



Proposal



Project Summary

Jakarta Biennale is a continuous reading on the development of the idea of the city. The city is seen as a dynamic and complex area moving along with the current local and global change. Departing from that notion, the biennale event is a platform in amplifies and extends the observation of socio-cultural phenomena within the scope of a specific time and space. In the contemporary context, biennale plays important role to challenge and to read the latest artistic tendencies in relation to the development of social issues, politics, and culture in Indonesia and internationally. Since 2009, Jakarta Biennale with the theme ARENA (2009), The Maximum City (2011), and SIASAT (2013), began to see the city as the site of the battle the elements and interests. The fight various value systems, which of course within a certain period will continue to change, a notion that is formed of a long history and process.

Since 1974, once every two years the Jakarta Biennale event has always been focused in the reading of the urban phenomenon in Indonesia also internationally, with a focus on practices in the areas where a lot of citizen's strategy have been developed and experimented. Starting from this year, Jakarta Biennale which is now organized by Jakarta Biennale Foundation, will be focused not only on the bi-annual event, but also widen its impact to the society and the art scene especially in diverse cities in Indonesia, by involving local emerging young curators on curatorial process and extends the public education. In this case we will manage the Curatorial Lab program, which will focus on local young curators with various background from other cities outside Jakarta, Bandung and Yogyakarta, which have already more developed art scene since many years. Accompany this platform we will also invite artists / group of artists working in the cities where the young curators came from to challenge the ideas through artists' in residence program. Through artists in residency it will be also a learning process for the local young curators not only on curatorial process but also on how to organize an art activities / organisation.

Furthermore the aim of the Curatorial Lab program is to show the contemporary socio-cultural condition in other areas in Indonesia, which, represented by the art works in the biennale.

As a continuous effort to educate the public and absorb its opinion, Jakarta Biennale will also start to conduct a long-term art education for public program in order to maintain their understanding towards art in which we offer on the biennale. The aim of public educational program is to show to the young generation and their educators (parents, teachers, peer groups) the importance of art and what art can do. In particular, the program will include teacher's lab, workshops, symposium, and art education book publishing.

From the description above, Jakarta Biennale will go further to become one of the supporting systems, which plays an important role on the development of art in Indonesia by expanding the networks, collaboration, capacity development efforts of other organisations and public engagement.

History

1974

Exhibition of Indonesian Paintings was organized for the first time, becoming one of the biggest and the oldest visual art exhibitions in Asia.



1978

Renamed to *Grand Exhibition of Indonesian Paintings*.



1982

Renamed to *Fine Arts Biennale*. At first to map the scenes of painting art and view the achievements of Indonesian modern art esthetics. Similar biennales in various regions have touched the actual sociopolitical issues.



1994

Renamed to *Biennale Jakarta*. Jim Supangkat was assigned as the first Biennale Jakarta's curator. He brought fresh air by presenting post-modernism ideas that drew controversies, even abroad. Apart from that, the Biennale also spurred debates on installation art.



1994 - 2009

The echoes of *Biennale Jakarta* faded out in each of its aftermath. One reason was the absence of allegiance between the city as the site of the exhibition and the public.



2009

Renamed to *Jakarta Biennale*. This event began to widen its scope to Southeast Asia. The theme was "*Arena*". The Biennale was also the first to involve widespread community and to use public spaces in Jakarta.



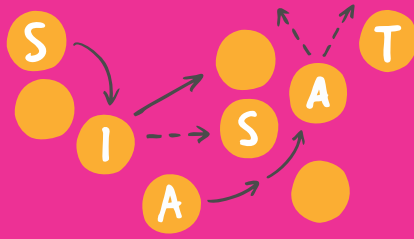
2011

Jakarta Biennale #14 was held with the theme *MAXIMUM CITY*.



Jakarta Biennale #15 was held with the theme *SIASAT*.

09-30.NOV
 15th JAKARTA
 BIENNALE
 2013







JAKARTA
BIENNALE

2015

MAJU KENA, MUNDUR KENA

Learning in the present

INDONESIA 1980S - PICTURES OF A DECADE

JAKARTA EVERYWHERE

ART IS NOT ENOUGH, ANYMORE -
YOUNG ART INDONESIA

Jakarta Biennale 2015

Maju Kena, Mundur Kena (Neither forward nor back): learning in the present

The Jakarta Biennale 2015 will be divided into a number of complementary elements that broadly look at the past, present and future. These will all explore significant cultural influences on the present in Indonesia and how the contemporary world looks like from here.

The three core exhibition elements will be:

Indonesia in the 1980s

The Contemporary International in Jakarta

Young Indonesian Artists Now

Across the three elements of the Biennale, the curators will weave three subject strands: Learning; Water; and History Today. These strands will crossover and engage over the different elements, allowing the visitor to discover them from different generations and viewpoints.

