MUSEUM RUDANA

Pameran “Apresiasi Senilukis 1997”
Enam Pelukis Kontemporer

Exhibition of “Fine Art Appreciation 1997”
Six Contemporary Artists

Abas Alibasyah
Arnawa N.A.
Budhiana Made
Jafar Islah
Srihadi Soedarsono
Widayat

19 - 31 Agustus 1997
Merayakan 52 Tahun Kemerdekaan Republik Indonesia 17 Agustus 1997
In commemoration of the 52th Indonesia’s Independence Day 17th August 1997

PAMERAN “APRESIASI SENI LUKIS 1997”
ENAM PELUKIS KONTEMPORER
EXHIBITION OF “FINE ART APPRECIATION 1997”
SIX CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS
19 August – 31 August 1997

MUSEUM RUDANA
SPEECH MR. NYOMAN RUDANA
ON THE OCCASION OF
THE OPENING OF THE 1997 FINE ART EXHIBITION
AT THE RUDANA MUSEUM
19 AUGUST 1997

First of all, allow me to praise God Almighty that through his grace we are able to be together here to witness the 1997 Fine Art Exhibition. A feeling of happiness should also be revealed due to the 52nd anniversary of the Proclamation of Independence of the Republic of Indonesia. God has granted good heart, thought and prosperity to the state and nation of Indonesia. Long live the Proclamation of the Indonesian Independence.

Hand in hand with the anniversary of the Indonesian Independence Day, 17th August 1997, from deep of my heart I try organize the 1997 Exhibition of Fine art in which the work of Abas Alibasjah, Sihadi Soedarsono, Wicayat, Made Budhiana, N.A. Arnawa, and Jafar Islah (Kuwait) is exhibited. We have intentionally selected these artists, apart from being very creative and never cease to work, for their achievements and recognitions at the international sphere. The work of these artists have also contributed a specific style to the development and improvements of fine art in Indonesia and have given positive motivation to the younger generations of artists in terms quality, i.e. expression of visual ideas.

This exhibition is expected to widen the insight and inspiration of the artists in their creative work, to improve their appreciation, and to encourage the community's interest in fine art. With the spirit of the Independence, this endeavor is expected to improve the national insight, to strengthen nationalism, to implement the values of the struggle for independence, and to participate in the national development programs.

The participation of Mr. Jafar Islah, a renown artist from Kuwait in this exhibition, is expected to widen the artists' insight on aspects of foreign cultural art (Kuwait's in particular) and to give an opportunity to young artists to make comparisons in their creative activities. Furthermore, the work of the Kuwait artist is hoped to be able to pave the way towards the means of strengthening the friendship among nations, in particular between Indonesians and Kuwait. The possibility of opening a cooperation in the field of culture art between the two countries is there.

I am convinced that a cooperation in cultural art can be realized since the enthusiastic response was shown by the government and the people of Kuwait when I organized a fine art exhibition in Kuwait under the theme Indonesian Arts in Bali in February 1997. This exhibition was organized on the invitation of The Kuwaiti National Council of Culture Art and Letters, and 47 pieces of work of renown Balinese artists were displayed.

The organization of the 1997 Fine Art Exhibition is expected to step up cooperation between Indonesia and Kuwait in culture art and to widely open the opportunities of young artists to display their work internationally, especially in Kuwait.

I do hope that all related institutions will always render their support. To all distinguished guests who have participated for the success of this exhibition, I sincerely extend my gratitude and I apologize for the shortcomings.

Om Santith, Santith, Santith Om.

Ubud, 19 August 1997

[Signature]
KATA SAMBUTAN BAPAK NYOMAN RUDANA
PADA PEMBUKAAN PEMRAN SENI LUKIS '97
DI MUSEUM RUDANA
TANGGAL 19 AGUSTUS

Om Swastyastu,


Mengingati peringatan HUT Proklamasi Kemerdekaan RI tanggal 17 Agustus 1997, rasa syukur dari lubuk hati yang tulus itu kami wujudkan dengan melaksanakan Pameran Seni Lukis '97, menampilkan karya pelukis Abas Alibasjah, Srihadi Soedarsono, Widayat, Made Bhudiana, N.A. Arnawa, serta karya pelukis Jafar Islah dari negara Kuwait. Pelukis-pelukis ini sengaja kami pilih, selain mereka adalah pelukis yang sangat kreatif dan tidak pernah berhenti berkarya, karya-karya mereka telah mampu menembus penggun seni lukis internasional. Lukisan mereka pun telah memberi corak tersendiri bagi perkembangan dan kemajuan seni lukis Indonesia, serta memberi motivasi kepada pelukis-pelukis yang lain dalam meningkatkan kualitas karya, baik dari segi pengungkapan ide maupun secara visual.

