

Indra Dodi

Born: 1980 in Padang, Indonesia

Bachelor of Fine Art, *Institut Seni Indonesia (ISI)*, Yogyakarta

(also studied at Sarjana Wiata Institute, Yogyakarta and Academy of Leather Technology (ATK), Yogyakarta, Indonesia)

When he first came to Yogyakarta in the year 2000, Indra Dodi started to learn painting from his uncle who happened to be a painter. From the year 2005 on he studied in the Faculty of Fine Arts (Painting) at the Indonesian Institute of Arts (ISI – *Institut Seni Indonesia*) in Yogyakarta.

In the beginning, he went through several styles and techniques, including realism and expressive painting, until he found a lot of freedom in abstract painting, where he could explore his feelings and exercise his spontaneity. This sense of freedom and inner liberation has certainly influenced his later paintings, and helped build his self-confidence.

Since the beginning of his artistic journey, Indra has always considered painting to be a very serious activity, requiring a lot of personal commitment, technical skills, knowledge, energy and imagination. But it is also fun and playful, something he wanted to see finally represented on the canvas, too. This sense of fun and play provides one of his sources of motivation for his artworks. Indra is of the opinion one needs to learn to close one's eyes and to return to a childlike mentality to find the source of artistic creativity, which is an expression of our inner self.

Today, he watches his children play and finds inspiration in their ways of learning how to cope with this world that is new and still unknown for them. These have cumulatively contributed his adoption of naïve figurative paintings as his current style.

Indra likens art to play, and thinks human beings should spend some time to play around. Responding to a playful impulse means following a truth from inside. Art, to him, is just copying that. Beauty is a truth that has to be trusted as a true expression of the soul. The best outcome would be, if this energetic fun part of art making could be recognized and appreciated by viewers. Art would then generate pleasure for both, artists as well as observers.

Reality, for Indra, can be something quite fierce and frightening, but at the same time exhibits its paradoxical sides, with funny and humorous aspects. Life is not one-sided. Indra tries to catch moments, like a photographer taking snapshots with a camera, and these moments are saved in his memory, finally evolving into stories that are painted on the canvas. The stories can be taken from an event in daily life, from reality or something imagined. It could be a chain of accidental events, maybe unrelated and unpredicted.

Each of his paintings is a message of a rebellion deep inside of him. Why must objects be a specific color? Why we do have to always agree? Why not oppose? etc. What Indra still feels is an inner disquiet, and the wish to escape.

These scenes from daily life contain elements of comedy and drama, emotions and mysteries. It could be compared to movies, showing in their plots the variety and facets of human life. People are often struggling with their emotions, ambitions and aspirations. Sometimes people succeed, at other times they don't. Success and failure, to Indra, is a steady cycle of changes we are confronted with. Emotional conditions like happiness and sadness are two sides of the same coin, like beauty and ugliness, and all of it is *human*.

The faces visualized in Indra Dodi's portrait paintings tell their own story. Life is engraved into the features of human faces and bodies. The physical appearance is a metaphor for psychological states, exposing the specific characteristics of a person and their attitudes. Facial and physical expressions reflect their biographies; people can be tall or short, fat or thin, in any case what makes a difference are their expressions.

Generally, abstractions in his current work are a condensation of multiple metaphors. Exaggerating the monstrous or ugly aspects reveals the real nature of humans as well as that of animals and imaginary creatures. In his painted stories – which Indra considers to be more like visualized poems – many different objects/items appear, for example weapons like swords, daggers and pistols, and even skulls. Ferocious looking dogs flashing their teeth and some other grim creatures can be seen intermingling with scenes of daily life. They are just part of the totality, referring to the darker side of life. All these scenes are a subjective view, more like a colorful kaleidoscope, changing their shapes and structure when being moved. Horses, dogs, snakes, elephants, cows, and certainly the cactus (which is thorny) are part of this world. Sometimes even humans look more animal-like.

Indra Dodi looks at things from a view different from the conventional. His paintings are a different way of speaking about reality or to tell things from his own perspective, such as the environment, villages, society, stones, mountains, rivers, rain, clouds, partying, love, being drunk, women, children, land, language, alphabets, etc.

