SMU students dress up toilets for art exhibition

A pea through 20 mattresses – a bit of a problem if you are a princess, as in the fairytale.

A pee through all those toilet seats – a bit of a problem, if you are at the Singapore Management University (SMU).

As part of "Nonsense-tification", the university's student visual arts exhibition, a group of undergraduates has given toilets at four spots along the SMU Concourse a creative makeover.

The Princess and the Pee is their take on the story about a princess who felt the discomfort of a pea through 20 mattresses and 20 feather-beds.

Here, toilet seats have been stacked on top of each other, rendering the toilet unusable.

Explained Miss Dawn Toh, 21, president of visual arts and design society Artdicted@SMU, which is behind the exhibits: "We wanted to try something cheeky and corny, so we played on the ideas of 'pea' and the toilet as a 'throne'."

Visitors can also relive the disco days in "Staying Alive", named for the Bee Gees hit song.

The fully-functional toilet has been, well, retro-fitted, with colourful lights and a speaker blaring disco songs.

Business management student Shalini Arulananthan, 22, felt the exhibits "make us pause to appreciate art amidst running about from one class to the other".

Perhaps the most controversial of the tweaked toilets is "It's a Trap!"

Visitors to the female washroom opposite the SMU Kopitiam will encounter a jar of suspiciously brown toilet paper.

Miss Toh let on that the team used a potent mixture of paint and foodstuff like flour and chocolate to create the nasty looking concoction.

They made the soap in the dispenser brown as well.

And they hope viewers will respond with laughter, rather than disgust.

By Mitt Shivaramakrishnan, newsroom intern

− Nonsense-tification is on at various venues along the Singapore Management University Concourse till 29 Feb, from 10am to 8pm daily.
Admission is free