Dengan demikian, melalui penyelenggaraan pameran ini diharapkan juga dapat menambah wawasan serta memberi inspirasi kepada seniman dalam nerkreativitas, dan meningkatkan apresiasi serta kecintaan masyarakat terhadap seni lukis. Disamping itu, dengan semangat HUT Kemerdekaan RI, pameran ini diharapkan dapat meningkatkan wawasan nasional, mempertebal rasa kebangsaan dalam mengenali nilai-nilai perjuangan kemerdekaan, mengisi pembangunan nasional.

Ikut serta Jafar Islah, seorang pelukis ternama dari Kuwait dalam Pameran Seni Lukis '97 ini, diharapkan karya-karyanya bisa menambah wawasan tentang seni budaya asing, khususnya seni budaya Kuwait, serta dapat dijadikan perbandingan bagi pelukis kita dalam meningkatkan aktivitas dan kreativitas berkesenian. Lebih dari pada itu, penampilan karya pelukis dari Kuwait ini diharapkan dapat menjadikan wahana mempererat hubungan antar bangsa, khususnya antara Indonesia dengan Kuwait. Tidak menutup kemungkinan, melalui pameran seni lukis semacam ini, juga bisa terjalin kerjasama dalam bidang seni budaya antara Indonesia dengan Kuwait yang juga memiliki seni budaya tinggi.


Dengan demikian, dari penyelenggara Pameran Seni Lukis '97 ini diharapkan semakin meningkat kerjasama di bidang seni budaya antara Indonesia dengan Kuwait, serta dapat membuka lebar peluang bagi para seniman untuk bisa menampilkan karya-karyanya di panggung internasional, khususnya di Kuwait.


Om Santih, Santih, Santih Om.

Ubud, 19 Agustus 1997

Nyoman Rudana
Om Swastyastu,

Praise be given to God Almighty for his blessing that we can be together here to witness the opening ceremony of the 1997 Fine Art Exhibition organized by The Rudana Museum in connection with the commemoration of the celebration on the 52nd Independence Day of the Republic of Indonesia. I take this opportunity to wish a long live on the celebration of the Proclamation of the Indonesian Independence.

I sincerely welcome the organization of the 1997 Fine Art Exhibition which is associated with the anniversary celebration of Republic of Indonesia’s Independence, 17 August 1997. This exhibition has a significant meaning in the continuation of the values of the struggle for independence. Through the art and cultural activities we continuously try to realized the idealised Indonesians who are materially and spiritually prosperous without losing cultural identity.

Now a days it has started to be felt that the expressions of values in life through fine art work have an important role in that they become one of the information media and measures for correction of the daily conduct. Especially with the advent of the globalization era, we need to deeply introspect and reflect on the nature and value of being independence; hence, improvements achieved will not deviate from the nation’s identity.

The exhibition which is opened today, apart from exhibiting the work of Indonesian artists, i.e. Abas Alibasjah, Srihadi Soedarsono, Widayat, Made Bhudiana, and N.A. Arnawa, the presence Indonesia. The exhibition is also, at the same time, expected to become an arena for exchanges of inter-nations’ art and cultural aspects, particularly those of Indonesia and Kuwait which will hopefully lead towards a cooperation in culture art.

I do hope that this exhibition is capable to stimulate and encourage appreciation and love of the community toward fine art within the framework of succeeding the national development programs.

I would like to once again congratulate and wish all the best and success.

Om Santih, Santih, Santih Om.