Finally Indra has developed and found his own visual language. The narrative structure is open to interpretation, and there is still much left to the imagination of the viewer. Written words or letters sometimes turn up on the canvas, objects connecting with the text. Most of the text consists of words that cannot be understood. They are not supposed to have meaning, merely visual elements, but at the same time they speak about the text and images. Lines of letters flow like a river and colorful letters are blossom like in a flower garden. The epic and narrative structures appear to have transformed into fantasies. It is, in essence, visual poetry.

Solo Exhibitions

2019	Happy Days In Bali	Tony Raka Art Gallery, Ubud, Bali, Indonesia
2015	Indra Dodi Solo Show	LVS Gallery, Seoul, Korea
2010	<i>Ekspresi Sesaat</i>	Galeri Katamsi, ISI Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Group Exhibitions (selected)

2019	Art Jakarta 2019	Jakarta Convention Center, Jakarta, Indonesia
	Yogyakarta Annual Art #4: Incumbent Bebas	Bale Banjar Sangkring, Yogyakarta, Indonesia Sakato Art Community at Jogja Gallery, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	Art Taichung 2019	Millennium Hotel, Taichung, Taiwan (with Artemis Art)
	Hotel Art Fair Bangkok 2019	W Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand (with Artemis Art)
	Hangzhou Art Fair 2019	Hangzhou International Expo Centre, Hangzhou, China (with Artemis Art)
	AArt Citizen Art Shanghai 2019	Twelve At Hengshan, Shanghai, China (with Artemis Art)
	<i>KADO (partron)</i>	Miracle Prints, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	Art Tainan 2019	Tayih Landis Hotel, Tainan, Taiwan (with Artemis Art)
	Affordable Art Fair Brussels	Avenue du Port, Brussels, Belgium (with Gallery Lukisan, Amsterdam)
	Dewantara Triennale 2019	Bale Banjar Sangkring, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
2018	Shanghai Young Art Fair 2018	Shanghai World Trade Center Exhibition Hall, Shanghai, China
	Asian Art in London	Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour, London, England (with Singapore Art Garret Gallery)
	Here Now (Nock Art Foundation Residency 2-man show with Dedy Sufriadi)	Defiance Gallery at Mary Place, Paddington, Sydney, Australia
	<i>Energi Seni</i>	Plaza Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia
	Art Jakarta 2018	Ritz-Carlton Jakarta Pacific Place, Jakarta, Indonesia (with Artemis Art)
	Transmogrification	Limanjawi Art House, Magelang, Indonesia
	Art Taichung 2018	Millennium Hotel, Taichung, Taiwan (with Artemis Art)
	Contemporary Art Ruhr 2018	World Cultural Heritage Site Zollverein, Essen, Germany (with Gallery Lukisan, Amsterdam)
	Simply Life	Melia Purosani Hotel, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	<i>BAKABA 7: Zaman Now</i>	Jogja Gallery, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	Kiniko Project #1	SaRanG Building #2, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	After Mooi Indie #2 – Bromance	R.J. Katamsi Gallery, Institut Seni Indonesia, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	Ping Project #4	Studio Aruna Yunizar, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	Residency Open Studio	Giverny Art, Queenstown, New Zealand
	KunstRAI 2018	Amsterdam, Netherlands (with Gallery Lukisan, Amsterdam)
	Affordable Art Fair	Brussels, Belgium (with Gallery Lukisan, Amsterdam)



