

Press Release
October 1st, 2019

Maladjustment

October 26–November 24 2019
Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, Sunday 12pm–5pm

Neka Art Museum

Jalan Raya Sanggingan, Kedewatan, Ubud, Bali, Indonesia

Opening Reception:

Saturday 26th October 2019, 5pm-7pm
Exhibition to be opened by Bapak Suteja Neka

NEKA ART MUSEUM BALI



Mary Lou Pavlovic "Liar!" 2004

Featuring Work By: Arahmaiani I GAK Murniasih Mary Lou Pavlovic

This exhibition forms part of the official exhibition program for the 2019 Ubud Writers and Readers Festival, 23rd October - 27th October 2019. *Maladjustment* brings together key works from three internationally recognised contemporary women artists from diverse cultures: I GAK Murniasih, (1966 – 2006, Bali, Indonesia) Arahmaiani (Yogyakarta, Indonesia) and Mary Lou Pavlovic, (Melbourne, Australia.) Each artwork included in *Maladjustment* is a gender-related intervention in the artist's locales; all works are also over ten years old. They remain timely, however, as *Maladjustment* takes place as both Indonesian and Australian Governments report that violence against women remains a significant safety issue, and in Indonesia, while the government debates the Elimination of Sexual Violence Bill.

Arahmaiani's *Do Not Prevent the Fertility of the Mind* (1998-2019) boldly created under the oppressive Suharto regime and criticizing its control of the female body, calls women to take control of their minds, in a large installation engaging clean white sanitary pads and herself photographed with an enlarged IUD; I GAK Murniasih's wry painting, *Yoga*, (2002) of her backside flashed to the viewer in yoga pose becomes a metaphor for women's positions in broader Balinese culture and Mary Lou Pavlovic's "*Liar!*" (2004) attracted Australian mass media attention when she pasted two hundred posters around Melbourne of herself dressed as a football fan with black eye for the 2004 AFL Grand Final, Victoria, after discovering domestic violence increases on football Grand Final days.

Deborah Iskandar (formerly CEO of Sotheby's Indonesia) and CEO of ISA Art and Design Jakarta says:

"The voices of Arahmaiani, I GAK Murniasih and Mary Lou Pavlovic are heard loud and clear, although their existence cannot be taken for granted: to pursue their art without compromise, these artists have fought against cultural, religious or political factors, facing backlash from legal action to death threats.....Maladjustment honours these artists, whose efforts towards gender equality have been considerable...Although created many years ago, the artworks at Maladjustment remain relevant. If anything, their importance is only increasing, as their value is now understood by a wider public... (These artists have) refused to respect the social norms of mainstream cultures, (which require women to be quiet)."

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