

GAJAH GALLERY SINGAPORE PRESENTS

GG-ABHK2020

Opening Saturday 21 March 2020



Yunizar

Untitled, 2020,

Acrylic on canvas

200 x 225 cm (206.5 x 232 x 7 cm framed)

Gajah Gallery presents *GG-ABHK2020*, a blockbuster group exhibition showcasing brand new works from Southeast Asia's most iconic artists.

We are proud to announce a major exhibition opening following the cancellation of Art Basel Hong Kong 2020. In lieu of this signal fair, we will be staging our own Basel-worthy show at our Singapore space, bringing together several renowned artists of Southeast Asia and showcasing their unique practices in a grand presentation of the very best of contemporary art.

For this monumental exhibition, we are humbly joined by an awe-inspiring line up of artists from and around Southeast Asia. We are thrilled to present works by **Ashley Bickerton** (USA), **Erizal As** (Indonesia), **Jigger Cruz** (Philippines), **Li Jin** (China), **Mahalakshmi Kannappan** (India/Singapore), **Rudi Mantofani** (Indonesia), **Savanhday Vongpoothorn** (Laos/Australia), **Suzann Victor** (Singapore/Australia), **Uji “Hahan” Handoko** (Indonesia), and **Yunizar** (Indonesia) for our main exhibition, with a spotlight on **I GAK Murniasih** (Indonesia), and a separate showcase with works by **Anis Kurniasih** (Indonesia), **Dini Nur Aghnia** (Indonesia), **Fika Ria Santika** (Indonesia), and **Kara Inez** (Malaysia).

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are introducing precautionary measures by changing our opening times, limiting the number and flow of guests, and cancelling some activities. Your safety and health are of the utmost priority to us.

Nonetheless, we hope to see you at the Gallery, as appreciating art can oftentimes be a source of consolation and a much-needed pause from the world amidst uncertain, challenging times.

VERNISSAGE

The VIP Weekend commences with the official opening of GG-ABHK2020. Join us for a private view of the finest works by some of the most notable Southeast Asian artists, during a night of fine wine, fine art, and good company!

While the official vernissage will still commence at 7 pm, the Gallery will open at 12 noon for those who wish to visit earlier and avoid contact with a group of people. We have a large, wide space suitable for visitors who would like to maintain a comfortable distance from others.

We are sorry to announce that the After Party has been cancelled. However, visitors are free to view the main exhibit and our special Discoveries section from 12 noon to 9 pm.

Date: 21 March 2020, Saturday

Time: 7 – 9 pm

Address: Gajah Gallery, 39 Keppel Road, #03-04, Singapore 089065

Dress Code: Hong Kong Neo-Noir

Admission strictly by RSVP

KABINETT

Elaborately staged and poised to be the art event of the season, this exhibition will also include a special *KABINETT* section featuring a curated selection of works by celebrated Balinese artist I GAK Murniasih (Murni). Born in Tabanan Bali, Murni's prolific artistic career was cut short due to her illness and subsequent death in 2006. Often labelled as disturbing and deeply biographical, her works still manage to evoke humor and pathos that we can see throughout her practice- one that was iconic in Southeast Asia for her bold depictions of female sexuality and themes of trauma and death. Murni's groundbreaking watershed works will be on show for the duration of the exhibition.

Kabinett Booth curated by Plural Art Mag

DISCOVERIES

Yet another exciting wing of the exhibition is our DISCOVERIES section, a collection of works by emerging women artists **Anis Kurniasih**, **Dini Nur Aghnia**, **Fika Ria Santika**, and **Kara Inez**. This section features new works by these four artists as a display of the beautiful vibrancy and novelty in Southeast Asian art, and will be shown in a separate exhibition space where the works can be duly admired in a more contemporary setting.

DISCOVERIES Booth located at Angra, #03-03

Discoveries Booth Supported by



VIP LOUNGE

The opening night of GG-ABHK2020 will be an unmissable event in and of itself, with an exclusive VIP lounge for guests of the gallery. VIPs can view the art while indulging in artisanal cocktails designed especially for the opening.

CONVERSATION

We're happy to announce that on top of the vernissage, *GG-ABHK2020* will be moving forward with our exciting collaborative event: a panel discussion about **I GAK Murniasih** with Plural Art Mag, and the chance to gain a professional insight into the heart, motivations, and contemporary implications of Murni's extraordinary practice.

Date: 22 March 2020, Sunday

Time: 2-3.30pm

Address: Gajah Gallery, 39 Keppel Road, #03-04, Singapore 089065

Slots for this conversation are limited to accommodate 35 participants.

Should you wish to join us, kindly RSVP here: <https://pleasureandpain.peatix.com/>

Gajah Gallery is so thrilled to roll out these exciting programmes completely novel to the gallery to mark the opening of GG-ABHK2020. We hope you will join us for our festivities as we commemorate this unforgettable exhibition.

If you are unable to join us this weekend, the exhibition will run till the 19th of April 2020.

