

HANDIWIRMAN SAPUTRA

(b. 1975, Bukittinggi, West Sumatra, Indonesia)

Co-founder of the Jendela Art Group, Handiwirman Saputra is known for his transformation of mundane everyday materials into mediums of artistic exploration. Through his meticulous manipulation of cloth, human hair, corrugated roof sheets, and plastic wrap, he challenges perceptions of the ordinary, elevating the banal into something unexpectedly poetic. His works often evoke landscapes, figures, and organic forms, yet they resist direct metaphorical or symbolic associations, existing in a space between familiarity and abstraction.

Saputra redefines the still-life genre, pushing its boundaries through scale and composition. While his forms remain vaguely evocative of reality, they are never fully representational. His works oscillate between monumental and miniature, prompting viewers to reconsider their relationship with the materials he employs. By shifting perspectives, he grants significance to the overlooked, inviting others into his unique way of seeing the world. In contrast to the politically charged art produced during former Indonesian President Suharto's regime, Saputra deliberately eschews overt socio-political commentary, instead embracing organic abstraction and a playful engagement with form.

A graduate of the *Institut Seni Indonesia* (The Indonesia Institute of the Arts) in Yogyakarta, Saputra has garnered international recognition, participating in significant exhibitions such as *Everything You Can Imagine is Real #1* at Galerie Christian Hosp, Berlin; *Contemporaneity: Contemporary Art in Indonesia* at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Shanghai; *Pleasure of Chaos – Inside New Indonesian Art* at Primo Marella Gallery, Milan (2010); *Re-Play #6* at Office For Contemporary Art (OFCA) International, Yogyakarta (2014); and *Material Matters* at Tolot/Heuristic Shinonome Gallery, Tokyo (2015).

Saputra currently lives and works in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

EDUCATION

1996 School of Visual Art, Indonesia Institute of the Arts (ISI), Yogyakarta

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2015 *Material Matters*, Tolot/heuristic Shinonome Gallery in Tokyo, Japan
2014 *Re-Play #6*, Office For Contemporary Art (OFCA) International, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
2012 *Ujung Sangkut Sisi Sentuh/Suspended Forms*, Singapore Tyler Print Institute, Singapore
2011 *Tak Berakar, Tak Berpucuk/No Roots, No Shoots*, Nadi Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
Art Jog 2011, Taman Budaya Yogyakarta, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
2009 *Declaration of Aesthetics a la Handiwirman Putra*, Cemeti Art House, Jogjakarta, Indonesia
Things, the Order of Handiwirman, Cemeti Art House, Yogyakarta,

