

MOONLIGHT
FRAGMENT

FENDY
ZAKRI

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Artist would like to give
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**FRAGMENTS
OF NATURE,
FRAGMENTS
OF THE SOUL**

Imagine a person, looking up at the moon and taking in every small detail of its transformation over time. Its slow but steady movement across the night sky, its changing hues as it crescendos and cowers, and the sheer marvel of nature itself.

There's something lyrical about this image. And despite what seems like regimented use of form, there is lyricism in Fendy Zakri's latest works, a series that sees the moon playing a central role in paintings inspired by nature, but which also draws upon the principles of Islam, the poetry of the 13th century Persian poet Rumi, and the artist's own passage as an individual.

Moonlight Fragment marks Fendy's decade-long milestone as an artist and the series takes its name from the first painting that Fendy produced for this body of work. Featuring two opposing halves of a pale white moon, the circular black centrepiece of the work commands the viewer's eyes to the middle of the canvas and hints at the perfunctory design aesthetics of the Constructivists or the Minimalists. Its genesis, however reaches much further back in history to the tale of Prophet Muhammad's early efforts in spreading the word of Islam to the Arabs; it was said that the Prophet miraculously spliced the moon into two with the mere gesture of an index figure (Quran Surah 54).

This element of splicing is also seen in other works. *Moonset* and *Moonfall* see this depicted across pairs of canvases that portray a waning moon, whilst in *Twilight*, it materialises in the way the half-moon shapes mirror each other after being parted by a line at the centre of the canvas.

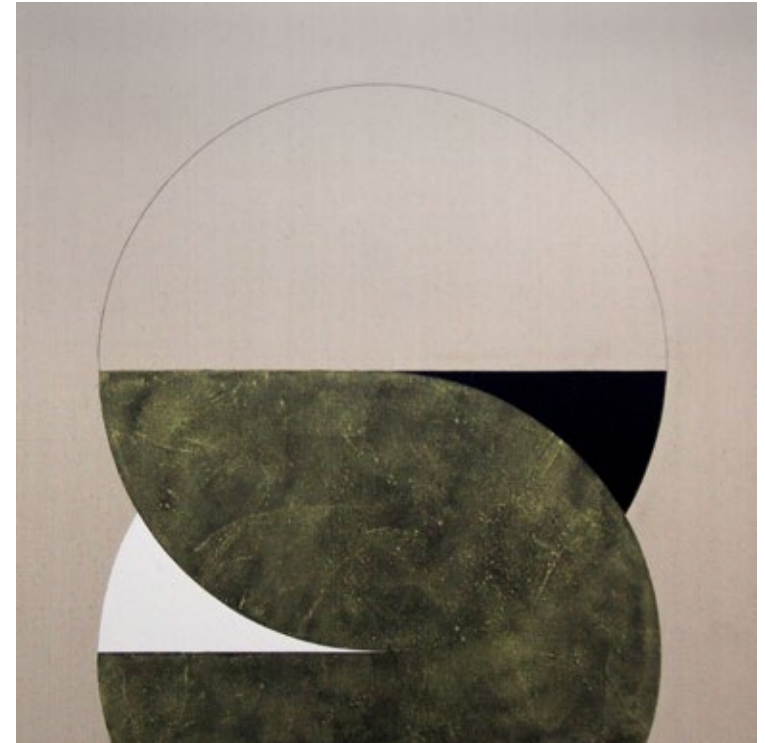
Throughout *Moonlight Fragment*, painted shapes are positioned on each canvas with mathematical precision, but this doesn't give Fendy's works a direct link to the sciences. Instead, it was philosophy, poetry, and religion that were guiding forces. "Lately, I have found myself talking more about Islamic conceptualism and philosophy," explains the Ipoh-born artist.

Fendy's curiosity for these topics are not new. In 2011, he spent four months travelling in India and had an influential stint in South Dehli's Markaz Hazrat Nizamuddin Bangle Wali Mosque, where the mornings were peppered with lectures from maulana or scholars on Islam and spirituality. "They talked beautifully about love, humanity, and devotion to God among other topics. From there, I got to learn of the inspirational spiritual story and poems of Maulana Jalāl ad-Dīn Muhammad or Rumi," he recalls.

