For the past few decades, whenever I work on an art piece, tradition and innovation often alternate and intertwine. At times they would be in opposition and at other times would be integrated as one. This complicated relationship and its complexity can be hard to understand.
Some flowers appear in my deep contemplation. Only this one among them is indelibly etched in my mind. The moon remains bright with no dew or mist in the air. Year of Yinao (1975), hot summer.

Ek Kay

冥思中有若干朵花，其中唯一此朵留存。非霧非雲明夜在，乙卯夏炎。
River and mountains
amidst misty rain.
Painted in Binyin year
(1986) by Ek Kay after
returning from Hanyang.
Hoarding around CHIJ
To view this content, please refer to the print edition of this book.
Life in Little India

1989

Chinese ink and wash on paper
Collection of Singapore Management University
Image courtesy of Editors, Dider Millet

"89. Painted after reminiscing for half a year.
Chua Ek Kay
八九年对此景徘徊
半年而后作
蔡逸凯"
City Corner

Undated (late 1980s)

无年款（约1980年代末）

96 x 88 cm

Chinese ink and colour on paper

Private collection
Lotus

Undated (late 1980s)
无年款 (约1980年代末)

Chinese ink and color on paper
水墨设色画

34 x 13 cm
34 x 13 厘米

Collection of Chu E-Kay's estate
蔡逸豪家属藏品
Lotus Pond Ek Kay

荷塘 逸藻
To view this content, please refer to the print edition of this book.
Chua Ek Kay June 1991

蔡逸溪写于九一年六月
Zen Mountain, Chua Ek Kay '92

Chinatown—Zen Mountain
(Chan Shan)

114 x 96 cm
Moon Shines on Borobudur

1992

Chinese ink and colour on paper

112 x 96 cm

Collection of Chua Ek Kay's estate
Portrait of a Woman

Ek Kay Chua ’93

Collection of the Bank of America, Merrill Lynch

Chinese ink and watercolour on paper

81 x 74 cm
A Silent Figure

Collection of the Bank of America Merrill Lynch

Ek Kay Chua '93

寂人图

Chinese ink and colour on paper

81 x 74 cm
To view this content, please refer to the print edition of this book.
Journey to a Snowy Mountain
Chinese ink on paper
178.3 x 92.6 cm
1995
冬旅
水墨纸本
178.3 x 92.6 厘米
Song of Cicada

Chinese ink and colour on paper

77.5 x 55 cm (each)
Dream of Borduburt

Chinese ink and colour on paper

56 x 68 cm

Collection of the Bank of America Merrill Lynch
Moonlight in Bordeaux

Chen Ek Kay '96

Chinese ink and colour on paper

Collection of Singapore Management University

1996 50x70 cm
Dancers and Flowers

1997

Sound of the lotus '97
Ek Kay

Edition 九七年
逸溪 作
Chua Ek Kay '97
蔡惠溪 '97年
To view this content, please refer to the print edition of this book.
Chua Ek Kay 1998
Landscape: Homage to Shitao (3)

Chinese ink and colour on paper
Collection of the Bank of America Merrill Lynch

53 x 87 cm
1998
A handscrew unrolls like a river flowing east,
Revealing the mountain empty except for a
flight of geese.
Wuyin year (1998),
Homage to Shitao.
Ek Kay

卷軸東流水，
空巖雲霧飛；
戊寅写石涛画意
逸溪
Monsoon Wind Blows over the Indian Ocean

Chua Ek Kay '98

蔡逸溪 '98
Cliff of Himalayas

Chinese ink and colour on paper
177 x 97 cm
Private collection

1998

Chua Ek Kay '98
蔡逸溪九八年
Untitled (Street Scene)

1999

Chinese ink and colour on paper

81 x 135.5 cm

Collection of the Bank of America Merrill Lynch
Shitao: Studies

Chinese ink on paper

39 x 42 cm
Private collection

1999

Lush reeds by the clear lake
A boat docks by the stone bridge
Beyond the shop and the bamboo tower
How vivid the foliage looks in the freezing fog

