

Ade Darmawan

Artist Statement and Biography

Artist Statement

The project is based on research of the 'life cycle' and 'afterlife' of domestic objects/products we use in our everyday lives. It is concerned with capitalism and the production and consumption of such objects. These daily objects are reminders of the memory, dreams, achievement and failure that manifest in contemporary society. Traces of an anonymous memory and also the historical/political context of the secondhand market in Jakarta are translated in the narrative of this 'museum of everyday lives'.

The work refers to the flea market as a location and metaphor of the contemporary world. It creates a delusional and absurd narration on the passion, dreams, illusions, and utopia of contemporary society amidst a post-apocalyptic market situation. It comprises fifteen chandeliers hung from the ceiling and twenty vitrines supported by wooden structures. In each vitrine, a myriad of objects are showcased individually or together.

The juxtaposition of the objects in *Permutation* is done based on the principle of substitution and construction, which results in contradiction, subversion, deconstruction and paradox. Interestingly, these potentially antagonizing signs can be placed 'comfortably' with one another. We may sense an awkwardness in the juxtaposition of opposing signs (for instance, in the box containing some small figurines resembling Confucius, Jesus, a rabbi and a man with Arabic-style clothing). Yet, such a feeling will soon vanish as we observe the whole installation - since too much oddity can turn to 'familiarity'. It also plays around with the notion of disharmony in the composition of fixed and homogenous signs (e.g. the iron chains merged with a group of praying beads, or a broad fork bearing a loudspeaker).

Artist Biography

Ade Darmawan Indonesia

b. 1974 in Jakarta
Lives and works in Jakarta.

He lives and works in Jakarta as an artist, curator and director of ruangrupa. His works range from installations, objects, digital print, video and public art. As an artists and curator he has been participated in many art projects and exhibitions in several cities in Indonesia and more such as; Amsterdam, Seoul, New York, Buenos Aires, Durban, Tokyo, Bangkok, Mumbai, Mexico City, Istanbul, and Sydney. With ruangrupa as a collaborative platform he has also participated in Gwangju Biennale 2002 in Korea, and Istanbul Biennale 2005 in Turkey, Asia Pacific Triennial Brisbane 2012.

He studied at Indonesia Art Institute (I.S.I), in Graphic Art Department. A year after His first solo exhibition in 1997 at the Cemeti Contemporary Art Gallery, Yogyakarta (now Cemeti Art House), He stay in Amsterdam, Netherlands for two years residency at the Rijksakademie Van Beeldende Kunsten. In 2000, with five other artists from Jakarta he founded ruangrupa. An artists' initiative organisation which focuses in visual arts and its relation with the social cultural context especially in urban environment. From 2006-2009 he was a member of Jakarta Arts Council, and in 2009 he became the artistic director of Jakarta Biennale XIII-ARENA, and currently he is the executive director of Jakarta Biennale 2013.

Director and co-founder ruangrupa (founded in 2000) - Jakarta,
Member of Jakarta Arts Council (Dewan Kesenian Jakarta) 2006 - 2009
Executive Director Jakarta Biennale 2013

Education

1998-2000 Rijksakademie Van Beeldende Kunsten, Institute for Advance Art Studies and Research - Amsterdam, The Netherlands
1992-1997 Art Institute of Indonesia (I.S.I), Graphic Art Department, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Solo exhibition

2013 “Home Theater”, ArtClub 1563, Seoul, Korea
2012 “Human Resource Development”, ARK Gallery - Jakarta, Indonesia
2004 “Supply and Demand”, Kedai Kebun Forum - Yogyakarta, Indonesia

- 2003 “Supply and Demand”, French Cultural Centre – CCF Jakarta
- 1999 “TRENDYPROGRESSIVEBRAIN”, Cemeti contemporary art gallery, Yogyakarta.
“PLEASE HELP US PRESERVE THEM”, - De Schone Kunsten gallery, Haarlem, Netherlands
- 1997 “Deodorant Display of Power”, Cemeti contemporary art gallery, Yogyakarta.

Group exhibition (a selection)

- 2012 “The KUDA: The Untold Story of Indonesian Underground Music in the 70’s”, Asia Pacific Triennale, Brisbane Australia – work with ruangrupa
- 2011 “OPEN HOUSE” Singapore Biennale, - work with ruangrupa “Beastly” Cemeti Art House, Yogyakarta “Motion Sensation” Kinetic arts exhibition, Edwin’s Gallery, Jakarta
- 2010 “Crash Project – Image Factory” SIGIarts Gallery, Jakarta “Percakapan Masa” Galeri Nasional Indonesia, Jakarta “Crossing and Blurring the Boundaries: Medium In Indonesian Contemporary Art” – Galeri Nasional Indonesia, Jakarta “Sang Ahli Gambar dan kawan-kawan” Galeri Canna, Jakarta
- 2009 “Magnetic Power” ASEAN-Korea Contemporary Photography & Media Art Exhibition

Selected Curatorial Project

- 2013 “Media Art Kitchen” – South East Asia + Japan Media Arts exhibition, Galeri Nasional Indonesia, Jakarta
- 2012 “Riverscape IN FLUX” - Hanoi, Saigon, Bangkok, Phnom Penh, Jakarta, Manila “3rd Manifesto – Order and Conflict” with Rizki A Zaelani – Galeri Nasional Indonesia, Jakarta
- 2011 “City Net Asia” – Seoul Museum of Art
- 2010 “Fixer”- Exhibition of Alternative Space and artists collective in Indonesia, North Art Space, Ancol, Jakarta “Toko Keperluan” Anggun Priambodo solo Exhibition, RURU Gallery, Jakarta
- 2009 Artistic Director, Jakarta Biennale ARENA
- 2006 “Move On Asia – Clash and Network”, video art festival, Seoul Korea
- 2004 “Have We Met?” – Japan Foundation Forum, Tokyo, Japan

2003 OK.Video, 1st Jakarta International Video Festival.

Festival

2013 Visual Arts coordinator / curator ARTE, arts festival, JCC, Jakarta

2009 Artistic Director OK.Video Comedy - 4th Jakarta International Video Festival

2007 Festival Director OK.Video MILITIA - 3rd Jakarta International Video Festival 2006
Festival Programmer – Jakarta Slingshortfest, South East Asia short film festival

2005 Festival Director OK.Video Sub/Version - 2nd Jakarta International Video Festival