2018 (cont.)		
	Art Fair Philippines 2018	The Link, Ayala Center, Makati, Philippines (with Artemis Art)
	First Art Fair	Amsterdam, Netherlands
	Art Shine	Ciputra Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
	Art Corner	Talenta Organizer, Plaza Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia
2017	Art Kaohsiung 2017	Pier 2 Art Center, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
	Shenzhen International Art Fair 2017	Shenzhen Convention & Exhibition Centre, Shenzhen, China (with Artemis Art)
	<i>de facto</i>	ARTDOOR Space, Taipei, Taiwan (co-organized by Artemis Art)
	<i>Menjadi Indonesia</i>	Plaza Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia
	Art Jakarta 2017	Ritz-Carlton Jakarta Pacific Place, Jakarta, Indonesia (with Artemis Art)
	BAKABA #6 – indONesia	Jogja Gallery, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	Ping Project #3	Studio Aruna Yunizar & Kiniko Art (SaRanG Building #2), Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	Kecil Itu Indah, After Edwin's (KI2AE)	Miracle Prints Studio, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	Young Art Taipei 2017	Sheraton Grand Taipei Hotel, Taipei, Taiwan (with Artemis Art)
	Art Central Hong Kong 2017	Central Harbourfront, Hong Kong (with Artemis Art)
	Affordable Art Fair	Brussels, Belgium (with Gallery Lukisan, Amsterdam)
	We Are 5	Artemis Art @ White Box, MAP@Publika, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	Singapore Contemporary 2017	Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre, Singapore (with Artemis Art)
2016	Cartography of Painting	Albert Art Gallery, Tangerang, Indonesia
	6075 Macau Hotel Art Fair	Regency Art Hotel, Taipa, Macau (with Artemis Art)
	Citizen Art Shanghai (AArt)	Twelve at Hengshan, Shanghai, China (with Artemis Art)
	Affordable Art Fair	Amsterdam, Holland
	Bazaar Art Jakarta 2016	Ritz-Carlton Jakarta Pacific Place, Jakarta, Indonesia (with Artemis Art)
	Ping Project #2	Aruna Art Space, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	BAKABA #5: Cadiak Indak Mambuung Pandai	Jogja Gallery, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	Affordable Art Fair	Brussels, Belgium
	Sunny-Side Up	LVS Gallery, Seoul, Korea
2015	ROOM 2015	Gallery HUUE, Singapore
	Affordable Art Fair (AAF)	F1 Pit Building, Singapore
	<i>Urip ming mampir ngombe</i>	Langit Art Space, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	Affordable Art Fair (AAF)	De Kromhouthal, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
	Affordable Art Fair (AAF)	Dongdaemun Design Plaza, Seoul, Korea
	Seoul Open Art Fair (SOAF)	Coex Convention & Exhibition Center, Seoul, Korea



2015 (cont.)		
	ASYAAF (Asian Student & Young Artist Art Festival)	LVS Gallery, Seoul, Korea
	BAKABA #4: Rendang & Rendang	Jogja Gallery, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	Drawing	Museum Dan Tanah Liat (MDTL), Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	Ping	Aruna Art Space, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	A Frozen Moment	Space Cottonseed, Gillman Barracks, Singapore
	New Wave: The Road Of Memories	and.n Gallery, Seoul, Korea
	Writing an Image	Space Cottonseed, Gillman Barracks, Singapore
2014	Yogyakarta Open Studio (YOS)	Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	Affordable Art Fair (AAF)	F1 Pit Building, Singapore (with Space Cottonseed)
	Nandur Suwung	Taman Budaya, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	ASYAAF (Asian Student & Young Artist Art Festival)	LVS Gallery, Seoul, Korea
	BAKABA #3: Kini	Jogja Gallery, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	ISI isi	Gallery Kemang, Jakarta, Indonesia
2013	Art Bazaar	Alam Sutra Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
	Agitasi Garuda	Jogja Gallery, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
2012	Crossing Sign	Taman Budaya, Yogyakarta
		Indonesian National Gallery, Jakarta
		Sika Gallery, Ubud, Bali
		TBY Lampung, Indonesia
2011	ASYAAF (Asian Student & Young Artist Art Festival)	Culture Station Seoul 284, Seoul, Korea (with LVS Gallery)
2010	Art For Our Life	Raday Konyveshaz Galeria, Budapest & Kis Zsinagoga Gallery, Eger, Hungary
	U(dys)topia	HfBk Postfach, Dresden, Germany
		Freie Museum, Berlin, Germany
		Stadt Museum, Cologne, Germany
	Beijing Biennale 2010	National Museum of Art, Beijing, China
	Solitude of the Earth	Bentara Budaya, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
Jogja Art Share	Jogja National Museum, Yogyakarta, Indonesia	
2009	Man Talk About Love	Sangkkring Art Space, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	Diantara Nama dan Nama	Jogja National Museum, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
2008	Bali Nang Padang Wae	Galeri Biasa, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	JAF – Jogja Art Fair	Taman Budaya, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	Metamorfosis	Galeri Biasa, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	Narration Of Nation	Mondecor Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
	Most Wanted	Galeri Biasa, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