	Indonesia
2007	<i>Archeology of a Hotel Room</i> , Nadi Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
2004	<i>Apa-apanya Dong?</i> , Nadi Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
2001	<i>Patah Hati: Broken Heart</i> , Cemeti Art House, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
2000	<i>Provocative Objects</i> , Lontar Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
1999	<i>Benda</i> , Benda Art Space, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024	<i>Customised Postures, (De)Colonising Gestures</i> , Gajah Gallery Jakarta, Indonesia
	<i>Customised Postures, (De)Colonising Gestures</i> , Gajah Gallery, Singapore
2023	<i>Beyond Borders</i> , Gajah Gallery Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	<i>Forging Ahead: 10 Years of Yogya Art Lab</i> , Gajah Gallery Yogyakarta, Indonesia
2022	<i>Navigating Entropy 2022</i> , Gajah Gallery Jakarta, Indonesia
	<i>New Beginnings: Grand Opening of Gajah Gallery Jakarta</i> , Jakarta, Indonesia
2021	<i>TWENTYFIVE</i> , Gajah Gallery Singapore
2020	<i>Navigating Entropy</i> , Gajah Gallery Singapore
	<i>Genset</i> , Gajah Gallery, Singapore
2019	<i>Reason and Negotiation Never Come Just Once</i> , Indonesian Pavilion, Arsenale, Venice, Italy
	<i>May You Live in Interesting Times</i> , La Biennale Di Venezia, Venice, Italy
	<i>Monumenta: In Lightness</i> , Gajah Gallery, Singapore
2018	The 9 th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art, Queensland Art Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia
	Art Bali 2018, AB.BC Building, Bali, Indonesia
	<i>Zaman Now</i> , Jogja Gallery, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	Art Jog 2018, Jogja National Museum, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
2017	<i>Materials and Boundaries – Handiwirman Saputra + Chiba Masaya</i> , Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan
	<i>Carte Blanche: Anxiety</i> , Mizuma Art Gallery, Singapore
2016	<i>Looks Good on Paper</i> , Singapore Tyler Print Institute, Singapore
	<i>Archaeology of the Present</i> , Gajah Gallery, Singapore
	<i>Bantul Art Summit</i> , Gajah Gallery, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	<i>Sapiens Free</i> , OHD Museum, Magelang, Indonesia
2015	Art Basel Hong Kong 2015, Nadi Gallery, Hong Kong
	<i>Intersections: Latin American and Southeast Asian Contemporary Art</i> , Gajah Gallery, Singapore
2014	<i>Trajectories (Cuba Havana)</i> , Gajah Gallery, Singapore
2013	Biennale Jogja XII <i>Equator #2: Not A Dead End</i> - Yayasan Biennale Yogyakarta, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
	<i>SIP! Indonesia Art Today/Seni Rupa Indonesia Kini</i> , ARNDT Berlin, Singapore
	Art13, London, United Kingdom
2012	<i>Pameran Seni Patung</i> , Jakarta, Indonesia
	<i>Collective Ground: The Gallery in The Midst of Market and Discourse</i> , Jakarta, Indonesia
	<i>The Window of Jendela</i> , Jakarta, Indonesia
	Art Stage, Marina Bay Sands, Singapore

- 2011 *Ekspansi*, Indonesian Contemporary Sculpture Exhibition, National Gallery of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia
ART JOG 11, Taman Budaya Yogyakarta, Yogyakarta
Art Stage, Marina Bay Sands, Singapore
Collectors Stage: Asian Contemporary Art from Private Collections, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore
Everything You Can Imagine Is Real #1, Galerie Christian Hosp, Berlin, Germany
Indonesian Eye: Fantasies and Realities, The Saatchi Gallery, London, United Kingdom
Indonesian Eye: Fantasies and Realities, Ciptura Artpreneur Center, Jakarta, Indonesia
- 2010 *Back to The Future*, Sangkring Art Space, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
Made in Indonesia, Galerie Christian Hosp, Berlin, Germany
The Show Must Go On, National Gallery of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia
Contemporaneity: Contemporary Art in Indonesia, MOCA Shanghai (Museum of Contemporary Art Shanghai), Shanghai, China
ArthK 10 (Hong Kong International Art Fair), Nadi Gallery, Hong Kong
Classic Contemporary - Contemporary Southeast Asian Art from the Singapore Art Museum collection, SAM (Singapore Art Museum), Singapore
Art+Paris+Guest, Paris, France
Pleasure of Chaos-Inside New Indonesian Art, Primo Marella Gallery, Milano, Italy
- 2009 *Jogja Jamming*, 10th Jogja Biennale, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
Jendela - A Play of The Ordinary, NUS Museum, Singapore
Fluid Zone: Traffic and Mapping -- Jakarta Biennale 2009, Grand Indonesia Shopping Town, Jakarta, Indonesia
Beyond the Deucht, Centraal Museum, Utrecht, The Netherlands
Kado #2, Nadi Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
ArthK 09 -- (Hong Kong International Art Fair), Hong Kong
CIGE 2009 (China International Gallery Exposition), Beijing, China
- 2008 *Coffee, Cigarettes and Pad Thai, Contemporary Art in Southeast Asia*, Eslite Gallery, Taipei
Expose #1 – A Presentation of Indonesian Contemporary Art by Deutsche Bank & Nadi Gallery, Four Seasons Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia
Manifesto, National Gallery of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia
Inanimate Performance, Soka Art Center, Taipei
Bentuk- bentuk: Contemporary Indonesian Art in 3D, Valentine Willie Fine Arts & Nadi Gallery, Kuala Lumpur & Jakarta, Malaysia & Indonesia
- 2007 *Cilukba! (An exhibition by Jendela Art Group)*, Valentine Willie Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Soka's View, Southeast Asian Contemporary Art, Soka Contemporary Space, Beijing, China & Taipei, Taiwan
Indonesian Contemporary Art Now, Nadi Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
- 2006 *Passing on Distance: Contemporary Art in Indonesia, The 4th Generation*, Base Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
Belief, 1st Singapore Biennale, City Hall, Singapore
ICON: Retrospective, Jogja Gallery, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- 2005 *Open View*, Biasa Art Space, Bali, Indonesia

