

Press Release

*H.E.R | Square One 2.0*  
*ISA Art & Design Booth, Art Jakarta 2019*

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**Booth C7**

**Art Jakarta**

**Jakarta Convention Center**

**Jl. Jend Gatot Subroto, Central Jakarta, 10270**

**30 August - 1st September 2019**

**Jakarta, 15th August 2019** - ISA Art & Design is honored to be participating in the 11th edition of the annual Art Jakarta art fair, which will expand its venue to the Jakarta Convention Centre, located in the heart of Jakarta. The event is recognized as the country's biggest art fair, having over 30,000 visitors and appealing to local, regional and international audience. With a brand-new persona and outlook, Art Jakarta has evolved and created new spaces for dynamic art programs, talks, and educational platforms to create a friendlier approach and make it accessible to the diverse demographic.

***H.E.R***

ISA Art & Design will exhibit a series of work from prominent and emerging female artists of the region who have been featured in numerous exhibitions locally and internationally. Titled *H.E.R*, the works of Arahmaiani, Audya Amalia, Ella Wijt, Hadassah Emmerich, Ines Katamso, Kumari Nahappan, Marisa Ng, Melati Suryodarmo, Melissa Tan, Rega Ayundya Putri and Sinta Tantra will be exhibited at 'Booth C7' at Art Jakarta. The specially curated body of work from these artists will accentuate the female touch behind the creative process and contextualization of modern and contemporary art.

Inspired by the 20th century Feminist Art Movement that evolved amongst the anti-war, civil, and queer rights movement in the late 1960's, ISA Art & Design's contribution in Art Jakarta 2019 aims to pave way for female artists, especially in the region. Carefully curated by ISA Art & Design, *H.E.R* challenges the continuous endeavor against the

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institutional invisibility of “craftswomanship” in the art world. It aims to broaden horizons and challenge conventional traditional practice of fine arts that has predominantly been ruled by men. The diversely distinct styles of the participating female artists illustrate that there is no 'one' female artist, and the word 'female artist' does not apply to only one genre of art. Instead, art shapes its self, and through the different cultures, backgrounds, traditions, and common beliefs influenced behind each artist's creative process.

### **About the Artists. (H.E.R)**

**Arahmaiani** is known to have a pivotal impact on the Southeast Asian contemporary performance art. Through her diverse range of media, she projects powerful commentaries of her buried Javanese heritage, social syncretism, humanity's interconnectedness with nature and the place of the feminine in religion and traditions.

**Ella Wijt** explores her surroundings and narrates observations through the child's mind perspective, experimenting with mixed media, and with the boundary outside of the canvas.

**Haddassah Emmerich** explores themes of sensuality through the mix of tropical muted colors that has formed an implication within her work. Her latest work from a series called 'The Ephemeral Skin' exposes the female body, identity, the exotic and erotic, into ambiguous abstract form.

**Ines Katamso** bases her work through visually composed feminine characters; organic shapes, lines, color. The act of traditional weaving with paper integrated into her work creates the epitome of “craftswomanship” and the anonymity of tenure through an artistic lens.

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**Kumari Nahappan** has effectively forged a reputation for effectively reconciling the language of 'international contemporary art' with her own vocabulary and developing a visual identity that is decisively shaped by her cultural roots and beliefs.

**Marisa R. Ng** constructs passionate abstract paintings derived from the strong interpersonal connections and the fondness of moments she shares with the special people in her life, particularly her grandmother.

**Melati Suryodarmo** translates movement and her long studies of Butoh dance into portraiture and figurative photography, the agitation of the body and face as an area of absorption. As a performance artist, she emphasizes the presence of poetic action into the flat visual form of photography that meditates on the western genre of portraiture.

**Melissa Tan** bases her work on nature, themes of transience and beauty of the ephemeral. Her recent projects revolve around landscape and the process of formation. Over the interest in geography and texture of rocks, she explores to translate the visual language through diverse medium.

**Rega Ayundya Putri** considers her art to be surrealist as she draws inspiration from her subconscious, such as during moments of daydreaming, and other moments where she feels the absence of time is present. Rega also projects an element of melancholia through the creation of her artworks as visually translated in the final products.

