of dialogue**. Our duo-presentation turns on affinities that cross continents and



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disciplines—Asia as a site of belonging, and art as a medium of resonance. Both artists, through visually distinct practices and approach, embody this transcontinental conversation at the core of Asia NOW's mission.

For **Anum** (b.1964, Kelantan, Malaysia), this return to Europe marks a poignant milestone—**forty years since her first solo in Florence, Italy**. Trained in architecture in the United States before pursuing an arts major Braunschweig, Germany, Anum's practice is shaped by rigorous technique learnt and honed across continents before her return to Malaysia. Her figurative paintings interlace references from everyday life, popular culture and literature. New works that will be presented at the fair take inspiration from myriad forms of entertainment in music and dance, from the Bollywood movie *An Evening in Paris* (1967) to Salome's dance of the seven veils. She also references Poussin's *The Arcadian Shepherds*, to reflect on the notion of utopia and fantasy. Beneath their guise of naivety and delicacy, her works weave subtle psychological narratives with a droll attitude towards the unusual, even if banal. A signature motif in her paintings is repeating patterned tiles in varying shades of cool and warm colours, as intricate tiles in the foreground of *Disc* or paired ingeniously with a still life as a diptych such as in *Slipper O / Solo* and *Duo*. With her calculated choice of colours and clever calibration of proportionality, a curious harmony exudes from these compositions.

For **Sciascia** (b.1972, Sicily, Italy; lives and works in Bali, Indonesia), the story is one of embeddedness and immersion in Bali, Indonesia. A Sicilian artist who has lived in Bali for twenty-six years since 1998, he takes **Light**, humanity's fundamental force of evolution, as both medium and metaphor for his compositions. His practice is one of temporal layering, drawing on organic materials found in the tropics such as volcanic ash and fossilised amber, to meditate on time, knowledge, and the intersections between anthropology, ritual, and technological evolution. Like Anum, he subtly incorporates classical painting motifs and techniques to his sculptural objects, such as the eyes of Saint Lucy from Italian renaissance painting. Or *Primitive Mornings*, a fragment of a Greco-Roman mask, which recalls the ancient epoch of both Man and Earth, while simultaneously gesturing at Balinese rituals and the Hellenistic world. The sculptures are paintings on found materials, evoking his childhood in Sicily among ancient ruins, and reflecting on the shared paleolithic beginnings of humanity.

Together, **Anum and Sciascia** represent the crossings that Asia NOW has championed for more than a decade: between East and West, past and present, art history and lived experience. There is a transnational dialogue of methodologies and techniques amongst the two. They remind us that art is not simply a reflection of place, but a way of reimagining it.



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Noor Mahnun (Anum), *Disco*, 2024. Courtesy of the artist and Yeo Workshop.



Filippo Sciascia, *Primitive Mornings*, 2020. Courtesy of the artist and Yeo Workshop.



Artist Biographies

Noor Mahnun (Anum) (b.1964, Kelantan, Malaysia) trained in architecture in the United States before pursuing her Master of Fine Arts in painting at Hochschule für Bildende Künste in Braunschweig, Germany. During her time in Europe, she held solo shows in Florence and across Germany, and upon returning to Malaysia, became an active figure in the local art scene — not only as an artist, but also as a curator, educator, and arts manager.

She was artist-in-residence at Rimbun Dahan in Kuang, Selangor (2000-2001) and received a scholarship from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for a printmaking course at Il Bisonte, Florence (2002-2003). Her solo exhibitions include 'Disco Lombok Still Life' (2017) at The Edge Galerie, Kuala Lumpur and 'September' (2021) at The Back Room, Kuala Lumpur. She completed her Master's in Fine Art at Hochschule für Bildende Künste, Braunschweig, 1996. Her first solo exhibition 'ANUM' with the gallery was held in May 2025.

