

GAJAH GALLERY YOGYAKARTA PRESENTS

Contemplating Alternatives

A Group Exhibition by emerging Indonesian women artists

Opening Night | Thursday, 27 February



Dini Nur Aghnia

Fog, 2019

Clay Flour on Canvas Board

80 x 120 cm

Gajah Gallery proudly presents *Contemplating Alternatives*, a dynamic group exhibition highlighting the talents of emerging Indonesian women artists.

Gajah Gallery aims to use this exhibition to bring attention to the achievements of this often overlooked genre of artists, shining a light on their contributions to Indonesian art and how they fit into the larger narrative of contemporary art. *Contemplating Alternatives* frames the work of eight young artists through the lens of alternative paths that women artists before them have carved. The exhibition explores how, whether consciously or subconsciously, they are similarly beginning to plant alternatives both for themselves and for a future generation of women artists working in Indonesia, through their own distinct practices.

The exhibit then explores the unique ways these alternate perspectives and practices are present in their work: from alternate depictions of femininity and roles of women beyond domesticity and insights into the distinct traditions, philosophies, and spiritualities from which they come, expressions of nature and the familiar landscapes they inhabit, altering their relationship to their environments- ways of seeing their own abstract, interior landscapes- to ways of recalling and retelling their pasts and stories.

Ultimately, the exhibit illuminates how the search for alternatives must constantly be critiqued and sustained, taking into account the value of both continuity and change, in order to carve a more fruitful, inclusive, and hopeful future for women artists in Indonesia.

Contemplating Alternatives opens on 27 February at Gajah Gallery Yogyakarta.

Exhibition Schedule:

Opens Thursday, 27 February

Exhibition runs from 27 February – 15 March 2020

Gajah Gallery Yogyakarta

Jl. Keloran RT 004, Tirtonirmolo

Kasihan Bantul, Yogyakarta 55182, Indonesia

Opening Hours:

10 am – 5 pm Weekdays

10 am – 4 pm Weekends & PH

Free entry

Twitter: twitter.com/gajahgallery

Facebook: www.facebook.com/gajahgallery/

Instagram: [@gajahgallery](https://www.instagram.com/gajahgallery)

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ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Guided by the philosophy that humans and the environment are profoundly interdependent, **Anis Kurniasih** is drawn to the details and minutiae of nature. She employs drawing techniques to imitate these repetitive patterns in her work, seeing her practice as a way to understand crucial processes in life.

Growing up, **Ayu Rika** had always been sensitive to the details on human bodies around her, and the way these details subtly revealed doorways into a person's emotions, experiences, and soul. Her process involves inviting models whose presence would leave intense impressions on her.

Desy Gitary highlights the essence and mood of personal histories, drawing from her own experience and body, for these are the things she knows intimately. Approaching an instinctive process in her practice rather than relying on prior sketches, she allows rough, expressionist forms flow on her canvas, wherein scenes of intriguing dynamics between women and men emerge.

Harking back the impressionist approach of capturing ephemeral landscapes, **Dini Nur Aghnia** expresses the natural environment she sees everyday in a fresh, evocative way—recreating them through the organic material of clay. Her artistic practice moves her to become fully absorbed in the daily glories in her surrounding landscapes, which eternally change depending on the time of day.

Dyah Retno plays with the ceramic material to dive deep into the diverse world of creatures, particularly the miniscule, overlooked ones—such as the amoeba, sperm, and ovum. She is fascinated with how humans grow into innately unique individuals—possessing wide-ranging traits, philosophies, and personalities—yet all come from the same cell, the same origin.

Based in Jogjakarta, **Fika Ria Santika** plays with materiality to open up multidimensional ways of understanding the places from which she roots. Perpetually inspired by nature and her surrounding environment, she is well aware that much of this innate inclination comes from the Minangkabau culture in which she was raised, wherein philosophies of nature are deeply ingrained in its philosophy of life. Yet, Fika paves her own path by engaging with the varied materials in her artistic process as a means to rediscover her identity, which continues to evolve and expand as she resides in Jogjakarta, and her curiosity deepens, not only for her own culture, but the cultures of others.

Loli Rusman's approach to her works has been largely informed by the duality of nature and humankind, combining her interests in nature, feminism, and personal history. Perhaps similar to her fellow artists from West Sumatra, she perceives these things as inseparable. Loli puts much of her focus on the materiality of her medium which underlines her distinct approach to her discipline; this unique practice provides her with unlimited sources of artistic engagement and inspiration.

Satya Cipta paints in the lineage of Balinese indigenous art, merging a mix of techniques from Ubud and Batuan. Yet, while Balinese traditional painting is not known to challenge cultural and spiritual norms, Satya asserts herself firmly within this tradition by bringing contemporary gender concerns to the forefront. For this show, she diverts from her past work depicting stark violence and suffering by revealing another side to her culture: the "subliminal beauty" among male and female relationships within the Balinese spiritual world.