Learning

The emphasis of the 2015 Biennale is on learning and teaching through art. The emphasis on learning is grounded in some experimental educational practices from the 20th century that emphasised collective approaches and the necessity of the 'ignorant schoolteacher'.. We aim to organise have an international MKMK Academy (a temporary exchange zone) which will be shaped as a collaboration with Arts Collaboratory. The programme will offer artists and curators from Indonesia and across the AC network the opportunity to investigate and discuss series of located projects across Jakarta, as well as to use the Biennale as a critical tool for learning and analysing the world today. The aim is to bridge the divides across the 'global south' and to bring emerging art workers into contact with different communities and initiatives outwith the artistic framework. More information on Arts Collaboratory can be found at <http://www.artscollaboratory.org/about.html>.

Water

One of the major threads running through the Bienal will be water and how it is used, abused and controlled. Water is likely to be an increasingly precious resource over the coming decades and how nation states and cities exploit or preserve their natural environments to harvest their water will be a crucial question for society. Anticipating this, the 2015 Biennale will look in particular at the patterns that water usage, flooding and drought make on the cityscape in a number of global cities across Indonesia as well as in other great southern metropolises such as São Paulo and Istanbul. But water is also in another sense a useful metaphor or device to talk about contemporary society. Water is fluid, adaptable and infinitely networked across the globe. It needs to be kept in balance with land and air, yet is difficult to control. It is life-preserving, yet can too little or too much water can terrorise society. Humans paradoxical relationship to water can then be seen as a way to observe or speak about how society functions, its value systems and imbalances.

History Today

The way that history is told and how it changes over the years will be a constant presence in the 2015 Bienal. History is a dynamic way of thinking about the past that never reconstructs how things really were, but rather imposes its own version on the past according to the needs of the present. One part of the main exhibition will look at the Indonesian 1980s from this point of view, seeing what remains significant from the culture of that period for us today. Elsewhere in the main exhibition and in the other projects, history will pop up in surprising ways in order to relate urban and rural environments to each other and to the changing global order. Across the metropolises of the world (and especially in the south), the lessons of history are often discarded or forgotten in the drive to 'modernise' or improve conditions. Yet these problems are often caused by historical misunderstandings of people, culture and environment themselves. Using the artistic imagination to look at the histories and presents of housing, pollution, immigration, social access and youth culture can lead to new insights into these same issues and gather support for change. The emphasis of the history strand will be on the various uses of art to understand the present and to integrate past and future into this understanding. Young Indonesian artists in particular will be asked to speculate about different possible presents and futures.

Curatorial

The 2015 Biennial is curated by Charles Esche and a team of 6 emerging Indonesian curators from across the country, Anwar 'Jimpe' Rachman (Makassar), Asep Topan (Jakarta), Benny Wicaksono (Surabaya), Irma Chantily (Jakarta), Putra Hidayatullah (Aceh), Riksa Afiaty (Jakarta/Bandung), brought together by Charles Esche and Jakarta Biennale Foundation advised by Galit Eilat, Mirwan Andan, Mia Maria and Farid Rakun.



THE BAD ARTISTS IMITATE
THE GREAT ARTIST STEAL

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Line of Programs Jakarta Biennale 2015

Main Program

Main Exhibition

As many as 50 artist will be invited to participate in JB 2015 and present works from Indonesian and other countries. Covering various mediums, from installation to video art, paintings, etc. The selection of artists will be made by the Curator, based on JB 2015's theme.

TIME:

15 November 2015
17 January 2016

VENUE :

Gudang Sarinah,
JL.Pancoran Timur II No.2
(Pancoran), Jakarta Selatan

OPENING EXHIBITION

14 November 2015

Project in Public Spaces

JB 2015 is fully aware of its position as the capital's main art event, and therefore would like to engage the citizen's participation in its line of programs. Jakarta Biennale will display art works in several public places as the result of the collaboration project between participating artists and the public. Local or foreign artists will deal with existing environments and present their work on-site using their artistic approach.

Project in public spaces will be divide in two projects: mural project and community based project. As many as 6 artist will be invited to make mural project in 6 different location in Jakarta. While 18 artist/ artist group will be invited to make collaboration art project with community in 18 different location in Jakarta.

SEVERAL PUBLIC SPACES IN JAKARTA WILL INCLUDE:

1. Parks
 2. Stations
 3. Shelter
 4. Communities
in Jakarta
-

Supporting Programs

Night Program

This program will open indoor venues of JB 2015 until midnight as wider chance for public to enjoy the exhibition. This program also intends to give a unique experience for the audience to visit the exhibition venue and nurture art appreciation.

