

Arin Dwihartanto Sunaryo's *CMYK*

# LOST And Found

DEBORAH ISKANDAR  
DISCUSSES WAYS OF  
FINDING IDENTITY IN ART

Kate Bright's *Late Reflection*Sinta Tantra's *Zenith Moon no. 3*

As individuals, we are all looking for an identity in life, be it in our work, our family, our hobbies. But what about an artist? How do they find an identity that translates in their practice and tells a story to the viewer? With contemporary art, artists are often identified by their country of origin, but what happens when they go abroad, especially to study? How does that training affect their work? In the Indonesian context, what is the result of East meets West?

The Art at WTC's most recent exhibition, "Lost and Found: Place, Space and Belonging" at World Trade Centre 2, presented by Jakarta Land, dives deep into this issue. Arin Dwihartanto Sunaryo, Sinta Tantra and Syagini Ratna Wulan all share a common background of studying in UK art institutions. Kate Bright, a UK artist, curator and lecturer at the Slade School of Fine Art compliments the UK experience from both a foreign and local perspective. The exhibition explores how a change of space and environment influences their artistic practice.

Arin Dwihartanto is a mid-career artist, born and raised in Bandung. Raised in an artistic family, his father Sunaryo is one of the senior In-

Syagini Ratna Wulan's *Untitled*

onesian artists. Arin studied at the Institute of Technology in Bandung (ITB), followed by an MFA from Central St. Martin's, London. Arin has taken the concept of creating artwork into the 21st century by abandoning the paint brush to adopt resin as his primary medium. His work fuses poured resin with layers of pigment, and in some instances volcanic ash and natural elements like gold, copper and iron to create a new definition of abstract expressionism. Arin is also the first Indonesian artist to enter the collection of the Guggenheim Museum, which indicates his status in the international art world.

Syagini Ratna Wulan also studied at ITB, followed by an MFA at Goldsmiths, London in cultural studies. Syagini's recent works play with the concept of light, colour and science. A continuation of her "Spectral Fiction" series which debuted at ROH Projects in May 2016, examine the role of light and colour and how we perceive it. Fusing what she calls 'colour spectrums' with the mathematical precision of space, her works have a defined order, in contrast to Arin's riots of colour.

Sinta Tantra is a British painter of Balinese descent that studied in both the Royal Academy and Slade College of Art in London and is well

Sinta Tantra's *Effervescence in Pink*

known for her site specific work in public spaces. Sinta takes a different approach as she looks back to art history and especially constructivism in developing her own abstract geometry. The marriage of space, geometry and the vibrant colours of Indonesia is a form of her insistence on playing with space and colour. It is also the yin and the yang, the East and the West that is prevalent in her work, confronting our understanding of pictorial and physical space.

Kate Bright, a painter and a lecturer at Slade School produces paintings that question the nature of place and the formality of illusionistic painting. Using the ripple of reflective water in her works, her use of materials like resin and glitter lets the viewer see landscape paintings in an unconventional way.

Together these four artists reveal their deep explorations and metaphorical musings on the nature of art and their place, space and identity within it. Composition, colour and space are given new meaning and challenge conventional concepts of painting, nature, light, reality and gender. Each artist subverts stereotypes and challenges themselves both conceptually and physically, as they grapple with volcanic ash, industrial resin, varnish, even glitter, designed to trick the eye and confuse the senses. The common thread is their international approach to art, which shows that Indonesian artists can make a statement on the international stage.

Lost and Found: Place, Space and Belonging will be exhibited at the World Trade Centre 2 lobby area, Jl. Jend Sudirman Kav 29-31, from August 23- September 23, 2016

Deborah Iskandar is Principal of ISA Advisory, which advises clients on buying and selling art, and building collections. An expert on Indonesian and international art, she has more than 20 years of experience in Southeast Asia, heading both Sotheby's and Christie's Indonesia during her career before establishing ISA Art Advisory in 2013. She is also the Founder of Indonesian Luxury, the definitive online resource for Indonesians looking to acquire, build and style their luxury homes.

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