

THE FOUNTAIN OF LAMNETH PREVIEW – 20 APRIL 2012, 7PM ONWARDS



SYAGINI RATNAWULAN

Syagini Ratnawulan uses furniture, common household utensils, and a variety of different mediums in her works. In explaining the usage of such materials in her works, Syagini quotes the French thinker Voltaire, "History is nothing but a pack of tricks that we play upon the date." Likewise, by inserting the trickery of art into old, used historical objects, Syagini reconfigures these objects in an attempt to guide people through the deception and intrigue common to everyday life.

Syagini Ratnawulan completed her formative training in Graphic Design at the Institute Teknologi Bandung (ITB) and subsequently completed her MA in Cultural Studies at the Goldsmiths College, University of London. She has exhibited her works around Indonesia, Tokyo and New Zealand.

In the Fountain of Lament, Syagini's works will be shown as a series of 3 drawings. *No One on the Bridge* is seen as the fragility of life and the inexistence of the afterlife. The world suffers from a sense of meaninglessness and her work presents how she intends to live life and wade through the conditions that appear to be against our favour

Gajah Gallery (Singapore) presents The Fountain of Lamneth – an art exhibition curated by Aminudin Siregar featuring Andry Mochamad, Bagus A. Pandega, Dita Gambiro, Henrycus Napitsunargo, Prilla Tania, R.E Hartanto and Syagini Ratnawulan from Bandung, Indonesia

These artists explore experimental methodologies in expressing and showcasing art. The lyrics and architectural form of the song -The Fountain of Lamneth by rock music group Rush, from the album Caress of Steel 1975 are also freely interpreted. The Fountain of Lamneth is often interpreted as a journey of a person, faced with various obstacles throughout his life; starting from his childhood till death.

Through this project, the themes of The Fountain of Lamneth are borrowed as analogies to observe a current inclination in Contemporary Indonesian art practice that leads to the excavation of ethereal ideas such as darkness, absurdity, mysticism, immortality, illusionary truth, the conscious mind.

The artists involved in this project have shown mature conceptions through their works and how they relate to the song. Each artist elaborates on a section from the main song:

Andry Mochamad – *Didacts and Narpets*

Bagus A. Pandega – *In the Valley*

Dita Gambiro – *Panacea*

Henrycus Napitsunargo – *Bacchus Plateua*

Prilla Tania – *The Fountain*

Syagini Ratnawulan – *No One at the Bridge*

RE Hartanto – Overall Impression of the *Fountain of Lamneth*

The exhibition will be held at Gajah Gallery from the 21 April – 25 May 2012.

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