In this program we will also featured music performance and Art Market which offers unique yet high value craft & DIY product from various communities in Jakarta.

TIME:

Every weekend during the
exhibition
15 November 2015
- 17 January 2016

VENUE:

Jakarta Biennale 2015's
exhibition venues

Exhibition of Young Artist

Beside the main exhibition, Jakarta Biennale 2015 also will featured art works of emerging Indonesian young artist. These young artist will present their work with a variety of art experimentation under the theme which already stated by the curator.

TIME:

November 2015
- January 2016

VENUE:

Gudang Sarinah,
JL.Pancoran Timur II No.2
(Pancoran), Jakarta Selatan

Public Education Program

Public Workshop

Art workshop programs are designed for wide public to learn more about contemporary art. This program will include 15 person as an Art Ambassador which represents their groups/ communities in Jakarta, from youngsters, parents, professionals, activist and media.

TIME:

August, September and
October 2015

VENUE:

Schools, Cultural centers or
landmarks in Jakarta and
Jakarta Biennale 2015's
exhibition venues

Education Tour

Educational Tour will be inviting the Art Ambassador which already acknowledged with basic knowledge about contemporary art and art works in Jakarta Biennale 2015 will have a role as the tour guide.

TIME:

November 2015
- January 2016

VENUE:

Jakarta Biennale 2015's
exhibition venues

Art Educational Book Publishing

Book publishing as part of public educational program on contemporary art to add references for high school teaching materials, due to lack of teaching materials related to the history and current art practice in Indonesia.

In the formulation process of the book, we will involve teachers and art education practitioners to join in a Teacher's Lab from several organization which concern into art education and school in Jakarta, such as Serrum, Lab School, and national school. The contents of the book itself will revolve around such theme: Indonesian Art History, Art Biennale, South East Asian Art, Public Art, etc.

TIME:

March - April 2015
(Teacher's Lab)

August 2015

(Book Publishing)

Road Show

To support the implementation of workshop program in Jakarta Biennale this year, we develop a Road Show program. In Road Show program we will go from one school/ university to another as well as other places around Jakarta, Bogor and Bandung to promote the event as well as educate to public about biennale.

TIME:
August, September and
October 2015

VENUE:
Schools and universities
in Jakarta, Bogor, and
Bandung

Symposium

Symposium programs comprised of researchers, academicians, intellectuals and activists to talk about contemporary art within the biennale's theme. This program will be held four times throughout the duration of the event, and will be open to the public without any admission fee.

TIME:
November - December
2015

VENUE:
Jakarta Biennale 2015's
exhibition venues

KEYNOTE SPEAKER (TENTATIVE):

Stephen Wright

“The Use of Art”

Abdumaliq Simone

“Jakarta and Informality”

Peter Osborne/ David Harvey

“Philosophy and Contemporary Art”

Kuan-Hsing Chen

“Politic and History of Cities in South East Asia”

Publishing

To support these programs, JB 2015 plans to publish the following materials:

a. Exhibition Catalog

Catalog containing the biennale's management, participating artists, exhibited art works and contemporary art discourses based on the biennale's theme.

b. Program Book

A supporting book containing JB 2015's programs as well as general information in Jakarta as the host city of the biennale.





Jakarta Biennale Foundation

YAYASAN JAKARTA BIENNALE

The Jakarta Biennale actually has a long history. Yet, what usually escapes the attention of the general public and art lovers alike is that, even though the event formerly held under the same banner, that being the Jakarta Arts Council, the Jakarta Arts Council itself changes membership every 3 years. As a result, the selection and the presentation of the types of works to be included, besides following the trends of the times, are also influenced by the thinking of the main organizers, the members of Jakarta Arts Council, in particular the Visual Arts Committee.

In order to accomplish observations that are both critical and continuous, Jakarta Biennale needs to become an independent institution that can sustainably work together with diverse parties. This is crucial in order to be more responsive in reading, mapping and managing the meaning of continuously-evolving phenomena. Also important is the responsibility to design expedient strategies that can contribute to a wide range of social and cultural changes. All these form the challenges that Jakarta Biennale must face as an institution. Thus, the last fifteenth edition in 2013 occasion is expected to initiate the formation of such an independent and sustainable institution.

In 2014, Jakarta Biennale Foundation finally stands as an independent institution. It was established by the art practitioners consisting curators and artist, who has experience managing art organisation in Indonesia for many years. Certainly, along with the many attempted breakthroughs, there are many homework that need to be done in order to turn Jakarta Biennale Foundation into an institution that can further contribute to developing critical artistic ideas in society, and make it a common platform that encourage collaboration between various parties within a sustained network.

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BIENNALE
2015

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