

Beneath the Layers

2 March – 2 April 2023

- Asmo Adji
- Irfan Hendrian
- Iwan Effendi
- Widi Pangestu
- Hyun Jung Ahn
- Ji Hyun Park

BAIK ART presents Beneath the Layers, an exhibition gathering innovative explorations and approaches to conventional art-making methods and materials.

Artistic development is rarely separated from material experimentations. Paste newspaper scraps on a painting to create a mixed media work. Take the canvas out of the frame and hang it on the wall to become a sculptural piece. Gather objects from what's near and available to create an installation or assemblage. These artists embrace practices that blur lines between painting and sculpture, two and three-dimensional works. As in performance, here the body (of the object) is the medium.

Through these methods, the artists are interpreting the intangible power that controls the social structure, traces of which can be found in objects. They are rethinking their relationship with material by distorting the assumed characteristics of industrially produced surfaces. At the same time, they are documenting conversations between humans and nature, such as re-processing paper rather than creating more waste, transforming a live performance onto a flat surface through mixed media approach, recording daily life in a painting on sewn canvas and linen, and resurrecting the lives of 'domusongs' or paper scraps that have served their initial purpose.

The materials used are easily obtained, objects that can be found in daily life. These simple, seemingly mundane materials are nonetheless significant in the hands of these artists. Their artistic experimentations have developed alongside the expansion of technology access and the internet, which allow artists to access wider, more diverse methods and materials, as well as apply multidisciplinary approaches. As some of their peers explored the endless possibilities of the new through media art, these artists went back to delve deeper to the physical ways of making with paint, canvas, paper, and found objects. We invite viewers to investigate and imagine the stories that lie beneath each layer.

Artist Profile



Asmo Adji (b. 1995, Jakarta, Indonesia) is a self-taught artist who mainly works on painting and sculpture. Born and grow up in a humble environment, Asmo started his artistic practice by sketching the sceneries around him, turning them into expressive lines on paper. He then reinterprets those sketches into three-dimensional format, combining new materials and found objects. Asmo has participated in various exhibition in Indonesia, such as *Urban Harmoni* Drawing Exhibition, Talenta Pop Gelley, Plaza Indonesia (2022), *Membangkit Ulang Basoeki Abdullah*, Museum Basoeki Abdullah (2021), *30x30 Art for the Earth*, *Thee Huis Gallery*, *Taman Budaya Jawa Barat*, Bandung (2020). Asmo was one of the finalists of the 7th Bandung Contemporary Art Awards.



Irfan Hendrian (b. 1987, Ohio) is an artist, industrial printmaker and graphic designer known for his formal explorations in abstraction. Working mainly with paper, his interest is in the Bauhaus approach and method: to reduce, subtract and simplify everything to its most sublime, essential and substantial state. Hendrian values efficient, logical and utilitarian modes of thinking and acting which are reflected directly in his work. Collage provides methodology that maintains Hendrian's purist approach to materials, utilizing paper as raw material with sculptural capabilities. Rather than creating images, he believes that through composing visual arrangement of objects, a particular aesthetic value emerges. Currently based in Bandung, Indonesia and represented by Sullivan+Strumpf.



Iwan Effendi (b. 1979, Yogyakarta, Indonesia) studied at the Department of Visual Art in Indonesia Institute of the Arts, Yogyakarta, Indonesia from 2002 to 2004. In April 2006, Efendi and his spouse, Ria Tri Sulistyani, founded the Papermoon Puppet Theatre, and in 2020, he founded Ing Printmaking Studio. His solo exhibitions to date include *DRAWING withdrawing* (2020) and *Face to Face* (2019) at Mizuma Gallery, Singapore; *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, USA, and Mexico. He has undertaken residencies with the Museum of Art in Kōchi, Japan (2015); Federation Square, Melbourne, Australia (2014); and Asian Cultural Council in New York, USA (2009-10) researching on puppetry, visual, and performance arts. Efendi lives and works in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.



Widi Pangestu (b. 1993, Bandung, Indonesia) graduated with a Bachelor in Fine Arts (Painting) from the Indonesia Institute of Arts (ISI), Yogyakarta, Indonesia in 2021. Mainly working with the paper medium, Widi's experimentations take place inside the spectrum of material-crafting, focusing on the image-making, object-making, and the details of the experimentation process as a work of artistic research. It explores the possibilities in material-crafting through different traditional (manual) preferences, while colliding them with rhetorical experiences encountered during the process. Widi works are then presented to emphasise how human relations are carried out through the transformation of paper materials. The biomorphic quality in the work and the fragility it presents are a form of intersection between organic principles and the practice of an industrial society. His notable exhibitions include Making Sense of Sense Making at Ace House, Yogyakarta, Indonesia (2021); Everything in Between at Indonesia Contemporary Art Network (ICAN), Yogyakarta, Indonesia (2017), among others. Widi was a Finalist in the 39th UOB Painting of the Year competition in 2019. Widi Pangestu lives and works in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.



Hyun Jung Ahn is a Brooklyn and Seoul-based multidisciplinary artist from Seoul, South Korea. Through her work, she investigates enigmatic abstract forms, which she references as "shapes of mind." She begins by drawing from her visual diary, which captures feelings, personal connections, and emotional states of being. She then translates these notions into minimalistic drawing, painting, and sculpture. Ahn was selected as the 'Emerging Young Artist' at La Mer Gallery, Seoul, South Korea, and was the winner of the Emerging Art Award at Baditto Art, Tuscany, Italy. She has attended residencies including Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, VT, MASS MoCA, North Adams, MA, and Trestle Art Space, Brooklyn, NY. Ahn Graduated from Duk-Sung Women's University, Seoul (in 2010 B.F.A and 2013 M.F.A) and received her second M.F.A in painting and drawing from Pratt Institute and currently lives and works in Brooklyn.



Jihyun Park (b. 1970, South Korea) holds an MFA in Fine Arts from the School of Visual Arts, New York (2002), as well as an MFA and BFA in Sculpture from Hong-ik University, Seoul (1996, 1994). Inspired by scenes of ordinary life and routines, Park observes that all objects carry with them their own stories and associations built up over time, space, language, and culture. After removing and reinventing their conventional meanings, functions, and purposes, Park tries to express these different stories from his viewpoint by emphasizing different contexts of culture, region, and space: allowing new perspectives to fill the space. Park has exhibited extensively in South Korea, most notably in *New Ways of Living for []*, Suwon Museum of Art, Suwon (2021); *'Thomson#'*, Shang-up Gallery, Seoul (2020), *Urban Break Art Asia*, Koex, Seoul (2020), *Beyond and Expansion*, Atelier Aki, Seoul (2019); and *Verbal Fun*, Lig Art Space, Seoul (2016).