

INDONESIA

# Jakarta

Cultural Cities Profile  
East Asia

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The **British Council** builds connections, understanding and trust between people in the UK and other countries through arts and culture, education and the English language. <https://www.britishcouncil.org/>

**Tom Fleming Creative Consultancy** is the leading international consultancy for culture and the creative economy. We offer research, strategy and policy leadership across the creative, cultural and arts sectors. We offer technical expertise, strategic thinking and the tools to position creativity to the heart of society. With offices in London and Porto and associates in 12 countries, we are an international agency operating in every region. <http://tfconsultancy.co.uk/>

**Indonesia Creative Cities Network** (ICCN) is a hub organisation for cross-communities forum, connecting 200+ cities/regencies from all over Indonesia that are committed to implement the 10 Principles of Indonesia Creative Cities that was declared in 2015. ICCN published the White Book of Indonesia Creative Cities (2017) that adapts the 10 Principles to the Indonesian government's KPI, and is developing a dashboard of Creative Cities Index as a tool for local governments to make policies/ regulations based on the real time creative economy data of their respective regions. <https://iccn.or.id/>

**Centre for Innovation Policy and Governance** (CIPG) is a research-based advisory group which aspires to excel in the area of innovation, policy and governance. Considered to be among the first research-based advisory groups, CIPG grows to be an open-minded and multicultural think tank with keen interest in building Indonesian research capacities across many sectors. <https://cipg.or.id/en/>

**Tanahindie** was established in 1999, composed of personnel from various backgrounds (researchers, authors, advocates, craftspeople, lecturers, students, social workers, and housewives). Exploring urban social development from the perspective of arts and culture, the organisation's activities include research, seminars, exhibitions, reviews, and publication. <https://tanahindie.org/>

# Introducing Jakarta

Jakarta, the capital city of Indonesia, is a megacity which combines rich heritage with an incredible energy. Jakarta is a city-province with a special capital status, operating as the national centre for business, governance, education and culture.



**Indonesia is known for being one of the most vibrant art scenes in Asia, and its capital of Jakarta is a hub for this activity... [T]his burgeoning art scene has [so much] to offer; from museums to galleries and even pop-up exhibitions and private collections – you'll be immersed in the rich arts culture of Jakarta.**

**City Guide: Jakarta, the Artling<sup>1</sup>**

In terms of culture and creativity, Jakarta includes many established institutions including The National Gallery, and the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Nusantara (MACAN, the first museum of modern art). Other popular cultural hubs include Taman Ismail Marzuki, an art compound where Jakarta Art Institute is located alongside theatres, cinemas, and other popular attractions, and Ancol Dream Park, a huge area for leisure and entertainment on the north coast, which includes an Art Market.

In addition, an emerging network of contemporary art and culture hubs are bringing a new spirit and dynamism to the city's art scene. Examples include Komunitas Salihara, whose performances, exhibitions and discussion sessions frequently make bold statements about the current social and political condition. Smaller establishments are also emerging, with growing demand for 'alternative spaces', whether in the

forms of art galleries and studios (e.g. Dia.Lo.Gue Artspace in South Jakarta), or informal spaces transformed into hubs that quickly attract creative entrepreneurs and communities (e.g. M Bloc Space in South Jakarta and the previous Gudang Sarinah Ekosistem in Central Jakarta). Alongside with the growth of such spaces, communities have also evolved around these establishments with different agendas and focus areas. Among the most renowned is "ruangrupa" contemporary art collective - providing an alternative scene and impact-facing approach to art and creativity.

## City vision / mission / slogan

The vision of The Government of The Special Capital Region of Jakarta is to create a city that is advanced, sustainable and cultured whose people are involved in realising civil society, justice and prosperity for all. Further, it was divided into five missions for Jakarta: to be safe, healthy, intelligent and cultured; strengthening family values and providing a space of creativity through a leadership that engages, mobilises and humanises<sup>2</sup>.

The Jakarta city's slogan is "Progressing city, contented citizens ("*Maju kotanya, bahagia warganya*")



**Jakarta as a progressive, sustainable, and cultured city...[invites] citizens' participation in the implementation of civil society, justice, and wellbeing for all.**

**Jakarta vision**

<sup>1</sup> <https://theartling.com/en/artzine/city-art-guides/jakarta/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://jakarta.go.id/artikel/konten/6598/visi-dan-misi-pemerintah-provinsi-dki-jakarta>

**Jakarta  
cityscape**  
(credit: dezeen)



# Jakarta in numbers



Average  
**life expectancy**  
in Jakarta is **72.79**  
years old



**Most populated city** in  
Indonesia: **~11M people**  
and a population density  
or **16,704 people**  
per km<sup>2</sup>



It has **64 museums** in  
total, exceeding any other provinces  
in Indonesia and **80 shopping**  
**malls** (ranging from the  
traditional Tanah Abang  
market to the luxurious  
Grand Indonesia  
Mall)



Jakarta **GDP**  
per capita is  
**USD\$8780**



22 June 1527 was declared as  
the establishment of Jakarta,  
making the city **494**  
years old in 2021



There are  
**77 embassies**  
in Jakarta

Jakarta is  
inhabited by **Javanese**  
**(35.16%)**, Betawinese  
(27.65%), Sundanese (15.27%),  
Chinese (5.53%), Bataknese (3.61%),  
Minangkabau (3.18%), Malay (1.62%),  
Buginese (0.59%), Maduranese  
(0.57%), Banten (0.25%),  
and Banjar (0.1%).  
83.43% Islam



DKI Jakarta region includes an  
administrative reGENCY **Kepulauan**  
**Seribu** ("One Thousand Islands")  
a group of about **105 islands**,  
located 45 km off the  
shore of north  
Jakarta



**83.43%**  
of its citizens are  
**Muslim**



The total land area of  
Jakarta is **662.33 km<sup>2</sup>**  
and the sea area is  
**6,977.5 km<sup>2</sup>**



There are **219**  
**star-graded hotels** in  
Jakarta and **3,173**  
**restaurants**



**An interactive  
installation at Brightspot  
Market event**

(credit: Brightspot Market  
facebook)



## Artivism – a Growing Impact of the Cultural Scene in Jakarta

The city has a long tradition of cultural activism. It bears its root in the 1980s when economic development took precedent to civic rights.

Contemporary art has been ‘weaponise’ to empower the public in voicing discontent. Despite a hiatus during political unrest, Jakarta Biennial has played a central role in amplifying the socio-political history of artivism and civic participations.

A younger generation of artists has carried the torches of this tradition and utilises art and culture to advocate for an expanding range of issues, such as the Jakarta-born artist and mental health activist Hana Alfikih (aka Hana Madness). Her advocacy led to her listing as 10 Women of The Year in 2019 by Her World Magazine and 11 Inspiring Figures by Tatler Asia.