2008 (cont.)	
AHAA	V-Art Gallery, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
Free Style	Museum Affandi, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
Brotherhood	Galeri Biasa, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
Dedication to the Future	Jogja Gallery, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
Seiring Sejalan	Denindo Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
2007	Musim Panas Fantasi Galeri Biasa, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
2006	NISBIH Galeri Katamsi, ISI Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	No Limits Vrederburg Fort Museum, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	Jalin Bapilin Vrederburg Fort Museum, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
2005	Skedios Ekstempore Taman Budaya Solo, Solo, Indonesia
	Water Colours Galeri Katamsi, ISI Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Residency Experience

- 2018 Nock Art Foundation @ Giverny, Queenstown, New Zealand
 2010 HfBK Dresden and Berlin, Germany

Media Coverage (selected)

- 2014 Padang Ekspres Digital Media (PADEK): **Pameran Seniman Urang Awak Sakato “Bakaba # 4” di Jogja Galeri Yogyakarta** (June 21) (<http://www.m.padek.co/detail.php?news=29826>)
 The Jakarta Post: **A celebration of camaraderie** (March 5) (<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2014/03/05/a-celebration-camaraderie.html>)
- 2011 The Jakarta Globe: **An Artistic Middle Ground** (April 4) (<http://jakartaglobe.beritasatu.com/archive/an-artistic-middle-ground/>)
- 2010 Tempo.Co: **Pameran Bersama Perupa dari Tiga Kota** (October 18) (<https://seleb.tempo.co/read/news/2010/10/18/114285537/pameran-bersama-perupa-dari-tiga-kota>)
 Cover (German-Asian Art Association): **U(DYS)TOPIA – A German-Indonesian Arts Project** (<http://cover-artprojects.net/udystopia-a-german-indonesian-arts-project/>)
 Jogja News: **Mereka Banyak Dapat Pelajaran Dari Beijing International Art Biennale 2010** (October 18) (<http://jogjanews.com/mereka-banyak-dapat-pelajaran-dari-beijing-international-art-biennale-2010>)
 Indonesia Art News: **Menapak Citra di China (by Kuss Indarto)** (August 22) (<http://indonesiaartnews.or.id/newsdetil.php?id=128>)
 Deplu-RI: **Seniman Indonesia dan Jerman Gelar Proyek Seni Rupa** (June 15 – sourced via The Global Review) (http://theglobal-review.com/lama/content_detail.php?lang=id&id=2298&type=9#.WwVEWVQFPxs)
 Book cover artwork for **“Buton, Ibu dan Sekantong Luka”** by Irianto Ibrahim (Frame Publishing, 2010) (<http://pustakapelabuhan.blogspot.my/2011/05/buton-ibu-dan-sekantong-luka-antologi.html>)

Other Activities of Note

- 2018:** *Masterpiece Retrofridge* by Modena Indonesia – custom painted fridge, with artwork entitled “The Big Man Story”, showcased at Art Jakarta 2018
- 2010:** As a committee for Art Project and Exhibition - **Crossing Sign**, at Taman Budaya Yogyakarta (Yogyakarta & Lampung), Sika Gallery (Ubud), Galeri Nasional Indonesia (Jakarta), Gallery Soemardja (Bandung), Indonesia
- 2006:** As a committee for Art Project and Exhibition - “**u(dys)topia**”, in Dresden & Berlin, Germany
- 2006:** As a committee member for Art Project and Exhibition - “**No Limits**” and “**Jalin Bapilin**”, both at Vrederburg Fort Museum, Yogyakarta, Indonesia