We'll see you at the Gallery!

Exhibition Schedule:

Opens Saturday, 21 March 2020

Exhibition runs from 21 March – 19 April 2020

Gajah Gallery Singapore

Tanjong Pagar Distripark

39 Keppel Rd, #03-04

Singapore 089065

Opening hours

Weekdays: 11 am – 7 pm

Weekends/PH: 12 – 6 pm

Free entry

Twitter: twitter.com/gajahgallery

Facebook: www.facebook.com/gajahgallery/

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

For images, interviews, and other media enquiries, please contact:

Charmaine Yo

+65 96257282

charmaine@gajahgallery.com

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

GG-ABHK2020

Ashley Bickerton is among the most well-known expatriate artists, residing in Bali for almost 25 years. His work is in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art, The Guggenheim and the Whitney Museum in New York, the Tate Gallery in London and the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam. Ashley is known for his poignant social commentaries, which draw from an anthropological perspective of looking at consumerism, the cross-pollination of culture and the widespread decay of humanistic values.

Erizal As is one of the fastest emerging artists in Indonesian contemporary art, drawing the attention of regional and international collectors. His latest exhibition 'Formless Existence' poses a shift in the artist's perspective, portraying the defiance of paint when seen through the lens of visual aesthetics, a metaphorical manifestation of his personal views about governance and righteousness.

Jigger Cruz explores the primitive memory of the figurative in contemporary painting. His artistic approach plays with ideas of defacement and vandalization. The paintings rework many of the stylistic quirks and formal concerns of classical painting, employing their basic composition and approximating their processes.

Li Jin is one of China's foremost contemporary artists, known for his lighthearted approach to the otherwise stoic field of Chinese ink painting. His works illustrate a philosophy of liberation and contentment, breaking with the archetypal formal subject matter associated with traditional ink. The characters that appear in his paintings are drawn from his daily life and his travels.

Mahalakshmi Kannappan is an emerging Singapore-based artist born in India. As a diasporic individual, she often finds herself caught between two very different cultures with distinct beliefs and mindsets. The decisions as to what to adopt and why an ongoing struggle are she addresses and gives form through her work.

Rudi Mantofani is an Indonesian contemporary artist known to incorporate the unexpected in his work. He aims to challenge the intellect by instilling questions in the viewer, demanding their examination and interpretation. In the form of both painting and sculpture, he usually transforms the iconography of ordinary objects and landscapes into puzzling visual riddles. This overturning of reality is done with daring visual ploys such as flattening the pictorial space through heavy repetitions or creating illusions of three-dimensionality.

Suzann Victor is Singapore's most notable female contemporary artist, known for her monumental public artworks, performances and kinetic installations. Her recent solo show, *See Like a Heretic*, saw her embarking on an archaeological process to locate the point before which ready-made iconography was converted into commodities; transmuting the process of sandblasting into a ritualistic baptism.

Uji 'Hahan' Handoko blurs the point of contact that exists between urbanization and agrarianism, the East and the West, the local and the global. He has been a finalist for the Sovereign Art Prize in 2008, and has participated in residencies and shows across Indonesia, Korea, Italy and Cuba.

Yunizar continually proves his massive appeal to international audiences, enchanting collectors and curators all over the world, his work being collected by various major public and private collections, including the Long Museum, China. His work reflects an ideal of imaginative and authentic expression, using a combination of primitive markings and elementary forms to create a universal visual language.

KABINETT ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

I Gak Murniasih exhibited the ordinary world in an extraordinary way, with her work often labelled as disturbing and deeply biographical, yet also filled with a sense of humor and pathos. Mostly self-taught, Murni developed her own style based on intuition, which alongside her willingness to tackle difficult subject matter such as pleasure and sexuality has marked her as one of the most important contemporary women artists in Indonesia.

DISCOVERIES 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.

Harking back the impressionist approach of capturing ephemeral landscapes, **Dini Nur Aghnia** expresses the natural environment she sees every day 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.

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, much of her innate inclination comes from her Minangkabau culture, wherein philosophies of nature are deeply ingrained. 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.

Kara Inez is a Malaysian artist based in Singapore who draws from her personal experiences to explore issues surrounding the female body and mental health through the mediums of performance art and sculpture. Utilizing abject materials such as hair and skin, her works invoke the feeling of disgust as a means to challenge the social constructs set in place surrounding these suppressed topics.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GAJAH GALLERY 



Ashley Bickerton

Wall-Wall No.4 (Black Invert), 1986 – 2018

Oil and Enamel on Resin and Plywood, Stainless Steel

79 x 120.5 x 19 cm



Erizal As

Untitled, 2020

Oil on Canvas

182 x 132 x 7 cm (Framed)