**Artists had played a vital role in the youth and student movements, ever since the early stages of the struggle for independence. The spirit of collectivity not only benefited the artists by providing them with artistic references, but also raised a collective awareness that they were part of the changes taking place in society, and this tradition is still easily found today in the Indonesian art scene.**

Alia Swastika, Cobo Social

(Source: Cobo Social and the Jakarta Post)



## 1. What makes this city unique?

Jakarta is the capital city of Indonesia and, as the biggest city in Indonesia, the only city with a province status, bearing the name *Daerah Khusus Ibu Kota* (DKI) Jakarta, or The Special Capital Region of Jakarta, led by a governor. DKI Jakarta is divided into five administrative areas at city scale: North, South, West, East, and Central Jakarta; each with its own mayor. As a megacity, Jakarta is also a major transport hub – e.g. it is served by two international airports (Soekarno-Hatta and Halim Perdanakusuma) and three harbours (Tanjung Priok, Sunda Kelapa, Ancol).

Jakarta Special Capital District (*Daerah Khusus Ibu Kota* / DKI) promotes “Enjoy Jakarta” as its city branding. Through Enjoy Jakarta, the DKI government wants to attract domestic and international visitors with a vast array of interests, from shopping to historical tours. So the slogan is re-framed in many versions: Enjoy shopping, Enjoy business, Enjoy culinary, Enjoy nightlife, Enjoy golf, Enjoy marine tourism, Enjoy spa, and Enjoy city heritage.

With 64 museums in total, exceeding any other provinces in Indonesia and 80 shopping malls (ranging from the traditional Tanah Abang market to the luxurious Grand Indonesia Mall), Jakarta is positioning itself as a city of commerce, conspicuous consumption and cultural experience.

## 2. Context

Jakarta is the most populous city in Indonesia and Southeast Asia, with total population of over 11m people and a population density of 16,704 people per km<sup>2</sup>.

### Historical Background

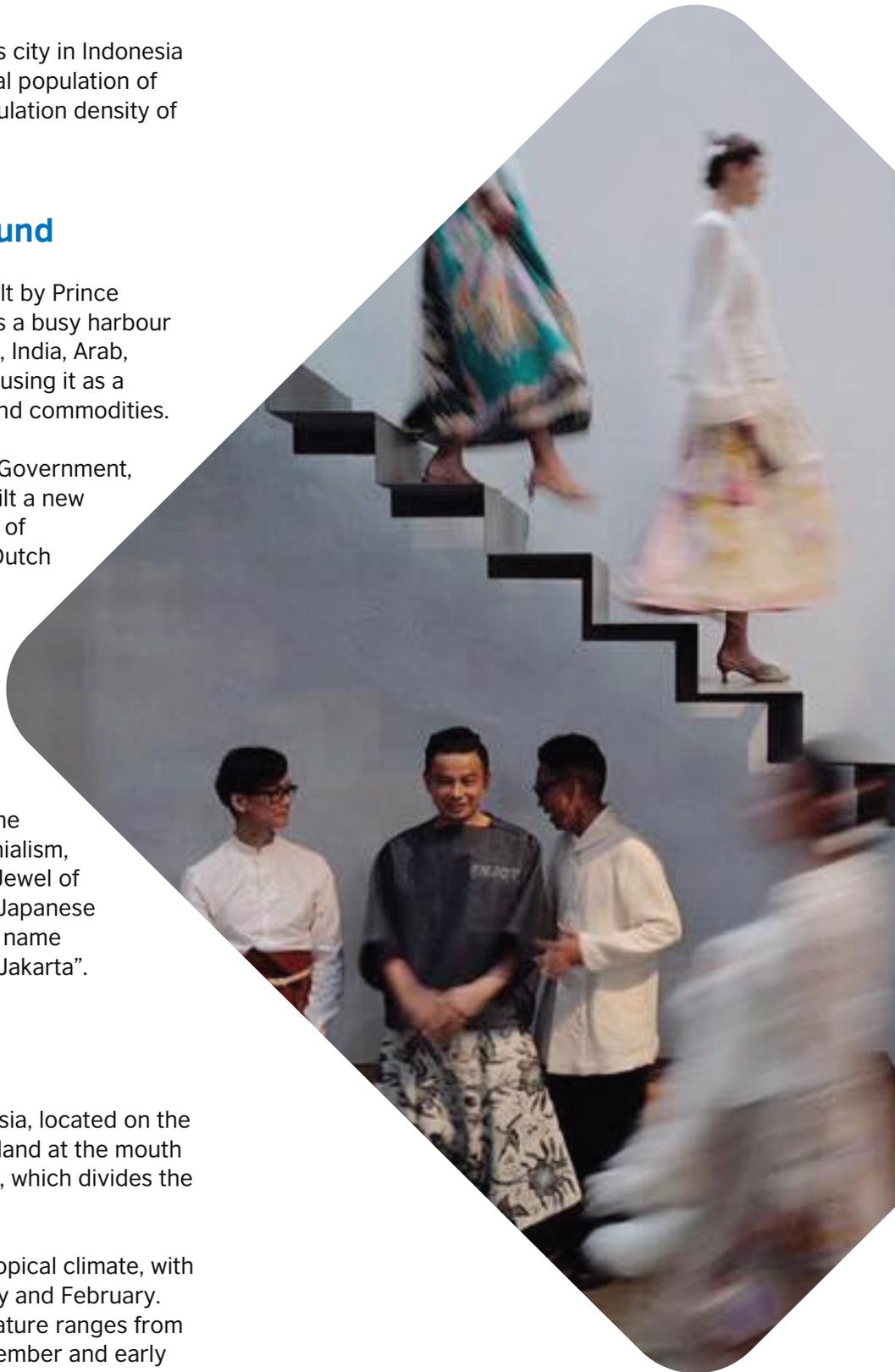
Established in 1527, and built by Prince Fatahillah, Jayakarta grew as a busy harbour city, with traders from China, India, Arab, Europe and other countries using it as a base to exchanged goods and commodities.

In 1619, the Dutch Colonial Government, destroyed Jayakarta and built a new city located at the west side of Ciliwung River. Following a Dutch model for urban planning, the construction of Batavia was completed in 1650, providing residences exclusively for European people. Chinese, Javanese and other indigenous people were only allowed to live outside the edge of the city. In at the height of colonialism, Batavia was known as “The Jewel of The East”. It was during the Japanese occupation in 1942 that the name ‘Batavia’ was changed into “Jakarta”.

### Location / region

Jakarta is in western Indonesia, located on the coast at the north of Java Island at the mouth of the Ciliwung river estuary, which divides the city in two.

Jakarta has a hot and dry tropical climate, with peak rainy season in January and February. The average annual temperature ranges from 25°-38°C (77°-100°F)<sup>3</sup>. September and early October are the hottest months, where temperatures in the city can reach 40°C.



