

Sisa:

re-use, collaborations and cultural activism from Indonesia

6 November – 7 December 2007

Opening Tuesday 6 November 6-8pm

Curated by Alexandra Crosby

Sisa is the Indonesian word for 'remains' or 'leftovers'. Located between folk art, design, and public intervention, this exhibition finds new forms of expression in the rejection of hyper-consumption and overdevelopment.

Focusing on the issues associated with artistic output in the collaborative settings of contemporary Indonesian environmental activism, many of these artworks were not designed for display in galleries, or for an Australian audience. They include research, adaptations, documentation, and the products of ongoing collaborative projects.

The exhibition poses the question: When culture is related to specific events in local histories and ecologies, such as environmental crises, how can translations and transactions be understood in different contexts such as galleries? In answer to this challenge, Indonesian artists emerge from the rubble of natural disasters, the wreckage of corruption, and the unrelenting hype of consumerism to create more than just hybrid objects or images, but enduring collaborative languages, energized by difference. Many of the artists themselves, as well as the materials they use, are situated in a space of abjection. They are activists, and they place their work in the context of collectives and movements. Even the individual artists represented here operate from a 'cast-off' position, as social sisa.

An exhibition brochure with a curatorial essay will be available. Part of GANG Festival 2007/08. 

Participating collectives and artists:

Tanam Untuk Kehidupan (Salatiga) Taring Padi (Yogyakarta), Anakseribupulau (Randublatung), Belanak Art Community (Padang), Irennius Pungky, Duto Hardono, Indra Yanti, Arya Jalu, Aris Prabawa, Ade Darmawan and Rebecca Conroy, Bob Sick, Acongonyen, Toni Volunteero, Dodi Irwandi, Agus Budi Cahyono, S. Teddy D.

Public Events:

Friday 30 November from 3.30pm – Artist talks and film screening. Free, see UTS Gallery website for details. Presented in association with Transforming Cultures Research Unit, UTS.



UTS Gallery: Level 4, 702 Harris St, Ultimo | PO Box 123 Broadway NSW 2007 | Mon-Fri 12-6pm | T: +612 9514 1652
Further Information: Anneke Jaspers, Assistant Curator, utsgallery@uts.edu.au / www.utsgallery.uts.edu.au.

Images (from left): Duto Hardono, *Untitled*, [detail], 2007, ink, coca cola, thread on paper. Courtesy of the artist; Irennius Pungky, *Oleh-oleh dari penjara [souvenirs from jail]*, [detail], 2006-07, 96 drawings on cardboard boxes. Courtesy of the artist; Tanam Untuk Kehidupan, *Insect*, 2007, discarded objects. Courtesy of the artist. Photo by Alex Davies and Alexandra Crosby.

Research for this project was supported under Australian Research Council's Discovery funding scheme, project number DP0559491.