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Headline: In memory of artist Chua

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A memorial will be held to mark the 100th day of the death of artist Chua Ek Kay

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ABOUT 200 people are expected to attend a memorial to mark the 100th day of artist Chua Ek Kay's death.

The memorial was initiated by the Singapore Art Museum (SAM), which is organising it jointly with the Singapore Management University (SMU).

It will be held at the museum's Glass Hall on May 17.

Chua, a renowned artist, battled nose cancer and died on Feb 8 at the age of 61. He is survived by his wife Tshiau Yi, 60, and son Benson, 22, a university student in Australia.

The 1999 Cultural Medallion recipient worked in Chinese ink and, later, in oils. He was known for his contemporary Chinese ink paintings and for his paintings of Chinatown street scenes, lotuses and abstract works inspired by aboriginal cave paintings.

A spokesman for the museum says the team waited 100 days so that it could put together a meaningful memorial which would cover the late artist's life.

Mr Koh Seow Chuan, chairman of the museum, Professor Howard Hunter, president of SMU, and Mrs Chua will be speaking at the memorial.



HIS CHINATOWN: The late Chua Ek Kay (above) was known for his paintings of Chinatown street scenes (left, a piece called Teochew Street) and had bequeathed his Street Scenes Collection of 30 artworks to the Singapore Management University in 2006.

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SMU had received The Street Scenes Collection from the artist in October 2006.

It consists of 30 artworks showing Singapore's heritage, with depictions of old shophouses, narrow alleyways, historic sites and other scenes of Singapore now gone.

After the memorial, there will be a short lecture on the artist's work by curator Joanna Lee and SAM director Kwok Kian Chow, followed by an optional tour of Chua's street scenes collection at the university's Lee Kong Chian School of Business.

Mrs Chua told Life! that she was deeply touched by the museum's efforts. She said meeting people who knew her husband well and liked his art will make the evening an emotional one for her.

Prof Hunter, 61, says: "We are extremely privileged and honoured to have received a very important body of work from Mr Chua Ek Kay."

"We were all saddened by his passing and take this occasion to work with SAM to honour his memory and share his Street Scenes series with his family, friends and the public."

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> The memorial for artist Chua Ek Kay will be held at the Glass Hall, Singapore Art Museum, 71 Bras Basah Road from 5 to 6.15pm on May 17. Those attending need to register by 4pm on May 15 by calling 6332-4205 or sending an e-mail to nhb_sam_programs@nhb.gov.sg