Denpasar, 19 August 1997
The Governor of the Province of Bali

Ida Bagus Oka
Om Swastyastu,

Puji syukur kita panjatkan ke hadapan Tuhan Yang Maha Esa, atas wara nugraha-Nya kita dapat bersama-sama dengan selamat mengikuti acara pembukaan Pameran Seni Lukis '97 yang diselenggarakan oleh Museum Rudana, dalam rangka menyambut dan memeriahkan HUT Kemerdekaan RI ke-52. Pada kesempatan ini, terlebih dahulu saya mengucapkan Dirgahayu HUT Proklamasi Kemerdekaan RI.


Dewasa ini telah mulai dirasakan bahwa pengungkapan nilai-nilai kehidupan dalam bentuk karya seni lukis mempunyai peranan yang sangat penting sebagai salah satu media informasi dan koreksi-koreksi tingkah laku dalam kehidupan sehari-hari. Terlebih menjelang kita memasuki era globalisasi, kita patut terus mawas diri dan merenungkan secara mendalam hakekat dan nilai-nilai kemerdekaan itu sendiri, sehingga kemajuan yang dicapai tidak menyimpang dari jati diri bangsa Indonesia.

Pameran yang dibuka hari ini, selain menampilkan karya pelukis Indonesia; Abas Alibasjah, Srihardi Soedarsono, Widayat, Made Budhiana, N.A. Arnawa, namun juga karya pelukis Jafar Islah dari Negara Kuwait, diharapkan dapat menambah kemajuan seni lukis di tanah air. Disamping itu, pameran ini sekaligus bisa menjadi ajang-saling memperkenalkan seni budaya bangsa, khususnya antara Indonesia dengan Kuwait, yang nantinya bisa diwujudkan dengan meningkatkan kerjasama di bidang seni budaya.

 Mudah-mudahan pameran seni lukis ini mampu menggugah dan mendorong meningkatnya apresiasi serta kecintaan masyarakat terhadap seni lukis dalam menyukseskan Pembangunan Nasional.

Sekali lagi, saya mengucapkan selamat dan semoga sukses.

Om Santih, Santih, Santih Om.

Denpasar, 19 Agustus 1997
Gubernur Kepala Daerah Tingkat I Bali

[Signature]  
Ida Bagus Oka
SPEECH BY MADAME ATIE W. DOJONEGORO
ON THE OCCASION OF
THE OPENING OF FINE ART APPRECIATION EXHIBITION
AT THE RUDANA MUSEUM
19 AUGUST 1997

As religious citizen, first of all, let us offer our prayers to God Almighty for His blessing that we are able to be together here to witness the Fine Art Appreciation Exhibition organized by The Rudana Museum in relation to the celebration of the Proclamation Day of Independence of the Republic Indonesia. I offer my sincere appreciation to Mr. I Nyoman Rudana who has repeatedly organized such exhibition, both at home and overseas.

This exhibition has a deep meaning with regard to the success of the national development programs, particularly in the area of art and culture. I, therefore, enthusiastically welcome this exhibition which is associated with the 52nd anniversary of the Republic's Independence. This historic day should be fulfilled with positive contributions for the independence itself.

The 1997 Fine Art Exhibition, which is organized by the Rudana Museum, is a very positive step towards nurturing the nation's art and culture, particularly in promoting the atmosphere of competitiveness among the younger generations of local fine art artists so that they can be of the same level as their counterparts overseas. Apart from this, the exhibition is expected to be able to improve the level of appreciation and love the community towards the nation's work of fine art and aspect of culture.

The selection of the fine art work of Abas Alibasjah, Srihadi Soedarsono, Made Budhiana, N.A. Arnawa, Widayat and Jafar Islah (from Kuwait) for this exhibition has strengthened the purpose and objective of the endeavor. This group of artists has achieved regional, national and international recognitions. And thus, this is a reflection that Indonesian artists have displayed their seriousness in their work, hence they can be paralleled with those the class ones. The activities of the group should always be nurtured and cherished through various channels, and one of them is through exhibitions such the one now being organized by Mr. Nyoman Rudana.

I do hope that the ways paved by this artists will be followed by other artists, so that the Indonesian work of fine art will be able to update to the level of the world class developments in fine art. To the artists participating this exhibition I wish you all the best and success. The same goes to Mr. Nyoman Rudana, with the hope that this endeavor will contribute to the lively developments of Indonesian fine art.

