

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JOY/FEAR

14 NOVEMBER 2015 – 10 JANUARY 2016

Solo exhibition by Heri Dono

Curated by Hermanto Soerjanto

The title of Heri Dono's solo exhibition at Mizuma Gallery, Singapore, **JOY/FEAR**, refers to the mixed and contradictory feelings one might feel while looking at Heri Dono's artworks. Since the 80's, his works have been loaded with political criticisms. This is because he himself is a political victim of the New Order regime in Indonesia. Heri Dono's father was a high ranking member of the Old Order's army. When the Old Order lost its power and got replaced by the New Order under President Soeharto, Heri Dono and his family were in big trouble. Heri Dono's political critiques originated from a genuine feeling of hatred, it was not as a form of an intellectual political movement.

In his works, he often employ monstrous and scary *wayang*-like figures. In a glance, these figures might feel scary, but when we look at the details of the works, we find things that are humorous and that will make us smile. These monstrous, scary *wayang*-like figures are not only the analogy of his political criticism, but in many occasions, they are also the parody of the political situation that we are facing. This is a true reflection of Heri Dono's personality: a critical thinking person of high intellect, who looks at life with a great sense of humor and a big smile.

About the Artist

Heri Dono (b. Jakarta, 1960) studied at the Indonesian Art Institute (*Institut Seni Indonesia*) in Yogyakarta, where he won the Prize for the Best Painting in 1981 and in 1985. He is the recipient of the Prince Claus Award for Culture and Development (1998), the Unesco Prize (2000), and the Anugerah Adhikarya Rupa (Arts Award) from the Indonesian Government (2014). To date, Heri Dono has joined more than 270 exhibitions, including 27 international biennales, among others the 56th Venice Biennale (2015); 4th Guangzhou Triennial (2011); Gwangju Biennale (2006 and 1995); 7th Sharjah International Biennial (2005); Jakarta's CP Biennale (2005); 3rd Taipei Biennial (2004); Zone of Urgency (Z.O.U.) curated by Hou Hanrou at the 50th Venice Biennale (2003); Asia Pacific Triennale (2002 and 1993); Yokohama Triennale (2001); 7th Havana Biennial (2000); Shanghai Biennale (2000); 10th Sydney Biennale (1996); Sao Paulo Biennial (2004 and 1996). Heri Dono lives and works in Jakarta and Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

Opening Reception

Saturday, 14 November 2015, 6-9PM

The artist and the curator will be present

Artist Talk

Saturday, 14 November 2015, 5-6PM

Exhibition Dates

14 November 2015 – 10 January 2016

Gallery Profile

Mizuma Gallery was established in Singapore's new art cluster Gillman Barracks in September 2012 by director Suelo Mizuma. The gallery was established in 1994 in Tokyo, and since its opening in Singapore, aims for the promotion of Japanese artists in the region as well as the introduction of new and promising young talents from South East Asia to the international art scene. The gallery creates a new vector of dialogue within Asia, by exchanging art projects between East Asia and South East Asia.

Mizuma Gallery has featured the works of Japanese artists including Aida Makoto, Amano Yoshitaka, Tenmyouya Hisashi, and Yamaguchi Akira. Moreover it has showcased the work of renown East Asian artists such as Jun Nguyen-Hatsushiba, Ai Weiwei, He Yunchang, Li Mingzhu, Xia Xing, and Zhao Zhao. The gallery also organises exhibitions featuring the creations of Indonesia's forerunner artists including Heri Dono, Nasirun, Made Wianta, Indieguerillas, Albert Yonathan Setyawan, and Angki Purbandono. Mizuma Gallery also participates yearly in Art Stage Singapore and Art Basel Hong Kong.

About Gillman Barracks

Gillman Barracks (GB) is Asia's up-and-coming destination for contemporary art. It is distinguished as a vibrant centre in Asia for the creation, exhibition and discussion of contemporary art. Named after the late British general Sir Webb Gillman, GB is now home to 11 international art galleries, three restaurants, as well as the NTU Centre for Contemporary Art (CCA) Singapore. For more information, please visit www.gillmanbarracks.com



Contact

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Hours: Tue-Sat 11-7 Sun 11-6

Closed on Mondays & Public Holidays



Heri Dono



War or Peace
2008
acrylic on canvas
200 x 160 cm

© Heri Dono,
Courtesy of Mizuma Gallery

Heri Dono



The Three Donosaurus
2013
mixed media installation
variable dimension

© Heri Dono,
Courtesy of Mizuma Gallery

Heri Dono



Salto Mortale
2011
acrylic on canvas
200 x 300 cm

© Heri Dono,
Courtesy of Mizuma Gallery