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Live the Ordinary Extraordinarily

## THE PERANAKAN MODERNE COLLECTION

"It is what lies in between that  
gives shape to the whole - to reflect  
our unique social fabric"

NICHOLAS PAUL, ARETÉSE

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JEREMY SUN











SINGAPORE'S GOLDEN JUBILEE 2015

## PERANAKAN MUSEUM

Between 1912 and 1982, this building housed the Tao Nan School. Although it was originally established to educate the children of the Hokkien community, the school began admitting students from all Chinese dialect groups from 1909. It was the first local Chinese school to teach in Mandarin rather than dialect in 1916. It began teaching English from as early as 1914.

In 1957, Tao Nan, along with many other Chinese schools, became a government-aided school and part of a unified national education system. Later, as families shifted out of the city centre and school enrolment dwindled, the school moved to Marine Parade in 1982.

This building was part of the Asian Civilisations Museum from 1997 up to 2005. It was refurbished in 2005 as the Peranakan Museum, which opened to the public in 2008.





## Kebaya - Chinese Style

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This is a Chinese-styled blouse worn by Peranakan women. Unlike the kebaya with a front opening, this blouse opens on the right-hand side.

**Date/Period:** 20th century

**Region:** Straits Settlements and Indonesia

**Dimension:** Gross measurement: 68.6 x 141 cm

**Accession No.:** 2011-01198

**Collection of:** [Peranakan Museum](#)

**Credit Line:** Gift of Mr and Mrs Lee Kip Lee

**Category:** [Garments and Accessories](#)











## Bedsread

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This batik bedspread is known as kain spreng by the Peranakan Chinese of Indonesia. Such textiles were not very common and few have survived in good condition. This colour scheme of red and blue on white is referred to in Java as bang-biru, from the Javanese word abang, meaning red and biru meaning blue. The batik is decorated with motifs like the paisley, and tree of life, which were derived from Indian trade cloths. Many designs from trade cloths from India later influenced the visuals found on batik textiles in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

**Date/Period:** early 20th century

**Region:** Indonesia

**Dimension:** Object size: 52.5 x 173 cm

**Accession No.:** 2014-00951

**Material:** Cotton (drawn batik)

**Collection of:** [Peranakan Museum](#)

**Category:** [Textiles](#)