**A fashion exhibition titled  
Tiga Negeri at dia.lo.gue  
Artspace in 2017.**

(credit: dia.lo.gue Artspace  
facebook)

<sup>3</sup> <http://jakarta-tourism.go.id/visit/blog/2017/06/city-of-jakarta-geographic-and-climate>

## Ethnic diversity

Jakarta draws a population from across Indonesia, and is ethnically very diverse. According to the 2000 Census, the population consisted of Javanese: 35.16%, Native Jakartan/Betawi: 27.65%, Sundanese: 15.27%, Chinese: 5.53%, Batak: 3.61%, Minangkabau: 3.18%; and Malay: 1.62%.<sup>4</sup>

### 'Emptying' the city: the mudik phenomena

There is a phenomenon that Jakarta is 'emptied' of its inhabitants for about two weeks, once a year, during the Lebaran or Eid Holiday. During this big holiday, residents from other cities and islands return home to gather with families and relatives, often causing traffic congestion at the beginning and end of the holiday. According to the Minister of Transportation Budi Karya Sumadi (2019), 150,000 vehicles per day are estimated to pass the Trans Java toll roads during these "mudik" (homeward) periods. In 2019, 7.2 million people travelled by road, 1.9m by train, 1.6m by air and nearly 500,000 by ship.<sup>5</sup>

## Heritage assets and activation

Based on the registered Historical Buildings in Jakarta, the city has 132 heritage buildings, with 67 located in Central Jakarta. The old part of Jakarta, also known as *Kota Tua* Jakarta (Old City of Jakarta) or *Batavia Lama* (Old Batavia), has now become among the most visited areas of historical interest, containing a broad range of museums as well as buildings linked to the city's colonial history.

In contrast with Dutch colonial architecture, which is spread around the city centre, traditional Betawinese houses, also known as *Rumah Kebaya*, can only be found in particular areas, including in Setu Babakan, South Jakarta, where *Kebaya* houses are preserved in a good condition.

Now maintained as a cultural centre, visitors to Setu Babakan can have a firsthand experience of traditional Betawi life, since the villagers are native Betawinese who have been living for generations. Visitors can watch a variety of Betawi cultural arts performances, including Cokek and Topeng dances, Gambus art, theatre and music performances (Tanjidor, Gambang Kromong), fashion (*kebaya encim*) and Betawinese literature.

In 2019, the traditional martial art *pencak silat* was listed as an intangible cultural heritage by UNESCO. Following this recognition, the Culture Office of Jakarta has put Betawi traditional Pencak Silat as one of their top priorities for development.

<sup>4</sup> <https://worldpopulationreview.com/world-cities/jakarta-population>

<sup>5</sup> <http://databoks.katadata.co.id>



**Betawi traditional  
martial art pencak silat –  
a UNESCO intangible  
heritage.**

(credit: the Jakarta Post)

### 3. Culture, arts and civic policy

In general terms, city-level policy for arts and culture in Jakarta revolves around the theme of citizens' involvement and community participation. As home to a great number of people from many different backgrounds, the city's social concerns frequently emerge, focusing on issues of inclusivity and environmental sustainability. Examples of such activities include the city's Feminist Festival<sup>6</sup>; the Volunteer Festival<sup>7</sup>, encouraging mutual cooperation in providing solutions for social problems; Inklusifest<sup>8</sup>, which raises public awareness about people living with disabilities, and initiatives for intergenerational exchange and support.

This theme of communal cultural engagement is also represented in the city's strategies for the creation of public parks and green spaces, such as the establishment of Maju Bersama (Move Forward Together) Park, developed with the intention to involve citizens in the design and management of green open spaces at local community levels. According to the list of Regional Strategic Activities for 2021, similar initiatives include the establishment or revitalisation of Taman Ismail Marzuki and Benjamin Sueb park.

#### Jakarta Development Collaboration Network

This role for citizen participation on the city development process was formalised in 2019, with the creation of the Jakarta Development Collaboration Network (JDCN). JDCN is a platform for collaboration between citizens and government as collaborator in the city development process, covering 6 key themes:

- Environmental resilience
- Future of work
- Urban regeneration
- Innovation and technology
- Equality and empowerment
- Art and culture

In practical terms, JDCN's objectives include accelerating citizen-government development, facilitating developmental partnerships, and implementing strategic action plans<sup>10</sup>.

#### Cultural funding and partnership

One of the main challenges in developing arts and culture in Indonesia is the lack of adequate funding to support arts and culture projects and activities. To address this issue, the national government has set up a cultural endowment fund to help the ecosystem of arts and culture across Indonesia. At a city level, Jakarta's administration allocated a budget for culture of IDR 523 billion (2019)<sup>11</sup>, concentrated on the provision and maintenance of arts, culture, and tourism facilities and infrastructure. Within this, the city has placed a particular emphasis on preserving and promoting Betawi culture through incorporating Betawi culture into the city's daily life and activities, buildings and public spaces. However, to support the city's creative entrepreneurs and Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs), the government has launched the 'Jakpreneur' initiative, a capacity building programme for small and medium enterprises in Jakarta.

Other than public funding, cultural funding and investment in Jakarta is very limited. Most private funding in the city concentrates on key sectors such as environment, education, religious activities, and health<sup>12</sup>.

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.jakartafeminist.com/feminist-fest>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.festivalrelawan.com/>

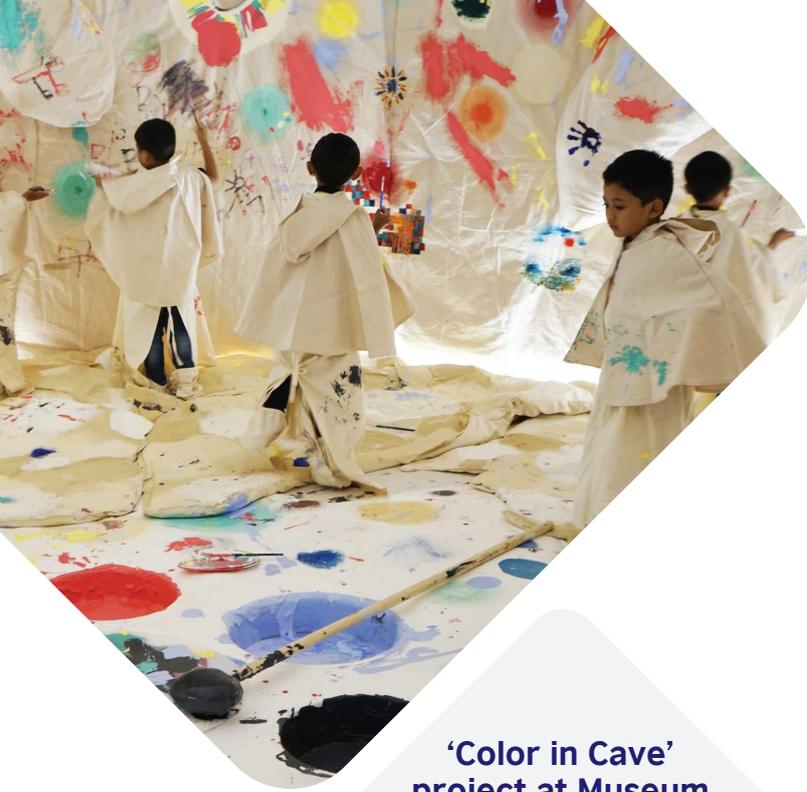
<sup>8</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/yayasan.helpinghands>

<sup>9</sup> Governor's Decree No 1042/ 2018 on List of Regional Strategic Activities

<sup>10</sup> <https://jdcn.jakarta.go.id/>

<sup>11</sup> DKI Jakarta Tourism and Culture Office (2019)

<sup>12</sup> <https://koalisiseni.or.id/ketika-seni-tak-ada-yang-membiayai/>



**‘Color in Cave’ project at Museum MACAN Children’s Art Space by artist Mit Jai Inn**  
(credit: TKG+)

## Culture, education and inclusive development

NGOs and corporations frequently step up in Jakarta in providing educational services and literacy programme. Environmental sustainability and prosperity are also at the heart of many community-focused works. This echoes the wider social justice shift in recent years – where millennials are taking lead in driving civic agenda.<sup>13</sup>

The business community and their funding of the arts has also been an anchor of the Jakarta cultural scene. The private collections of business giants often formulate the bedrock of the local museum holding and outreach programme. These privately-funded cultural institutions serve a bigger socio-educational role in the city, stepping up for the city’s cultural infrastructure.