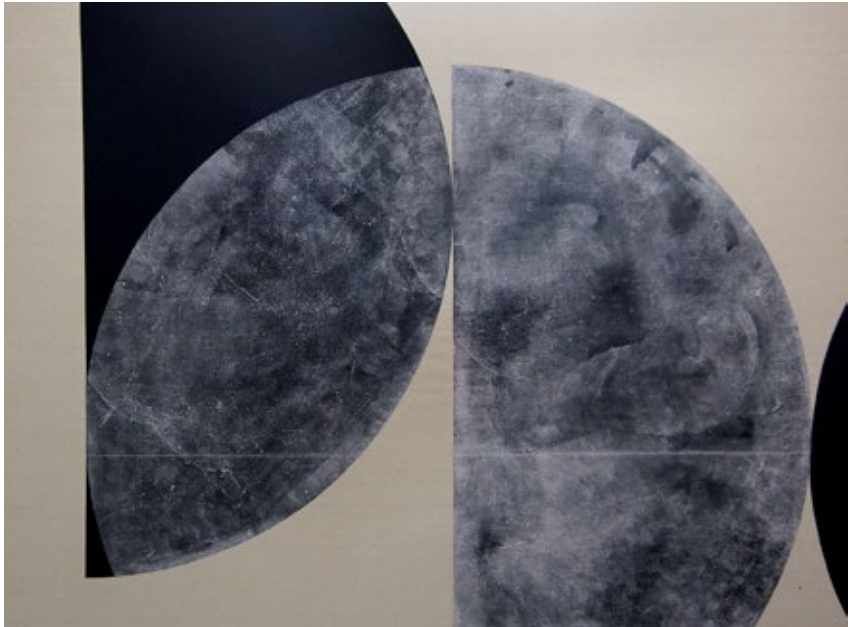
It's not far-fetched then, to draw parallels between Fendy's works and the symmetrical patterns of Islamic art. Take *Heuristic Persona I* and *Heuristic Persona 5* as examples. Both bear the qualities of harmony and cosmic symmetry, concepts which are espoused in Islam's teachings and belief that nature and life itself is perfection, as willed by God.



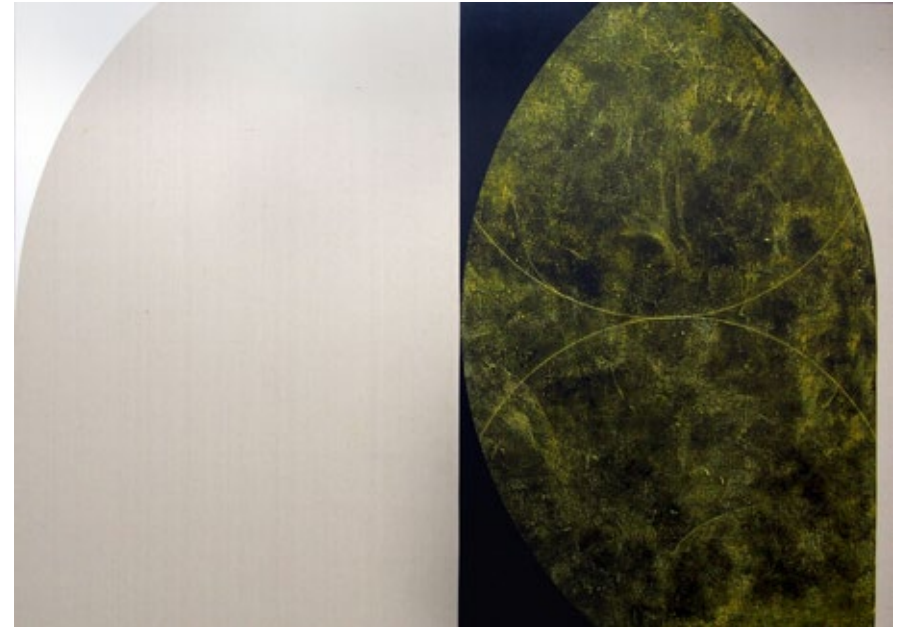
ECLIPSE SHADOW 2
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS / 122 X 122 CM / 2019



ECLIPSE SHADOW 1
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS / 122 X 122 CM / 2019



TAHAJUD
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS / 183 X 244 CM / 2019



