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**HUDSON
VALLEY
MOCA**

Anne Samat: *Greatest Love*

On view May 9–September 8, 2019

Opening reception Thursday, May 9, 6-8pm

PEEKSKILL, NY—Hudson Valley MOCA is pleased to announce Anne Samat's first solo exhibition in the United States, *Greatest Love*. The exhibition will be on view May 9–September 8, 2019, with an opening reception May 9, 6-8pm.

"It's like dancing," says Anne Samat, as she weaves colorful rope into mesmeric patterns. In her new body of iconic wall hangings, these handmade cords cascade from armatures of radiating garden rakes. Found objects abound, simultaneously cultural, formal and figurative. A pair of plastic funnels double as breasts, forks and spoons serve as a warp, and

cassette tapes hang from chain-like 80s-era neckpieces. These 99¢ store finds and cultural markers blend seamlessly with the intricate fiber work Samat studied at the Mara Institute of Technology, in Malaysia. The pieces embody a true story—her story—each sculpture a totem to a different family member, starting with Samat's mother and working down three generations to her first nephew.

The monumental centerpiece of the exhibition, *Che Yah (Greatest Love)*, spans 7 feet tall and 10 feet wide. "The message really is love," Samat says, "I am a citizen of the world, and all of this comes from me. I can't speak to other peoples' experiences, but maybe they can find their own truth in the work."

On her first exhibition in the United States, Samat adds, "All my works are metaphors for the country of Malaysia, a blend of tradition with modernization, pairing and preserving the old with the new. I am ecstatic to be living my dream in the moment. New York and Hudson Valley MOCA is my new fertile playground."

The textile-infused sculptures are crescendos of color, texture and scale shifts. They were made during the three-month long Hudson Valley MOCA Residency Program, which awards international artists live-work space in Peekskill. "The Hudson Valley has inspired artists for centuries, and we are so happy to have hosted Anne here," says Executive Director Effie Phillips-Staley, "She has an extraordinary ability to breathe life into everyday materials. The sense of touch in her work is dazzling."

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Anne Samat (b. 1973, Malacca, Malaysia) graduated in 1995 from Mara Institute of Technology, in Malaysia. She holds a Bachelor Degree in Art and Design with a major in Weaving and a minor in Print and Resist. She is represented by Richard Koh Fine Art in Malaysia and has exhibited internationally. Her work appears in public collections throughout Malaysia including the National Art Gallery in Kuala Lumpur, where Samat lives and works.

Hudson Valley MOCA, located in Peekskill, NY, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit arts and education center dedicated to the enrichment of communities in the Hudson Valley and Peekskill, New York, through contemporary art exhibitions, arts education programs, artist residencies and lectures, and the Peekskill Project, our bi-annual international art festival.

Public Information: Hudson Valley MOCA, 1701 Main Street, PO Box 209, Peekskill, NY 10566, (914) 788-0100, hudsonvalleymoca.org. Hours: Wednesday through Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday, 12:00-6:00 p.m. Museum Admission: \$10 adults; \$5 Peekskill residents, seniors, students, children over 8; free for members and children 8 and under.