- **Haryanto Adikoesoemo**, head of the chemicals and energy conglomerate AKR Corporindo, is the founder of **Museum MACAN**, the first private institution dedicated to modern and contemporary art in Jakarta. Adikoesoemo’s personal collection formulate the foundation of the museum’s holding.<sup>14</sup> Sprawling over 43,000 sq. ft, Museum MACAN has a dedicated Children’s Art Space regularly commissioned artists to create children-friendly pieces, as well as providing other educational services such as school visits, workshop and educator resource kit.<sup>15</sup>
- Businessman **Tom Tandio**, one of the younger generation of collectors, on the list of Apollo 40 Under 40 Asia Pacific<sup>16</sup> in 2016, He launched an online archive **IndoArtNow Foundation**<sup>17</sup> to maximise exposure and promote Indonesian artists. An avid advocate to help the commercial support network grow in Indonesia, Tandio also served as the President of the Board of Young Collectors for the Art Stage Jakarta art fair and the fair director in 2019.<sup>18</sup>
- The reach of the Jakarta private philanthropy goes beyond its border. Such as in the case of ArtReview top 100 collector Jakarta-born Chinese tycoon **Budi Tek**<sup>19</sup> – founder of **Yuz Museum** and the Yuz Foundation in Shanghai, China. His collection of Chinese contemporary art is at the core of a multi-year partnership with the Los Angeles Museum of Art (LACMA) in the USA.



**Jakarta is a teeming megacity... and a no-nonsense commercial hub dating back to its earliest known roots as a seventh-century port city... Private museums... play a big part in the cultural landscape of the city...**

**Adeline Chia, ArtReviewAsia<sup>20</sup>**

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.pioneerspost.com/news-views/20181217/millennials-lead-social-enterprise-surge-indonesia>

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.theartnewspaper.com/interview/collector-s-eye-haryanto-adikoesoemo>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.museummacan.org/events?lang=en>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.apollo-magazine.com/tom-tandio/>

<sup>17</sup> <https://indoartnow.com/>

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.robbreport.com.sg/how-to-build-a-southeast-asian-contemporary-art-collection-tips-from-fair-director-of-art-jakarta-tom-tandio/>

<sup>19</sup> <https://artreview.com/artist/budi-tek/>

<sup>20</sup> <https://artreview.com/ara-spring-2018-feature-has-jakartas-art-scene-come-of-age/>

**Workshop at  
Atelir Ceremai**  
(credit: Atelir  
Ceremai)



## Culture, education and inclusive growth case study (selected)

### Atelir Ceremai, est 2019

Atelir Ceremai<sup>21</sup> is a hub that focuses on developing cultural literacy among urban youth. It run by a collective of creative entrepreneurs – most are students and alumni from the Faculty of Language and Art, Jakarta State University.

### UOB Bank

UOB Bank has a focus on art and education in their corporate social responsibility works across Southeast Asia. They are a long-time supporter of youth and cultural causes in Jakarta, including the former multi-year partnership with the Children's Art Space at MACAN Museum, specifically behind its artist commissioning programme.<sup>22</sup>

### Yayasan Kumala

Yayasan Kumala is a foundation that provides funding and supports to social and environmental stewardship. They run public kitchen and provide shelter and education for homeless and less-abled children. It is also a strategic partner of ministry agency in distributing Covid-19 relief care.<sup>23</sup> The foundation sells a line of upcycled craft products made by the youth in shelter.

### SukhaCitta, est 2016

Sustainability-minded and ethically-crafted clothing brand SukhaCitta<sup>24</sup> is devoted improved the socio-economic condition of rural women with a living wage. Through the 4 Craft Schools, the company provides to education and skill training for the rural communities. Their efforts to advancing social and environmental justice has won them numerous local and international accolades – such as the 2018 Social Entrepreneur Grantee of DBS Foundation.



**SukhaCitta creates social impact by investing in the capacity building of rural craftswomen and ensuring that the women earn a living wage.**

United Nations Development Program<sup>25</sup>

### IMAJI Studio

IMAJI Studio<sup>26</sup> is a zero-waste, natural-dye fabric and craft atelier that works with artisans in West Java. They also frequently collaborate with other like-minded Gen Z social changers.

### Javara Indigenous Indonesia

Javara Indigenous Indonesia<sup>27</sup> is the flagship programme of PT Kampung Kearifan Indonesia, a local company that collaborates responsibly with an ethical supply chain to revive the country's rich culinary heritage. It cooperates with farmers, fishers and food artisans to supply natural, organic and artisanal food products from various regions of Indonesian archipelago.

<sup>21</sup> <http://instagram.com/atelirceremai>

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.uobgroup.com/uobandart/growing-appreciation/partnerships.html>

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20200514221635-25-503554/yayasan-sosial-salurkan-donasi-dari-klhk-untuk-anak-jalanan>

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.sukhacitta.com/>

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/blog/2021/what-about-women-.html>

<sup>26</sup> <https://imajistudio.co/>

<sup>27</sup> <https://javara.co.id/our-journey/>

## Pasar Seni Ancol (Ancol Art Market) – the ‘Biggest artists’ studio in the world’

*Taman Impian Jaya Ancol*, or Ancol Dreamland, is a theme park and entertainment complex established in 1966. It contains various attractions including the modern Fantasy World, Ocean Arena, Sea World, and a number of guest houses and seaside restaurants. Among those facilities, this place is home to the most historical space for artists: Ancol Art Market.

Ancol Art Market was established in the 1970s with support from the city authorities. Its purpose is to bring arts and art collection to the general public, enabling direct interaction with the artists.

Pasar Seni Ancol gained the reputation as a key centre for artists, hosting great Indonesian artists such as Affandi, Sudjojono, and Hendra. It currently accommodates 240 kiosks with basic services and facilities. 120 of these functions as artist studios. The rest have become workshops for craftsmen and shops.

Considering the size of the area and its great history, Pasar Seni Ancol is often considered as the biggest art studio in the world, and the oldest artistic hub in Jakarta.