Anis Kurniasih



Savoring Diversity, 2018

Ballpoint on Canvas

100 x 150 cm

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Ayu Rika



Lost #2, 2020

Oil on Canvas

200 x 300 cm

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Desy Gitary



New Me, 2020

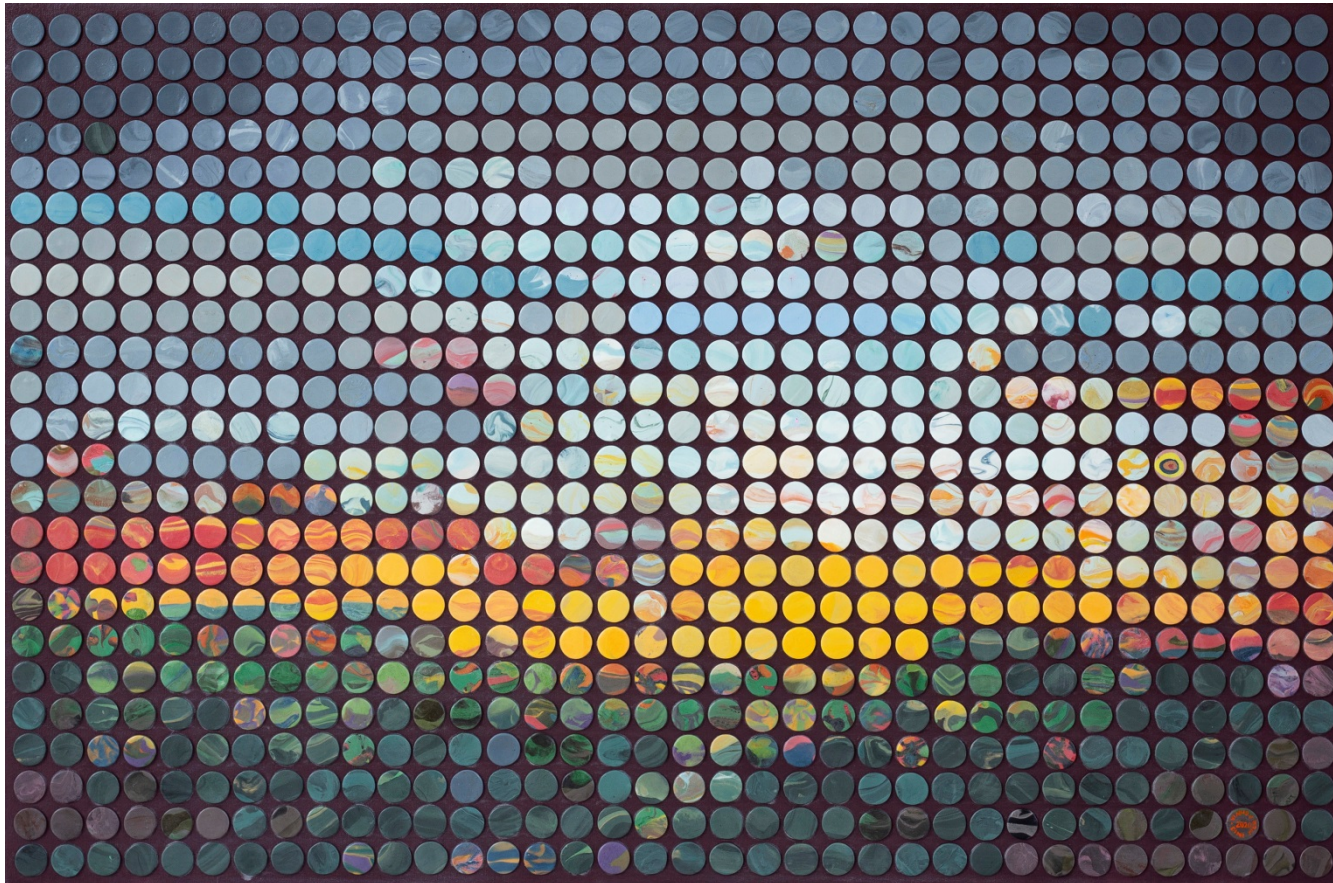
Acrylic and oil on canvas

150 x 120cm

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GAJAH GALLERY 

Dini Nur Aghnia



Sun Fall From The Field, 2020

Clay Flour on Canvas Board

80 x 120 cm

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Dyah Retno



Story of Quldi and Eve, 2020

Ceramic and Wood

Variable dimensions

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Fika Ria Santika



Tumpuk Lapis Tampak Isi: Sibir 2, 2019

Digital Print, Resin, Acrylic, Pigment, and Brass

90 x 150 cm

Loli Rusman



Persembahan Untuk Rohana Kudus 1, 2020

Acrylic on Canvas

130 x 180 cm

Satya Cipta



LONGING, 2020

24ct Gold and Mixed Media on Canvas

150 x 100 cm