

# SOUTHEAST ASIA STUDIES WEDNESDAY LUNCH SEMINAR



## MEDIATING MALAYSIA IN A REGION OF HOPE AND CHANGE

with

### KEAN WONG

Journalist

*The Straits Times*

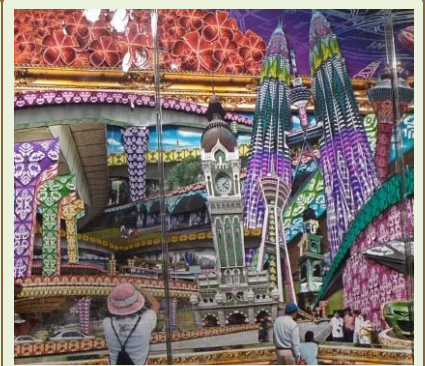
## WEDNESDAY, November 14, 2012

Benjamin T. Rome Building, Room 806  
1619 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
12:30 pm – 1:45 pm

*Open to Southeast Asia Studies students, alumni,  
and invited guests \*Lunch is included!*

**RSVP** [seasia@jhu.edu](mailto:seasia@jhu.edu) by Tuesday, November 13,  
12 noon with your name and affiliation

**PLEASE JOIN** us for a discussion on how the rapid industrialization and urbanization of Malaysia over the past two decades has fundamentally changed its political and religious landscape, where its once-vexed demography may prove to be its hopeful destiny. Most Malaysians are under 40, engaged with a globalised pop culture, and increasingly expressing mass disquiet on the streets and online about a broken system still run by feudal overlords of a previous era. In examining the contest between this disquiet in modern culture and media, and the state's traditional brandishing of authoritarian controls, examples of recent film, artworks and music will illustrate implications for Malaysia and its neighboring countries.



**KEAN WONG** is a Malaysian journalist who has reported, edited and produced for the past 20 years across Southeast Asia, Australia and Europe for media organizations that include the BBC, ABC, the *Australian Financial Review*, the *Economist*, and the *Sun of Malaysia*. Currently, he is a journalist for the *Straits Times* of Singapore, based in Washington. He majored in political economy and fine arts at the Australian National University, and is writing a graduate thesis on Islamic modernity and Malay youth for the University of Nottingham (UK).



Photomontage/sculpture (upper right) by Liew Kungyu; drawing by Sidney Tan