

A DOSE OF ALL THINGS ENTERPRISE, LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE.



### Economic Thought of the month.. Xinomics

Xinomics is a term that refers to the economic policies and strategies implemented under the leadership of Chinese President Xi Jinping. It represents a shift in economic approach from the previous era of "Likonomics" under Premier Li Keqiang and emphasizes a more centralized and state-led economic model, with a focus on strengthening the role of the Communist Party in guiding economic development.

It aims to achieve sustainable and balanced economic development by focusing on innovation, technological advancement, and structural reforms. Xinomics, also known as the "New Normal" or "New Economy," emerged as a response to the challenges and opportunities brought about by China's shifting economic landscape.

This article briefly explores the different aspects of Xinomics and its successes and shortfalls. A key feature of Xinomics is the emphasis placed on the state in guiding economic decision-making and resource allocation. This involves increased government intervention and control over key industries and sectors. Under President Xi Jinping's leadership we also see a rise in 'state-owned enterprises' (SOEs) which are strengthened and modernized to enhance their competitiveness and efficiency. This involves reforms to improve corporate governance, encourage innovation, and promote market-oriented practices within SOEs.

Further to this, we see the strong emphasis placed on technological innovation and development, particularly in areas such as artificial intelligence, big data, and advanced manufacturing. The goal is to make China a global leader in emerging technologies. It also includes the "Made in China 2025" initiative, which aims to transform China into a high-tech manufacturing powerhouse. The plan focuses on developing domestic industries in areas such as robotics, aerospace, and biotechnology.

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### The Art Edition

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*It's summer here in London and the streets are full of tourists visiting London and no doubt aside from sight-seeing visiting **Galleries and Museums** is top of the itinerary.*

*This month, we explore the role of Arts and Culture in the Economy and Mental Health and learn about the growing community of Artists founded here in London **'The Art Nxtion.'***


*We also explore principles of Leadership and Economics from the Far East - **China** and **Singapore** both countries who have both grown from strength to strength in the last 50 years.*

*Finally, please expect the next issue of the **Monday Briefing** on the first Monday of each month going forwards.*

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## Economic Thought of the month.. (continued)

### Xinomics

Closely linked to Xinomics is the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which is a large infrastructure and trade project aimed at enhancing connectivity between China and countries across Asia, Europe, Africa, and beyond. The BRI is seen as a key driver of economic growth and influence for China.

Some argue that Xinomics has played a positive role in poverty alleviation. The government claims to have implemented various policies and programs to lift millions of people out of poverty and improve living standards in rural areas. Xinomics places a strong emphasis on poverty alleviation and narrowing the wealth gap. Another focus of President Xi Jinping is to strengthen financial regulation and reduce financial risks. This involves measures to control debt levels, address shadow banking activities, and enhance oversight of the financial sector. However, it is important to note that Xinomics is a complex and evolving concept, and its implementation and impact can vary across different sectors and regions within China.

There are several potential disadvantages and several more criticisms of Xinomics. Critics argue that the emphasis on state control and strengthening SOEs can potentially stifle market competition, causing inefficiencies and lack of innovation. State control ties in to the risk of over-centralization whereby the centralization of decision-making power has a negative effect on creativity and entrepreneurship and leaves the economy vulnerable to mistakes and inefficiencies in leadership. The potential outcome on the economy is this: an economy overly dependent on government decisions and vulnerable to political uncertainties.

While "Xinomics" aims to control the debt machine, we know that many large-scale infrastructure projects and strengthening SOEs can increase debt levels. It is no surprise then, that one of the main questions surrounding this structure of governance is about long-term sustainability. While "Xinomics" has performed well in the short term, there are questions about whether its new techno-centric form of central planning can sustain innovation and growth in the long term. History suggests that diffuse decision-making, competition, and market forces are important drivers of innovation and economic growth.

In conclusion, while Xinomics has brought about significant changes and development in China's economy, it also presents challenges that need to be carefully managed for sustainable growth. The impact of Xinomics will continue to be a significant factor in global economics given China's role as a major global economic player.

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## RE-MODELLING THE ART WORLD BY SHEMAIAH GOLD

In the relentless pursuit of personal success, we often overlook the significance of supporting and uplifting those who share similar struggles and aspirations. Art plays a significant role in shaping culture, influencing ideas, and reflecting the diversity of our collective experiences. It is an expression of our humanity, transcending language barriers and societal divides, serving as a universal language that connects people from different backgrounds. Reflecting on The Art Nxtion, I am reminded of my own journey as an artist and the invaluable resources that I wish I had encountered along the way. I also feel grateful for what I encountered through leadership, when I had met Pastor Tobi for the first time and joined a community, The Fxmily. Artists, regrettably, are frequently undervalued and the art world is still very exclusive which fuels my determination on a daily basis to reshape the narrative.

