



SUN YU-LI

Artist

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About

Sun Yu-li is one of Singapore's leading artists. He has a distinctive style, unique and innovative technique. Yu-li is an active artist who has put Singapore on the world map with overseas installations and exhibitions. Yu-li gives back to community through charity efforts, educational outreach and advisory roles. Yu-li constantly reaches out to other arts groups (dancers, musicians, theatre groups) to stage new forms of artistic expression. He strives to bring art to people with initiatives like the Chingay Art Float, PA Talent Musical, SMRT EZ-Link cards, National postal stamps, National coins and KrisShop Gift Pack. Yu-li is the 2016 Dayawati Modi Award recipient for his outstanding contributions to the field of Fine Arts.

Education/Professional Qualifications

University of Illinois, USA, Master of Urban Planning
Catholic University of America, USA, Master of Architecture
Tung-Hai University, Taiwan, China, Bachelor of Architecture
Registered Architect, NSW, Australia
Registered Architect, Taiwan, ROC

Arts Training/Membership/Positions Held

Tutelage under Professor YuYu Yang, renowned Taiwanese sculptor	(1985-1997)
Board Member, International Young Artists Exchange, TOPH	(Since 2013)
Founder and Director of Sculpture Square Singapore	(1996-2010)
National Arts Council Resources Panel member	(1998-2006)
Advisor to URA for Marina Bay Youth Olympic Park Singapore	(2006-2008)
Advisor to YuYu Yang Sculpture Park, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, China	(2006-2008)
Founder and Core Member of Emily Hill Artist Village	(Since 2006)
Advisor of Sculpture Society Singapore	(Since 2001)
Member of Modern Art Society Singapore	(Since 1998)
Member of Singapore Art Society	(Since 1996)

Artistic Intention

Sun's artistic pursuit of truth is through oriental and western reasoning in art. His art is an expression of abstract thought based on metaphysical principles. He is interested not in forms per se but in finding the form from which all forms originate.

The knowledge fields of topology, archaeology, metaphysics, linguistics and mathematics intrigue Sun.

His artistic mind is helped by the rational and logical instinct, which sets him apart from other artists.

His attempts are about the spark of insight that is attained when man seeks the highest knowledge. It is about the point of genesis when man experiences at first-hand the fullness of the origin of creativity and emotion.

Artistic Style

Yu-Li's sculptures have been described as "sculptures of the mind" and his style "an expression of abstract thought based on metaphysical principles". His works have simple shapes and forms, but there is deeper meaning behind his works.

As a former architect, Yu-li has a rational and logical mind and he has spent over past 30 years studying the fundamentals of metaphysics, linguistics, topology, geometry, archaeology and philosophy. He has developed the "Universal Language" in search of the "universal truth"; a search for the original state of form. Thus he is interested in not forms per se, but in finding the "form from which all forms originate" and he strives to create the "sculpture of all sculptures".

Artistic Technique

He has his own unique way of creating, inspired by the essence of the Universal Language: Beginning with the dot, forming a line, then progressing to a plane, and finally into volume. Just as grammar is basic and fundamental to language, Yu-li attempts to achieve the mutual communication between creator and viewer through the use of basic concepts and structural models. His technique is unique and innovative, and completely different from more traditional sculpting methods: For the shaping of moulds, he cuts basic shapes or "forms" from cardboards, stacks them and twists them into shapes and forms. He then turns these moulds into sculptures of various materials.

Recent Innovation

He continues to experiment with different techniques, instead of casting metal, his latest innovation is to incorporate LED light into his stainless steel sculptures. He hand-forges metal sheets, which makes him freer to incorporate metal frames inside his sculptures. This enables him to make his sculptures with greater dimensions yet stronger, lighter and easier to move around. In the past years, with NAC's support, he has been able to bring art to people in different places; with a mobile exhibition called "Arts on the Move" which saw his large art pieces exhibited at Sentosa, City Link, Paragon, Night Safari, Fullerton and One Esplanade. His sculpture "Heaven and Earth" traveled to Beijing and was exhibited at the China World Hotel and Kerry Centre from October 2007 to June 2008.

