

FREMANTLE ARTS CENTRE & PERTH FESTIVAL

BALI: RETURN ECONOMY





Cover Image by Ash Pederick
Left, marketing image by Toni Wilkinson.

FOREWORD

Bali is famous as a major Australian holiday destination but there is a particularly immediate and dynamic relationship between Bali and Western Australia. *Bali: return economy* examines how this fascinating connection is manifested through the work of 26 Balinese and WA artists.

The show has been curated by Fremantle Arts Centre's curator Dr Ric Spencer and well known Fremantle Balinese art expert and writer Chris Hill. Chris' long-standing connections with the Balinese art community have been essential to the development of the show. Desak Dharmayanti, the exhibition's Bali-based manager has also been essential for her knowledge of and liaison with the local artists.

We are pleased to be presenting this exhibition as part of the 2014 Perth International Arts Festival and I would like to thank PIAF for their support and in particular Margaret Moore, Visual Arts Program Manager.

We also appreciate the interest and support of the WA Consulate of the Republic of Indonesia and Karen Bailey of Balai Bahasa Indonesia, Perth.

Fremantle Arts Centre as part of the City of Fremantle also acknowledges the ongoing, generous support of the State Government through the Department of Culture and the Arts.

—
Jim Cathcart

Director
Fremantle Arts Centre



I WAYAN SUJANA SUKLU (BALI) & PAUL TRINIDAD (WA)

In September 2012 Suklu was in Perth, as Artist in Residence in the ISACFA (International Studio for Art and Culture) cultural exchange program between FSRD (Faculty Seni Rupa dan Desain) ISI Denpasar and ALVA (Architecture Landscape and Visual Arts) University of Western Australia, Perth. Suklu encouraged Paul Trinidad's explorations of the subconscious mind through drawing and working on projects together. They worked together in Ancient Rock Studio (ARS), Byford to develop the nucleus of a deeper exploration.

The corner stone of Suklu's philosophy is the belief that if one is in harmony with life, only good can come from it. This is especially so for his art practice – which is based on the principles that great art will come from spontaneous action. Action connects directly from the subconscious to reality using drawing as the matrix.

Trinidad experienced a similar state around 20 years ago with the *Serious Ink Men* project. This was a graphic project which culminated with a performative exhibition at Fremantle Arts Centre (FAC) in 1992. In this project Trinidad created around 1000 spontaneously drawn printing plates and blocks, many of

which were printed in FAC during the exhibition. The work in *BALI: return economy* is for Trinidad a direct response to the yearnings of the Ink Men project and the working connection that the artist made with Suklu in September, 2012, through until July, 2013.

The work in *BALI: return economy* is from the collaborative exhibition between Suklu and Trinidad, held in two configurations at Cullity Gallery at UWA (titled *Matrix II Origins works on paper Broken Rock + Ancient Rock*) and Sudakara Artspace, Sanur, Bali (titled *MATRIX two(Origins)*) (2013).

Suklu works across performance, paintings, drawing and installation, he has exhibited extensively across Indonesia and internationally including Singapore, Australia, Hong Kong and the 2008 Beijing Biennale. Recent solo shows include *The Unseen Things*, Komaneke Fine Art Gallery, Ubud, Bali (2012) and recent selected group shows include *Melihat-Dilihat*, Galeri Nasional, Jakarta, *Bank Art Fair*, Sangrila Islands, Hong Kong and *Collective Asia*, Luxe Art Museum, Singapore. Suklu established the BatuBelah Art Space (BBAS) in Klungkung, Bali in 2007.

Trinidad is Assistant Professor, Visual Arts, University of Western Australia and an honorary Lecturer at ISI, Denpasar. He is a cross-disciplinary artist with an extensive exhibiting history. Recent exhibitions include: *Truly Bagus II Harmony in Diversity*, Cullity Gallery, ALVA and *The Nature on Art*, Gaya Art Space, Ubud, Bali. His work is held in numerous public and private collections both nationally and internationally.

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PAUL TRINIDAD
KRAKATOA GRAPHIC NOVEL 1, 2013
INK AND CHARCOAL DRAWING IN NOVEL
23 X 15 CM

I WAYAN SUJANA SUKLU
LE ROUGE ET LE NOIR, 2013
INK AND CHARCOAL DRAWING IN NOVEL
23 X 15 CM