

crossing signs subis buissoj

Organised by



Crossing Signs, 14 artists from Germany and Indonesia experiencing the 'liminal zone'

Curated by Sujud Dartanto and Noor Veiga

Taman Budaya Yogyakarta

Jalan Sri Wedani No 1 Yogyakarta, Indonesia

<http://www.thewindowofyogyakarta.com>

20th - 29th March 2011



curatorial note

Crossing signs is the second part of an international project between Germany and Indonesia, that aims to serve as a platform with a potential of bringing together minds, genders and differences that can help evaluate our world. Both countries share a complex history marked by episodes of division in their societies, national issues and the struggles of its people, which now punctuates the contemporary culture and its practices.

In the current international geopolitical context, the perception of 'My World' and 'My Images' resonate in multiple ways, depending on who is presenting, and who is receiving them. By using real or fictional narratives, artists question the value of the images of the world – especially their world –, which we all receive daily and passively swallow.

Crossing Signs will facilitate the creation of a 'third space' of localness and belonging, through the interactions and crossovers in the works of the artists. Their ideas will instigate the foundation of a body of knowledge, that works to deconstruct the idea of the 'self', based on local legacies, stereotypes and histories of prejudice that subvert the notion of belonging. The Exhibition intends to be a 'neutral' space – one that we normally don't consider –, the coming together of two different geo-cultural contexts, and realities where mutual coincidences take place.

Crossing Signs believes that contemporary art brings a kind of journey, a trajectory, or a never-ending destination. Therefore the works can be seen as a 'text', which constitutes a method of departure towards new experience; the 'crossing' and the coming together of two 'mental' and 'physical' indicators, in the spaces often explored for their differences, but seldom in their similarities.

artists

. I Made Aswino Aji	Indonesia	. Deni Rahman	Indonesia
. Yasmin Alt	Germany	. Lenny Ratnasari Weichert	Indonesia
. Sigit Bapak	Indonesia	. Lashita Situmorang	Indonesia
. Indra Dodi	Indonesia	. Ulrike Stolte	Germany
. Franziska Fennert	Germany	. Rifqi Sukma	Indonesia
. Tilman Hornig	Germany	. Cosima Tribukeit	Germany
. Paul Pretzer	Germany	. Fee Vogler	Germany

Sujud Dartanto - Co-curator

Sujud Dartanto (b. 1976) is a Curator, Lecturer and Cultural Researcher based in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. He graduated with a BA from the Faculty of Visual Arts, Indonesian Art Institute (ISI), and received a MA in Religious and Cultural Studies from Sanata Dharma University, both in Yogyakarta.

In 2003, as part of Asialink Australia residential program he was awarded a residency at the Institute of Modern Art (IMA) in Brisbane, Australia.

He has been a speaker on several international forums, including: the *People to People Exchange Program* by ASEAN (Yogyakarta, Indonesia 2003). He participated in *Translocalmotion* as part of the Shanghai Biennale, China 2008 (funded by IFA Germany) and *Biennales in Dialogue* at the Sydney Biennale, Australia, in 2008.

Dartanto has co-organized several international creative projects over the few last years, including: *Fusion Strength* (Singapore/Indonesia 2003), *Kingdom of Rebel* (Malaysia/Indonesia 2006) and *South Project, 5th International south-south Gathering* (Yogyakarta, Indonesia 2009).

As a curator, Dartanto has organized several solo and group exhibitions, including *Oh...Nguik* (Agus Suwage, National Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia 2003); *Everything is Rites* (Franziska Fennert, Affandi Museum, Yogyakarta, Indonesia 2008); *Trajectory* (group show, Museum and Gallery of Northern Territory, Darwin, Australia 2008) and *Fools'lore* (indiegerillas, Biasa Art Space, Bali, Indonesia 2008).

He has also done extensive co-curatorial work, notably: *Objecthood* (Taman Budaya, Yogyakarta, Indonesia 2003); *Neo-nation* (Yogyakarta Biennale IX, Yogyakarta, Indonesia 2007); *Immemorial, Reaching Back Beyond Memory* (24 Hours Art Space, Darwin, Australia and ICAN, Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 2009); *U(dys)topia*, (HfBK, Dresden and Freies Museum, Berlin, Germany 2010) or *Crossing Signs* (Yogyakarta and Jakarta, Indonesia 2011).

Dartanto's articles and art review's have been published on numerous occasions in Indonesian domestic news media and art catalogues.

