

## **By Way of Introduction: About Handiwirman**

Handiwirman is a 'naturally craftsman-gadget artist'. That's how some fellows artists call him. I feel such a label of him is actually precise and does not reduce his value as an artist, in fact it just strengthens the image.

Up to now, Handiwirman is considered an expert in assisting some art projects for several artists, especially dealing with assembling, constructing and operating mechanical and electrical tools, etc. I often see him working, either in his own home-studio or Agus Suwage's studio in Yogyakarta. He looks to be highly-skilled in working with various materials, from clothes to iron, mechanical to electrical, painting to installation.

Now, Handiwirman is present in a solo exhibition at Nady Gallery, becoming a craftsman for his own works. We will see a specific sensibility of Handiwirman, something simple, undersized turn to become interesting in his works: Air conditioner, sofa, human hair, cotton, clay and his three-dimensional works are the object for his paintings.

From my point of view, Handiwirman has passed four requirements as an artist: Technical mastery, ability to create specific and unique aesthetic language, creativity, intelligence and inner-thought experience, to quote Simon Tan's words at 'Collectors Talk' on the occasion of Olympics Art Exhibition August 2004 at Pakubuwono Residence, Jakarta.

I would like to extend my gratitude especially to Handiwirman as the artist; Agung Hujatnikajennong as exhibition curator and Simon Tan who is willing to officiate this exhibition and PT. Multi Bintang.

**Biantoro Santoso**