

# IBRAHIM

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

Ibrahim is a distinguished abstract artist within Indonesia's contemporary art scene. His artistic journey began with foundational training at *Sekolah Menengah Kejuruan Seni Rupa* (SMSR), a vocational arts college in West Sumatra. He later pursued formal studies at the *Institut Seni Indonesia* (The Indonesia Institute of the Arts) in Yogyakarta in 1996, earning his fine arts degree with a focus on painting in 2006.

That same year, Ibrahim returned to West Sumatra to teach at ISI Padang Panjang, yet his dedication to his artistic practice has remained steadfast. While immersed in academia, he continues to explore the possibilities of colour and deepen his experiments on canvas. Though physically distanced from the dynamic art community of Yogyakarta that shaped his early career, he actively maintains his connection to its energy and momentum.

Since completing his fine arts degree, Ibrahim's practice has been firmly rooted in the principles of abstract expressionism. His approach to painting is deeply intuitive, guided by an acute sensitivity to emotion—both his own and those that permeate his surroundings. Whether at home or in his academic environment, these emotions serve as the primary force behind his creative process. Influenced by abstract expressionist pioneers such as Willem de Kooning and Jackson Pollock, Ibrahim embraces a mode of working driven by visceral instinct and spontaneity.

The result is a body of work that resists ideological, psychological, or political constraints, instead celebrating the boundless beauty of abstraction. Each stroke, line, unresolved shape, or fluid contour serves as an exploration—an ongoing negotiation that determines the painting's final composition. His works are often left untitled, inviting viewers to engage with them on a personal and subjective level. In doing so, Ibrahim creates a space for unique, intimate dialogues between the artwork and its viewers. Through his practice, he seeks to counteract a contemporary human experience that has become increasingly detached from the physical world, offering instead a renewed sense of connection through the painted surface. For Ibrahim, a completed canvas is never a definitive conclusion, but rather the inception of a shared human experience.

Ibrahim currently resides and works in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

## EDUCATION

1996 Indonesian Institute of Art Yogyakarta, Indonesia

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2023 *IBRAHIM: Ruang dan Kesunyian*, Gajah Gallery Jakarta, Indonesia

2018 *Flourishing Within The Void*, Gajah Gallery, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