Jakarta, 19th August 1997

Atie W. Djojonegoro
SAMBUTAN IBU ATIE WARIDIAN DJOJONEGORO
PADA PEMBUKAAN PAMERAN APRESIASI SENI LUKIS ’97
DI MUSEUM RUDANA
TANGGAL 19 AGUSTUS 1997


Pameran lukisan ini mempunyai arti yang sangat penting dalam rangka menyukseskan Pembangunan Nasional, khususnya pembangunan bidang seni dan budaya. Oleh karena itu, saya menyambut gembira dilaksanakannya pameran Seni Lukis ’97 ini yang dikaitkan dengan perayaan HUT Proklamasi Kemerdekaan RI ke-52, mengingat hari yang bersejarah bagi Bangsa Indonesia ini memang harus terus diisi dengan usaha-usaha yang berguna dan sesuai dengan cita-cita kemerdekaan itu sendiri.

Pameran Seni Lukis ’97 yang dilaksanakan Museum Rudana ini merupakan langkah yang luhur dalam upaya terus menumbuhsuburkan seni budaya bangsa, khususnya menciptakan iklim berkesenian yang semakin kompetitif konstruktif di bidang seni lukis, sehingga pelukis-pelukis Indonesia terus mampu berkarya sejajar dengan pelukis-pelukis dunia. Di samping itu, pameran ini juga mampu meningkatkan apresiasi serta menumbuhkembangkan kecintaan masyarakat terhadap seni lukis khususnya dan seni budaya bangsa umumnya.


Jakarta, 19 Agustus 1997

Atie W. Djojonegoro
KUWAIT AND INDONESIA:
A MEETING OF SENSITIVITIES.

What is a Museum? It is the receptacle of a people’s cultural heritage. It is a place where a society can select, create, and organise the image of itself. It is a place to present this image, this idea of the past and the vision of things to come, to visitors from home and abroad. A museum therefore becomes an important instrument in the building of national consciousness.

The Museum Rudana serves just such a purpose. Set up at the private initiative of a Balinese art patron, Nyoman Rudana, this museum has as its primary function, since its opening in 1995, the preservation and promotion of Indonesian art, and in particular the art of the island of Bali. Its collection comprises paintings of many styles and regional origins, illustrating the creative spirit of Indonesia. Thousands of visitors are welcome each year at the museum.

The Museum Rudana is now broadening its range of activities beyond the national framework. It has chosen to take an active part in the process of intercultural communication. After establishing contacts with Kuwait, and holding an exhibition in that country, the Museum is presently exhibiting, from the 19th to the 31st of August, the works of Indonesian and Kuwaiti artists of repute. This exhibition can be construed as a demonstration of the increased multi-polarity of the post-modern world. The exchanges are no longer limited to a North-South axis, they are also increasingly organised along a South-South basis. The network of cultural contacts and influences is therefore becoming increasingly richer and more complex. Indonesian art is gaining a foothold in Kuwait, and Kuwaiti art in Indonesia.

The Kuwaiti artist featured in this exhibition is Jafar Islah, one of the most creative artists of his country. On the Indonesian side, three renowned masters of Indonesian modern art were selected; Srihadi Soedarsono, Widayat and Abas Alibasyah. Two younger Balinese artists were added to this trio: Budhiana and Amawa.

JAFAR ISLAH (1946). Kuwaiti art was born from the meeting of Arabo-Islamic tradition and Western modern Art. Arabo-Islamic art is traditionally bereft of human representation, has evolved a sophisticated system of decorative symbolism which is without comparison in the rest of the world. On the other hand, modern Western art has led a renewal of techniques and themes, in the name of the artist’s right to question reality.

