

Shaq Koyok — Curriculum Vitae

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Origin: Kampung Orang Asli (Temuan) Pulau Kempas, Banting, Kuala Langat, Selangor, Malaysia

PROFILE

Shaq Koyok is an award-winning contemporary Temuan Indigenous artist and activist from Selangor, Malaysia. His practice merges visual art and Indigenous rights advocacy, drawing from lived experiences of land loss, cultural displacement, and the impacts of rapid development on Orang Asli communities. His bold, expressive works highlight the resilience, stories, and struggles of Indigenous Malaysians, offering powerful commentary on environmental justice, human rights, and cultural survival.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Fine Art (Hons), Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Selangor (2009)

Diploma of Fine Art, UiTM Melaka (2006)

AWARDS

Citra Madani Award, Malaysia (2023)

Eco-Business A-List Award, Singapore (2021)

Merdeka Award Grant for International Attachment (2017)

Indigenous People Icon Award (2015)

Indigenous People Excellence Award, Tourism Selangor (2015) **SELECTED EXHIBITIONS (Recent Highlights)**

Artivist-in-Residence, Belém, Brazil (2025)

Community. Climate. Extinction, OXO Gallery, London, UK (2025)

The Plot Plantation, Ilham Gallery, Malaysia (2025)

Ruang Temuan, Papan Haus, Malaysia (2025)

Artivist-in-Residence for COP29, Baku, Azerbaijan (2024)

Kenduri Seni Art Festival, Pattani, Thailand (2024)

Artivist-in-Residence for COP28, Dubai, UAE (2023)

Body of Knowledge, Venice Biennale satellite event, Italy (2022)

Ninth Beijing International Art Biennale, China (2021)

"Land of a Thousand Guilts", Solo Exhibition, Richard Koh Fine Art, KL (2021)

ACHIEVEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Panel presentations and papers at international conferences including COP30 (Brazil), Sustainability Research & Innovation Congress (Chicago), University of Plymouth (UK), COP29 (Azerbaijan), COP28 (UAE), and Cultural Wisdom for Climate Action (Bangkok) (2023–2025).

Workshops and community arts initiatives including puppetry programs in Malaysia, Singapore, and Indonesia.

ARTISTIC STATEMENT

"My work reflects the tension and pressures faced by Indigenous communities navigating rapid modernisation, environmental degradation, and cultural survival. Through portraiture, activism, and storytelling, I aim to express the lived realities of *Orang Asal* communities and challenge inequalities between consumerism and traditional ecological knowledge. My practice is rooted in the rainforest, my people, and the urgent need to protect both."