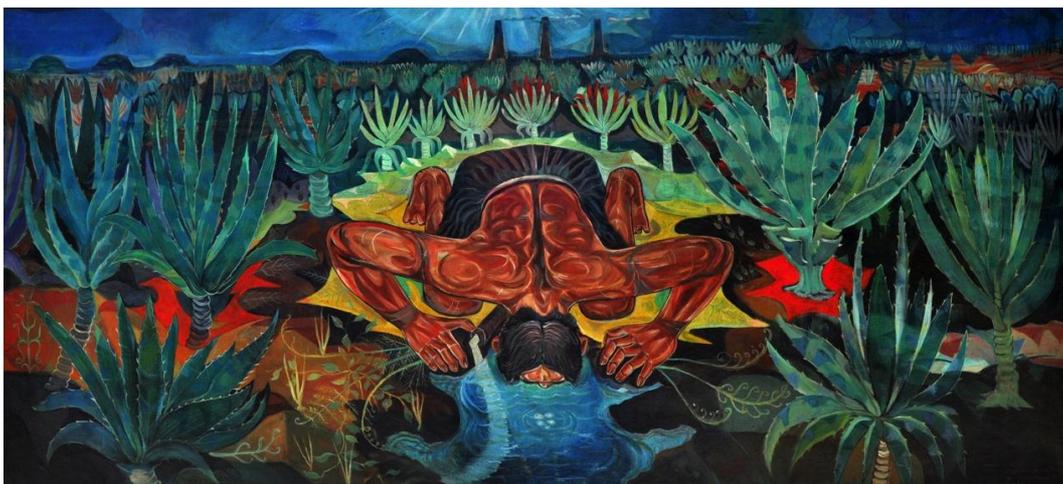


ASEAN TO MARK GOLDEN JUBILEE WITH THEMATIC ART EXHIBITION IN ITS JAKARTA HQ SECRETARIAT

JAKARTA, 21 July 2017 – The ASEAN Secretariat and ASEAN Foundation are co-organising a modern and contemporary art exhibition entitled **ASSEMBLAGE: REFLECTIONS ON ASEAN** in partnership with Art Agenda, S.E.A., DayaLima, and UOB Indonesia to mark ASEAN's golden jubilee this year. The thematic exhibition - the first curated exhibition to be held at the ASEAN Gallery – will reflect on the transformation and advances ASEAN member countries and people have made.



Amrus Natalsya, *Melepas Dahaga (Quenching Thirst)*, 1962. © Art Agenda, S.E.A., 2017

The exhibition will showcase more than 20 significant artworks, comprised of paintings on loan from prestigious private collections in the region and from the collection of the ASEAN Secretariat, and specially commissioned assemblage sculptures from the emerging Indonesian contemporary artist, Hendra Priyadhani.

Hendra Priyadhani (b. 1981) is one of the most original contemporary artists of his generation. His assemblage works – intricately reworked using found objects that he uncovers in sourcing expeditions - are symbolic of the cultural and economic melting pot that defines the diverse characteristics of Southeast Asia. For this exhibition, Priyadhani has worked closely with the exhibited modern paintings, responding to the visuals and narrative contents of artworks by artists from earlier generations.



Vicente Manansala, *Machinery*, 1962. © Art Agenda, S.E.A., 2017

The exhibition opens with the juxtaposition of two large paintings both painted in 1962; the first by Indonesian artist Amrus Natalsya, the second by Filipino artist Vicente Silva Manansala. These two panoramic format paintings express two different perspectives on Southeast Asia's history: whereas Natalsya's work illustrates the past, the reality of society and human needs, Manansala's work illustrates a vision of the future, driven by industry and technology.

Through different dominant styles over the decades, artists of the region have always portrayed society and life in the region. Rural Southeast Asia has always stood for the essence of purity and innocence. Thai artist Damrong Wong-Uparaj renders village sceneries that are assured and transcendental in their quietude while Malaysian Khaw Sia's richly vibrant Kampong Spirit harks back to essential values in communal life in the region. Into the 1990s, artists such as Singaporean Mohammad Din Mohammad and Filipino Pacita Abad address social and political issues through their art through expressive paintings, underlined by developments in abstraction and narrative paintings.

"The ASEAN Secretariat is extremely honoured to co-present this inaugural exhibition with such esteemed partners and important artworks representative of ASEAN. We look forward to bringing the ASEAN community closer through this initiative," said Lee Yoong Yoong, Director, Community Affairs Directorate, Community and Corporate Affairs Division.