- Sculpture Expanded*, CP Art Space, Jakarta, Indonesia
Realis(Me) Banal, Gracia Art Gallery, Surabaya, Indonesia
Seni Rupa Alat Bantu, Bentara Budaya Yogyakarta, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
Pseudo Still Life: Obyek dan Auranya, Semarang Gallery, Semarang, Indonesia
Passing on Distance, Contemporary Art in Indonesia: The 4th Generation, NAF Gallery, Nagoya, Japan
Urban/Culture - CP Open Biennale, Bank Indonesia Museum, Jakarta, Indonesia
Biasa / The Ordinary: Exhibition of the Jendela Group, Nadi Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
2004 *Wings of Words, Wings of Colors*, Langgeng Gallery, Magelang, Indonesia
Untitled; An Assemblage of Sign, CCF, Jakarta, Indonesia
Object(ify), Nadi Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
Mempertimbangkan Tradisi, The National Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
Barcode, Taman Budaya, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
2003 *In Memory of 100 Days of H. Widayat's Death*, H. Widayat Museum, Mungkid, Magelang, Indonesia
30 : 30, Edwin's Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
Borobudur Agitatif, Langgeng Gallery, Magelang, Indonesia
Fusion Strength, Indonesia-Singapore Performance Exhibition, Yogyakarta, Magelang & Malang, Indonesia
Read, Cemeti Art House, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
Shock and Wave, New Media Art, Bandung, Indonesia
Interpellation - CP Open Biennale, The National Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
Countrybution, Yogyakarta Biennale VII, Taman Budaya, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
2002 *Dream Project: Under Construction*, Fabriek Gallery, Bandung, Indonesia
Under Construction: New Dimension of Asian Art, Tokyo Opera City, Tokyo, Japan
Ecstaticus Mundi, Selasar Sunaryo Art Space, Bandung and Air Art House, Jakarta, Indonesia
Object, Fabriek Gallery, Bandung, Indonesia
Tali Ikat; Fiber Connections, Taman Budaya, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
Pose, Affandi Museum, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
2001 *Not I. Am I?*, Nadi Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
Pink Project, Nadi Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
Contemporary Craft, The National Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
2000 *Membuka Kemungkinan / Opening Up Possibilities*, Purna Budaya, Yogyakarta and Taman Ismail Marzuki, Jakarta, Indonesia
1999 *Biennale VI Yogyakarta*, Purna Budaya Art center, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
From a Window, Bali Padma Hotel, Bali, Indonesia
Sakato, Fort Vredeburg Museum, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
1998 *The Phillip Morris Indonesia Art Awards Exhibition*, Jakarta, Indonesia
The Phillip Morris Asean Art Awards Exhibition, Hanoi, Vietnam
1997 *Pelukis Muda Yogyakarta*, Fort Vredeburg Museum, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
The Phillip Morris Indonesia Art Awards, Agung Rai Museum of Art, Ubud, Bali and Graha Lukisan TMII, Jakarta, Indonesia
Jendela, Purna Budaya, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
Paspatria I, Bahari Hotel, Tegal, Indonesia

- 1996 *FKY VIII*, Purna Budaya, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
Dialong Dua Kota, Cipta Gallery, Taman Ismail Marzuki, Jakarta, Indonesia
Alumni SMSRN Taman Budaya, Padang, Indonesia
- 1995 *Sakato*, 1st exhibition of Sanggar Sakato, Purna Budaya, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- 1994 *Installation Object*, celebrating the Day of Human Rights, ISI Yogyakarta, Indonesia

AWARDS

- 1998 Philip Morris Indonesian Art Award, National Gallery of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia
ASEAN Art Award, Hanoi, Vietnam