

## BUAH TANGAN

An Exhibition of Indonesian Diaspora Artist's

ADAM DE BOER HADASSAH EMMERICH

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## PHREE BULL Wanderer

HAVE YOU EVER IMAGINED YOURSELF AS BELONGING NOWHERE YET EVERYWHERE AT ONCE? DEBORAH ISKANDAR ENQUIRES.

Te currently stand at the peak of globalism, and with that, it presents an increasingly pressing question towards our identity. However, we shall not assume that globalism is a concept that is recent in Indonesia. As eloquently stated by Iola Lenzi in her essay on Southeast Asian art, "Southeast Asia's history (as) one of the most culturally

and commercially fluid or ''globalised" zones in the world, centuries before the concept was coined." And no, it is not ''brought" or ''taught upon" by European spice traders; rather, it goes way back; ingrained in the culture as exemplified by the Srivijaya Empire's great ashram as a geographically and culturally strategic hub for Buddhist learning. This globalism

makes identity an equally relevant discourse in the art world, with artists continuously challenging the dichotomy of the East and the West, and by extension, craft versus high art.

ISA Art and Design is proud to present "Buah Tangan", a group exhibition of Indonesian Diaspora artists, as part of our exhibition line-up for the inaugural session of Art Jakarta Online Art Fair 2020. Featuring artworks from Adam De Boer (USA), Hadassah Emmerich (NL), Ines Katamso (ID), Ida Lawrence (AU), and Sinta Tantra (UK), selected works will be available for viewing on Art Jakarta's online platform. Our gallery will be exhibiting the full show at our space in Kebayoran Baru.

These artists do not necessarily conform to the monolithic idea of being Indonesian, having mixed heritage, or living away from Indonesia, yet they somehow still feel connected to the

Adam De Boer was born in Riverside, California, in 1984. Although coming from an Indo-Dutch heritage of Purwokerto origin, he first encountered his roots as an adult on a surfing trip to Bali. In the quest to better understand his heritage and cultural legacy, Adam went on to study arts under a Fulbright research fellowship to Indonesia. He began to explore wood-crafting and wax-resist painting, or batik, which is still part of his art-making process. He now incorporates traditional crafts from Indonesia combined with LA subject matters, reflecting his hybrid identity through his art-

Hadassah Emmerich's art plays around the idea of the feminine and the exotic. Born from an Indo-German-Chinese family, Hadassah traces her family legacy back to Bandung, Indonesia, with her grandfather working in the railway industry. Her works employ repetition and tessellation of human female bodies, vaguely reminding us of batik, but with modernist geometry.

Ines Katamso wishes for her artworks to be uncompartmentalised and free of labels, just as her identity. She is a French-Indonesian artist based in Bali, with diverse training, not only in art but also in design and fashion. Her current practice breaks out of the mould from being just paintings, as it traverses the technique of canvas cutting, sewing, frame-making, and splicing, aside from just painting. She explores the themes of biology, astrobiology, and quantum physics. She is also currently focusing on pushing her art-making mediums to be environmentally sustainable.

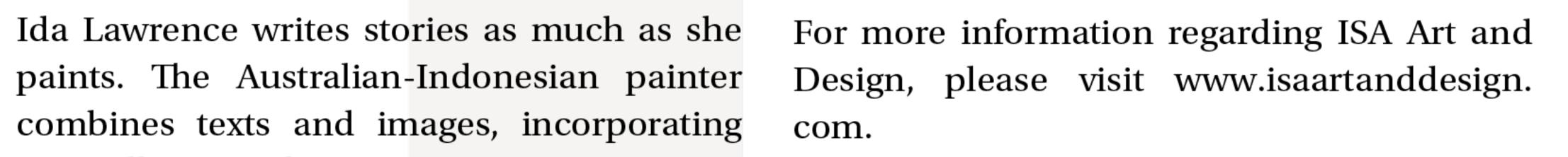


combines texts and images, incorporating com. storytelling into her paintings. Quite a number of the stories she includes in her artworks are stories she heard from her Indonesian father or those derived from her Java experiences. She is a fine artist and a trained dancer, having studied dance at the Indonesian Arts Institute in Yogyakarta. She is currently based in Berlin, Germany.

Sinta Tantra is a New York-born British-Balinese artist known for her large-scale colourful public artworks and geometric paintings. Living and working between her two studios in London and Bali, Tantra's artwork occupies multiple dimensions and scales. She combines Balinese sensibilities with western visual structures. She traverses between East and West; she also blurs the boundaries between the flat and the dimensional. The renowned colourist has been featured in biennales, with the latest one being the Sharjah Biennale.

Reflective on the artist line-up choice, the artworks featured in this exhibition present an affinity towards concept fluidness, re-appropriation, and remix practices. We could attribute this mutual inclination to the fact that these artists fit more seamlessly to the globalised idea of citizenship than more typical ones.

Through this exhibition, ISA Art and Design provides a platform for alternate narratives as an homage and reminder to the dynamism of Indonesian Art history and visual tradition.



- Buah Tangan Poster Ida Lawrence
- Adam de Boer
- Ines Katamso BINARY FISSION 2, 2020, 140cm x 180cm, Gouache on Spliced Canvas
- Studio Portrait of Hadassah Emmerich; credit to Teri Romkey
- Sinta Tantra Bird of Paradise, 2020 Tempera on linen 130 x 160 cm

