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### **Asia Pacific News »**

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## **Philippine artist turns Alkaff Bridge into Singapore's first 'art bridge'**

By Dominique Loh, Channel NewsAsia



SINGAPORE: The Alkaff Bridge is now covered in paint of every colour you can imagine. But it's not graffiti. It's the result of one month of painstaking work by an artist and a team of rope specialists. They've turned the dull grey bridge into a one-of-a kind structure.

They looked like they're gearing up to climb a mountain.

But they're actually preparing to put the final touches to their labour of love.

For Philippine artist Pacita Abad, the chance to use Alkaff Bridge as a gigantic canvas was simply too good to pass up.

But it took plenty of preparation before a single drop of paint was applied.

Matin Tran of the Singapore Tyler Print Institute, said: "It's a big challenge, to put this together. There's a lot of requirement to fulfil in order to do this project. We had to seek approvals from LTA and get permits from various agencies and the STB was very supportive and helped us get the approvals."

Said artist Pacita Abad: "I love colours, it's my obsession. We should have more colours so we can enjoy life and loosen up. I think it's important when you walk in and you smile or you just get angry, at least you get a reaction to it."

And that's exactly what she got.

"Oh candies, I totally love candies so this is really my type of bridge, very colourful like candies and cookies," said a Singaporean.

Quipped another: "I think it's really cool, adds some colour to the Singapore River which is what this place needs."

The artist and her crew of helpers used 52 different colours and more than 900 litres of the industrial strength paint.

And the paint makers said Singaporeans will be able to enjoy the vibrant colours for at least the next five years. – CNA

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