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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Iwan Effendi

*Face to Face*

8 June – 7 July 2019

Opening Reception: Saturday, 8 June, 4pm – 7pm, with a performance by Iwan Effendi and Ria Tri Sulistyani



Mizuma Gallery is pleased to announce *Face to Face*, a solo exhibition by Indonesian artist, Iwan Effendi.

As the co-Founder and co-Artistic Director of Yogyakarta's Papermoon Puppet Theatre, Iwan Effendi also is also a visual artist himself, bringing puppetry characters to life with their individual narratives and emotions. *Face to Face* will be the artist's second solo exhibition in Singapore, and will feature a series of new drawings and puppet sculptures.

Visitors will be welcomed into the exhibition space with many the faces that spread across the space, appearing in an almost unemotional and reserved state. They look to be waiting upon its puppeteer or viewer to endow their empty shells with layers of thought, speech, and emotions. The myriad of imaginative possibilities gives room for his characters to project and express their narratives to its viewers.



The exhibition opens with a performance by Iwan Effendi and Ria Tri Sulistyani on Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2019. For one night only, audience members are invited to witness these master puppeteers take to stage with their puppet characters, breathing life into their still bodies to explore the many possibilities of communicating and interacting with the audience and the gallery space. Performance timing/s are to be confirmed.

#### About the Artist



Iwan Effendi (b. 1979, Indonesia) studied at the Department of Visual Art in Indonesia Institute of the Arts, Yogyakarta, Indonesia in 2004. Iwan and his wife, Ria Tri Sulistyani, founded the Papermoon Puppet Theatre in April 2006. His solo exhibition's to date include *Lunang* at Lir Space, Yogyakarta, Indonesia (2013); *Eye of the Messenger* at Yavuz Gallery, Singapore (2011); and *Two Shoes for Dancing* at Valentine Willie Fine Art (Project Room), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (2009). He has also participated in group exhibitions in Bulgaria, Singapore, Australia, The Netherlands, Philippines, France, Japan, United States, and Mexico. He has undertaken residencies with the Museum of Art in Kōchi, Japan (2015); Federation Square, Melbourne, Australia (2014); and a six-month long residency with Asian Cultural Council in New York, USA (2009-10) researching on puppetry, visual, and performance arts. Iwan Effendi lives and works in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

## About Mizuma Gallery

Executive Director Sueo Mizuma established Mizuma Art Gallery in Tokyo in 1994. Since its opening in Gillman Barracks, Singapore in 2012, the gallery aims for the promotion of East Asian artists in the region as well as the introduction of Southeast Asian artists to the international art scene. In 2014, the artist residency space “Rumah Kijang Mizuma” opened in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, to create a new platform for dialogue by supporting exchanges between East Asia and Southeast Asia.

## About Gillman Barracks

Set in a former military barracks dating back to 1936 and surrounded by lush tropical greenery, the Gillman Barracks visual arts cluster was launched in September 2012. Gillman Barracks’ vision is to be Asia’s destination for the presentation and discussion of international and Southeast Asian art. Today, Gillman Barracks is a place for art lovers, art collectors, and those curious about art. The cluster is a focal point of Singapore’s arts landscape, and anchors the development of visual art in the region and beyond.

For more information: [www.gillmanbarracks.com](http://www.gillmanbarracks.com)

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Gallery hours:  
Tue - Sat: 11am - 7pm  
Sun: 11am - 6pm  
Closed on Mondays &  
Public Holidays

[www.mizuma.sg](http://www.mizuma.sg)  
[www.mizuma.shop](http://www.mizuma.shop)  
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Iwan Effendi  
*Daydreaming face* series (2019)  
pencil and charcoal on paper  
61 x 41 cm  
© Iwan Effendi, courtesy of Mizuma Gallery

Iwan Effendi  
*The Visitor* series (2019)  
bamboo, wood, cloth, papier-mâché, aluminium  
dimensions variable  
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