

## INK JOURNEYS

As a newcomer seeking to unravel the elusive, layered nuances of the art of ink on rice paper, Kiat Sing has found her search richly rewarding.

Though the results of her experimentation echo, sometimes with striking resemblance, works by more established artists, she is nonetheless intrigued and fascinated by the similar outcome or conclusion, which she had not intended or expected in her own, when she first started.

Kiat Sing is particularly excited and even encouraged when told that her **Moodscape Drawings** depicting the void and separateness between Heaven and Earth recalls the abstract landscapes of Singapore artist Choong Chee Pang and the Nobel Laureate Gao Xingjian, and the more representational ones by Jia Youfu from China. On the suggestion of the Zen-like meditative quality of the board sweeps and bold splashes of her brushstrokes as in the **Shouting** pieces, she modestly denies any spiritual and religious practice. She confesses though to inspiration from the concept of *qian/kun*, the universe, from the Taoist cosmology in the Chinese classic **Yijing** (The Book of Change), as a recurring theme especially in her **Moodscape Drawings Series 3 & 4**. She incorporates this in her work "to reflect the moods evoked by everyday things around me".

In these contemplations which she generously shares with the viewer of the exhibition, we see Kiat Sing going on an exploration without thinking too much where it might take her. For her the adventure has turned out to be a stimulating experience, from which she must have learnt a great deal more about ink painting that she would have if she had set out in search of particular effects with her brush after the styles of earlier seekers.

I am sure Kiat Sing will in time tell us further tales from her ink journeys, which she will no doubt continue with great enthusiasm.

TEO HAN WUE



moodscape drawings 2.2 #1 & 2  
chinese ink  
26.5 x 35 cm (x 2)  
2001 Jan