



do large-scale murals in places with high foot traffic for people to enjoy as they commute. This newfound freedom has allowed me to realise my dream of becoming a full-time freelance mural artist.

**What do you do differently?**

I avoid traditional dark, violent graffiti artworks. Instead, I use elements of realism to bring positivity through portraits of children and natural, living things, which tend to attract people's attention. I also combine over 30 different colours and try to create a water colour effect. I hope to evoke a feeling of joy and peace through my work.

**What projects do you enjoy working on?**

I enjoy working with school kids. Many are creative and we visit schools to motivate them. Collaborating with a crew in Melbourne recently was a first for me and really gave me momentum to improve my own talents.

**Where would you like to see Asia's street art going?**

I look forward to the day when European artists refer to Asian artworks for inspiration. We can inspire each other and share ideas. [anokayer.com](http://anokayer.com)

# Inspired portraits

Street artist Akid\_One is shining new light on the typically dark art of graffiti

WORDS LAUREN MANUEL

Malaysia has come a long way from the days when graffiti crews were chased for vandalism. Over the last decade, mural artist Zufadli Nawawi or Akid\_One has been steadily transforming the negative perceptions of graffiti, encouraging more Malaysian youth to pursue careers in creative fields.

**What do you make of Malaysia's street art scene?**

It's great watching it become an accepted art form that beautifies the city. Today, big companies like Petronas commission us to

## POP ART

**1 BRAVE**

This Petronas-commissioned mural shows a child embodying the spirit of the tiger while holding an iPad as a symbol of progress. It took my crew, MediumTouch, eight days to complete. It holds the record for the largest mural in Malaysia.



**2 DINOSAUR**

This 3D art mural was commissioned by Rapid KL and is located at Masjid Jamek (Putra LRT). I painted the dinosaur from a friend's sketch in two days. Other artists created the interactive space where commuters can sit "in" the train.



**3 GADIS MELAYU MIXED**

This piece in Melbourne's Collingwood area was inspired by the model, Lala. I love the mood projected in her eyes and lips. Melbourne graffiti artist Dvate and I completed it in eight hours.

