**SNEAK PEEK**

**Henry Butcher Malaysian & Southeast Asian Art Auction**

The Henry Butcher Art Auctioneers can always be relied upon to showcase rare gems at their eagerly anticipated auction series. Some of the big local and regional names on show at the full viewing (Apr 3–12, Curate @ SEKI in Seni Mont Kiara) and auction proper include Ahmad Zakii Anwar, Samsudin Wahab, Ahmad Shukri Mohamed, Kok Yew Puah, Lee Cheng Yong and Nyoman Masriadi.

▲ **Ahmad Zakii Anwar**

Kebyar, 1997
Estimated price: RM80,000–RM120,000

The famed urban realist’s rarely seen ‘Kebyar’ deftly captures the fleeting splendour of the titular Balinese dance. It’s one of his earliest and most seminal pieces, first exhibited at the Maybank Art Gallery in 1997 amidst much fanfare.

▲ **Samsudin Wahab**

Boneka, 2008
Estimated price: RM15,000–RM18,000

2008 was a big year for Samsudin Wahab. He’d just graduated with honours from UTM, secured a pivotal solo exhibition at TAKSU KL, and wowed audiences with his unique paintings that championed the absurd and delved into the themes of politics and power. This work comes from that first sell-out solo, and although it’s just six years old, it’s blessed with a strong history.

▲ **Lee Cheng Yong**

Girl at Study, c. 1950s–60s
Estimated price: RM18,000–RM30,000

A unique backside portrait, Lee Cheng Yong’s painting mirrors the countenance of European paintings of the early twentieth century, and romanticism emanates from the warm glow of the oil paints, which have been allowed to mature over time. You don’t even need to see her face to know that the girl is beautiful.

FREE Henry Butcher Malaysian & Southeast Asian Art Auction Sime Darby Convention Centre (www.hbart.com.my), Apr 13, 1pm.