**Pasar Seni / Art Market Ancol –  
a unique open-air art market**  
(credit: Indonesia Holiday)

## 4. Cultural ecosystem and infrastructure

As the capital city of Indonesia, Jakarta's cultural infrastructure includes many institutions that serve as national landmarks. Jakarta Old Town is home to numerous museums, including the iconic Fatahillah Museum, the Wayang Museum, the Arts and Ceramics Museum and Maritime Museum. Recently revitalised, the Old Town area is also known as a centre for art, culture and performance, hosting events such as the Old Town Festival, Pecinan Batavia Festival, and the ASEAN Literary Festival.

Contemporary focus points include The National Gallery, the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Nusantara (MACAN, Indonesia's first museum of modern art), and established and emerging art and culture hubs, such as Taman Ismail Marzuki, Komunitas Salihara and the privately-owned arts complex Ciputra Artpreneur.

Jakarta has an increasingly active ecosystem of independent self-curated cultural spaces that act as the incubators for a young evolving generation of creative communities, including ruangrupa, Dia.Lo.Gue Artspace, and M Bloc Space in South Jakarta, or the previous Gudang Sarinah Ekosistem in Central Jakarta. With support from the government, such organisations are now taking arts, performance and culture into public spaces and facilities such as MRT trains, stations, and city parks.

### Cultural institutions (selected)

#### The National Gallery<sup>28</sup>

The Indonesian National Gallery (GNI) in Jakarta is charged with the dissemination and appreciation of arts, and the development of skills and capacity in the fine arts sphere. Its programmes of activity include exhibitions (permanent, contemporary, and mobile), preservation (conservation, restoration), and research, acquisition and documentation, as well as events including seminars, discussions, workshops, performance art, screenings, festivals and competitions. GNI is currently under the management of The Directorate General of Culture, Ministry of Education and Culture.

#### Modern and Contemporary Art in Nusantara (MACAN) Museum<sup>29</sup>

The Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Nusantara or Museum MACAN opened in November 2017. The museum is the first in Indonesia to have a collection of modern and contemporary Indonesian and international art. The museum undertakes a number of activities, seeking to help develop a healthy art ecology and landscape in Indonesia through internship opportunities and other education and training for young professionals, and partnering with local schools to provide educational resource materials that help engage students with art.

- The museum was included in Time Magazine's 2018 list of the World's 100 Greatest Places 2018.

<sup>28</sup> <http://galeri-nasional.or.id>

<sup>29</sup> <https://www.museummacan.org>

### Taman Ismail Marzuki<sup>30</sup>

Located in the centre of Jakarta, Taman Ismail Marzuki is one of the most iconic landmarks of the city, as well as an important government-funded hub for arts and cultural activities. The Taman Ismail Marzuki complex comprises a number of facilities including six performing arts theatres, cinemas, an exhibition hall, a gallery, libraries and an archive building.

- Managed by the Jakarta Arts Council, the Centre is currently undergoing a revitalisation process in order to strengthen the existing art infrastructure ecosystem to an international standard. With an estimated cost of US\$ 125 million, the work is expected to be completed by 2021.<sup>31</sup>

### Komunitas Salihara<sup>32</sup>

Komunitas Salihara (Salihara Community), established in 2008 by Goenawan Mohamad (GM), is home to a community of artists, writers, journalists, and art activists. Salihara is open to anyone who intends to develop creativity, skills and free-thinking through arts and discourse. While it is supported by various institutions, including foreign cultural institutions, Salihara is the first centre for multidisciplinary arts that is owned and run independently. It frequently uses this independence to challenge orthodoxies within Indonesia's cultural and social life.



**Those arts that are not easy to sell and not easily comprehensible by the general public, that are hard to destroy and refuse to be tamed, they are nurtured and developed in Komunitas Salihara, and packed into exhibitions, performances, discussion sessions, and festivals.**

**Goenawan Mohamad (GM),  
founder of Komunitas Salihara**

### Ciputra Artpreneur, est 2014

Ciputra Artpreneur<sup>33</sup> is a privately-owned arts venue established by Ir. Ciputra. Located in the Central Business District of Jakarta, it comprises a theatre, art museum, gallery space and function rooms. It occupies the top three floors of Ciputra World 1, a complex of offices, apartments, hotel and shopping mall. It has hosted international theatrical productions, concerts, dance performance and exhibitions.

### Bentara Budaya Jakarta<sup>34</sup>

Bentara Budaya (BB) Jakarta is a cultural institution owned by the Kompas daily newspaper. Founded in 1982 to accommodate and represent the breadth of Indonesian culture, BB attempts to display traditional and popular cultural forms, as well as new works yet to be recognised in 'formal' cultural settings. BB Jakarta has an active monthly programme, including exhibitions and art performances, movie screenings and discussion sessions, and a newly established library that contains a collection on visual arts and literature. BB also collaborates with foreign cultural institutions to promote cultural exchange.

<sup>30</sup> <https://tamanismailmarzuki.co.id/>

<sup>31</sup> <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/05/29/tim-revitalization-project-to-break-ground-on-jakartas-anniversary.html>

<sup>32</sup> <https://salihara.org>

<sup>33</sup> <https://www.ciputraartpreneur.com/>

<sup>34</sup> <http://bentrabudaya.com>

**Akili Museum of Art<sup>35</sup>**

The Akili Museum of Art is a private museum set up by Rudy Akili in 2006. It features works by some of the most burgeoning avant-garde artists in Indonesia, as well as prominent modernists, alongside contemporary regional artists such as Ronald Ventura, Chen Yifei and Jiraki Sawa.

**Nadi Gallery<sup>36</sup>**

Nadi Gallery was founded in 2000 by Biantoro Santoso a young collector of Indonesian art. Exhibitions hosted by Nadi Gallery are produced in partnership with guest or independent curators, with the goal of showcasing works by Indonesian and international artists. Nadi Gallery has shown works by artists such as Agus Suwage, Handiwirman Saputra, and Jumaldi Alfi.

**Ruci Art Space<sup>37</sup>**

Located in an industrial space in Senopati, Ruci ArtSpace is a relatively new gallery in the Indonesian contemporary art scene. The gallery hosts a regular rotation of solo and group exhibitions by emerging local artists such as Natisa Jones, Arkiv Vilmasa and Anton Ismael.

**Cultural hubs and creative enterprises (selected)**

Within Jakarta's cultural ecosystem, a number of smaller communities, establishments and enterprises are emerging, following the lead set by pioneer organisations such as Komunitas Salihara and responding to the growing needs for 'alternative spaces' within Jakarta's cultural life. Often utilising informal or underused spaces across the city, these establishments often practice the concept of 'placemaking', where the organisers co-curate a cultural scene with participating artists, musicians, film-makers etc.

In addition, Jakarta has a burgeoning scene for creative and tech entrepreneurship, as demonstrated by shared co-working spaces such as Jakarta Impact Hub, JSC Hive, Ruang & Tempo, Andrich Co-Working Space, Conclave, Code Margonda (Depok) and Kekini, many of which are supported by government sponsoring of start-up schemes.