Selected Exhibitions / Events

- 2019.09 "FaithWorks" Catholic Foundation Fundraising Event, Singapore
- 2019.09 Sun Yu Li & Ramon Orlina, SG-PH@50 Charitable Art Exhibition, Manila, Philippines
- 2019.08 PAssionArts Festival – Bukit Gombak, Singapore
- 2019.06 Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre Exhibition, Singapore
- 2019.06 "Turning Point", Parklane, Singapore
- 2019.02 Chingay Finale Float (Dreams Funtasia – Bicentennial Edition), Singapore
- 2019.01 Singapore Sculpture Society – Wood Symposium, Pasir Ris Park-Singapore
- 2018.04 Urban Planning Festival – Live Art Jamming, URA Centre, Singapore
- 2017.12 "A Message from Outside", Global Cultural Alliance, Singapore
- 2017.05 London BAFTA Golden Gala, Charitable Auction, London
- 2017.01 SSS International Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition, Singapore
- 2016.12 Modern Art Society (MASS) Annual Show, Singapore
- 2016.08 Fukushima Traumatized Children Art Workshop, Singapore
- 2016.03 Monaco Royal Ball Charitable Auction, Hong Kong
- 2016.01 Singapore Sculpture Society – Wood Symposium, Fort Canning Park-Singapore
- 2015.03 SingaPlural "Celebrating Design", Singapore
- 2015.03 SHBA Charitable Auction at Resort World, Singapore
- 2015.02 Chingay Prelude & Finale Float (Trees of Hope, Singapore Dreams), Singapore
- 2014.06 PAssionArts Festival, Singapore
- 2014.03 Tree of Hope, Youth Square, Hong Kong
- 2014.01 Tree of Hope, iLight Marina Bay Art Festival, Singapore
- 2013.08 Wishing Tree, Malay Heritage Center, Singapore
- 2013.06 Love. Revolve The World, Painting Exhibition, Singapore Art Museum
- 2012.12 The Wishing tree, Fete Des Lumieres Lighting Art Festival, Lyon France
- 2012.10 Looking for You, Bratislava, Slovakia and Brono/Prague, Czech
- 2012.06 Vivid Sydney, Passage to Happiness, NSW, Australia
- 2012.01 Elephant Parade- Painting of Baby Emily and Baby Paragon
- 2011.11 Helix, Fete Des Lumieres Lighting Art Festival, Lyon France
- 2011.11 100 Friends, TCC the Gallery, Singapore
- 2011.05 Vivid Sydney Lighting Festival, Australia
- 2011.05 Sculpture Society 10th Anniversary show, Singapore
- 2010.11 Stage Design for "Nut Cracker in Singapore", musical, UCC, Singapore
- 2010.10 In Celebration, iLight Marina Bay Art Festival, Singapore
- 2010.10 47th Mass annual Exhibition, Singapore
- 2010.04 "Quest" The Gallery at TCC, Singapore (Solo)
- 2008.11 Asia on the Edge, Singapore
- 2008.02 Chingay 2008 Art Float, Singapore
- 2007.10 China World Hotel/Beijing Kerry Center, China (Solo)
- 2006.05 Art on the Move, 6 prominent venues, Singapore (Solo)
- 2004.01 Mapping the Universe (2003), Singapore (Solo)

Selected Public & Private Collections (1990 - Present)