In many regions, access to art education remains limited, particularly in undeserved communities, leading to fewer opportunities for aspiring artists from marginalised backgrounds and much of this talent goes to waste. I remember not having a clue that the art world existed, let alone seeing anyone that I could aspire to be like in the art world as a young black female. But I just knew that I had this talent and I couldn't let it go to waste. Creativity is vital for society, if talent is nurtured it results in more innovation which would benefit society and solve problems of humanity. Our mission is clear: to shape a new accessible and diverse art world through fostering a close-knit community of the most elite, multi-talented visionaries across the globe.

In just a year, we have grown to connect with over 10,000 artists world-wide through social media. Our foundation rests on the principle of identifying 'hidden' talent and dedicating ourselves to creating an environment that ignites their creativity and amplifies their voice. At its core, this community is a group of 30 solid members—all passionate artists and creatives primarily based in the UK, but with the recent and exciting addition of one exceptional artist, Rena, from the vibrant art scene of New York.

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Instagram:  
[@shemiah.gold](https://www.instagram.com/shemiah.gold)  
[@theart.nxtion](https://www.instagram.com/theart.nxtion)

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## RE-MODELLING THE ART WORLD BY SHEMAIAH GOLD

We are proud to be the first art community that will introduce a diverse array of established artists to the art market. By providing a platform for underrepresented talents, we are fostering an inclusive environment where unique voices can flourish and inspire others, breaking barriers and reshaping the landscape of the art world. From multi-disciplinary artists such as Lingani, an art student of the esteemed Central St Martins who assisted Ib Kamara, Art Director of Off-White to photorealist artist Lekan and many more. Imagine if these artists go unrecognised? Or perhaps not given the right guidance to be able to profit from their art? Art can act as a bridge, bringing people together, fostering empathy, and dissolving prejudices. It encourages dialogue and facilitates a deeper understanding of one another.

We have been instrumental in facilitating incredible opportunities for our members, putting on four group exhibitions since starting, all in a non-conventional setting, to allow thousands to see the artists' work as well as painting workshops and this year, we are planning for our first group popup exhibition in a gallery celebrating the beauty of our collective creativity. We also look forward to our art studio which is underway, a hub for experimentation where artists from this community can meet and collaborate as well as work on their own innovative masterpieces.

A key aspect of The Art Nxtion's mission is to enrich local communities with more public art installations to spark conversation and add a touch of wonder to the lives of everyday people. Studies reveal that communities with a strong presence of art and culture experience reduced crime rates and improved overall social cohesion. What would our cities be like without public art installations? They address current affairs, shape your thinking and evoke emotion. It is no secret that having art in your environment is directly linked to emotional well-being. Whatever your interests are, ask yourself this question: would you rather work in a dull and grey city or one that is vibrant and filled with creativity?

For us, supporting artists, providing platforms for creative expression, and enriching communities is a testament to the profound and far-reaching importance of art in society. It serves as a reminder that investing in art and culture isn't merely a luxury; it is a necessity for the betterment of society as a whole.

As we eagerly prepare for our first official group exhibition in September, The Art Nxtion remains steadfast in its commitment to fostering a world where art and creativity flourish, where artists are empowered to thrive, and where the transformative power of art touches the lives of countless individuals. In the grand tapestry of the art world, The Art Nxtion has carved out a vibrant and essential space that resonates with artists and art enthusiasts worldwide and in the words of Leonardo Da Vinci *"Art is the queen of all sciences communicating knowledge to all the generations of the world."*

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## SINGAPORE: THE GARDEN CITY-STATE

