



# INVINCIBLE FORCE

Four Fantastic, features the works of four local street artists who reach out to their audience through various mediums on canvases.

BELOW  
From left, Mohd Anuar bin Mutapa, Ahmad Fauzan, Donald Abraham and Azar Osman.

BOTTOM LEFT  
UNTITLED, acrylic, charcoal and pencil on canvas.

BOTTOM RIGHT  
Tongkap Dia/  
Catch, acrylic for skateboards.

The exhibition hosted by gallery owner, Patrice Vallette and curated by Martin and Honey Bradley is the first of a series of art events sponsored by Absolut at Vallette gallery, Jalan Bruas.

“Putting these pieces together and having them exhibited, to me, is like narrating a story to the audience,” Patrice said. His expectations of 150 guests, to his surprise, exceeded by an extra hundred. The night was spent mingling with guests, various media outlets and the four artists by the poolside, which sets a delightful casual ambience but the lack of canapé may have led to a few hungry stomachs.

Contemporary artworks of contrasting styles were arranged carefully throughout the gallery. Each wall features the works of a different artist. These white-washed walls are punctuated with bright colours, figures and forms which derived from the creative minds. A cartoonish illustration, water colour and works rich with detailed patterns and motifs showcases the bold trademarks of each artist. Not afraid to experiment, these emerging young artists are inspired by 80’s cartoons, comics, video games





ABOVE  
Azar Osman's  
works are seen  
on the left and  
Mohd Anuar bin  
Mustapa's on  
the right side  
of the wall.

and of course, skateboarding! While you might never imagine using skateboards as canvases, Fauzan uses three of them to create a piece of artwork called, "Tongkap Dia/Catch."

But what made them bring street art to canvases? We approached the four artists for a short interview. Ahmad Fauzan bin Fuad, Azar Osman, Donald Abraham and Mohd Anuar bin Mustapa filled us in. "We want to take art to the next level," said Anuar. "Through Four Fantastic, our audiences are able to view our works from a different perspective," quips Donald. Not only have they learnt a new way to present their artworks, but they were given the opportunity to grow, discover and get to know more about each other.

All four artists came from different states in Malaysia,

namely Penang, Sabah, Malacca and Ipoh. "We were first introduced by friends in the street art scene," Fauzan says. Azar, nicknamed Okibal replaced an artist who originally made up the four. Four Fantastic is the second collaborative effort for the other three artists. Here, at Vallette, they are exposed to a wider range of audience and were introduced to a network of friends. "It's hard to come by to do exhibitions," says Anuar. The experience has brought them out of their own studios for discussions and sometimes critique sessions to improve on their artworks. For these artists it is not only the passion and their creative skills that they have in common, but their love for skateboarding, a subject seen in some of Fauzan's works.

"Each piece in the gallery represents the way an artist thinks," Azar Osman says. "It's about having fun, there is no limit to the size of a canvas," Anuar says. On their work, you'll see the smooth transition from colours to flawless patterns. "Our works are about connecting to people and freedom." Donald Abraham says.

These emerging young artists believe that the art scene in Malaysia has improved significantly. "There are more platforms and galleries that support us today, but the talents of many self-taught artists are yet to be discovered. On the other hand, street art is more acceptable in the society today," Anuar said. ●



VALLETTE GALLERY IS AT 22  
JALAN BRUAS, DAMANSARA  
HEIGHTS, KUALA LUMPUR,  
TEL: +6019-301-2569.