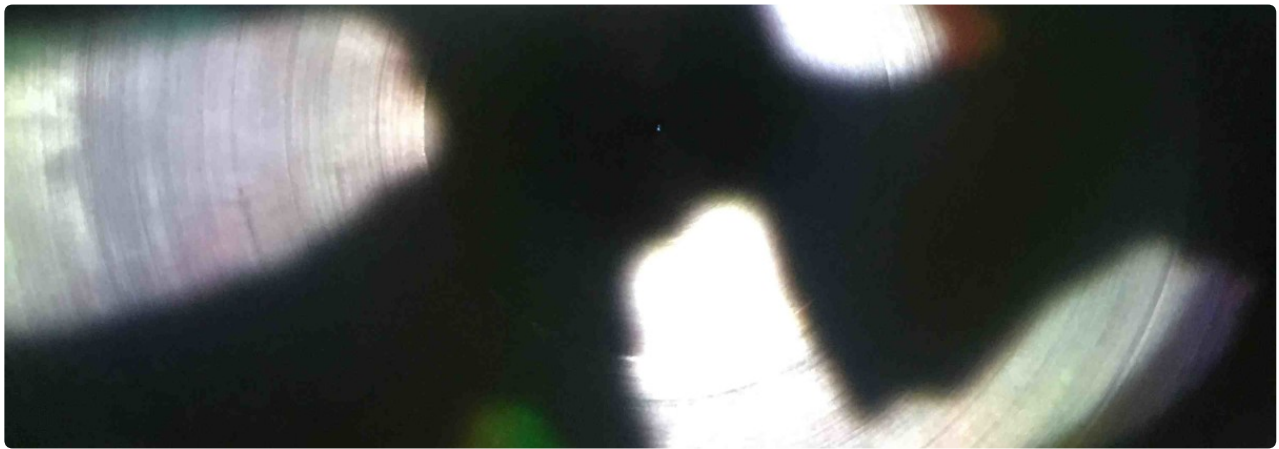


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## The Ephemeral Flies Free: Jane Lee

Be freed from that Art Week fatigue by immersing yourself in Jane Lee [<http://www.janelee.sg/pages/indexland/>]'s calming nature-inspired world at the Singapore Tyler Print Institute [<http://www.stpi.com.sg/profile.htm>].

. Where are the deeply bright colors?!

. Where are the coils and splashes of paint spreading on the walls and floors?!

These were the questions topmost in people's minds attending the opening night of Jane's "Freely, Freely" [<http://www.stpi.com.sg/currentexhibition.htm>] solo-exhibition.

One of Singapore's most collected contemporary artists, Jane had gotten us used to her abstract works exploring the very nature of painting. Painting is not by any

means a new medium, being centuries old and often discarded by contemporary artists for trendier, newer mediums. Yet Jane made us look at painting anew – giving it a “fresh coat of paint” pushing it to its very limits.

Think of paint bursting out of the canvas taking over entire walls and floors! Visually moving and tactile works: more sculptures and installations than simple paintings on a wall.

But I'd argue that these new works created during her 2015 residency at STPI were inherently Jane. The STPI specializes in turning paper and print into art through its residence programs where its in-house team of experts collaborates with internationally renowned artists. As for Jane, it was her first foray into these media.

.Yes – her usual thick acrylic paint was nowhere to be found.

But it was replaced by paper stretched to its very limits. One of mankind's oldest inventions, paper was cleverly mixed with art's newest technological media of video and audio. See those stacks of paper on the wall? Don't hesitate to peep inside their tiny holes transporting you to a miniature world of nature!

.Yes – she took us to a world of whites and pastels.

Far from her bright gut-wrenching typical palette. But how layered these whites, how deeply intense those pastels, ... just as mesmerizing!

.Yes – no paint was seen escaping from the restraint of its canvas.

But weren't her birds also living outside of the confines of her works? From her videos showing us snapshots of passing birds in flight, letting us imagine where they've gone... to her mid-air installations... to her endless strings of paper-shaped birds. An exploration of the themes of entrapment and freedom.

*“A free bird leaps on the back of the wind (...) And dares to claim the sky.”*

*“ But a caged bird stands on the grave of dreams (...) So he opens his throat to sing.”*

Poem “Caged Bird” by Maya Angelou, Extract.

Collectors – freed or caged by their passion for art (only they can say...) – weren't fooled as a majority of works was already snapped up by the end of the night!

I for one felt transported to a place of green-growing things as I listened enraptured to the sounds of chirping birds coming from stacks of papers dyed in every possible shade of green...

I could almost smell the forest's reinvigorating scents and feel its cooling freshness (and before you ask: not because of the ever chilling air-con turned full blast in our Singaporean art spaces!).

