

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GAJAH GALLERY PRESENTS
**MANGU PUTRA: BETWEEN HISTORY
AND THE QUOTIDIAN**

OPEN TO PUBLIC 6 – 22 JANUARY 2017

Singapore – 6 January 2017 —Following a successful opening last year, Gajah Gallery is proud to re-exhibit Indonesian contemporary artist Mangu Putra’s solo exhibition, “Between History and the Quotidian” during Singapore’s Art Week. Putra re-examines historic archival footage of the Dutch colonization in Bali in the early to mid 1900s, drawing together visual and verbal narratives to stage an untold account of history. This follows the artist’s decade-long research interest in uncovering the stories of Indonesian veterans and the surviving fighters of Indonesia’s revolution: a generation of men who have been marginalized by history. Using archival colonial photographs published by Dutch institutions, Putra re-imagines historic scenes, changing the emphasis by placing the Balinese people at the center.

“Mangu Putra shifts his attention towards the degradation of the natural world and the neglect of those who made Indonesia, as part of a search for spiritual meaning. He brings a dark perspective to this quest for meaning, one that is critical not just of the wider nature of Indonesian politics, but also of those who contribute to the neglect of the environment and of history.” - Professor Adrian Vickers, Director of Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Sydney, Australia

Born in 1963 at Sangeh, Central Bali, Mangu Putra was trained in Yogyakarta at Indonesia’s premier art school, Institute Seni Indonesia (originally ASRI, the Akademi Seni Rupa Indonesia). He majored in Design and Visual Communications and worked as a graphic designer until 1997 when he began to pursue career in the Fine Arts. His works have been presented in solo and group exhibitions in Indonesia as well as internationally in Singapore, China, South Korea, Australia, and the United Kingdom.

Established in 1996 by director Jasdeep Sandhu, Gajah is one of the oldest Singapore-owned commercial galleries, and among the few that regularly exhibit at international art fairs. Outside of the Gallery’s two locations in Singapore and Yogyakarta, Gajah Gallery has exhibited in London, Yangon, Havana, Hong Kong, Manila, Tokyo, and Jakarta.

For images, interviews and other media enquiries, contact:

Therese Pang

+65 6737 4202

therese@gajahgallery.com