2012 *No Story*, Rumah Seni Embun Medan, Indonesia

2008 *Sunyi Di Tengah Riu*, Gallery Semarang, Semarang, Central Java, Indonesia

**SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

- 2025 Art Fair Philippines 2025, Gajah Gallery, Philippines
- 2024 Art Jakarta 2024, Gajah Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia  
Art Fair Philippines, Gajah Gallery, Manila, Philippines  
Art Jakarta Garden 2024, Gajah Gallery, Indonesia
- 2023 *Beyond Borders*, Gajah Gallery Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
Art Jakarta 2023, Gajah Gallery, Indonesia  
Art Kyoto 2023, Gajah Gallery, Japan  
Art Moments Jakarta Online 2023, Gajah Gallery, Indonesia
- 2022 Art Moments Jakarta 2022, Gajah Gallery, Indonesia  
Art Moments Jakarta Online 2022, Gajah Gallery, Indonesia
- 2021 *TWENTYFIVE* Yogyakarta, Gajah Gallery Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
*TWENTYFIVE*, Gajah Gallery Singapore
- 2020 *The Humanity of Small Things*, Gajah Gallery, Singapore
- 2019 *MONUMENTA: In Lightness*, Gajah Gallery Singapore
- 2018 *Exhibition Art, Fotography, Screening Movie*, ISI Padangpanjang, Ubud, Bali, Indonesia  
*Tambo #3*, Kapacak Group Exhibition, Bukittinggi, Sumatra Barat, Indonesia  
Pameran Seni Rupa Hari Pers Nasional 2018, Taman Budaya Sumatra Barat, Indonesia  
*KAPACAK, Tambo#3*, Group Exhibition, Pustaka Bung Hatta, Bukittinggi, Sumatra Barat, Indonesia
- 2017 *Tambo #2*, Sandi Group Exhibition, Padang, Sumatra Barat, Indonesia  
Multi Frame International, Bale Banjar Sangkring, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
*SANDI Tambo#2*, Taman Budaya Sumatra Barat, Indonesia  
*Matrilini*, Taman Budaya Sumatra Barat, Indonesia  
*Expression of Visual Various*, Universiti Malaysia Serawak, Malaysia
- 2014 *Intentionality*, Philo Art Space, Jakarta, Indonesia
- 2013 Para Pengajar Seni Rupa 2013: *Melihat/Dilihat*, Galeri Nasional Indonesia  
*Motion and Rhythm*, Sangkring Art Project, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
*Emosi dan Rasa*, Go Art Space, Surabaya, Indonesia  
*Traditional and Modernity*, ISI Padangpanjang, H K U Utrecht, The Netherlands  
*Homo Ludens 4*, Taman Budaya Bali, Indonesia  
*Bertiga 'Lihat'*, Taman Budaya Padang, Indonesia
- 2012 *Kembar Mayang*, Museum Widayat, Magelang, Indonesia  
*Freekick*, Convention Hall Royal Square, Surabaya, Indonesia  
*BIENNAL SUMATERA*, Taman Budaya Sumatra Barat, Indonesia  
*Merapi Singgalang*, Rumah Budaya Fadlizon, Padangpanjang, Indonesia  
*Garis Bawah*, Gedung M.Syafei, Padangpanjang, Indonesia
- 2011 *Cross Over*, Tujuh Bintang Gallery, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
*Up Reasing 96*, Taman Budaya Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
*ARTJOG II*, Taman Budaya Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
*Betawi dan Jakarta Tempo Doloe*, Gandaria City, Jakarta, Indonesia
- 2010 *BAKABA*, Sakato Art Community, Jogja Nasional Museum, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- 2009 *Trap[esium]*, Edwin's Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
- 2008 *Survey*, Edwin's Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
- 2007 *Dua Kota*, STSI Padang Padang, Taman Budaya Sumatra Utara, Medan, Indonesia  
Jogja Art Fair, Taman Budaya, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
*E-Motion*, Visual Art, Gallery Nasional Jakarta, Indonesia

- Detik 96*, Sangkring Art Space, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- 2006 *Spirit*, V-Art Gallery, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- 2005 *Spirit of Play*, Bentara Budaya Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
*Re-Reading Landscape*, Nadi Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
- 2004 *Campur-Campur*, Taksu Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia  
*Mempertimbangkan Tradisi*, Sanggar Sakato, Gallery Nasional Jakarta, Indonesia
- 2003 Gelar Karya ISI, Museum Nasional Jakarta, Indonesia  
Festival Kesenian Indonesia, STSI Surabaya, Indonesia  
Diesnatalis ISI, Gallery ISI, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- 2002 Bersama Lukis dan Patung *Manusia 2002*, Dirix Gallery  
*Jadikan Aku Pacarmu*, Sanggar Caping, Benteng Vredeburg, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
Phillip Morris Asean Art Award, Hotel Sheraton, Bali, Indonesia  
*Fathomless 7*, Miens Gallery, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- 2001 *Lukis Bertiga*, Dirix Gallery, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
Phillip Morris Indonesia Art Award, Gallery Nasional Jakarta, Indonesia  
*11 (Sebelas)*, Gelaran Budaya Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- 2000 Gelar Seni Pertunjukan
- 1999 SAKATO Community, Purna Budaya Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
*Detik 96 Community*, Purna Budaya Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
Festival Kesenian Indonesia, Gallery ISI Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- 1998 *Detik 96 Community*, Purna Budaya Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- 1997 SAKATO Community, Purna Budaya Yogyakarta, Indonesia

**AWARD**

- 2001 Finalist, Philip Morris Indonesia Art Award