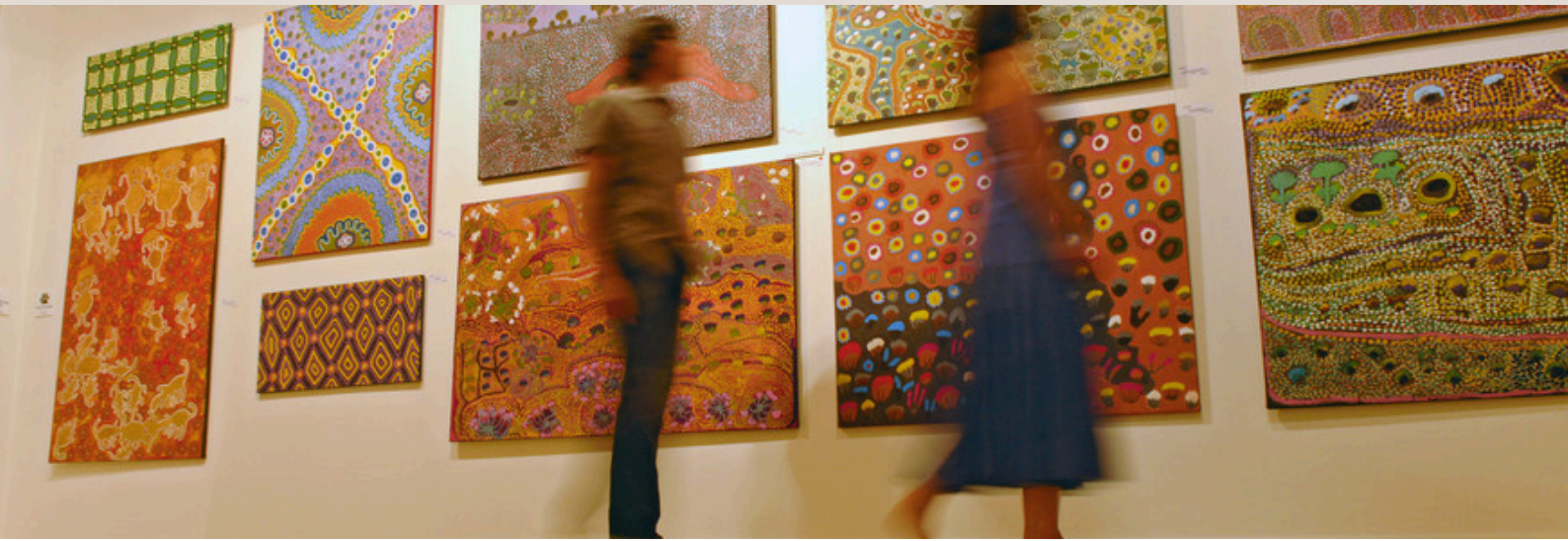
Singapore, a tiny island city-state located at the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula, has achieved astounding progress over the years. From its humble beginnings as a trading post to a modern and prosperous metropolis, Singapore's journey is a testament to the visionary leadership and active citizen participation that have been central to its success. Singapore, often hailed as the "Lion City" or the "Garden City," is a captivating and dynamic city-state that stands as a shining example of progress and innovation. Nestled at the crossroads of Southeast Asia, this modern metropolis boasts a unique blend of cultures, cutting-edge infrastructure, and a remarkable dedication to sustainability and urban planning. Despite its small size, Singapore has emerged as a major global financial centre and a key player in international trade. Its strategic location and business-friendly policies have attracted numerous multinational corporations and financial institutions, contributing to its status as an economic powerhouse in the region.

One of the cornerstones of Singapore's progress has been its visionary leadership. Throughout its history, Singapore has been governed by leaders who possess a long-term vision for the nation's development. One such prominent leader is Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore's first Prime Minister, who served from 1959 to 1990. Under his leadership, Singapore focused on building a strong economy, investing in education, and developing world-class infrastructure. Lee Kuan Yew's vision and pragmatic approach to governance are evident in his numerous speeches and writings. In his book "From Third World to First: The Singapore Story," Lee outlines the challenges faced by the fledgling nation and the strategies employed to overcome them, offering valuable insights into the principles that guided Singapore's progress.

Singapore's leaders have emphasised the importance of meritocracy and good governance in driving progress. The principle of meritocracy ensures that capable individuals are selected for key positions based on their skills and qualifications, irrespective of their background. This approach has enabled the city to harness the talents of its citizens effectively. Singapore's commitment to good governance is evident in its low levels of corruption and efficient public administration. Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index consistently ranks Singapore among the least corrupt countries globally, highlighting the effectiveness of its governance model. Singapore's progress as a city is not solely attributed to its leadership but also to the active involvement of its citizens. The Singaporean government actively encourages citizen participation through various platforms, such as the Community Development Councils (CDCs) and the People's Association (PA). These organisations foster social cohesion and community engagement, allowing citizens to play an active role in shaping their neighbourhoods and city. The importance of citizen participation in Singapore's progress is well-documented in the National Library Board's "Citizens and Governance: Civil Society, Voluntary Organizations, and Individual Participation" report. The report explores the various avenues for citizen involvement and highlights the positive impact it has on Singapore's social fabric.

Under the guidance of leaders like Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore has consistently adhered to the principles of meritocracy and good governance. Its citizens have been encouraged to actively contribute to the nation's progress, promoting social cohesion and a strong sense of ownership. By following these key principles, Singapore has risen as a shining example of what can be achieved through effective governance and active citizen engagement. As it continues to evolve and face new challenges, the city-state's commitment to visionary leadership and citizen participation remains fundamental to sustaining its progress and prosperity.

