

# TENEBRAE REFLECTIONS 2025

*The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness has not overcome it.  
We gather to remember what  
was accomplished on the cross.*

## Lamentations at the Cross

ART EXHIBITION

**FRIDAY, 18 APR 2025 • 7PM**  
Prinsep Street Presbyterian Church  
77 Prinsep Street, Singapore 188649







# FOREWORD

We gather to lament ...  
over the sacrificial Lamb, and  
over our fallenness.

The Theme for Tenabrae 2025 is “Lamentations at the Cross”. Tenebrae is a Latin word for “*darkness*”. In Christian tradition, Tenebrae is a service that is held during the three days preceding Easter Sunday.

PSPC is observing Tenebrae during the Holy Week with a choral presentation and concurrent art exhibition. The objective of this Tenabrae reflection is to lead the participants on a reflective spiritual journey through the passion narrative. During the service, there is a gradual dimming and extinguishing of candles as the service progresses. This leaves the place in total darkness at the end of the service.

The Arts Fellowship (TAF) coordinates the concurrent exhibition. The ministry philosophy of the Arts Fellowship and the ministry objectives of the Tenebrae Reflections is: art is a gift from God to edify His people and to reach the world. Each year, we invite artists to use their God-given talent to participate in this event.

We thank God for calling the following Christian artists - **Wong Shih Yaw, Emily Spencer Seck, Isaac Lim, Ng Guat Tin, Leong Yiat Teng, Andy Choy, The Shepherd’s Staff Collective and Diana Chou** to be God’s servants to fulfil their vocation of artmaking in the body of Christ for the Tenebrae Reflections. May their motivations, creativity and artworks, as seen in this booklet, glorify God, edify the readers and witness to the world.

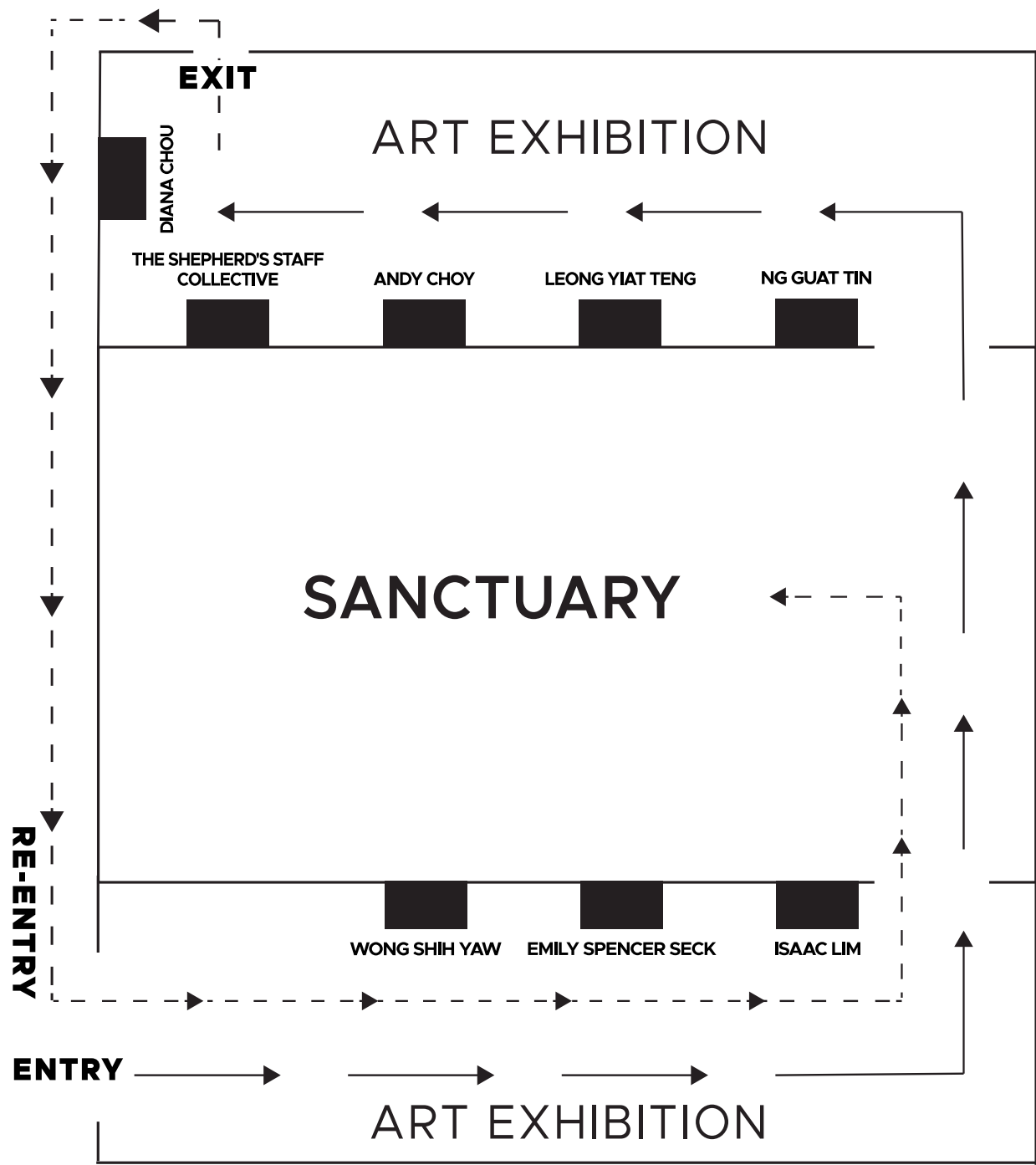
*The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.* (John 1:5). We remember what was accomplished on the cross.