Jafar Islah’s work blends the abstract symbolism of Middle-Eastern art and the expressive freedom of the West. After receiving his art education at the University of California, where he studied with Kitaj, the artist has grown into one of his country’s most important artist. He has exhibited throughout the Middle-East and Europe, including a retrospective at the Kuwait National Museum (1981) and one man show at Sala d’armi in Palazzo vecchio, Florence (1992). His commissions comprise many murals in Kuwait, a series of commemorative stamps for the Gulf War and a “Kuwait Thanks The World” marble sculpture erected at Seville (Spain) for the Expo ‘92. At the Museum Rudana, Jafar Islah presents a portfolio of screen prints on the theme of sea and landscapes and some new paintings done while visiting Bali. In his print works, nature is synthesized into a succession of flat-colored patterns distributed on the canvas constructed harmoniously in a very simple but clear visual language. And in his most recent painting “Ubud Lanscape” the stillness evokes the spirit of Ubud as well as captures its peaceful surroundings. Thus with very few visual elements less becomes more.
WIDAYAT (1923), a former student and teacher at the Academy of Fine Arts in Yogyakarta, is considered with Srihadi Soedarsono as one of the two great masters of Indonesian modern art. Painting in the naturalist manner in the 50's, he later evolved the magical naïve manner which has become his trade mark. The holder of national awards, he participates in all the principal artistic events of the country. He also has his own museum: Museum Haji Widayat. Unlike many painters of his generation, who deal with the harshness of social reality in an expressionist manner, Widayat presents us with a world of legend and fairy stories, a refuge from everyday life. The dreamlike gentleness of this world, allied to a mosaic-like technique, endears him to the main collectors in the country.

SRIHADI SOEDARsono (1931). Arguably one of the foremost painter of the country, Srihadi Soedarsono is also its richest colorist. He started his career at an early age as an officer of the News Service of the Indonesian Army. Sent to record the talks of Kaliurang (1947) between the Indonesians and the Dutch, on this occasion he made sketches of the main politicians of his time. After independence he registered at the Art Department of the Institute of Technology of Bandung and soon began to draw attention and critiques. Appointed as a lecturer, he was sent to the United States where he took a master's degree before returning to Indonesia. His work has shown a slow but constant evolution towards a search of the visual, as well as the thematic, essence of things. His horizons on the sea and boats aspire towards the dissolution of the objects - the boats - into the color of the sand on one side, and of the sea and horizon on the other. In his more recent works he tries to grasp the subtle equilibrium between movement and color which one finds in Balinese painting. He has an uncanny ability to enhance any color by superimposing different hues of the same color on top of each other. His work is so much in demand that it is now rare to have a Srihadi work on exhibition such as this.

ABAS ALIBASYAH (1928) is an historical figure of the modern Indonesian art movement, whose career spans the whole post-independence period. After studying at the Academy of Fine Arts in Yogyakarta, he became the director of this institution while pursuing a prolific career. Claire Holt writes that in 1955, he was already making "well-composed and expressive landscapes." He occupied numerous official positions in the Department of Culture and the Directorate of Films and is the holder of several national painting awards. Four of the painters (Budhiana, Widayat, Srihadi and Abas Alibasyah) were selected to participate in the Indonesia - American Culture Exchange Exhibition (KIAS) in 1991. He is known for his landscapes and still-lifes broken down after the cubist fashion.

BUDHIANA. A member of the new generation of modern Balinese artists, Budhiana has made a place for himself in the Indonesian art-world by the sensitive touch of his pen and color. He likes to suggest rather than describe, using here a few spare lines to conjure up a character and there a short brush strokes to create and atmosphere. He is up and coming artist.

ARNAWA, NGURAH ARYA (1950). Educated at the art department of the University of in Denpasar, Arnawa remains obsessed by his island's culture. His paintings are usually recompositions, based on a modern visual logic of narrative reliefs such as one often sees in Bali. His art is therefore an invitation to cultural continuity.
JAFAR ISLAH