“Dreaming High” / Office Wall / 10.0m(L) x 2.1m(H) / Emulsion Paint Endowus, Singapore	2019
Artistic Intervention, LKY World City Summit / Murals 69m(L) x 2.5m(H) / 16 Totems / paint on canvas 220m ² , with 800 participants Medellin, Colombia	2019
“Globe-Trotter” / stainless steel / 1.2m(W) x 1.2m(H) x 1.0m(D) Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre	2019
“Home” / stainless steel / 1.8m(W) x 2.1m(H) x 0.6m(D) Teck Ghee Community Club, Singapore	2018
“Family” – 160 Years Anniversary / stainless steel / 2.1m(H) x 1.2m(W) x 0.45m(D) KK Women's and Children's Hospital, Singapore	2018
“Friends from Afar” / Painted Stainless Steel / 1.8m(H) x 1.2m(W) x 0.6m(D) “In Conversation” / Fiberglass / 1.0m(W) x 2.0m(H) x 0.6m(D) MediaCorp Singapore	2017
“One Belt, One Road” / stainless steel and brass / 6 pcs of large public sculptures along Beijing 3rd Ring Road, China	2017
“Petai Symphony” / stainless steel / 3.0m(W) x 12.0m(H) x 1.8m(D) Duo Tower, Singapore	2017
“Togetherness” / paint on canvas / involving 1,000 NTUC First Campus Staff Participants / 3.0m(H) x 14.0m(L), Singapore	2017
“Love is ...” / Art Mosaic Mural / 2.0m(H) x 20.0m(L) Waterway Point, Singapore	2016
“Our Mosaic for NDP 51” / paint on canvas / involving 45,000 participants / 400.0m(W) x 2.1m(H), Singapore	2016
“Heaven & Earth” / Brass / 4.0m(W) x 2.1m(H) x 1.2m(D) Singapore	2016
“Passion Arts 2015” / paint on canvas / cover 10 HDB – block facades Singapore	2015
“Ocean Rhythm” / stainless steel / 1.8m(H) x 3.0m(W) x 2.1m(D) Singapore	2015
“Reaching High”/stainless steel/5.8m(H) x 2.2m(W) x 2.2m(D) SEA Games Singapore	2015
“Yu Neng 80”/brass / 5.6m(W) x 2.2m(H) Yu Neng School, Singapore	2015
“With My Heart”/stainless steel / 2.2m(H) x 1.6m(W) x 1.6m(D) Yu Neng School, Singapore	2015
“Perpetually” / stainless steel/brass / 3pcs / each 2.4m(H) x 1.5m(W) x 1.5m(D) China Trust, Shanghai, China	2014
“Love Is”/ stainless steel / 2.2m(H) x 2.2m(W) x 5.5m(D) Melbourne, Australia	2014
“Treble Clef”/ stainless steel / 4.2m(H) x 2.2m(W) x 2.2m(D) Paterson II, Singapore	2014
“Tree of Hope” / stainless steel / 3.2m(H) x 6.5m(W) x 6.5m(D) Chai Wan, Hong Kong	2014
“Guardians” / stainless steel / 4pcs / each 3.6m(H) x 2.4m(W) x 1.2m(D) Shen Zhen, China	2013
“5 Element” / stainless steel/brass / 5pcs / each 2.4m(H) x 1.2m(W) x 1.2m(D) Mount Kiara Condominium, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	2013
“Space/Time Tunnel”/ stainless steel / 3.0m(H) x 3.0m(W) x 8.0m(L) Suzhou Industrial Park MRT Station, Suzhou, China	2013
“Dot/Line/Plane” / digital printed paintings / 7pcs / each 1.2m(H) x 2.0m(W) DFG Bank, Singapore	2012
“Flying High” / stainless steel / 5pcs / 0.3m(H) x 1.2m(W) x 1.2m(D) Holland Collection Condominium, Singapore	2012
“Echo” / stainless steel / 3 pcs / 1.8m(H) x 0.6m(W) x 0.60(D) Hangzhou, China	2011

“Loose II” / brass / 2.0m(H) x 1.2m(W) x 1.2m(D) Marq Condominium, Singapore	2011
“Window of Hope” / brass / 4.5m(H) x 4.5m(W) x 5.5(W) Collyer Quay, Singapore	2010
“Cosmic Dance II” / digital paintings / 12 pieces, each 0.9m(H) x 1.5m(W) EFG Bank, Singapore	2010
“Entwining” / stainless steel / 0.4m(H) x 2.0m(W) x 0.4m(D) Marina Bay Front, Singapore	2010
“Celestial Earth II” / cast bronze / 2.0m(H) x 2.0m(W) x 0.8m(D) Private collection, Singapore	2009
“Collaborate” / stainless steel / 4.2m(H) x 6.6m(W) x 4.2m(D) Kerry Center, Beijing China	2008
“Globe Trotter” / stainless steel / 0.8m(H) x 0.8m(W) x 0.8m(D) Fraser Service Apartment, Beijing, China	2008
“Alpha Omega” / stainless steel / 2pcs / 4.2m(H) x 2.2m(W) x 2.2m(D) Keppel Marina, Singapore	2008
“Heaven & Earth” / stainless steel / 3pcs / 2.4m(H) x 6.0m(W) x 6.0m(D) Holmdel, New Jersey, USA	2008
“Invite” / stainless steel / 2.4m(H) x 1.6m(W) x 1.6m(D) Mega Box, Hong Kong	2007
“Friends to Solo” / stainless steel / 4.2m(H) x 6.0m(W) x 0.8m(D) Central Soho, Singapore	2007
“Singapore River Story” / glass mosaic /) x 3.2m(H) x 16.0m(W) Central Soho, Singapore	2007
“Happily Together” / stainless steel / 3.2m(H) x 5.0m(W) x 0.8m(D) Central Soho, Singapore	2007
“BC-AD” / paintings on transparency / 15pcs / 3.0m(H) x 1.0m(W) Central Soho, Singapore	2007
“Welcome” / brass / 2pcs / 3.0m(H) x 3.0m(W) x 3.0m(D) Shangri-la, Chengdu, China	2007
“Rising High” / stainless steel / 10.0m(H) x 2.0m(W) x 0.8m(D) JiangYin, China	2006 / 2007