**Pr Dawn Tan**  
Pastoral Advisor  
(On behalf of TAF)  
April 2025





# ART EXHIBITION **Directional Guide**







Title

# WE GATHER TO MOURN

## Art media

Acrylic on canvas

### Artist's Statement

*"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."*

*- Matthew 5:4*

*We mourn because our sins put the Son of God – Jesus, on the cross. On the other hand, we see hope in Christ Jesus, who laid down his life to pay the price for our sins. The gray-colored twisted shirt represents heart-wrenching emotions in mourning, while the inner dark red-colored shirt represents hope in Jesus' redemptive blood.*

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## Artist

WONG SHIH YAW, 57

## Profession/Occupation

Artist, Illustrator & Art Instructor

## Church

New Creation Church

## About the artist

**1989:** Diploma in Fine Arts (Painting), Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA), Singapore.

**2024:** Pursuing MA in Fine Arts (Part-time), LaSalle College of the Arts, University of the Arts, Singapore (UAS).

Shih Yaw has held many solo and group exhibitions over three decades. His works are widely collected by the National Gallery of Singapore, the Singapore Art Museum and private collectors in Singapore and internationally.

His major solo exhibitions include: "Allegories – the works of Wong Shih Yaw" at NAFA (2015), and "Between the Parallels" at ArtSpace at Helutrans (2019).

Shih Yaw is also an illustrator, and art instructor to all ages and the special needs community. He has executed big-scale commissioned paintings and mural projects.





Title

# MY DARKNESS, HIS INNOCENCE

## Art media

Acrylic on canvas

### Artist's Statement

*Dark clouds are gathering, accompanied by hints of thunder and lightning in the distance. It is clear that a storm is approaching. Within the clouds, there are shadows that suggest these natural elements are plotting something ominous. In the foreground, a lamb stands alone on a hill, its wool radiant against the darkening sky. Pure and unblemished, it chooses to remain, facing what approaches. The lamb waits, not in ignorance, but in perfect understanding of the price of love.*

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## Artist

EMILY SPENCER SECK, 38

## Profession/Occupation

Artist

## Church

Grace Baptist

## About the artist

Emily is a Christian botanical artist and calligrapher based in Singapore, and a mother of two young boys. Prior to motherhood, she worked as an architect. Much of her art draws inspiration from nature – God's creation, and from the Holy Bible – God's Word. She shares her art and life journey under the name Studio Seck.





Title

# THE SILENT WITNESS

## Art media

Acrylic on canvas

### Artist's Statement

*A dimly lit room. Its atmosphere is heavy with anticipation and sorrow. At the centre stands a simple table, bare except for the remains of a shared meal: a loaf of bread and a cup of wine. The table's surface reflects faint light, symbolizing a quiet yet profound presence. Around the table, empty chairs stand askew, hinting at the hurried departure of the disciples. Light enters the room, forming a subtle cross that foreshadows the coming sacrifice. The focus remains on the table and its objects, silent yet eloquent, as they bear witness to the impending betrayal.*

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### Artist

ISAAC LIM, 38

### Profession/Occupation

Architect

### Church

PSPC

### About the artist

Isaac is an architect with a passion for the fine art of pencil drawing. With a background in art cultivated during school years, Isaac developed a keen eye for detail and composition, skills that seamlessly complement his architectural endeavors. Though his professional focus lies in designing spaces, he continues to sketch occasionally, creating works that capture moments of inspiration with delicate lines and shading.





