



Friday, 12 September 2025 | 2.45 pm - 5.45 pm

KL CITY ART GALLERY

Lot No. 8, Level G4, Block C4, Publika Shopping Gallery, Jalan Dutamas 1, 50480 Kuala Lumpur.



An Afternoon of Poetry invites you into a shared space of verse, reflection, and intercultural resonance. The road to philosophy and wisdom lead to Omar Khayyam and the road to Malay civilizational discourse lead to Raja Ali Haji. Omar Khayyam, the great Persian polymath and sage of existential verse whose quatrains distil cosmic wonder and existential reflection into crystalline verse, and Raja Ali Haji, the Malay scholar-poet whose writings enshrine dignity, diplomacy, and the ethics of language. Their legacies transcend time, their poetry will weave an afternoon of meditation on mysticism, nature, history, love, empathy, and the sacredness of everyday life.

An Afternoon of Poetry, set in the KL City Art Gallery's Exhibition "Free" will slow time – it promises quietude; to listen deeply, across differences, and to dwell in the shared silences between verses.

Let poetry and art be the language of encounter to give us insights of a better world with each verse and brushstroke. JOIN US.

PROGRAMME	
2.45 pm	Registration of participants opens
3.00 pm	Arrival of VIP Guests
3.15 pm	Welcoming by Mrs Maizon Omar, Director, KL City Art Gallery
3.20 pm	Speech by Dr. Habibreza Arzani, Cultural Counsellor of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran
3.35 pm	Speech by H.E. Valiollah Mohammadi, The Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Malaysia
3.45 pm	HUD HUD - Cultural Historical Messenger Between Iranian and Malay Civilization by Dr. Vahid Alli, the First Research Counsellor of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Southeast Asia
4.00 pm	Presentation on The Malay World and the Persian Connection by Dr Mehdi Soltanzadeh, Akademi Pengajian Melayu, University Malaya
4.20 pm	Poetry of Omar Khayyam and Raja Ali Haji Dr. Habibreza Arzani, Cultural Counsellor of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran Dr. Ramin Hajianfard, City University Malaysia Dr. Mehdi Soltanzadeh, Akademi Pengajian Melayu, Universiti Malaya Datin Dr Shafa'atussara Silahudin, Akademi Pengajian Melayu, Universiti Malaya Dato' Wira Azmi Mahmud
5.45 pm	Refreshment and Viewing of Art Exhibition