“As an ASEAN body that connects people, we are pleased to be involved in this project to welcome people to the ASEAN Gallery - a place where ASEAN people can enjoy the artworks created by talented ASEAN artists. The ***Assemblage: Reflections on ASEAN*** exhibition invites people to appreciate the richness and diversity of ASEAN and most importantly how this diversity binds people in the ASEAN community in the past, in present time and excitedly for the future,” said Elaine Tan, Executive Director of ASEAN Foundation.

Kevin Lam, UOB Indonesia President Director, said, “As a leading bank in Asia, we are committed to supporting sustainable businesses and to making a difference in the communities in which we operate, through our focus on art, children and education. We believe artists have an important role to play in connecting communities and helping them to appreciate and to celebrate cultural diversity.”

Assemblage: Reflections on ASEAN runs from 28 July – 31 August 2017 at ASEAN Gallery, located at Jalan Sisingamangaraja 70A, Jakarta. The exhibition is open Monday to Friday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Closed on Saturday, Sunday & public holidays unless by appointment. Admission is free. For enquiries, please contact Ms. Nindia Pertiwi at +62 (21) 7262991 ext. 115

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Images

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About ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC)

The ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC), based in Jakarta, was established in 1976. Its core function is to provide for greater efficiency in the coordination of ASEAN organs and for more effective implementation of regional projects and activities. ASEC strives to be the nerve centre of a strong and confident ASEAN Community that is globally respected for acting in full compliance with the ASEAN Charter and in the best interest of its people.

For more information, visit: www.asean.org

About ASEAN Foundation

Three decades after ASEAN was established, ASEAN leaders recognised that there remained inadequate shared prosperity, ASEAN awareness, and contact among people of ASEAN. It was of this concern that ASEAN leaders established ASEAN Foundation during ASEAN's 30th Anniversary Summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 15 December 1997. ASEAN Foundation is an organisation from and for the people of ASEAN. The Foundation exists because of one vision: to build a cohesive and prosperous ASEAN Community. As an ASEAN's body, the Foundation is tasked to support ASEAN mainly in promoting awareness, identity, interaction and development of the people of ASEAN.

For more information, visit: www.aseanfoundation.org

About Art Agenda, S.E.A.

Art Agenda, S.E.A. is an art advisory and curatorial agency based in Singapore founded in 2016 by the art dealer, curator and writer Wang Zineng. It is committed to creating positive agendas for art in Southeast Asia, while being highly responsive and involved in contemporaneous developments in the Asian art scenes today. Situated in Singapore, but with a wider regional and pan-Asian focus, Art Agenda, S.E.A. forges mutually beneficial partnerships with other artworld players to expand its scope of coverage. Its curatorial projects in 2017 focuses bear a distinct historical focus, seeking to expand the parameters of modern Southeast Asian art history by drawing attention to presently undervalued artists and private collections.

For more information, visit: www.artagendasea.org

About DayaLima

PT Dayalima Abisatya is a leadership company that offers complete world-class people solutions to help clients to deal with transformation journey and challenges. The company aims to make contributions to build a better Indonesia through leadership and talent development within organisations and greater society. It is driven by a belief that leaders with integrity have a significant role in bringing a positive change for a better nation. DayaLima Family is formed of Daya Dimensi Indonesia, Dayalima Recruitment, and Daya Dimensi Global, as well as Yayasan Indonesia Lebih Baik (YILB) as part of a commitment to create a better Indonesia.

For more information, visit: www.dayalima.com

About UOB Indonesia

PT Bank UOB Indonesia (UOB Indonesia) is a subsidiary of United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB), a leading bank in Asia with global network of more than 500 offices in 19 countries and territories in Asia Pacific, Western Europe and North America. UOB Indonesia plays an active role in the community, focusing in Arts, Education and Children. Since 2011 UOB Indonesia has held an annual art competition called UOB Painting of the Year, which reflects from the Regional Southeast Asia competition held in Singapore since 1982. The high quality of Indonesian art has seen Indonesian artists winning the UOB Southeast Asian Painting of the Year award four times in 2012, 2014, 2015, and 2016. UOB Indonesia also encourages its employees to be involved in its regular volunteer activities. This includes the annual UOB Heartbeat Run, and Blood Donation activities.

For further detail of UOB Indonesia, please visit www.uob.co.id