**Creative hubs (selected)****Jakarta Creative Hub, est. 2017<sup>38</sup>**

Jakarta Creative Hub (JCH) is a government-sponsored creative industry development centre, established with support from creative industrialist Leonard Theosabrata, and designed to help facilitate creative industry players with limited access of equipment or production support. Equipped with 12 co-office spaces, 4 classrooms, and maker space areas, JCH positions itself as collaborative workspace for creating work, training, and sharing. JCH also provides seminars and training related to the development of creative business.

**ruangrupa, est 2000<sup>39</sup>**

ruangrupa (spelled and written with a lowercase 'r') was founded in Jakarta in 2000 by a group of artists. Located in the south of the city, it is a non-profit space for the exploration of visual art, public art, performance art, and video art. Operating as a studio, a library, a research lab and a party venue, ruangrupa consistently advances artistic ideas in an urban context and within culture at large through exhibitions, festivals, art laboratories, workshops, research, and through the publication of books, magazines and online journals. The collective was appointed as the curatorial team of the world's premier mega exhibition 15th edition of documenta in Kassel.

<sup>35</sup> <http://akilimuseum.com>

<sup>36</sup> <http://nadigallery.net/home.html>

<sup>37</sup> <http://ruciart.com/>

<sup>38</sup> <https://www.linkedin.com/company/jakarta-creative-hub/about/>

<sup>39</sup> <https://ruangrupa.id/>

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**In ruangrupa, we rarely have hierarchy. All decisions are made by consensus, so thinking together both in physical spaces and online is a process-based effort. It has long been our focus to diminish hierarchy in our structure, considering it an inheritance of patriarchy, something that is not so different here in Indonesia as it is in the Western world... We all need to become more inclusive to the different types of lives we lead and caring for one another and an awareness of mental health are both very important, and so, productivity and efficiency cannot be the only metrics with which we measure success.**

**ruangrupa<sup>40</sup>**

#### **GUDSKUL Ekosistem, est 2018<sup>41</sup>**

GUDSKUL: Contemporary Art Collective and Ecosystem Studies (or, for short, Gudskul) is a public learning space designed to support collective working through a shared process and experience-based learning. Established collaboratively by ruangrupa, Serrum and graphic arts collective Grafis Huru Hara, Gudskul is implemented through a self-sustaining paid system that allows each participant involved to support each other through several financing options, including fund-raising, donation and self-help.

#### **Indoestri Makerspace<sup>42</sup>**

Indoestri Makerspace is a large makerspace located in West Jakarta offering programmes and facilities for woodworking, metalworking, textile and leather, urban farming and calligraphy. Established by Leonard Theosabrata, the centre provides opportunities for learning and skills-development based around the principles of 'Self-Made', which emphasises the value of individual initiative in design and construction.

#### **Dia.Lo.Gue Artspace<sup>43</sup>**

Dia.lo.gue is a common artspace, venue and coffee-shop that is open to the public. Established with the intent to provide a space for creative dialogue between artists, designers and the general public, dia.lo.gue seeks to accommodate all forms of art, design and media, using an institutional approach that purposely reflects the blurring lines between art, design and life.

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**Art and design are inextricably linked with the way humans express themselves. It is part of everyday life, living and breathing a profoundly human truth. Meanwhile, the creative industry in Indonesia is riding a wave of forward momentum.**

**dia.lo.gue Artspace<sup>44</sup>**

<sup>40</sup> <https://news.artnet.com/opinion/ruangrupa-the-collective-in-charge-of-the-next-documenta-reflect-on-what-it-means-to-curate-in-times-of-crisis-1878111>

<sup>41</sup> <https://ruangrupa.id/en/about/>

<sup>42</sup> <https://www.indoestri.com/en/about>

<sup>43</sup> <https://dialogue-artspace.com>

<sup>44</sup> <https://dialogue-artspace.com>

**M Bloc Space<sup>45</sup>**

M Bloc Space is a creative complex within the Blok M shopping quarter, previously under-used housing complex. Before revitalised, the venue was owned by PERURI (a state-run money printing company) and later transformed into a private-public partnership. The space includes a music venue, museum gallery and community hall, as well as restaurants, bars, coffee shops, a beauty clinic and a record store. The M Bloc Market also hosts ecofriendly small businesses selling coffee, fruits and vegetables. It is a popular hangout place especially among youngsters.

**Gudang Sarinah<sup>46</sup>**

Sarinah was originally the first department store in Indonesia, a huge establishment at the centre of Jakarta. After it closed, it stayed idle for years, until it was reopened by a community operating as Gudang Sarinah Ecosystem, providing spaces for creative communities and serving purposes such as art exhibitions, bazaars, music shows, etc. Gudang Sarinah (Sarinah Warehouse) has three big halls, of which two are up for rent with tenants such as Ruru Radio, Taufan Arena Skate Park, and so on, while one still functions as a warehouse. Once managed by the ruang rupa collective, it is now operated by an in-house team and open for event partnerships.

**Salihara<sup>47</sup>**

Salihara Community was founded in 2008 by a group of artists, journalists, writers, and art connoisseurs in Indonesia. It offers an atmosphere of multidisciplinary art movement. Inside the community space, Salihara Arts Centre, are rooms and areas such as Teater Salihara, Galeri Salihara, Anjung Salihara, and office blocks. Since it was established, the community has performed numerous world-class art performances inside the country and also overseas.

**Makedonia<sup>48</sup>**

Makedonia is a tech-orientated for-profit social enterprise, seeking to foster innovation for sustainable development through strategic partnership, as well as building the capacity of tech ecosystem through multi-disciplinary innovation. The organisation's Makerspace is located in South Jakarta, and includes workshop, laboratory and 3D printing facilities, plus classrooms and events rooms.

**Double Deer<sup>49</sup>**

Double Deer Music is a music collective and record label that focuses on developing Jakarta's electronic music scene. In addition to releasing their own records and promoting concerts, they also provide courses and consultancy services in recording, production, design and digital promotion.

**POST Bookshop<sup>50</sup>**

POST is an independent bookshop and writers' and publishers' workshop, focusing on the promotion and development of inclusive, alternative and international small-press publishing across a range of genres and themes.

**Pasar Santa Modern<sup>51</sup>**

Independent public marketplace with stalls and kiosks selling products, fashion, music, artwork and cuisine designed and produced by young creative entrepreneurs.

<sup>45</sup> <https://mbloc.space>

<sup>46</sup> <http://instagram.com/gudangsarinah>

<sup>47</sup> <https://salihara.org/>

<sup>48</sup> <https://www.makedonia.co>

<sup>49</sup> <https://doubledeer.co/>

<sup>50</sup> <https://postbookshop.com/about-us>

<sup>51</sup> <https://www.ajourneybespoke.com/journey/lifestyle/ajbs-best-places-to-visit-in-pasar-santa-right-now>

**We The Fest –  
annual summer  
music festival**  
(credit: NME)



## Festivals (selected)

Jakarta has an extensive and active festival scene, ranging from large scale international events to small community-based engagement and mobilisation campaigns. Among the most anticipated festivals is Jakarta Fair, held every June 22nd to celebrate Jakarta's anniversary. The main event of the festival usually takes place around the National Monument in Central Jakarta, bringing together traditional art performances, music and culinary treats.

