

**BAIK ART JAKARTA** **JL. SEKOLAH DUTA V NO.35, JAKARTA, 12310**

# A NEVER ENDING TALE

**ADAM  
GEORGE  
MICHAEL  
NANAN  
NOVO  
SUANJAYA** **HANDLER  
MORTON-CLARK  
SCOGGINS  
KANG**

**KENCUT**

**VIP 20.07.2023** **OPENING 6-9PM** **EXHIBITION 21.07.2023 -** **PERIOD 13.08.2023**

## A Never Ending Tale

21 July – 13 August 2023

The fresh point of view with which we first meet the world is difficult to sustain, unless one is an artist. In their hands, familiar symbols like brands and products, and cultural signifiers like television cartoons and picture books become outlets for deeper concerns: consumerism, historical representation, solitude, ignorance, kindness. Excitement and adventure commingle with domesticity and dream states. The barrier between worlds is thin.

Adam Handler explores the theme of loneliness, imagination, solitude, and connection in the form of imaginative figures such as ghosts and wide-eyed girls, in paintings where flatness and “cute” aesthetics reflect the immediacy and purity of interior worlds. Suanjaya Kencut’s big-button eyed dolls are naïve characters, whose feral postures suggest lives of emotional intensity.

Mixing abstraction and figurative imagery, George Morton-Clark portrays familiar cartoon characters with expressive, spontaneous strokes to reflect how the familiar symbols that come into our homes through television programs and advertisements offer connection through consumption but leave us fragmented. Michael Scoggins’ paintings using loose-leaf paper from his school days as a motif transcribes the everyday activity of doodling in a notebook onto a grander scale. The results are optimistic and absurd, and occasionally aspirational.

Novo’s works are still lifes composed of items that personally resonate with him. To him, painting those items is akin to creating a self-portrait because every object collected gave answers to a lingering question of “Who am I?”. The “Long Long Time Flower” is created by Nanan Kang as a way to conserve the celebration of happiness that may never wither away through time, offering the viewers to relish the meaning of love and happiness.

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## About BAIK ART

BAIK ART is a Los Angeles, Seoul, and Jakarta based contemporary art gallery. Established in Los Angeles in 2014, BAIK ART introduces artists whose works dealt with individual hybridity, globalization, and cultural diaspora. In 2016, BAIK ART expanded its presence to Seoul, promoting an active artistic exchange between the two cities.

In November 2022, BAIK ART opens its third location in Jakarta, Indonesia with an inaugural exhibition titled Tumpeng. This new expansion can be traced back to BAIK ART's persistent residency exchange program with Indonesian arts institutions and artists and aims to deepen a dialogue between Indonesian and global art scenes.

With an exciting roster of artists and exhibitions across three distinct locations, BAIK ART continues to further its leading role as a connector between LA, Seoul, and Jakarta.

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## Artist Profiles



**Adam Handler** (b. 1986) was born in Queens NY and grew up on Long Island. As a young child and adolescent, he spent countless hours at his grandparents' framing factory in New York City. There, his passion for the arts grew and it became inevitable that he too would discover the many possibilities of art.

Handler studied Life Drawing in Italy and went on to graduate from Purchase College with a major in Art History. He has also studied craft design with Jorge Nieves and printing color photography with Debra Mesa-Pelly. Handler has mounted solo exhibitions throughout New York which include the Fred Torres Gallery in Chelsea and Vered Gallery in East Hampton.

His work has also been shown extensively at major art fairs which include, Art New York, Art Market Hamptons, Art Context Miami and the Armory Print Fair. In addition, Handler's work has been included in numerous exhibitions throughout the United States, Canada, Middle East and Europe.



**George Morton-Clark** (b. 1982), a British artist, utilizes oil, acrylic, and charcoal on unprimed canvas to bring familiar cartoon characters to life. With a combination of bold images and strong colors, his line drawings are immersed in an abstract atmosphere of energy and liveliness.

George Morton-Clark guides us into his energetic work with an interesting combination of these three elements: intense colors, spontaneous drawings, and nostalgic cartoon characters. His work may seem simple at first glance, just a straightforward fusion of cartoon characters and abstract components, yet something striking lies in the midst. The artist's rich imagination and sensibility are freely expressed; he is not restricted by a single genre, and all kinds of colorful materials naturally communicate their allegorical stories to those viewing his work.



Steeped in a fundamental fascination with the essence, texture and plasticity of paper, and its intrinsic ephemerality, **Michael Scoggins** (b. 1973) endeavours to transform the disposable into timeless sculptural works of art. The artist infuses the works with a tactile component of selective tears, crumples and folds, simultaneously imbuing the images with a palpable sense of history, while establishing the works themselves as objects. In the process he expands the very definition of traditional drawing.

Scoggins has been composing his, now iconic, monumental 67 x 51 inch notebook sheets for two decades. His awe-inspiring renditions, complete with spiral bound edges and hand drawn blue lines, depict how he is affected by popular culture and world events, and suggests how those forces have shaped all of our lives. The artist methodically metamorphosizes the temporal into the enduring, fashioning his art into tattered works infused with authentically rendered word play.



**Nanan Kang** (b.1979) studied Creative Advertising at Seoul Institute of the Arts and Arts Management at Cyber University of Korea. Nanan, often referred to as a visual artist and a window painter, has an outstanding career in commercial art.

Her career in fine art began from Window Painting and gradually developed through a series of works of Nanan Gardening, Window Tree, and it is now shining out with her latest series Long Long Time Flower. Window Painting is her first project that led her to the world of fine art which provides us with a key idea helping us to have a better understanding of her world of art. She happened to draw on the window and to find that the drawing brought the desolate city to life, and that was when she got down to the window drawing. Her work often acts as a catalyst in a closed relationship bringing about a creative energy, which means her works are not complete beings but exist in limitless variability and can only be defined in an organic relationship with viewers.



**Novo** (b. 1982) is an artist who candidly weaves his life experiences into his body of work across various genres. Raised in a time characterized by uniformity and dullness, he felt a yearning for diversity. He has persisted in his artistic pursuits, drawing inspiration from the objects that surround him, as if those objects were talking to him. For Novo, drawing his cherished objects is akin to creating a self-portrait, which is why he continues to collect things that bring him joy. He contemplates the surroundings with a warm gaze and translates the objects in the three-dimensional world onto his canvas through compositions with varied colors and sensual forms, elevating the ordinary into the extraordinary.

He blends his imagination with the objects observed from various perspectives and recreates them on his canvas. By viewing respective objects from above, below, and laterally at different times, he freely separates and paints as if cutting and pasting them like a collage. This results in an artwork that portrays a wide range of objects captured from different viewpoints, evoking a personal, distinctive, and unique image. Through extensive observation over a long period of time, the original colors and shapes of objects are transformed into a work that embodies his unique sensibility and imagery. As a result, his work cannot be defined just as a still- life, but rather it is a new form of figurative painting.



**I Putu Adi Suanjaya** (b. 1994), also known as Kencut, is a visual artist working primarily with paintings, sculptures and installations. He derived his inspiration from the traditional Balinese art and modern art installations he grew up surrounded by. The dolls are the main subjects in Kencut's work. He aims to bring them to life by placing them in real-life situations. The dolls seem to live through human emotions, struggles and life joys. The flat backgrounds and bold colour choices give an illustrative feeling to his works yet drive the viewer to envision themselves in the dolls' shoes.

Kencut received his Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts from the Indonesia Institute of the Arts Yogyakarta, Indonesia, in 2012.