**Bold, different and loud**

Exhibition exemplifies six artists’ mission statement

*All about space: Sukor has been fascinated by astronomical elements ever since he attended a talk by Malaysian astronaut Datuk Dr Sheikh Muszaphar Shukor.*

*Graceful sways: Mua’s acrylic works lure with lightness, movement and translucence reminiscent of Chinese ink painting.*

*By YIP YOKE TENG teng@thestar.com.my*

The art movement of Neo-Abstraction has set off a fountain of possibilities for young artists, who are encouraged to be bold, inspired to be different and provoked to be loud. This trend is exemplified by six young artists who call themselves “Satu” with a joint exhibition titled “Neo-Abstraction: Space, Colour and Light”, which is on now until Sunday at Wisma Keluarga SCM in Kuala Lumpur.

The exhibition presents a diversity of styles reflecting the views, ideas and experiences of the artists, brought together by the curator Faizal Shamsudin. However, the diversity brings forth a common concept that is not merely pleasing, but also thought-provoking. “Neo-Abstraction is basically an extension of the abstract movement; it is also a step forward of the ideas that have emerged in the art world,” said 31-year-old Faisal from Petaling Jaya.

He said he had always preferred abstract art over realism. “To me, art is about conveying an idea instead of merely capturing a scene. Instead of being just an illustration, an art work should be able to strike a chord among its audience.”

Faisal started looking for like-minded artists six months ago by visiting a number of studios and exhibitions. His newfound buddies are Elais Yamani Jamall, Izzan Bachri, Mia Fatiqa, Safwan Ahmad and Sukor Rostam who used various media and methods to explore the untapped possibilities of space, colour and light.

“The purpose of this exhibition is to discover several possibilities and variables that arts and science could co-exist. Science is not only confined to experiments in the lab but also humanity,” he added.

Faisal’s offering is the “Broken Heart” series comprising four heart-shaped boards — some with thickly woven red while another coated with sugar — to cut out the feelings entailing an unsuccessful relationship. Red round-shaped boards painted with radial lines, which are from his earlier series called “Shadow’, steer one’s attention to the inner space, are interspersed among the hearts.

The works of Sukor, 24, and Mia Fatiqa, 19, are a refreshing splash of colours. Suherk uses bubbles of mainly blue and yellow hues to show the beauty of the universe, which can only be seen...
**About positioning:** 'Isolate' by Safwan uses wooden blocks in various positions to convey the message.

**Pounding:** Faizal’s ‘Broken Heart’ depicts the feelings entailing the unsuccessful relationship.

**In depth look:** Mia (right) explaining her concept to National Art Gallery Malaysia director-general Dr Mohamed Najib Ahmad Dawa (centre) and Soka Gakkai Malaysia deputy president Liu Cheng Chong.

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**The lure of curves:** 'Lingkar Korlitar', an installation by Elias Yamani.