Newer modes of festivals and events have also emerged with the advancement of technology and the development of Jakarta's creative economy. Influenced by traditional and international cultures, and with a broad focus ranging from heritage to contemporary and experimental, Jakarta's festivals cover many themes in numerous locations and establishments across the city.

### Jakarta International Film Festival<sup>52</sup>

Since 1999, Jakarta International Film Festival (JIFFest) has been held every December. It has now become the foremost international film festival in Indonesia, acknowledged as one of the key festivals for South East Asian cinema, and providing a platform for Indonesia's growing film industry.

### Jakarta Vital Voices Festival<sup>53</sup>

Held by Perum Produksi Film Negara (PFN), Vital Voices Festival had successfully brought up issues on women working in the film and creative industries. The event was filled with various workshops and talk shows talking about the creative industry. There were also film and video competitions opened for the public.

### International Photo Festival<sup>54</sup>

The Jakarta International Photo Festival aims to foster Indonesian photographers and provide them with an international stage. Featured in the festival are national and international participants, including photographers, photo editors, scholars, gallery owners, curators and critics. The festival debut, which took place in July 2019 in Central Jakarta, featured, 64 events in 17 venues and involved 70 industry figures from photography, media and art from Indonesia and around the world. Attended by more than 17,000 visitors, it was a notable as one of the biggest photography events in Southeast Asia.

### Festival Bebas Batas<sup>55</sup>

Inspired by a visit to the Unlimited Festival in the UK, Festival Bebas Batas is Indonesia's first festival of its kind, a celebration of brilliant art by disabled people. Festival Bebas Batas creates a platform for the creativity of disabled people, and an opportunity to change perceptions.. It was also the first festival in Indonesia to exhibit artworks made by disabled artists. The festival has benefited from significant support from the British Council.

### Art Jakarta<sup>56</sup>

Inaugurated as the first art fair in Indonesia in 2009, Art Jakarta connects artists, galleries, collectors, and art enthusiasts, serving as an international platform in the expansion of Indonesia's art market and the uncovering of new talent. Participating galleries in 2018 came from Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Korea, Japan, Colombia, Spain, France and Russia. Art Jakarta accredits its strong position, support and participation to its official and private partners, particularly how the Indonesian Government has opened opportunities for young artists to present their works at the fair.

<sup>52</sup> <https://www.jakartafilmfest.com/>

<sup>53</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/vitalvoicesfestival/>

<sup>54</sup> <https://jipfest.com>

<sup>55</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/festivalbebasbatas/>

<sup>56</sup> <https://theartling.com/en/artzine/celebrating-10-years-of-art-jakarta/>

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**Indonesia, especially Jakarta, is one of the important centres for the development of art in Southeast Asia, even Asia...Art Jakarta...[is]...a good platform for participating galleries, artists, collectors, curators and the general public to jointly promote and further develop an appreciation for art.**

**Tom Tandio, collector and 2019 Art Jakarta fair director<sup>57</sup>**

### Jakarta International Literary Festival<sup>58</sup>

Jakarta International Literary Festival was first initiated in 2019 by Jakarta Arts Council. Various events included discussions, exhibitions, readings, and seminars

### ASEAN Literary Festival<sup>59</sup>

The ASEAN Literary Festival is a regional cultural event. Hosted in Jakarta, the festival seeks to become a medium to boost the quality of the region's literary works, and to become a connecting bridge to know each other's culture, arts and literary works.

### Jakarta Fashion Week<sup>60</sup>

Since 2008, Jakarta Fashion Week has consistently been a champion of the Indonesian fashion industry. JFW has become one of the largest and most influential annual fashion weeks in Southeast Asia. One of their key programmes, Indonesia Fashion Forward, provides Indonesian creatives with the opportunity for international exchange. It acts as a universal platform for fashion industry players who want to be associated with the latest designs, styles, and fashion trends. It has benefited from extensive partnership with UK institutions, brokered by the British Council.

### Java Jazz Festival<sup>61</sup>

One of the biggest jazz festivals in the Southern Hemisphere, Jakarta International Java Jazz Festival (JJF) has hosted approximately 125 groups and 1,405 artists since it was first held in 2005. The first festival was attended by 47,500 visitors during its three-day stretch. Known also as Java Jazz, it was founded by Indonesian businessman Peter F. Gontha.

### We The Fest<sup>62</sup>

We The Fest is an annual summer festival of music, arts, fashion and food. Since its inaugural edition in 2014, the festival has hosted domestic, international and regional artists from across different genres.

### Festival Condet<sup>63</sup>

Festival Condet is an event aiming to promote the culture and heritage of Betawi Condet. Over more than 500 culinary stalls and fashion specifically related to Betawi culture occupy the festival space. Numerous art performances, such as traditional Indonesia dance, music, and a cultural parade also attract many visitors.

**Art Jakarta 2019 featured large-scale works at its Art Jakarta Spot section**

(credit: the Jakarta Post – Wienda Parwitasari)

<sup>57</sup> <https://artjakarta.com/2019/journal/new-decade-new-director/>

<sup>58</sup> <https://www.jilf.id/>

<sup>59</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/aseanlitfest>

<sup>60</sup> <https://www.jakartafashionweek.co.id/>

<sup>61</sup> <https://www.javajazzfestival.com/>

<sup>62</sup> <https://wethefest.com/>

<sup>63</sup> [www.facebook.com/festcond](http://www.facebook.com/festcond)



## Movers and shakers (selected)

As a megacity, Jakarta is constantly renewed by the creative energy and imagination of its millions of citizens. Creative entrepreneurs and social activists are playing a leading role in re-imagining Jakarta as a creative city. There are thousands of dynamic creatives across the city, with just a few introduced here.

### Design & Fashion

#### Leonard Theosabrata<sup>64</sup>

Leonard Theosabrata is a businessman in the creative industries. He is the co-founder of The Goods Dept, a retail store which sells fashion products as well as various designer's collections. Besides The Goods Dept, Leo was also involved in the establishment of Accupunto, a local furniture brand from Indonesia which has won the Red Dot Design award. In 2019, Leo was appointed as the Director of SMESCO Indonesia Company<sup>65</sup>, a public service agency under the Ministry of Cooperatives and SMEs. He also founded Indoestri Makerspace and the Jakarta Creative Hub.

#### Chitra Subiakto<sup>66</sup>

Chitra Subyakto is founder and creative director of Jakarta based, batik fashion house 'Sejauh Mata Memandang' founded in 2014. With a passion for modernising the Batik tradition for the younger generation, she has developed a network of producers from across the country.

#### Ayla Dimitri<sup>67</sup>

Ayla Dimitri is a fashion designer, editor and entrepreneur known for her eclectic and contemporary style. Ayla also collaborated with Amanda Hartanto to launch a modern batik collection in March 2018.

