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## Redressing the balance

INSTEAD of sitting around and discussing the continued under-representation of women in Kuala Lumpur's contemporary art scene, a group of young and emerging female visual artists have taken pro-active measures to get their art out.

A collective called Cerebral V – featuring artists like Christine Das, Jasmine Kok, Lisa Foo, Poojitha Menon and Yante Ismail – has collaborated for the group exhibition *Facets*.

The show, now on at the White Box, MAP, Publika in Kuala Lumpur, comes with strong female-centred narratives. Supported by Artemis Gallery, the *Facets* show sees each of five artists creating a shared platform to exchange and vocalise their ideas, dreams and concerns.

The exhibition covers a broad of issues, from self-discovery and sensuality, to environmental sustainability, and numerous other concerns. For this show, the nature-loving Das has seven paintings (acrylic on canvas), while Poojitha and Yante, both using oil on canvas, contribute nine and five paintings respectively. Kok has 16 works (sculptures and paintings) alongside a wall montage of 15 small ceramic works, while Foo is behind the crafty site-specific installations (two large and about 20 small works).

*Facets* runs until Aug 23 at White Box, MAP, Publika in Kuala Lumpur. Free admission. Opening times: 11am to 7pm. For more info, visit: [www.artemisartgallery.com](http://www.artemisartgallery.com).

Elsewhere, a group of 19 contemporary artists from Malaysia and Indonesia, through a collaboration between the Malaysian AIDS Foundation (MAF) and Segaris Art Center, have worked together to launch the ARTAID15 exhibition in the hope of highlighting and relieving the plight of underprivileged women living with HIV in Malaysia.

Led by two of Malaysia's most acclaimed fine artists Ahmad Zakii Anwar and Jalaini Abu Hassan, the ARTAID15 artists contributed between them a total of 23 original art pieces to be sold for the benefit of MAF's treatment, care and support programmes. The first installment of its kind, ARTAID15 is poised to place itself among the most anticipated annual arts and social events in the years to come, especially with the participation of three renowned Indonesian artists Jumaldi Alfi, Putu Sutawijaya and Yunizar.

Joining the three Indonesian artists are Malaysia's own Ahmad Shukri Mohamed, Bayu Utomo Radjikin, Chang Fee Ming, Chong Ai Lei, Chong Siew Ying, Fadilah Karim, Fauzul Yusri, Johari Said, Kow Leong Kiang, Noor Mahnun Mohamed, Sabri Idrus, Shia Yih Ying, Umi Baizura and Yusri Suleiman, in addition to Ahmad Zakii and Jailani.

ARTAID15 opens on Aug 21 and will end on Aug 31 at Segaris Art Center, Publika, Solaris Dutamas in Kuala Lumpur. For more info, visit: [yam.org.my/artaid15](http://yam.org.my/artaid15) or call Arif (MAF) at 012-959-4596.

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