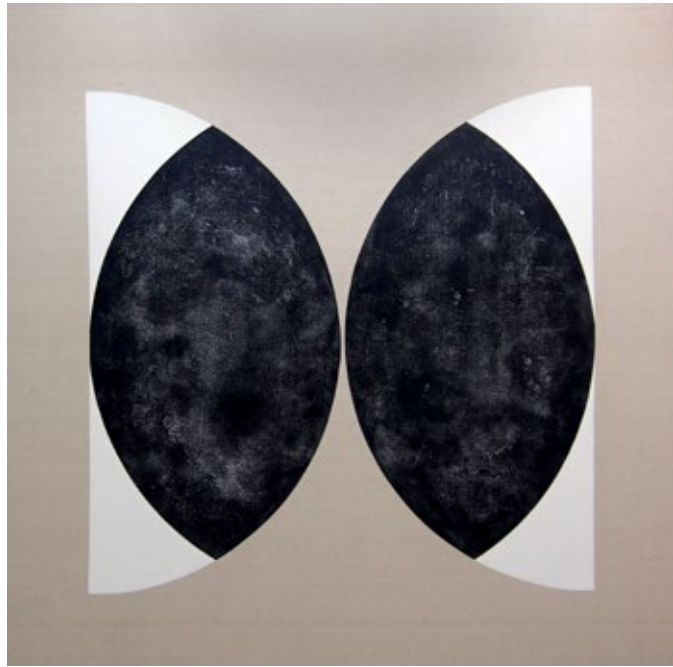
ECLIPSE
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS / 153 X 213.5 CM / 2019



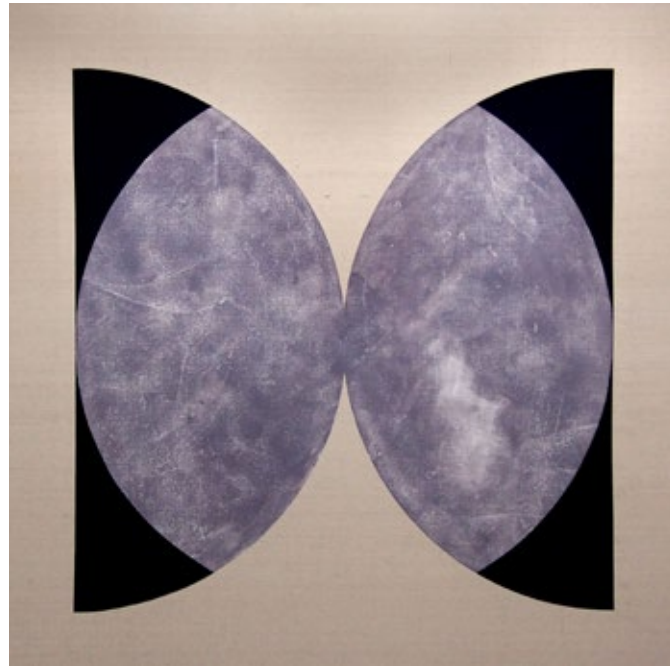
DIPTYCH ABOVE; MOONFALL (2 PIECES)
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS / 61 X 61 CM (EACH) / 2019



DIPTYCH BELOW; MOONSET (2 PIECES)
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS / 61 X 61 CM (EACH) / 2019



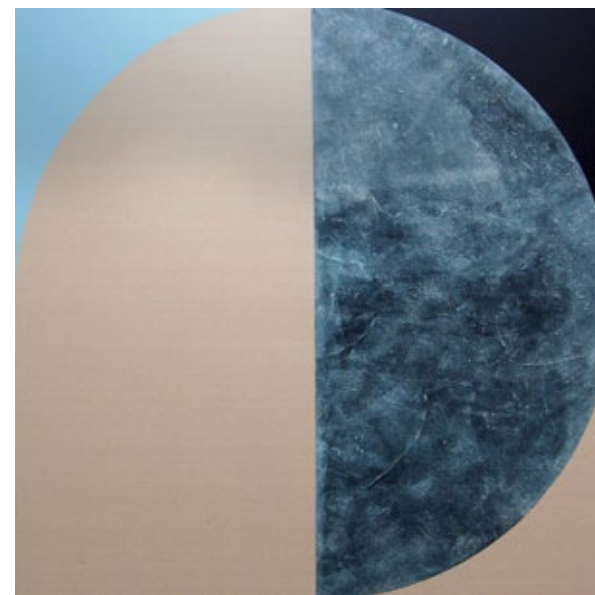
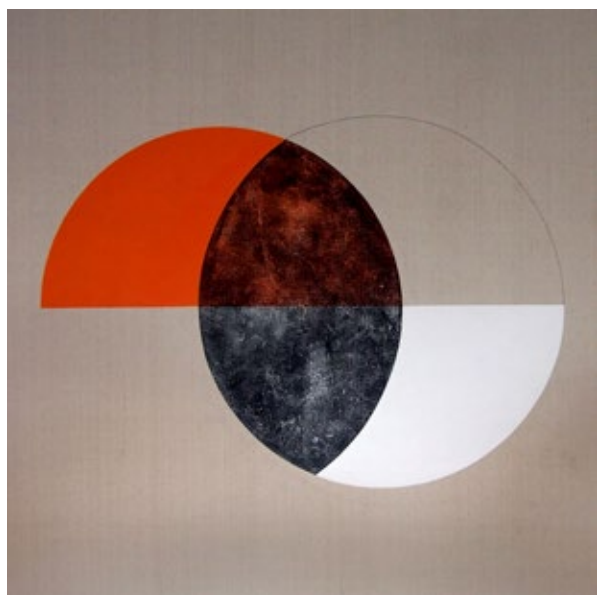
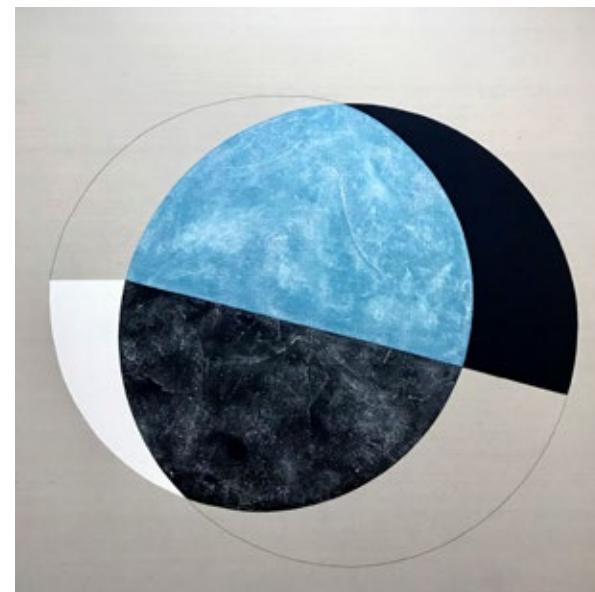
MOONLIGHT FRAGMENT 1
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS / 183 X 183 CM / 2019