1946  Born in Kuwait
1945  Studied at Cranbrook School, Michigan.
1966/70  B.A. University of California at Berkeley, studied with R.B. Kitaj, Jerry Ballatine and Jim Melchert.
1971  A visiting student at Royal Academy of Fine Arts Copenhagen, Denmark.
1972  Returned to Kuwait as an art director for the firm of Y.A. Alghanim and Sons, W.I.L.
      Art Council exhibition, one-man show at Al-Dhahiya Gallery.
      One-man show at gallery Herve Odermat, Paris
1979  One-man graphic show at the French Cultural Hall, Kuwait.
      Won first prize for Ministers' Complex Monument Competition, Kuwait.
1981-84  Retrospective at the Kuwait national museum. Curator and participating Artist - Cairo Biennale - Egypt,
      2nd Prize in Painting, 1st Cairo Biennale.
1985  Wall of peace a 3-ton marble sculpture on the sea front Al-SHIEB, Kuwait.
      First Prize - Safat Square Mural Competition, Kuwait.
      Participated in the international contemporary art exhibition and conference in DELPHI - Greece.
1988  Executed several large murals woven in wool (200 sq. m) commissioned by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development for the multipurpose hall of the new headquarters.
      Designed several commemorative stamps such as... 191 KUWAIT'S LIBERATION sheetlets (42 stamps), KUWAIT THANKS THE WORLD, DESSERT STORM AND P.O.W's stamps.
      One-man exhibition at the Egyptian Academy in Rome.
      Kuwait sculpture on the sea front near the Kuwait towers, donated by Alashli bank.
1992  Kuwait Thanks the Worlds, a 22-ton marble sculpture gifted by the Government of Kuwait to Secilla,
      Spain - Expo'92 and erected in the garden of the oldest monastery (Jardin de Cartuja - Sevilla), near
      the Royal pavilion permanently.
      One man exhibition in Florence - Italy in Sala d'armi Palazzo vecchio.
1993  A new set of five posters for Kuwait Airways.
1994  Inaugration of sculpture "NOTHING IS LIKE FREEDOM" British Embassy, Kuwait.
1995  Contemporary Art of the Nonaligned countries - Jakarta.
Above: 'Ubud Landscape', 1997. Acrylic on canvas, 140 x 230 cm
Facing Pages: "The Storm is Not Over Yet... Noah Heared a Whisper", 1997.
Acrylic on canvas Triptych, 230 x 420 cm
WIDAYAT

1922  Born at Kutoarjo, Central Java
1950-54  Studied at the Indonesian Academy of Art, ASRI Yogyakarta
1952  Founded the Young Indonesian Painters Association together with G. Sidharta, Yogyakarta.
1954  Young Indonesian Painters' Exhibition in Jakarta
1957  Exhibition of ASRI and the Yogy Painters.
1962  Exhibition at Toyota Building Gallery, Nagoya, Japan.
1962  Exhibition in Tokyo, Japan
1963  Exhibition at Prasta Pandawa Art Gallery, Yogyakarta.
1969  Exhibition at Seni Sono Gallery, Yogyakarta
1970  Indonesian Art Exhibition at Jakarta Art Centre, Jakarta
1972  Indonesian Art Exhibition at Jakarta Art Centre, Jakarta
1973  Mostra Internazionale di Xilografia Contemporanea, Galleria dell'Accademia Logetta Lombardesca Revenna.
1974  Mobile Asean Exhibition, Jakarta
1974  Indonesian Art Exhibition at Jakarta Art Centre, Jakarta
1975  Batik Art Exhibition, Hotel Indonesia, Jakarta
1975  Sanggar Dewata Indonesia Exhibition, Denpasar, Bali
1976  100 years of Indonesian Painting at Balai Seni Rupa, Jakarta
1978  Third Indonesian Art Exhibition at Jakarta Art Centre, Jakarta
1979  Asian Art Show, Tokyo, Japan
1980  Singapore Festival of Arts 1980, Singapore
1980  "Wisma Seni Nasional" Exhibition, Jakarta
1980  Indonesian Islamic Calligraphy Exhibition
1981  Asian Art Exhibition, Dacca, Bangladesh
1981  Asean Exhibition of Painting, Graphic Arts and Photographs, Jakarta
1981  The first Exhibition of Asian Art, Bahrain
1981  Art Teachers Painting Exhibition in Jakarta
1982  Fifth Indonesian Art Exhibition at Jakarta Art Centre, Jakarta
1982  Asean Exhibition of Painting and Photographs
1983  Exhibition of Islamic Calligraphy at Padang, West Sumatra
1983  Painting and Sculpture Exhibition in Yogyakarta
1983  One man Show at Alliance Francaise Gallery in Yogyakarta
1984  Asean Exhibition of Painting and Photographs throughout the Asean countries
1985  One man show at Jakarta Art Centre, Jakarta
1984  up to now teaching at the ASRI and continued lecturing at the Institute of Art, Faculty of Fine Art and Design, Yogyakarta.