

## Annex 1 – Selected works and details

Artwork image	Artwork details	Artist Statement
	<p>Hong Sek Chern  <i>Along Fajar Rd to Segar Rd 法家街至西哥街</i>            Chinese ink on silk mounted on paper            80x147 cm            2017</p>	<p>This is an imagination of a spaceship with components constructed based on drawings of buildings along Fajar Road in Bukit Panjang. The centre circular structure is based on drawings of the carpark at Segar Road. This painting is conceived for Steward Lee who went missing for many days only to be found at the carpark. May he sail on the spaceship towards a new adventure.</p>
	<p>Hong Sek Chern  <i>16 Cantonment Rd 眺望</i>            Chinese ink on rice paper            120 x 200 cm            2017</p>	<p>Imagine standing at a HDB block at Cantonment Road looking out. Former bitcoin exchange firm, First Meta CEO, Autumn Ratke, could have been looking at this very same view before she committed suicide. (Backstory: She committed suicide in Singapore from a HDB block at Cantonment Close). Yet the view today is no longer what it once was. When we are faced with troubles, do we see despair or hope?</p>



Hong Sek Chern  
*149 Mei Ling Street (million dollar  
HDB)149 美铃街*  
134 x 414 cm  
Chinese ink on rice paper  
2016/7

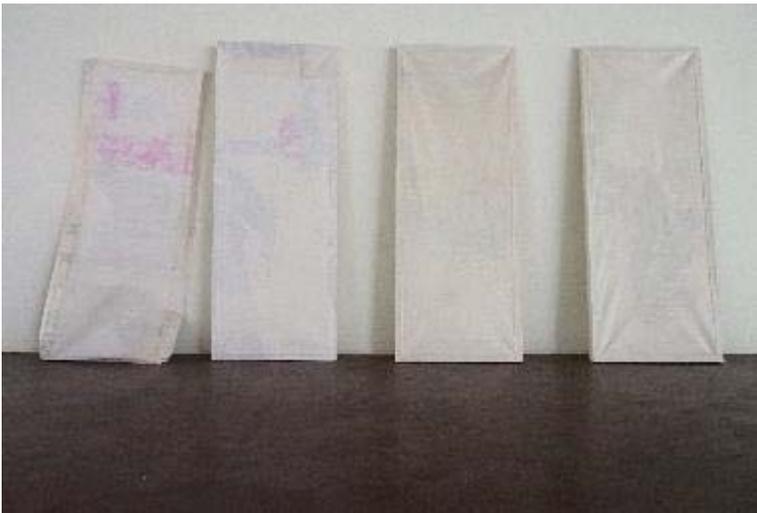
Established in 1960, the Housing Development Board (HDB) was set up to create affordable living spaces for Singaporeans. Since then, it has built over a million flats and provided homes to 80% of the people in the country. In 2012, an apartment in HDB block 149 Mei Ling Street was sold for a million Singapore Dollars. By 2016 more and more HDB units were fetching millions of dollars on the resale market. Perhaps our affordable housing spaces becoming a million dollar asset will be a norm in future.

This painting imagines the possibility of a landscape of million dollar flats. Block 149 Mei Ling Street was depicted on the second panel from the right. Block 3 Toh Yi Drive (another million dollar unit sold in this block at about the same time) takes up the centre of the 3rd and 4th panels. The surrounding landscape was composed of the vicinity of Mei Ling Street.



Hong Sek Chern  
*Once there was a mountain* 从前有座山  
Chinese ink on rice paper mounted on board  
114x190x19cm  
2017

The undulating surface below the painting was created prior to mounting the picture over. This is inspired by how the late local artist Anthony Poon stretched his canvas over a premade 3 dimensional form for his relief 'Wave' paintings. In many of my cityscapes, the buildings are usually imagined as mountains. Here the 'mountains' are contained in the paintings.



Hong Sek Chern  
*Frames and Paintings* 画为框, 框为画  
Chinese ink on rice paper  
Variable dimensions ( each panel is 89x153cm)  
2017

These are rice paper casts of a single picture frame. Fragments of ink paintings on rice paper were embedded within the casts and were used to build the paper casts. Whereas a frame is used to frame a painting, here the painting creates and is part of the frame.



Hong Sek Chern

*To be 10 (centimetres)* 完美的追求

Variable dimensions:

10x10cm of paper with starch glue

2017

The aspiration is to reach a perfect number of ten. Pieces of white paper were cut into 10 cm squares and mounted directly on the wall.

These papers were remnants of those use in the mounting of ink paintings. Traditional ink paintings tend to adopt a rectangular format. As such the paper used for mounting them is also manufactured in rectangular format. When painting and experimenting with more modern interpretations of ink medium, artists tend to use the square format and hence the rectangular paper for mounting has to be trimmed and the remnants discarded. Here, they were used in a way to enable them to take on the challenge of reaching greater heights. Individual square papers were mounted one on the other with an aim to create a perfect 10cm cube. A doomed venture, pieces of the structure fell as the weight of paper succumbed to gravity but these took on forms that seemed sort of sculptural a sort of self-identity apart from the grand scheme of things.