



*Embassy of Malaysia  
Paris*

**Speech by H.E Dato' S. Thanarajasingam, Ambassador of Malaysia  
at the Art Exhibition entitled "Kuala Lumpur, Tour et Retour",  
held at Ecole Nationale Superieure des Beaux-arts, Paris  
Wednesday 15 November 2006**

Mesdames et Messieurs, bonsoir  
Selamat Datang Tuan-Tuan dan Puan-Puan,

Monsieur Henry-Claude Cousseau, Directeur de l'Ecole Nationale Superieure  
des beaux arts,  
Madame Adlina Borhan, Director-Tourism Malaysia Paris  
Ladies & Gentlemen

1. May I begin by thanking the Organizers for inviting me to officiate at this interesting art exhibition entitled "Kuala Lumpur, Tour et Retour" (or Kuala Lumpur, there and back), hosted by l'Ecole Superieure des Beaux-Arts, Malaysia Tourism and Malaysia Airlines.

2. In May this year, a group of six young aspiring artists from this world renowned school went on an almost one month discovery of Malaysia. They visited different parts of Malaysia and witnessed the sights and heard the sounds of Malaysia. They met the hospitable people of Malaysia and tasted the foods and fruits of Malaysia.

3. And they captured their observations and emotions in their own idiom of artistic expression. This evening we are the beneficiaries of their creative work at this wonderful exhibition.

4. To the young artists, Director Cousseau, Deputy Dean Madame Gaita Leboissetier, Professor Tony Brown, International Director Madame Veronique Rabin Le Gall, Amelie Darras, Pascale Le Thorel-Daviot, Fanny de Premorel and

team, may I congratulate them on a successful and interesting project undertaken within the context of your research programme La Seine.

5. You have helped bring Malaysia to Paris and to France. You have contributed towards building bridges of cooperation between Malaysia and France especially in the area of artistic exchange.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

6. Given the success of this creative initiative, it should be held on a regular basis and I am confident that Tourism Malaysia, Malaysian Airlines and others will ensure the continued success of this artistic engagement.

7. This initiative is important in our efforts to enhance our presence in France, a great country which had produced and continues to produce some of the world's greatest artists and works of art. Indeed this historical and prestigious Ecole represents this fine tradition of France.

8. Malaysia will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> Year of Independence next year which will also be marked by Visit Malaysia Year 2007, just 46 days away. Many exciting activities have been planned within Malaysia as well as abroad, including in France.

9. You may be aware that Malaysia Airlines from November 1 has launched direct daily flights between Kuala Lumpur and Paris. This increased connectivity should foster even closer people-to-people activities between our two countries. We invite you to visit and experience the culture and beauty of Malaysia and to get to know us better.

10. I wish you all a very pleasant and memorable evening in this great institution and call on you to savour a little bit of Malaysia, as seen by the Ecole's young, keen and talented eyes of French and international students!

With these brief remarks, it is my honour to officially declare open this Exhibition.

Selamat Malam, Bonne Soiree.