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## ARTS AND CULTURE: DRIVERS FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

In the intricate tapestry of human society, arts and culture have always played a pivotal role, enriching the lives of individuals and communities. Beyond their aesthetic and intellectual value, arts and culture also wield significant economic power, fostering growth and prosperity. This article explores the interwoven relationship between arts and culture and their impact on fuelling economic growth.

Arts and culture are intrinsically linked to tourism, attracting visitors from all corners of the globe. Museums, galleries, historical landmarks, theaters, festivals, and cultural events draw tourists seeking authentic and enriching experiences. As tourists flock to these destinations, local economies flourish through increased spending on accommodations, dining, transportation, and souvenirs. Furthermore, communities can leverage their cultural heritage to create sustainable tourism opportunities, fostering job growth and stimulating local businesses. The creative industries encompass a diverse array of sectors, including visual arts, performing arts, literature, design, film, music, and more. These industries not only generate significant revenue but also stimulate innovation. Artists, designers, and creative professionals drive technological advancements and inspire innovative solutions, leading to the growth of other sectors of the economy. The fusion of artistic expression and entrepreneurship fosters a culture of creativity that fuels economic progress.

Investments in arts and culture can act as catalysts for urban renewal and revitalisation. The development of cultural districts and creative hubs breathes new life into neglected areas, attracting residents, businesses, and tourists alike. These vibrant cultural centers become magnets for creativity and innovation, transforming once-dilapidated neighbourhoods into flourishing economic hotspots. In an increasingly competitive global economy, attracting a skilled workforce is crucial for sustainable economic growth. Vibrant arts and cultural scenes can be decisive factors in drawing talented individuals to a city or region.

Professionals seeking an enriching and diverse environment are more likely to choose locations with thriving arts and cultural offerings. As a result, businesses in these areas benefit from a larger pool of skilled employees, propelling innovation and productivity. Investments in arts and culture at an educational level nurtured creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills in students. The integration of arts into educational curricula fosters well-rounded individuals, better equipped to face the complexities of modern economies. This holistic approach to education produces graduates who are not only well-prepared for the job market but also have the potential to become entrepreneurs and pioneers in their respective fields.

Arts and culture are powerful tools for building social cohesion and fostering a sense of community identity. Cultural events, festivals, and artistic collaborations bring people together, breaking down barriers and promoting inclusiveness. Strong communities with shared values and a vibrant cultural life are more likely to support local businesses and engage in activities that promote economic growth. The intertwining relationship between arts and culture and economic growth is undeniable. As societies recognise the economic potential of their artistic and cultural assets, investments in these sectors become essential for driving growth and prosperity. Embracing and supporting the arts not only enhances the quality of life for citizens but also transforms regions and cities into thriving economic powerhouses, capable of competing on the global stage. Thus, fostering an environment that celebrates and nurtures arts and culture is key to unlocking the full potential of economic growth in the modern world.

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## MINDFUL ART

When we think of Art Therapy, we often think of something which soothes the mind of individuals, through different mediums such as drawing, painting, sculpture and collage. To be precise, art therapy is one of the established forms of psychotherapy often delivered by trained art therapists known as psychotherapists.

All ages in society experience events and changes in which they may need help dealing with. With art being accessible to all age groups, it means art therapy is also open to all. This may include those who have been affected by difficult cultural or personal experiences, illnesses and disabilities. Through the method of art therapy, individuals are able to not only express themselves through forms of art but through conversations with their art therapist in order to reduce level of distress, social, emotional and mental health and instead, increase self worth.

More specifically, art therapy deals with psychological distress and mental disorders such as anxiety, cancer, depression, eating disorders, emotional difficulties, family or relationship problems, PTSD and more. Tackling these various issues within society, with such a simple yet expressive mannerism, helps to decrease the number of social, emotional and mental victims found in society. The results prove its effectiveness to society. For example, cancer patients are able to improve their quality of life and alleviate a variety of psychological symptoms.

With different forms of art, you can express different feelings that help to release the current ones felt. Using things like drawing pencils, ink pens, felt pens, coloured pencils, pastels, chalks, crayons, acrylic and/or water paints, and brushes, helps to express how pressure makes an individual feel by making marks on the paper without judgement. Whereas something like a collage is used to “enhance self – acceptance”. Art therapy therefore can help bring out your inner world to yourself and society. While most artist pieces are produced by those skilled in art, art therapy limits the art produced to expression, making it widely accepted.