

Khairullah Rahim

Rendezvous, 2020

In this specially commissioned artwork, we see a fish tank, and an assortment of objects in different colours, shapes and textures arranged inside it: shower roses, dragonflies, dew drops, artificial plants, wood, gravel, driftwood. The work replicates a tropical habitat that is lush and thriving. This type of art is known as Assemblage. It is made by arranging disparate everyday objects to create an artistic whole.

Titled *Rendezvous*, this work references public spaces which come alive when people from different communities and walks of life gather and interact there. It is a poignant reminder of pre-pandemic days. At the same time, like the rhinestones sparkling on the objects within the glass case, it shines a positive light on living and relating within the constraints of movement and space during this challenging period.

Singapore artist Khairullah Rahim is interested in exploring everyday objects and community spaces in his work. When he is not engaged in artmaking, he enjoys visiting neighbourhood aquarium shops. He has said in an interview “When I was younger, I spent hours at the public library almost daily reading up on aquarium care”.