Noor Veiga - Co-curator

Noor Veiga (b. 1978) graduated with a MA in Curatorial Studies from the University of Lisbon, Portugal Fine Arts School (FN-UL) and Gulbenkian Foundation. Being a Research Fellow at CIEBA (Fine Arts Research and Studies Centre) at FN-UL since 2010, she has presented several talks: *Ashley Bickerton - a new Asia*, Art & Society seminar; *Indonesian Batik - Memory and Contemporaneity*, Orient-Occident seminar; *Indonesian Batik: encounters with China*, 5th Chinese-Portuguese International Seminar, amongst others.

Her curatorial projects include exhibitions in diverse locations, such as Macau – Indonesian Batik (CCI, 2007); *Ilha de Mozambique's Maritime Museum* in (AWW and PI, in 2007); Lisbon for *Tough Love*, curated by Shaheen Merali in 2010, and *Women on a verge of a nervous breakdown*, ex-aquo New Curators 2009. More recently, she collaborated as co-curator of *Crossing Signs*, in Yogyakarta and Jakarta, Indonesia.

Her research for the *Baroque 1620-1800: Style in the Age of Magnificence* exhibition, was part of her internship at the Victoria & Albert Museum, London, UK for a period of 6 months in 2008. She went onto work for the Water Museum, Lisbon, Portugal for another period of 12 months. Here she specialised in site-specific guided tours on the historic legacy of innovation within urban development.

Her recent activities include the mentoring of young students in traditional crafts from Indonesia, specifically batik as well as specialising in the communication and intercultural production of knowledge between the continents of Asia and Europe. Veiga has archived the curatorial work and writings by Shaheen Merali for a website. The capacity to work alongside institutions and individuals has allowed her to develop a great propensity about issues and theories that are emerging from the Asian Continent.

Franziska Fennert - Exhibition Manager (Germany)

Franziska Fennert (b. 1984) is a German artist, who works mainly with painting and drawing, whilst nurturing a personal relationship with Indonesia.

Having graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Dresden, Germany in 2009, she recently finalized her post-graduate studies from the class of Professor Kerbach, with a grant from the Cultural Foundation of Saxony (Kulturstiftung des Freistaates Sachsen).

In 2008, she successfully undertook several projects in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, including a solo exhibition at the Affandi Museum. On return, she became the German Project Manager for *U(Dys)topia: the emergence of myths, fairy tales and legends in contemporary Indonesia and Germany*, in HfBK Dresden and Freies Museum Berlin, in Germany.

In 2010 she co-managed with Indonesian partner Lenny Ratnasari Weichert, the second part of the project, *Crossing Signs: 14 artists from Germany and Indonesia experiencing the 'liminal zone'*.

She intends to continue developing international projects in the future, and further her work with institutions and artists.

Lenny Ratnasari Weichert - Exhibition Manager (Indonesia)

Lenny Ratnasari Weichert (b. 1970) is an Indonesian artist who is also the owner of Kersan Art Studio public space in Yogyakarta since 2009.

Early in her career Ratnasari gained reputation as an international artist, bringing cultures and different perspectives together. After scholarships and projects in Hungary, Singapore and the Netherlands she won a Visiting Arts Fellowship to live and work in Britain in 2002/03. During her residency at Delfina Studio in the UK, she worked to develop links between artists in Indonesia and Britain. She was particularly interested in working with groups of Muslim women in London, looking at the issues they face and how they compare with those in her home-country.

After a couple of exhibitions back in Indonesia she moved to Berlin and took a creative break in 2006/07 to focus on her new-born second son Angkasa. She then moved to Singapore in 2007 and re-entered the Asian art-scene, which also led her to build an alternative Art-Space/Studio/Gallery - Kersan Art Studio.

For the above described German-Indonesian project *U(Dys)topia* she was accountable for managing the project from the Indonesian perspective. Now with the second part of the project called *Crossing Signs*, she is the responsible organizer and project-manager in Indonesia.

Kersan Art Studio - Supporting Partner (Indonesia)

Kersan Art Studio (f. 2009) is located in Desa Nitripayan in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. This 'kampung' is known 'the village of the artists' and houses many of Yogyakarta's and Indonesia's leading and internationally known artists, who share the space with the local traditional Javanese people, who have inspired them.

Kersan Studio and Gallery acts as a communications centre for artists, curators, collectors and art-lovers. The gallery also acts as a facilitator between the Yogyakarta arts community and international connections.

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