Jigger Cruz

Untitled (ED of 1 + 1 AP), 2020

Cast Bronze

80 x 55 x 91 cm



Li Jin

花丛中 (Amongst Flowers), 2018

Ink on Paper

49 x 44.5 cm



Mahalakshmi Kannappan

Stratum 05, 2020

Charcoal on Canvas

101 x 91 cm

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GAJAH GALLERY 



Rudi Mantofani

Cahaya Bumi, 2017

Acrylic on Canvas

170 x 250 cm



Savanhdary Vongpoothorn

Untitled, 2020

Acrylic on Perforated Canvas

60 x 60 cm



Suzann Victor

Unequal Innocence, 2020

Acrylic on Canvas, Acrylic Strip and Lenses

127.5 (diametre) x 15 cm

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GAJAH GALLERY 



Hahan Handoko

The Irony of the Protester (ED of 1 + 1 AP), 2019

Cast Bronze

85 x 20 x 42 cm

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GAJAH GALLERY 



Yunizar

Rooster (ED 3 of 3 + 2 AP), 2019

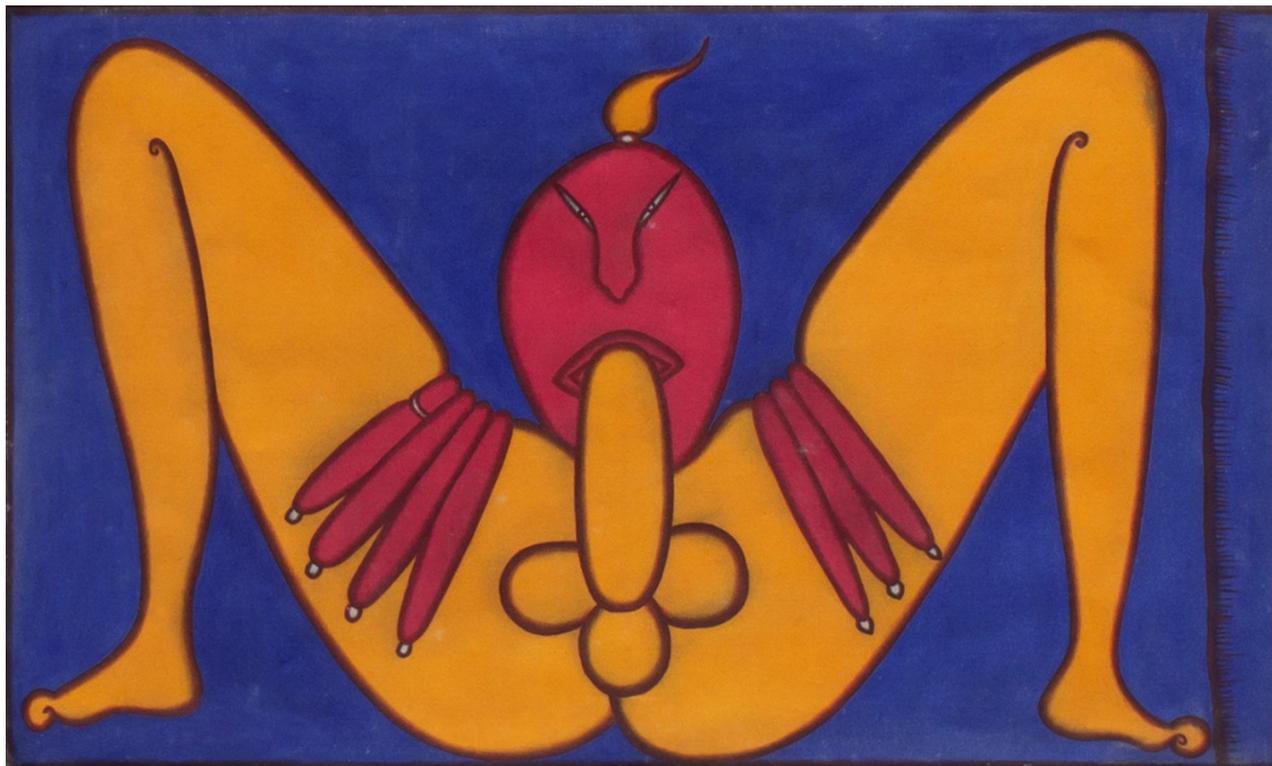
Cast Bronze

216 x 162 x 60 cm

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GAJAH GALLERY 

KABINETT ARTIST



I GAK Murniasih

Untitled, 2004

Acrylic on Canvas

60 x 100 cm

DISCOVERIES



Anis Kurniasih

Ephytimia, 2020

Ballpoint and Acrylic Ink on Canvas

120 x 100 cm



Dini Nur Aghnia

Violet Paris #2, 2019

Clay Flour on Canvas Board

120 x 140 cm



Fika Ria Santika

Tumpuk Lapis Tampak Batas: Rona, 2018

Resin, Acrylic Sheet, Acrylic Rod, Pigment, Flexible LED, Mirror Glass, LED, Stainless Steel

12 x 100 (diametre) cm

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GAJAH GALLERY 



Kara Inez

Ceramic Bleeds, 2020

Silicone, Stockings, Rice, and Ceramic

Variable Dimensions