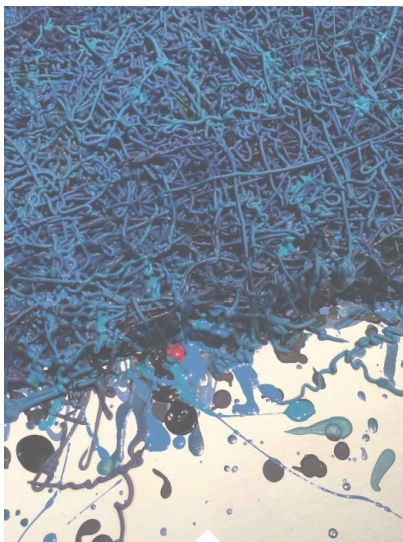
As Nature is ephemeral, so is Paper but its impressions remain...

A must-see, a must-feel...

Practical Info: ["Freely, Freely"](http://www.stpi.com.sg/currentexhibition.htm) [http://www.stpi.com.sg/currentexhibition.htm] by Jane Lee runs from 17 January - 5 March 2016 at the Singapore Tyler Print Institute.



Jane Lee's signature works at Prudential Eye 2015 : "Turned Out" made of long narrow strips of canvas painted in red acrylic paint rolled into a circle & "Beyond the Blue"



Detail of "Beyond the Blue", a sculpted mass of extruded paint cascading down the wall.

[<http://www.signedesign.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/2r->



The creative "minds" behind the show

[<http://www.signedesign.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/3r-773x1030.jpg>]

[http://www.signe-design.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/1r-773x1030.jpg]

773x1030.jpg]



Jane Lee in front of "Wing I"

[http://www.signe-design.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/4r-1030x773.jpg]



"Coiling V"

[http://www.signe-design.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/IMG4208r-773x1030.jpg]



"Coiling V": Detail, various hand-coiled paper with stainless steel rods

[http://www.signe-design.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/IMG4210r-773x1030.jpg]



Spot the bird!

[http://www.signe-design.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/IMG4210r-1030x773.jpg]



Papers and birds in every angle... coiled, suspended, reflected..

[<http://www.signedesign.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/IMG4224r-773x1030.jpg>]

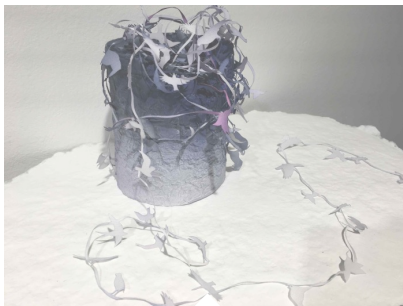


[<http://www.signedesign.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/IMG4225r-773x1030.jpg>]



Detail "Wing I", handmade cotton paper

[<http://www.signedesign.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/5r-773x1030.jpg>]



"Free Me" series

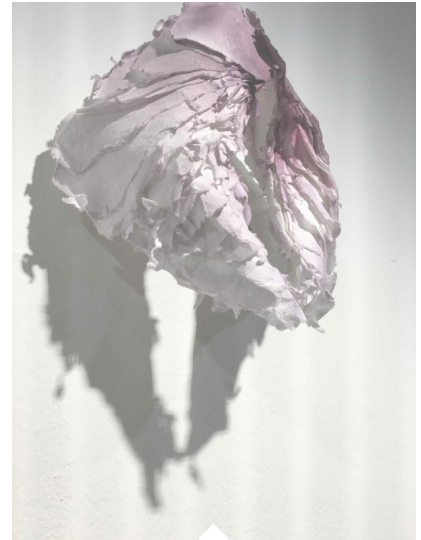
[<http://www.signedesign.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/IMG4224r-1030x773.jpg>]



Paper in all its shapes: cast, textile and cotton

[<http://www.signedesign.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/5r-773x1030.jpg>]

content/uploads/2016/01/IM0773x1030.jpg]



"Wings" series

[http://www.signe-design.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/6r-773x1030.jpg]

"Wing": Detail, airbrushed, assembled and shaped handmade cotton paper

"Wing" series

[http://www.signe-design.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/IM0773x1030.jpg]

[http://www.signe-design.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/7r-773x1030.jpg]



Cut by hand

[http://www.signe-design.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/IM0773x1030.jpg]



Airbrushed with acrylic paint



"Inner Songs" series: it does sing!



"Inner Songs": Detail, stacked cotton and textile paper with built-in speakers

[<http://www.signe->

[[Photographs of Jane Lee's works by Yours Truly.](http://www.signe-</a></p></div>
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Illustration - Maria Kask

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