**Sinta Tantra** conveys musicality, rhythm, colors, dichotomies of masculine and the feminine. Her paintings examine the activity of drawing itself, physically linking the disciplines of painting together with architecture on a single canvas plane. She raises questions outside the boundary of art; *'can painting become architecture?'*, and vice versa.

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### ***Square One 2.0***

An extension of ISA Art's booth, *Square One*, at Art Moments in May, *Square One 2.0* features a collection of early works by some of the most prominent Indonesian modern and contemporary artists. Coming back with artworks from A.D Pirous, Ahmad Sadali, Heri Dono, Dedi Eri Supria and Yunizar, *Square One 2.0* set to unfold the groundwork of their thought, imagery, collage, composition and a mixture of media that distinguish their artistic identity. These early artworks tell a narrative through their journey as an artist and the importance of their creative process and conceptualizations of their work. Some of the artists, including FX Harsono, Dedi Eri Supria, Heri Dono and Yunizar, are known as members of the Indonesian New Art Movement (Gerakan Seni Rupa Baru), a group of young artists mostly from Bandung and Yogyakarta that emerged in 1974, who challenged and changed the institutional concept of Indonesian fine arts being limited to paintings and sculptures. As catalysts of the revolution, their works display a clear sense of individuality as manifested throughout their remarkably creative journey.

### **About the Artists (*Square One 2.0*)**

**A.D Pirous** often convey themes of mankind and belief systems that always have a strong presence in his works. Pirous examines how the teaching of religion in general and of Islam in particular always guides humans in every step of their lives. The system let humans know ways of doing things, and how to always try to become a better human being.

**Ahmad Sadali** continued to develop his work in abstract style and combined it with Islamic spirituality and mysticism. Sadali was also a muralist, a designer, and an academic. Most of his works visually embodies composition, fields of arrangement of shapes, and unity in neutral colors mixed with gold leaf fragments.

**Dedi Eri Supria's** surrealistic symbolisms raises the portrait of urban life, especially those who are oppressed in the midst of the hustle and bustle of the progress of big

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cities, hence; Jakarta. Dede's works show optical accuracy, which makes his paintings look like portraits and feels distinctive because of his surrealistic symbolism.

**Heri Dono** makes the most use of wild deformations and free fantasies out of which emerge characters and narratives of the stories of *wayang* (traditional shadow puppet play). Adding his profound knowledge of children's cartoons, animations and comics, Heri Dono's canvas is always filled with highly astonishing characters of intertwined fantasy and absurd stories. Integration of his personal critical remarks on socio-political issues in Indonesia and abroad are also conveyed through his paintings.

**Yunizar** reveals his paintings in sophisticated expressive style, articulated through playful composition and subtle palette. He executes primarily in acrylic and pencil, his works stand out in terms of texture, color, brushwork and rhythm. The simplicity of visual elements in his work is the result of a personal aesthetic judgment. He seeks beauty, especially in the trivial and in what is deemed by all else as useless, and unimportant. To capture intuition and impulse is the great aim of the artist.

**FX Harsono** is an active critic of Indonesian politics, society and culture, always updating his artistic language to the current new social and cultural contexts. His family history is often the basis of his art, pointing at the disconcerting situation of minorities, the socially underprivileged against the backdrop of Indonesia's own history and political development. This intersection of the personal and the political is particularly evident in his most recent works. His oeuvre can be seen as a constant questioning and reflection of his own position as an artist within society. He deconstructs the concept of self-portrait, interrogating the conventions of portraiture by deliberately obscuring one of the major components of a portrait, the face.

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### **About ISA Art & Design**

ISA Art and Design is the ultimate source for holistic artistic curation. With more than 20 years of experience, an expertise in Southeast Asian art and a passion for Indonesian contemporary art, we assist our clients in building their collections by sourcing artwork and providing art consultancy services. We are able to source desirable pieces through ISA's private viewing room, our wide personal and professional network, local and international auctions, art fairs or galleries, as well as recommendation of new and emerging artists. Whilst also working closely with architects and interior designers, we assist private and corporate clients in sourcing artworks into their desired spaces. ISA is a one-stop solution into bridging the two worlds of art and design.

### **ISA Art & Design**

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