“Prosperity” / brass / 2.25m(H) x 2.0m(W) x 2.0m(D) Shangri-la, Kwangchow, China	2006 / 2007
“Up-ward” / fiber glass / 1.7m(H) x 0.8m(W) x 0.8m(D) Gloucester Hotel, Kensington, London, England	2006
“Excel” / stainless steel / 2.4m(H) x 0.5m(W) x 0.5m(D) ITE College East Singapore	2005
“Partership” / fiber glass / 2.0cm(H) x 0.8m(W) x 0.80(D) Ahimsa Hotel, Bali, Indonesia	2005
“Mother River” / granite / 4.0m(H) x 60.0m(W) x 1.0m(D) Wuxi, Jiangsu, China	2005
“Dance” / bronze / 2pcs / each 2.2m(H) x 1.5m(W) x 1.5m(D) Pudong Shangri-la, Shanghai, China	2005
“Ascending” / fabric / 8pcs / each 4.0m(H) x 1.2m(W) x 1.2m(D) Philatelic museum, Singapore	2005
“Infineon Spirit” / stainless steel / 4.6m(H) x 4.0m(W) x 2.5m(D) Infineon Corporation, Singapore	2004
“Hand-in-Hand” / stainless steel / 2.5m(H) x 8.0m(W) x 8.0m(D) Yi-Shou University, Kaoshiung, Taiwan	2004
“Aiming High” / steel mural / 2pcs / 2.0m(H) x 6.0m(W) x 0.8m(D) Yi-Shou University, Kaoshiung, Taiwan	2004
“Unison” / stainless steel / 2.8m(H) x 1.8m(W) x 1.8m(D) Paterson Condominium, Singapore	2004
“Harmony” featured in the Singapore coins Singapore	2004
“Harmony” featured in the postal stamps Singapore/China	2004
“Circle in a Square” / fiber glass / 1.7m(H) x 1.76m(W) x 0.4m(D) Aziz Alshaimi Office Building Damman, Saudi Arabia	2003
“Unity” / steel / 6.0m(H) x 1.0m(W) x 1.0m(D), 4.0m(H) x 0.8m(W) x 0.8m(D), 2.0m(H) x 0.6m(W) x 0.6m(D), United Square, Singapore	2003
“Heaven & Earth” / bronze / 2.4m(H) x 2.4m(W) x 1.6m(D) Lex House, Berkshire, England	2002
“Harmony” / bronze / 1.05m(H) x 0.9m(W) x 0.75(D) Sheraton Utama Hotel, Brunei	2002
“Wholeness” / bronze / 1.8m(H) x 1.2m(W) x 1.2m(D) Raffles Hospital, Singapore	2002
“Integrated Art” / 180pcs on floor and pillars, BC-AD paintings Dhoby Ghaut MRT Station, Singapore	2002
“Milkyway” / glass Mosaic Mural / 4.8m(H) x 6.0m(W) Dhoby Ghaut MRT Station, Singapore	2002
“Soaring” / bronze / 3.2m(H) x 1.2m(W) x 1.2m(D) SATS Limited, Singapore	2002
“Jubilation” / steel / 1.6m(H) x 3.5m(W) x 0.47m(D) Equatorial @ Bukit Timah, Singapore	2001