湖草悠悠湖水清
泊船数浒石桥横
酒肆店竹楼外
霜草寒烟分外明
写石涛画意

水墨纸本：39 x 42 厘米
私人藏品

Catkins fly in a sea of red
As the sun sets on the valley of peach flowers
‘99 Ek Kay

柳絮飞来片片红
只因夕照映花坞
九九年立夏
Behold the rowboat
riding in and out of
the stormy waves.
Ek Kay '99
View from a Cliff

Chua Ek Kay 2000

134 x 34 cm

Chinese ink and colour on paper

Collection of Wong Kong Yim
To view this content, please refer to the print edition of this book.
Chua Ek Kay '00

蔡磊溪 '00
The old house should still stand,
Despite the storms through the years,
I have grown grey in my lone wanderings,
Reflecting on my solitude towards heaven.

I have seen snow-capped peaks in June,
Seagulls sleeping on the beach of the south seas,
Miles of lotuses separating heaven and earth,
The pink of spring in fallen apple blossoms.
A lonely cloud frozen by the emerald hill,
White egrets prancing in a graceful dance.
With my brush I journey on desert tracks,
Through sandstorms I hear bells of the caravan.

I search for my old dream in the moonlight,
Fragments of an old song from winding verandas.
The paint on doors and windows is peeling off,
Crickets are crying at the foot of the wall.

Pomegranate flowers hidden behind the ruins,
With shadows of bamboo branches across them.

There is great Order in the whole universe,
Determined when everything forms or stays.

Now as I return to my old residence,
How the folk and the street have changed.
Only that banyan tree remains the same,
Perched with flocks of birds at dusk and dawn.
Look at the sunflowers under the tree,
And how every bloom plucks light from the sun.

It's now a whole new world,
Where peace and quiet keeps out the noisy one.
While I toil tirelessly stroke after stroke,
Each of them a brush with the truth and innocence.

2001

182.7 x 95.1 cm (each)

Street Scenes Revisited

Chinese ink on paper

旧街重访

水墨纸本

182.7 x 95.1 厘米（每幅）
To view this content, please refer to the print edition of this book.
To view this content, please refer to the print edition of this book.
Midnight Lotus

2002

Hand-coloured ancient paper pigments
164 x 264.2 cm
Private collection

夜荷
To view this content, please refer to the print edition of this book.
To view this content, please refer to the print edition of this book.
My trip to the water villages of Jiangnan started in Zhouzhuang, then to Wuzhen and Xitang. The scenery differed in each of them. This one shows lamps on wooden posts along an old street. 

Ek Kay

江南水乡之旅始于周庄经乌镇抵西塘
景物各有不同，此沿途古道上之街灯木柱
Roof and Flowers in Red

2004

Oil and ink on paper
253 x 197 cm

Flowering plum in April Ek Kay

四月梅花
酒溪
Catholic High School
Old Campus Grounds

2005

Chua Ek Kay '05
蔡逸强 '05
Summer Lotus

2005

Chinese ink and colour on paper
48 x 352 cm
Collection of Catholic High School
To view this content, please refer to the print edition of this book.
To view this content, please refer to the print edition of this book.
Street Scene
Back Lane of Telok Ayer

2006

Acrylic on canvas
180 x 90 cm
Collection of SC Global Developments Pte Ltd

Chua Ek Kay '06
蔡逸溪 ‘06
Morning Breeze in Early Summer

2006

Chua Ek Kay '06

蔡逸溪 ’06
First Light Lotus Pond

2007

Chua Ek Kay '07

蔡逸漢 '07
A Quiet Corner of a Lotus Pond

2007

Chua Ek Kay '07

荷塘一角
水墨设色纸本
57 x 138 厘米
Collection of Loh Siok Keat Iock

Chua Ek Kay ‘07
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