Ann Healey's art is heavily layered, both literally and metaphorically as it presents a complex interweaving of social meaning, science and aesthetic.

**After** leaving her country of birth and residence, London, England, in 1998, Ann Healey has since been residing and working as a full-time artist in Singapore. She attended London's prestigious Central St. Martins to complete her Art Foundation Course, and obtained a degree in Fine Art Painting and Mathematics. A bizarre combination indeed!

"Just in case I couldn't get a job," she tells us, "I'd better keep my mind, interest, and skills up to date. I was actually working for three years in London, which I describe as absolutely self-deceiving. "It really re-affirmed my belief that you shouldn't be in a job that you don't enjoy even if it's paying you good money. Because eventually, it's your life, and you can't buy your life back," she adds.

And so began Ann Healey's journey as a painter. Since 1999, she has had 11 solo exhibitions in Singapore and Southeast Asia. "The response has been really good. I think I've been very lucky. Maybe, it's because I'm not from here," she laughs. But London's art community, with its vast number of artists, has transformed Ann Healey from a student into a professional artist in Singapore. "I think the art industry in Singapore really appreciates my work on such an up-and-coming market. I think the art scene is really quite supported here," she adds. This is contrary to the lamentations of other local artists.

The cheerful artist admits to her fascination with architecture, graffiti, mass-media, media and advertising, and conversations she had with people. "It's like the constant renewal of things, making everything look empty and new," expressed Healey. "I like questions and leave it to you to know human beings, and our obsession with all new things."

There's a similar quality to her work. Expressing her admiration for American artist Jean Michel Basquiat who started off his life as a graffiti artist, and the studio Banksy, Healey makes her fascination with the raw quality and the emptiness of the canvases and the fact that you're only engaged by the implicit messages they leave behind in their work. "That work is very much like an expressive way of working," she states. And interestingly enough, it shows in her art too.

Her works of art are layered labirints of pattern and colour-multiples, layers that reveals a complex narrative. "I've been confronted by the idea of things that are always there and always there," she adds. The works of Ann Healey are being showcased at the Galleria from 4th September to 20th September 2007. Inspired by architecture, graffiti and plastic surgery, this mixed media exhibition is Healey's 10th solo in Singapore.