Title

# JESUS PRAYS IN GETHSEMANE

## Art media

Acrylic on canvas

### Artist's Statement

*This painting extracts four symbols to portray Jesus' prayer in Gethsemane, three of which are from the Tenebrae song "Forsaken in the Garden": a cup ("Father, Father, take this cup away"); a kneeling figure ("Hear me as I pray"); an eye with tear drops ("Do you taste my tears?"); and olive branches (olive grove as the setting). A fragmented cross (broken people), and a heart at its centre, is the focus, depicting Jesus' submission to God the Father's will to die on the cross, where his heart would break from obedience and love, and blood shed, to redeem sinners.*

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### Artist

NG GUAT TIN, 69

### Profession/Occupation

Retiree

### Church

St James' Church

### About the artist

Ever since childhood Guat Tin has learnt various art media with different art teachers, of whom these three have had the most influence on her: the late Mr Cheong Soo Pieng (watercolour and oil painting), Ms Mo Ni (Chinese brush painting) and Mr Mac Mak (acrylic). From 2009, she concentrated primarily on acrylic painting, of various subjects: birds, butterflies, flowers and landscapes. Between 2022-2024, she developed greater interest in botanical art..





Title

# IN THE TWILIGHT OF HIS SORROW

## Art media

*Acrylic on canvas*

### Artist's Statement

*The white lily among cruel thorns symbolises Jesus' holiness, innocence and steadfastness in the face of false allegations in Pilate's Court, and impending torture, ending in a cruel death on the cross.*

*Peter is crouched in guilt, sorrow and shame, having denied Jesus. Nevertheless, Jesus graciously waits for all to repent and turn back to Him – the True Light – symbolised by the blazing fire.*

*The background is in shades of twilight, as darkness descends. Although Jesus faced the dark moment of bearing humanity's sin and God's wrath against sin, out of love for us, He ultimately emerges triumphant. This amazing grace is the reason for our hope.*

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## Artist

**LEONG YIAT TENG, 59**

## Profession/Occupation

Home-maker & Freelance Sandplay/Expressive Arts Therapist

## Church

Covenant Community Methodist Church

## About the artist

Yiat Teng's art journey began more than 50 years ago when she took Art as a subject in school. She started oil painting 12 years ago. Nature and God's Word have been the inspiration for her paintings. She also paints with acrylic, draws with color pencils, makes clay figurines and pottery.

As a sandplay and expressive arts therapist, she uses creative arts in her work with clients.





Title

# THE BRUSHES

## Art media

Watercolour

### Artist's Statement

***Remembering Richard Ang (1949-2025) – The Arts Fellowship***

#### ***The Brushes***

*The brushes, they forged our friendship.*

*The brushes, our Lord guided your spirit to share His Passion.*

*He led your hands to tell the story of His unfathomable love at Golgotha.*

*Now, you have left us, and entered into His warm embrace.*

*Your determined heart prevailed, leaving the marks of your brushes.*

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## Artist

**ANDY CHOY, 60**

## Profession/Occupation

IT Professional

## Church

PSPC

## About the artist

Andy participated as an artist in the first PSPC Tenebrae Reflections in 2018 and felt his calling to the Arts ministry. Since then, he has been actively involved in The Arts Fellowship as a core team member. He believes his calling is in making art simple and enjoyable for anyone.

Introduced to art from his early years, he could not pursue art seriously till recently, when he completed the Advanced Certificate in Watercolor from the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA).





Title

# FROM DEATH TO LIFE

**Art media**

*Crochet*

## **Artist's Statement**

*"I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds."*

*– John 12:24*

*This is a beautiful analogy of Christ's necessary sacrifice. While we lament Christ's torturous and humiliating death, we know He endured it in order to break the chains that bind us on earth and give us new life in the kingdom of heaven.*

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**Artist**

**THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF COLLECTIVE**

**Church**

PSPC

## **About the group**

The Shepherd's Staff Collective comprises self-taught hobbyists who believe that art-making is for everyone; for having been created in His image, we all possess a desire to create good things. Art-making is also a great way to celebrate our Lord's creation: for we can barely emulate the complex beauty around us. As a collective, the group is inclusive, and reaches out to others to join in and learn about our wonderful God.





Title

# LIGHT IN DARKNESS

**Art media**

*Mixed media*

## **Artist's Statement**

*I have always found comfort in Isaiah 40:8. "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of God will stand forever."*

*Life's challenges will cause us to feel physically, mentally and spiritually tired, and as a result, we fall behind. I myself am guilty of feeling discouraged or even angry at times, with the challenges life has thrown at me. But no matter what, I have found that God is faithful. There will always be light in darkness. Be comforted, like the following words from the Tenebrae song 'Be Still My Soul':*

*Be still my soul...*

*He's on your side...*

*Leave to our God to order and provide.*

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## **Artist**

**DIANA CHOU, 48**

## **Church**

PSPC

## **About the artist**

Diana has always loved practising art and music. While not a professional artist, she has been working mostly with acrylic as a hobby since her early 20s using nature as her inspiration. Most of the flora in this painting are based on photographs taken during her morning reflections in our local parks as well as from her travels.

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**PRINSEP STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

77 Prinsep Street, Singapore 188649