Following her participation in international art fairs such as Frieze Seoul and NADA Miami in 2024, Anum's work has gained renewed attention from collectors and institutions alike. Her quiet mastery and distinctive voice make her one of the most compelling mid-career artists from the region to watch.

Filippo Sciascia (b.1972, Sicily, Italy; lives and works in Bali, Indonesia) explores the pictorial tensions between painting and imaging technology to challenge the boundaries of painting as a practice. Working between figuration and abstraction, he uses Light as a fundamental conceptual and material medium to challenge the boundaries of painting and the representational.

His work has been exhibited internationally including at Jogja Museum, Yogyakarta (2025); Banquet Gallery, Milan (2025); Yeo Workshop, Singapore (2024, 2021, 2019, 2017); Nonfrasa gallery, Bali (2024); Istituto Italiano Di Cultura Jakarta, Embassy Of Italy Jakarta and Museum Pasifika Bali (2023); Ruang Dini, Jakarta (2021); Galerie Pedro Cera, Lisbon (2019); Sarang I, Yogyakarta (2016); Archeological National Museum, Naples (2013); 54th La Biennale di Venezia (2011); among others.

Based in Bali, Sciascia has also played a significant role in reshaping the Balinese art scene. Founder of the Gaya Gallery (active 1998 - 2008), he provided a platform for local Balinese artists and facilitated collaborations with prominent figures in the contemporary art scene. His contributions extend to translating exhibitions to the Indonesian pavilion at the Venice Biennale, showcasing artists like Made Wianta (2003) and Krisna Murti (2005).



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Public Programme

Panel Discussion

Myths, Dreams and New Realities

Three Artists Who Reimagine Traditions and Futures

Saturday 25 October, 2pm

Asia NOW, Monnaie de Paris

Curated by Bagri Foundation

This panel brings together artists **Noor Mahnun (Anum)**, Hoa Dung Clerget and Macha Pangilinan, who are re-examining art histories and cultural belief systems through the creation of their own unique realities and speculative imagery. Each artist interprets traditions from multi-cultural backgrounds and presents them through a fresh lens. Via painting and rigorous attention to material and process, their global influences manifest new visions of art historical tropes and domestic scenery.



About Asia NOW

Asia NOW – The Paris Asian Art Fair is a curated art fair amplifying the artistic voices of Asia and its diaspora. For more than a decade, Asia NOW continues to transcend the borders that have defined East and West. Guided by the decentering mission initiated by [My East is Your West](#) (The Gujural Foundation, Venice, 2015), the fair continues to explore the “blind spots” of traditional fairs that often function merely as incubators. It challenges established perspectives, amplifies quieter voices, and opens a space where Asia is more than a geography, but a methodology, a movement.

Fair Hours:

VIP Preview (by invitation)

Tuesday 21 October, 2-5pm; Vernissage, 5-7.30pm

Wednesday 22 October - Sunday 26 October, 10-11am

Public Days

Wednesday 22 October, 11am-9pm

Thursday 23 October - Saturday 25 October, 11am-8pm

Sunday 26 October, 11am-7pm



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About Yeo Workshop

Yeo Workshop is a contemporary art gallery based in Singapore's Gillman Barracks, dedicated to showcasing Southeast Asian artists who push the boundaries of visual culture. From traditional painting and sculpture to cutting-edge digital media, the gallery fosters a bold and diverse program that engages with pressing socio-cultural issues, encouraging critical dialogue and fresh perspectives.

Yeo Workshop regularly participates in leading international art fairs, most recently including Asia NOW Paris, Frieze Seoul, Frieze New York and Liste Basel. For its 12th Anniversary this year, the gallery has launched a year-long calendar of events aimed at deepening art appreciation and collecting. Highlights include a landmark monograph, intimate life drawing sessions, artist talks, and panel discussions, all designed to connect collectors, artists, and the wider creative community. Committed to fostering artistic growth through education and outreach, the gallery continues to nurture the next generation of talents and patrons.

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