

PRESS RELEASE

MIFF FURNITURE DESIGN COMPETITION 2016

Ten finalists eye No.1 young furniture designer accolade

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 2: The battle to become Malaysia's top young furniture designer launched six months ago top has reached its final countdown with 10 challengers racing to finish their prototype for the final round of the MIFF Furniture Design Competition (FDC) 2016.

Their works will be presented to international jury led by well-known China-based Malaysian designer Philip Yap on Feb 29, ahead of the 2016 Malaysian International Furniture Fair (MIFF) from March 1 to 5.

Open to design students and young professionals aged 30 and below, MIFF FDC 2016 carries the theme "Living Furniture, Global Perspective" with wood as the chief material and attractive cash rewards sponsored by the Malaysian Timber Council.

Selected from 100 entries, the 10 finalists will also get to exhibit at MIFF 2016. The winner takes home RM10,000 cash with the second and third-placed receiving RM5,000 and RM2,500 respectively, and remaining finalists RM500 each at the MIFF Prize Presentation Ceremony on March 3.

"Out of our top 10 finalists, we have five from various industry practitioners, meaning that we are attracting designers of other disciplines to also take part in the competition. Their participation fast tracks the formation of the collaborative platform between the design industry, and the furniture industry." Mr. Yap added.

The pool has narrowed to a mix of young working professionals and design students who came up with a pack of chairs, stools, sofa, low tables, reading bench and a shelf unit.

2015 contestant Lim Bo Qiang returned to impress the judges this time with two entries, *Muk Sofa* and *Dudoo* chair, picked for the final. The 28-year-old is now starting his own design studio.

The competition continues to beckon young female talent with five making half the number of finalists - Izyan Syamimi Zainol (Universiti Putra Malaysia) with *Rebung Shelves*, Lim Mei San (Southern University College) with *Dim Stool*, Low Kah Ling (Supreme Office Furniture System Sdn Bhd) with *Orient Revival*, Chee Fang Yan (ALFA International College) with *Clasik 1 & Elegan 1* and Vivian Lam Shi Wei (S.Kian Seng Sdn Bhd) with *Flip*.

The prototypes of these finalist designs are sponsored by BSL Furniture Sdn Bhd, Fella Design Sdn Bhd, Jemaramas Jaya Sdn Bhd, Mau Sin Bentwood Industry Sdn Bhd, Oasis Furniture Industries Sdn Bhd, G-Orient Industries Sdn Bhd, BJ Cabinet Enterprise Sdn Bhd, Supreme Tropical Furniture Sdn Bhd, Yee Guan Furniture Manufacturing Sdn Bhd, Tiandirufeng Antique Furniture China and S.Kian Seng Sdn Bhd.

**MALAYSIAN
INTERNATIONAL**



**FURNITURE
FAIR 2016**

01-05 MARCH

Putra World Trade Centre
MATRADE Exhibition
& Convention Centre

**KUALA LUMPUR
MALAYSIA**



The jury comprises Yap, Lim Wei Hong (Arkitek WHL, Malaysia), Hamidah Abdullah (Malaysian Timber Council), Lu Ke Yan (Tiandirufeng Antique Furniture, China), Shinichi Mitsuki (Mitsui Designtec Co Ltd, Japan) and Fabrizio Carloncelli (Fabrizio Carloncelli Design, Italy).

Ms Karen Goi, MIFF General Manager, commented: “This is the seventh year of our commitment to create a vibrant design culture for the Malaysian furniture industry. MIFF provides these designers with a much sought international stage and exposure to the local and foreign media. The designers also get to experience firsthand the dynamics of a global furniture market and what buyers are looking for.”

| MIFF FDC 2016 FINALISTS | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| NO. | NAME | INSTITUTION / ORGANISATION | DESIGN |
| 1. | Izyan Syamimi Zainol | Universiti Putra Malaysia | Rebung Shelves |
| 2. | Lim Bo Qiang | Haworth Industries Sdn Bhd | Muk Sofa |
| 3. | Lee Wen Horng | UCSI University | Ling |
| 4. | Lee Jian Kang | Self-employed | 45 Degree |
| 5. | Lim Mei San | Southern University College | Dim Stool |
| 6. | Wong Mei Ying | ALFA International College | Stop and Stay Reading Bench |
| 7. | Low Kah Ling | Supreme Office Furniture System Sdn Bhd | Orient Revival |
| 8. | Lim Bo Qiang | Haworth Industries Sdn Bhd | Dudoo |
| 9. | Chee Fang Yan | ALFA International College | Clasik 1 & Elegan 1 |
| 10. | Vivian Lam Shi Wei | S.Kian Seng Sdn Bhd | Flip |
| 11. | Jun Lee Kai Chun | BOFI Kitchen | SKOG Table |

Notes to Editors

About MIFF (www.miff.com.my)

Malaysian International Furniture Fair (MIFF) is an export-oriented furniture trade show held annually in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. It is also a global leading trade show approved by UFI, The Global Association for Exhibition Industry. Since 1995, MIFF has nurtured invaluable partnerships between thousands of buyers and furniture makers across the globe.

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