

GAJAH GALLERY SINGAPORE PRESENTS

**Formless Existence: Erizal As**

*With essays by Tessa Maria Guazon and Katherine Bruhn*

**Publication Launch | 26 Sept, 7pm**  
**Exhibition Dates | 27 Sept – 13 Oct 2019**



***Tolerance and Intolerance***, 2019, acrylic and oil on canvas, 195 x 305 cm

Gajah Gallery proudly presents the catalogue launch for ***Formless Existence***, the hit solo exhibition by Erizal As, recently held at Gajah Gallery Yogyakarta. A landmark exhibition documenting his departure from his earlier discourses on identity and the essence of humanity, the show documented the result of Erizal's artistic introspection, seeing him turn the spotlight onto his recent explorations into extinction, corruption, and the loss of identity.

***Formless Existence*** poses a shift in the artist's perspective, a change of heart spurred by the onslaught of corruption and greed deep seeded in those in power and illuminated by media interjection. This

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devaluation of former moral principles gives life to the emergence of a formless existence experienced by Erizal which drives his recent artistic curiosity. However, rather than a manifestation of the pursuit of this elusive idea, Erizal instead focuses on the subtle changing language of the abstract and how this art movement can be applied to the concept of formless existence.

Through his scrutiny, ***Formless Existence*** was built to portray the defiance of paint when seen through the lens of visual aesthetics. Lending a larger meaning to paint as merely a medium, the works act as a metaphorical manifestation of Erizal's personal views about the amoral and contradictory governance that imposes upon us all.

This subsequent catalogue launch will feature several works from the aforementioned exhibition, as well as new works by the artist that delve deeper into his fascination with the medium as the subject of artworks. A novel concept to Erizal, these works play into his desire to pursue the truly abstract.

The launch will be accompanied by essays by art historians Tessa Maria Guazon and Katherine Bruhn, who will shed some light upon the intricacies of Erizal's practice and the significance of his newer artistic conceptualisations.

## **ARTIST PROFILE**

One of the fastest emerging artists in Indonesian contemporary art, Erizal As has continuously proven himself to be exemplary in the fields of portraiture and the abstract. His unique style, best described as a balanced blend of chaos and rhythmic dynamism, is inspired by a musical conductor in an orchestra. Drawn to the inherent charisma of the role and the overt influence of the maestro's presence, he developed a fascination with the concept of 'leader' and the frequently revealed disparity between their proclaimed and demonstrated personas. Erizal offers insight by way of studying the symbolic function of traditional portraits as a reflection of identity and character.

Trained at the Indonesian Institute of Fine Art, Erizal's past exhibitions include *Refiguring Portraiture* at Gajah Gallery Singapore, *Bakaba #5* at Sakato Art Community, *If Time Stopped*, a group exhibition at Gajah Gallery Yogyakarta, *Reborn Every Time* at Sangkring Art Space, and *Indonesian Contemporary Art Exhibition* in Beijing.

## **Solo Exhibitions**

- 2017 Refiguring Portraiture, Gajah Gallery, Singapore
- 2012 Visual Symphonies, Ganesha Gallery, Four Season Resort Jimbaran, Bali, Indonesia  
Rhythm of Art, Philo Art Space, Jakarta
- 2007 Lines Project, Koong Gallery, Jakarta
- 2005 Problematika Sosial Sebagai Ide Penciptaan, Institut Seni Indonesia, Yogyakarta

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**Exhibition Schedule:**

Thursday, 26 September 2019, 7 – 9 pm

Publication Launch

27 September – 13 October 2019

Opens to Public

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Gajah Gallery Singapore

39 Keppel Road

Tanjong Pagar Distripark

#03-04

Singapore 089065

**Opening Hours:**

11 am – 7 pm Mon - Fri

12 pm – 6 pm Sat, Sun & PH

Free entry

Twitter: [twitter.com/gajahgallery](https://twitter.com/gajahgallery)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/gajahgallery/](https://www.facebook.com/gajahgallery/)

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

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SELECTED ARTWORK IMAGES



***Vulgarity***, 2019, oil on canvas, 230 x 150 cm



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***Suara Tak Berbunyi (Voice with no Sound)***, 2019, oil and acrylic on canvas, 230 x 170 cm



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*Arrogance*, 2019, oil on canvas, 200 x 300 cm