“Cosmic Dance” / enamel paint / 2.0m(H) x 5.0m(W) Chase Manhattan Bank, Singapore	2001
“Harmony” / stainless steel / 12.0m(H) x 10.0m(W) x 10.0m(D) Suzhou Industrial Park, China	2001
“Stack of Stone” / cement fondue / 3.2m(H) x 1.0m(W) x 1.0m(D) Paragon Shopping Centre, Singapore	2001
“New Frontier” / bronze / 4.8m(H) x 3.8m(W) x 3.8m(D) The JTC Summit, Singapore	2000
“Circle” / aluminum / 3.2m(H) x 2.4m(W) x 2.4m(D) Wafer Park, Woodland, Singapore	2000
“Mita Spirit” / bronze / 1.6m(H) x 2.0m(W) x 1.6m(D) MICA Building, Singapore	2000
“Cosmic Dance” / Paintings on canvas / 8 pieces 10.0m(H) x 1.5m(W) MITA Building, Singapore	2000
“Celestial Clock” / stainless steel / 7.5m(H) x 7.6m(W) x 1.6m(D) Singapore History Museum	1999
“Celestial Earth” / bronze / 4.5m(H) x 4.5m(W) x 3.5m(D) URA Centre	1999
“Striving II” / fiber glass / 4.0m(H) x 1.8m(W) x 1.8m(D) TIC Tech Centre, Teck Wah Paper Products Ltd, Singapore	1999
“Striving” / bronze / 5.6m(H) x 3.1m(W) x 2.5m(D) NUS Faculty of Engineering, Singapore	1998
“Land Before Time” / bronze / 6 sculptures / up to 5.0m(H) x 6.0m(W) x 1.2m(D) Paragon Shopping Centre, Singapore	1998
“Dance II” / bronze / 0.38m(H) x 0.76m(W) x 0.10m(D) Private Collection, Texas, USA	1997
“Reaching II” / bronze / 1.8m(H) x 6.0m(W) x 1.5m(D) UE Square, Singapore	1997
“BC-AD” / bronze / 1.65m(H) x 1.65m(W) x 1.15m(D), 0.9m(H) x 0.9m(W) x 0.6m(D) NTU School of Communication Studies, Singapore	1997
“Ascending II” / bronze / 0.6m(H) x 0.3m(W) x 0.3m(D) Private Collection, Singapore	1997
“Harmony IV” / bronze / 1.15m(H) x 0.65m(W) x 0.45m(D) APEC Sculpture Garden, Manila, Philippines	1996
“Resting” / bronze / 0.65m(H) x 0.85m(W) x 0.65m(D) China Fine Arts Museum, Beijing, China	1996
“Abundance III” / bronze / 3.6m(H) x 3.6m(W) x 1.0m(D) Suntec City, Singapore	1995
“Harmony” / bronze / 8.0m(H) x 1.2m(W) x 1.2m(D) Chung-Cheng Park, Keelung, Taiwan, ROC	1995
“Heaven & Earth” / bronze / 2.4m(H) x 3.0m(W) x 2.1m(D) Private Collection, Aarhus, Denmark	1995
“Yin Shang” / bronze / 0.65m(H) x 0.2m(W) x 0.08m(D) Kaoshiung Fine Arts Museum, Taiwan, ROC	1994
“Flame of Life” / bronze / 0.65m(H) x 0.25m(W) x 0.12m(D) HPL Properties Pte Ltd, Singapore	1994
“Vitality” / bronze / 5.0m(H) x 1.7m(W) x 0.85m(D) Four Seasons Hotel, Singapore	1994
“Tunghai People” / bronze / 2.8m(H) x 0.52m(W) x 0.52m(D) Guo Bao Building, Taipei, Taiwan	1993
“Dancer” / bronze / 2.4m(H) x 2.2m(W) x 2.2m(D) Park Mall, Singapore	1993
“Born Free” / bronze / 0.21m(H) x 0.61m(W) x 0.15m(D) Singapore Embassy, Washington D.C., USA	1993
“Fluttering” / bronze / 0.75m(H) x 2.4m(W) x 0.36m(D) Private Collection, New Jersey, USA	1992
“Jing Jin” / bronze / 0.38m(H) x 0.25m(W) x 0.12m(D)	1992

National IT Award, National Computer Board, Singapore	
“Predestined” / bronze / 1.5m(H) x 1.2m(W) x 0.34m(D)	1992
Chancery Park Condominium, Singapore	
“Reaching” / bronze / 2.28m(H) x 2.28m(W) x 1.0m(D)	1992
Ministry of National Development, Singapore	
“Loose” / bronze / 0.5m(H) x 0.3m(W) x 0.20(D)	1992
Hyatt Regency, Singapore	
“Born Free” / bronze / 0.84m(H) x 2.44m(W) x 0.6m(D)	1991
Private Collection, Singapore	
“Trace” / bronze / 0.62m(H) x 0.9m(W) x 0.1m(D)	1990
“Affection” / bronze / 0.39m(H) x 0.6m(W) x 0.18m(D)	
Singapore Art Museum, Singapore	

Bringing Art to the People

a. Trophy Design

Singapore Education Award	2009
Singapore Tourism Award, Singapore Tourism Board	2007/2008
IDA National Infocomm Awards, Information Development Authority	2006
ITE College East Awards	2006

b. Art Items

“from a dot”, journey of Sun Yu-li, book launch, Singapore	2014
The Coffee Connoisseur art merchandise (entire range)	2011
Singapore Airlines KrisShop, Art Gift Pack	2008
EZ-Link Card/EZ-Link Watches, 3 designs each, issued by SMRT	2008
ChinGay	2008
Official Gift, ArtWine Pack	2008
Music CD “Give Me a Dot”, Lyric by Sun Yu-li, Prata Records	2008
Stamp featuring “Harmony” Sculpture by Sun Yu-li, Singapore Post	2004
Stamp featuring “Harmony” Sculpture by Sun Yu-li, China Post	2004
Coins featuring “Harmony” Sculpture by Sun Yu-li, 3 types, Singapore Mint	2004