

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE - 13

Page -1

BEAUTY IS SIMPLICITY: NAY MIN ZAW'S "VIRGIN" SERIES

Nay Min Zaw, born in 1988 and based in Shwe Nyaung, began his artistic journey at the National University of Arts and Culture, Mandalay (2007–2010). His "Virgin" series, named after a word describing a girl in a novel he read during his youth, reflects his admiration for simplicity and natural beauty.



Influenced by Picasso, Modigliani, Henry Moore, and traditional Oriental art. This series captures serene moments of a Burmese ethnic girl engaged in daily activities, using minimalistic shapes, refined lines, and thoughtful colors to celebrate life's quiet elegance.

Debuting in 2019 at Yangon's "Autumn Rhythm" exhibition and featured in the 2022 "Back to Kalaw" show, the series now includes over 20 works. As Nay Min Zaw prepares for a solo exhibition, he invites viewers to find calm and appreciate the beauty in life's simplicity.



SOUTHERN SHAN ARTISTS' KALAW MARKET DAY PAINTING COLLECTION

Kalaw, renowned for its cool weather, relaxed lifestyle, and rich ethnic diversity, offers a unique cultural experience, with the “5 Days Market” as a standout attraction.



Rotating every five days across towns in the region, this vibrant market gathers local villagers early in the morning to sell fresh vegetables, colorful flowers, handmade crafts, and traditional homemade snacks.

More than just a bustling marketplace, the 5 Days Market inspires artists with its vibrant colors, traditional attire, distinctive headwear, and cultural richness. Featured today are the artworks of Artist Win Phyo, Min Min Htike, and Kyaw Shin, who vividly capture the charm and significance of Kalaw’s markets. Their creations elevate these scenes into reflections of Kalaw’s deep cultural heritage. Explore their artwork to experience the essence of the 5 Days Market, brought to life through the creative lens of Southern Shan artists.



POST-FLOOD RELIEF FROM KALAW REGION

The floods continue to impact Kalaw and its surrounding villages, even three months later. While initial emergency responses provided critical support, the urgency has since diminished.

At Coming From Kalaw, we remain committed to community development through art, a vision that has only strengthened during this time. With generous funding from the "Centre for Development and Environment" (CDE) and contributions from our



YEAR END GRATITUDE FROM "COMING FROM KALAW"

As 2024 ends, the Coming From Kalaw (CFK) team sincerely thanks everyone who supported, collaborated,

supporters, we have provided essential aid to underserved families and villages, including blankets, water tanks, school supplies, and food. We also supported Namlat Foundation (Yangon) and other local social welfare associations to further assist the affected areas.



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This year, we marked key milestones: Artist Gathering (March): A gathering for Southern Shan artists to network, share updates, and communicate for collected data to our ongoing Artist Profile Archiving project. Supper Club Collaboration (May): Partnering with Sampan Travel and Doh Eain to celebrate Southern Shan culture through food, art, and social enterprise initiatives, featuring Rack Aid's artworks in those events.

CFK_ART FUND AT CHRISTMAS WONDERLAND

On December 7, 2024, the CFK_Art Fund team proudly participated in the Christmas Wonderland event at Lycée Français International de Rangoun (LFIR) - French School of Yangon. We gave a vibrant painting workshop for children, raising funds for our upcoming '**Mobile Art Program.**' The painting workshop featured local items crafted from Shan paper, including paper lamps, envelopes, paper fans, pinecones and jute hats. These unique

International Exhibition (August): Our first overseas exhibition, Resilience in Shadows: Art Amidst Adversity, hosted at A+ Gallery in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

As we celebrate two years of fostering cultural appreciation and empowering artists, we look ahead to 2025 with renewed commitment to "Community Change Through the Arts." Thank you for your continued belief in our mission.

materials allowed participants to engage with a part of traditions and craftsmanship of the Shan people while exploring their artistic creativity.



Thanks to the support of the host school and the enthusiastic participation of the children, we introduced the Painting Workshop as our fundraising service package for the first time very well. Through hands-on activities, attendees discovered that with just a small paintbrush and craft acrylic paints, nearly any surface can be transformed into a beautiful canvas.

MOBILE ART PROGRAM IN 2025: EXPANDING ART EDUCATION TO MORE STUDENTS

The **Mobile Art Program** is a teaching initiative by CFK_Art Fund designed to reach young learners who are interested in art but unable to join classes at our current location. By bringing classes to these students, the program aims to make art education more accessible. Originally scheduled to launch in December 2024, the program's first three months of classes have been postponed to January, 2025 due to ongoing efforts to secure additional support. The delay has allowed us to upgrade the lesson plans to better serve the students.



Based on surveys conducted in the Kalaw area, two target locations have been identified where children are eager to learn art. Starting this January, we will provide art education to approximately 110 students, fostering creativity and making art accessible to a wider community.

We are still in the process of seeking contributions to bring art education to underserved communities, nurture young minds, and empower future generations. Together, we can make a lasting impact!

ART-RELATED SERVICES FOR FUNDRAISING: WHAT WE OFFER

To support CFK_Art Fund's ongoing free art-related activities, we offer additional service packages, including:

- ToT Training for Art Educators
- Private Art Class Sessions
- Painting Workshop Packages

By choosing these service packages, you can help sustain and expand the future activities of CFK_Art Fund.



AVAILABLE ARTWORKS FOR SALES

Artist - Nay Min Zaw

Title - Virgin

Size - 24" x 24"

Medium - Oil On Canvas

