

Innovation - Hong Yi

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'Red' is the stage name of Malaysian-born artist and architect Hong Yi. She is referred to as an artist who "paints without a paintbrush" because she transforms our perception of objects and image-making by employing commonplace objects and materials for her paintings and art installations.

Bristles are not a concern for artist Hong Yi. Instead, she paints pictures of well-known basketball stars like Yao Ming while dribbling a basketball that has been covered in paint. She manipulates her food and takes pictures of the miniature structures she makes out of rice, beets, and spicy sauce. Additionally, she fashions portraits out of shuttlecock feathers, hand-drawn musical notation, and coffee cup stains.

Clients from all around the world have requested her work, and she has received invitations to speak at conferences abroad. For his 60th birthday in 2014, Jackie Chan hired her to paint a portrait of himself using 64,000 chopsticks. A video of the artwork has amassed 1.9 million views on YouTube. She was given the opportunity to exhibit her piece, "Teh Tarik Man," which was built of 20,000 coloured tea bags, at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, in 2015 as part of Malaysian Night. She received several honours, including recognition as one of Australia Unlimited's 19 "Future Chasers," Perspective's 40 Under 40 award, and recognition as one of the top 12 "Brilliant Malaysians" and "Brilliant Artist Award" recipients by Esquire Magazine. one of the 19 "Future Chasers" identified by Australia Unlimited as the future's courageous, imaginative, and determined decision-makers.