NIGHTMOON
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS / 153 X 153 CM / 2019



MOONLIGHT FRAGMENT 2
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS / 183 X 183 CM / 2019



TWILIGHT (TOP) / NIGHTFALL TWILIGHT (BOTTOM)
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS / 153 X 183 CM / 2019 ACRYLIC ON CANVAS / 153 X 153 CM / 2019

NIGHT & DAY (TOP) / DHUHA (BOTTOM)
ACRYLIC ON CANVAS / 153 X 153 CM / 2019 ACRYLIC ON CANVAS / 153 X 153 CM / 2019

Less apparent to the eye, of course, are how Fendy's innermost undertakings as an individual are mirrored in the works themselves. To uncover this, one only needs to trace the visual history of Fendy's works. In *Seeing the Unseen*, his first solo exhibition in 2014, the works were expressive drip paintings that were born from a less settled inner state. "At the time, my life was a struggle and I was trying to find my identity", he admits. Three years later in his second solo exhibition, *Hyphen Jocund*, this chaos had given way to more vacant space on the canvas, allowing singular forms to transpire in curvaceous forms inspired by sculptures of Henry Moore.

There's also history closer to home. Fendy's journey as an artist started with an early love for music and being surrounded by a musically-inclined family, and whilst working as an engineer in Bahrain in 2008, he decided to pivot and pursue a life in the visual arts. His next steps were personal studies with leading names in the local art scene. Yusof Ghani and Fauzulyusri played strong roles in guiding Fendy in painting techniques, whilst Nasir Baharudin enlightened him to the concepts and ideas necessary to bring his art to life.

In these details, there is quite a journey. And at this present day milestone, Fendy finds himself at a happy juncture of trying to understand himself even more. *Moonlight Fragment* encompasses this tale of self-discovery over the past decade, the artist's journey across different lands to learn more about the essence of every human being, and ultimately, about the genuine wonder to be had if we all stopped to pause and simply bask in the glory of the moon.

And this is *Moonlight Fragments'* gift to its viewers – a reminder of our smallness in relation to nature and the symmetry between each and every one of us. The works are a message – fragments, if you will – from the artist's very own heart and soul, to you.

