

Visible Soul

Gallery Introduction

The artist and the works are inseparable, that's what I feel as I connect Zet —Abdi Setiawan's nickname— with his works. Friends often playfully apply Soedjojono's catch-phrase "Visible Soul" in giving remarks on Zet's works. That implies his strong point in the sense that in his case the character of the artist is faithfully reflected in the works.

I first knew Zet through his wooden life-size sculptures dressed in real human dresses. They were displayed for an exhibition in a setting that evoked the image of a marginal community in an urban center.

Some one and a half years ago I made an offer to Zet for a solo exhibition at Nadi Gallery. Since then, almost once a month I visited his studio in Jogjakarta. And almost in every visit I witnessed Zet's seriousness and enthusiasm in preparing this solo exhibition.

All the works on this exhibition use teak wood as the material, and some of them are also given in fiber and aluminum editions.

I thank Abdi 'Zet' Setiawan for his hard work and enthusiasm that has led to these highly remarkable works, and Enin Supriyanto the curator for his cooperation. I am also thankful to my good friend Butet Kertaredjasa for his willingness to open the exhibition with a piece of his one-man-play.

Biantoro Santoso