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Exhibition of Malaysian artists' works

"I'LL take this one," Datin Seri Endon Mahmud says to artist Johari Alias (left), 37, of Perak.

The Ipoh-born painter was explaining his RM2,400 oil on canvass entitled Teluk Bahang to the wife of Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi when she said she would buy the piece. Next to Endon is Anugerah Gallery Snd Bhd managing director and exhibition co-ordinator Ferri Anugerah Makmur.

Johari, who has painted banners and billboards for the Shaw Brothers and Cathay Keris cinemas, was a student of the late Datuk Hossein Anas, who was known as a master of realism-style paintings.

Among collectors of Johari's works are Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and several corporate figures.

Endon had earlier opened A Quest Into Malaysia's 13 States of Fine Art and Culture, an art exhibition of all things uniquely Malaysian by artists from each State.

The exhibition, at Hotel Nikko, will be open 10am to 10pm daily until October 31, this year.

The oil and watercolour paintings were priced between RM1,000 and RM15,000.

The most expensive was an oil painting, Rambutans and Birds, by Zaharuddin Sarbini of Selangor.

Other artists are Rosli Mat (Perlis), Aza Osman and Maamor Jantan (Kedah), Tayep Top (Penang), Samsudin Mohamad (Perak), Yusof Gajah Ismail (Negri Sembilan), Shahrilnurul Sahat (Malacca), Adeputra (Johor), Nizar Kamal Ariffin (Pahang), Mohamad Zaki Zakaria (Terengganu), Kamaruddin Talib (Kelantan), Bayu Utomo Radjikin (Sabah) and John Wong Chin Hean (Sarawak).

(END)