**RACHEL
JENAGARATNAM
SHANGHAI,
APRIL 2019**

FENDY ZAKRI

(b. 1982) is an artist based in Kuala Lumpur

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2019

Moonlight fragment, Taksu KL

2016

Hyphen jocund, Richard Koh fine art, KL

2014

Seeing the unseen, Richard Koh fine art, KL

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2019

XIX nineteen, Segaris Art Centre, KL

Local only! Taksu, KL

2018

Pure painting, Balai seni menara Maybank, KL

Harapan, Taksu, KL

Transit 3x3, HOM art trans

Shah Alam Biennale, Shah Alam

Art Expo, Matrad, KL

Art show publika, Publika, KL

Between abstraction and figurative,

Nadine gallery, KL

Lintas batas, Tentacle, Bangkok Thailand

Locals only! Taksu, KL

Shah Alam biennale, Shah Alam,

Inventing abstraction III, Tapak Gallery, Shah Alam

2017

Inventing Abstraction II, Tapak gallery, Shah Alam

The art of love and betrayal, Nadine gallery, KL

Sensation, Segaris gallery, White box publika, KL

Bilateral bond, Taksu, Singapore

Object-tive TEXT, gallery serdang, UPM (University Putra Malaysia) KL

Bilateral bond, Taksu, KL

Mimpi jadi landskap, Taksu, KL

Locals only! Taksu, KL

2016

Art expo, KL

Neo expressionist, Tapak gallery, Shah Alam

Shah Alam Biennale, Shah Alam

2015

Lucidity, Richard Koh fine art, KL

Affordable art, Singapore

Art show Taiwan, Taiwan

Chin Chin gallery starhill, KL

2014

Discover Malaysian Art, Melbourne Australia

2013

Buka, Artelier gallery, KL

Inventing Abstraction, Tapak gallery, KL

Charity Show, Save Gaza, Putrajaya

Peace of me, White box publika, KL

Langkawi art Colony, Beranda residency program, Langkawi

2012

Locals only! Taksu, KL

Earth, D'puncak gallery, Shah Alam

POPup, HOM gallery, KL

Shah Alam open, Mekar Citra gallery, Shah Alam

Anniversary show, Pace gallery, KL

2011

Johor open, Johor Bahru

MEAA (Malaysian Emerging Artist Award), Soka Gaka, KL

Kalam 3, D'puncak gallery, Shah Alam

2010

Locals only! Taksu, KL

Nature, zinc gallery, KL

Boleh! Taksu, KL

Merdeka, Mekar Citra gallery, Shah Alam

Charity Show, Chandan gallery, KL

Expression of the Malayan tiger,

Maybank, KL

2009

Sculpture show, Chin Chin gallery,

Starhill k.L

Believe, 360 gallery, KL

Young Art, R.A fine art, KL

AWARDS

Emerging artist incubation, Cendana, Malaysia

Residents artist, Lintas Batas

International art and culture exchange

Intensive award, Mekar Citra gallery,

Shah Alam

MEAA (Malaysian Emerging Artist

Award) finalist

Residents artist, Beranda art Colony,

Langkawi

PRESS

Inventing abstraction : HARIAN METRO, September 2013, print

Selamat Pagi Malaysia : RTM 1,

February 2014, television program

Seeing the unseen : THE STAR,

May 2014, print

Lucidity : THE STAR, October 2014,

print

Hyphen jocund : THE STAR,

May 2016, print

MOONLIGHT FRAGMENT

ARTIST STATEMENT BY FENDY ZAKRI

I'm so small, I can't barely be seen,
How can this great love be inside me?
Look at your eyes, they are so small
But they see enormous things.
How shall I help the world?
By understand it .
And how shall I understand it?
By turning away from it.
How then shall I serve humanity?
By understanding yourself.

- rumi -

I started to discover and observed the moon and sun routine activities a long time ago. When the sun took over the moon place, there'll be a tremendous situation happen. Colors are shaping in space, the hue of colors are so amazing, blue, red, yellow, purple are waiting in time to expose and explore. The wind blow calmly, the skies are so nice relaxing, But that's all what I witnessed from down here. I tried to imagine how does it look up there? How does the hue of colors create and transformed from one into another? What are the materials have been used to make that amazing moment? For sure there are no acrylic and oil colors up there and there are no artists working up there? The more I discovered, the more I feel small. The more I observed, the nothingness I feel in myself. This is my 10 years anniversary as a full-time (people, I) so-called "artist" and after 10 years I devoted myself in art, Nothing special in my journey but to get a space to understand myself, I'm just a normal human being and I'm just a "artistic visualizer with minimal approach".

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ZAKRI**

TAKSU is a leading contemporary art gallery and specialist in Southeast Asia. Representing selections of fine art with distinctive urban edge, we are at the forefront of contemporary art in this region. TAKSU works to forge a platform for established and emerging artists to share their pool of creativity and knowledge through its residency programs and exhibitions. Encapsulating the true meaning of the word TAKSU; divine inspiration, energy, and spirit.

Suherwan Abu
Director, TAKSU Galleries

TAKSU

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Fendy Zakri

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TAKSU

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TAKSU is also taking proactive steps to make the transition to a cleaner, sustainable future. This catalog (inside pages) has been printed on [FSC-certified paper](#). Hanno Silk 150 gsm. FSC mixed.