



He Xiangning: Ink And Intent At National Gallery Singapore

Description

He Xiangning: Ink and Intent is the kind of National Gallery Singapore exhibition that rewards a little context before you go. It is not only a display of ink painting; it is a retrospective about a woman artist whose work sits across art, politics, modern China and Southeast Asian connections.



江山一枝筆無聊來
寫此時情

十七年一月與頤淵
香凝樹人同在新都
合作于左名題

東望山上中山蒼髯若年時歲已空
松青
贈蘇雪石詩畫同合作後
人病
梅古竹漕泥煙海陳情序必月
潤色江山一枝筆多聊來字

此時情 十七年一月作

南東廿五年十一月
月又同作

He Xiangning: Ink and Intent is now open at National Gallery Singapore.

National Gallery Singapore's media release says the exhibition opened on 1 April 2026 and is Southeast Asia's first retrospective dedicated to He Xiangning, featuring more than 50 artworks and archival materials.

What The Exhibition Covers

default watermark



The exhibition features more than 50 artworks and archival materials.

The show is co-curated with the He Xiangning Art Museum and follows the artist's life and practice over seven decades. That gives the exhibition a biographical and historical arc rather than a single-theme gallery visit.

Readers who usually find ink painting distant should look for how the works connect to travel, political life, personal conviction and regional exchange. The Southeast Asia angle is part of the reason the show belongs in Singapore.

The archival material is worth slowing down for because it gives the paintings a social world. Rather than viewing He only as an artist of landscape and brushwork, visitors can see how her practice moved through family, nation-building and political networks.

How To Read It

Start with the chronology. A retrospective is easier when you follow how the artist's subject matter and relationships change over time, instead of treating each work as an isolated object.

Then look at scale and brushwork. Ink painting can seem restrained from a distance, but the details often show where force, softness and intention sit inside a single work.

If you are visiting with someone new to ink art, pick three works to compare instead of trying to decode every label. Ask what feels still, what feels forceful and where the eye travels first.

default watermark



The retrospective traces He Xiangning's artistic practice and ties with Southeast Asia.

Who Should Go

This is a strong pick for museum regulars, Chinese art students, history-minded readers and anyone who wants a quieter City Hall plan. It also works as a contrast to more spectacle-driven exhibitions because the pace is slower and more reflective.

If you are comparing current National Gallery stops, LBRD has also covered the free [GastroBeats](#) festival-village plan around Marina Bay for a completely different kind of outing.

The best time to go is when you can give the show a calm hour. It is not a quick photo stop; the value is in seeing how a long career gathers meaning across rooms.

Location

National Gallery Singapore is at 1 St Andrew's Road, Singapore 178957. Nearest MRT: City Hall. Maps: [Google Maps](#) | [Apple Maps](#).

Date Created

13/05/2026

Author

priya

default watermark