#### Emily Jaury<sup>68</sup>

Together with Dewi Parwati, Emily Jaury started Love and Flair as a fashion e-commerce venture in 2014. Initially drawing on affordable fashion from around the world, most items they stock are now locally made - including for their own labels. Following a series of successful pop-up stores around Jakarta, Love and Flair opened their first store in Plaza Indonesia in 2017.

#### Diajeng Lestari, HIJUP<sup>69</sup>

HIJUP is a fast-growing, women-led modest fashion brand. It is the first and the biggest modest fashion online mall in the world. The market for modest fashion is estimated to be at least \$230bn. Set up in 2011 by Diajeng Lestari, HIJUP is one of the fastest growing fashion companies in Indonesia. It also trades in the UK. In 2016, HIJUP participated in London Fashion Week as part of the International Fashion Showcase. HIJUP is growing very fast – attracting investment and building market share as the 'Asos for modest fashion'. 90% of HIJUP designers are women and they are sourced from across Indonesia. The growth of HIJUP is accelerating the growth of these micro enterprises. HIJUP is now a very established force in global modest fashion. Of primary importance for Diajeng Lestari is the development of inclusive skills and capacity building.



**Some had 5 employees and they have shot up to 50 as we grow our customer base...We have over 270 designers. Some are 'mompreneurs' so can't access formal skills programme.**

**Diajeng Lestari, founder of HIJUP**

<sup>64</sup> [https://instagram.com/leonard\\_theosabrata](https://instagram.com/leonard_theosabrata)

<sup>65</sup> <https://smesco.go.id/>

<sup>66</sup> <https://www.ajourneybespoke.com/journey/people/chitra-subyakto-founder-creative-director-sejauh-mata-memandang>

<sup>67</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/ayladimitri/>

<sup>68</sup> <https://loveandflair.com>

<sup>69</sup> <https://www.hijup.com/en>

### Santi Alaysius and Hamphrey Tedja

The duo founded Domisilium Studio<sup>70</sup> in 2009. The studio offers a full range of architectural and interior design service in residential, hospitality and commercial projects. Santi has won awards for her work in the past including for the Waldorf Astoria in Chicago, while Hamphrey is a scion of Jakarta's real estate developers. Recently, they launched the retail brand Fredhelligh as a curated interior and home goods store highlighting local treasures and sustainable designs.<sup>71</sup>

### Hermawan Tanzil

Hermawan believes design has to relate to culture, and this can be seen from the signature style of his design firm, Leboye.<sup>72</sup> He also believes art is for everyone, which led to him creating Dia.Lo.Gue Artspace<sup>73</sup> with his wife Engel.<sup>74</sup> Hermawan is also part of the Bintaro Design District curatorial team.

### Andra Matin

Andra Matin<sup>75</sup> is a contemporary Indonesian architect who established an eponymous firm based in Jakarta. The firm has developed a distinctive design approach, strongly rooted in Indonesian culture and exploring working with local materials. Some of his famous projects include Potatohead and Katamama Bali, Dia.Lo.Gue Artspace and recently the development of Tubaba regency. He is one of the founders of Arsitek Muda Indonesia (Indonesian Young Architects) association.<sup>76</sup>

### Imelda Akmal

Imelda Akmal<sup>77</sup> is an architecture and design writer and founder of Archinesia – a bilingual periodical 'bookgazine' covering Asian-wide architectural issues, with regional distribution and reach.<sup>78</sup>

<sup>70</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/domisiliumstudio/>

<sup>71</sup> <https://www.domisilium.com/>

<sup>72</sup> <http://www.leboyedesign.com/v1.1/flash.html>

<sup>73</sup> [https://www.instagram.com/dialogue\\_arts/](https://www.instagram.com/dialogue_arts/)

<sup>74</sup> <https://dialogue-artspace.com/>

<sup>75</sup> <https://www.andramatin.com/>

<sup>76</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/andramatin/>

<sup>77</sup> <https://www.linkedin.com/in/imelda-akmal-62a57a13/>

<sup>78</sup> <https://archinesia.com/>

<sup>79</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/aviantiarmand/>

<sup>80</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/armschitecture/>

<sup>81</sup> <http://www.armschitecture.com/>

<sup>82</sup> <https://www.museummacan.org>

### Avianti Armand

Avianti Armand is an architect, curator, writer and poet. She received awards for her architectural work, 'Rumah Kampung' from the Indonesian Architecture Association and Khatulistiwa Literary Award for her anthology of poems, 'Perempuan yang dihapus namanya'. She is an Asian Cultural Council Fellows in 2016 and launched a virtual Architecture Museum [arsitekturindonesia.org](http://arsitekturindonesia.org) and was involved in 2019 London Book Fair Indonesia Market Focus.<sup>79</sup>

### Muhammad Sagitha (arMsarchitecture)<sup>80</sup>

Muhammad Sagitha is an architect and the founder of the architecture firm ArMS.<sup>81</sup> He has also co-founded SUB architects in 2009 and worked in WOHA Singapore.

## Fine Arts

### Fenessa Adikoesoemo, Chairwoman of Museum MACAN Foundation<sup>82</sup>

Fenessa Adikoesoemo is Chairwoman of Museum Macan Foundation, Indonesia's first international modern art museum. Fenessa oversees the private museum's programmes, such as the Yayoi Kusama exhibition. Prior to her current role, Fenessa gained valuable experience working at AKR Land Development in 2014 and during her 2016 fellowship in Hirshborn Museum, Washington, DC.

### Aaron Seeto, director of Museum MACAN Foundation

Aaron Seeto is the director of Museum MACAN. He oversees museum operation and creative strategy, including educational and exhibition initiatives. Seeto was formerly Curatorial Manager of Asian and Pacific Art, at Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art in Brisbane, Australia where he led the curatorial team at the eighth Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art (APT8) in 2015. For eight years prior, he was the Director of Sydney 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art.

**Amalia Wirjono<sup>83</sup>**

Amalia Wirjono is leading the charge to promote the local art sector in Indonesia. Amalia was previously the vice president and Indonesia representative of Christie's, the international art auction house, and founded Art Dept ID, at The Goods Dept. She was also appointed as a commissioner by the Indonesian Creative Economy Association (Bekraf) for the Venice Art Biennale in 2017 and recently leading the Partnerships team in Museum MACAN.<sup>84</sup>

**Jun Tirtadji, gallerist, ROH Project<sup>85</sup>**

Founded in 2012 by young gallerist Jun Tirtadji, ROH Project is a leading contemporary art gallery based in Jakarta, with a focus on Indonesian and wider APAC artists. It is a regular participant in premier local and regional fairs, including SEA Focus in Singapore, Art Basel Hong Kong and Taipei Dangdai.

**Koalisi Seni Indonesia<sup>86</sup>**

Based in South Jakarta, Koalisi Seni Indonesia is a national industry coalition for the arts, advocating for improvement and policy change for a healthy ecosystem. Issues on the top of their agenda includes Covid-19 industry relief plan, gender justice in the arts, music industry governance and regulation, freedom of speech, among others. They were behind the successful launch of the Culture Endowment Fund by the Ministry of Education and Culture.

**Dolorosa Sinaga, feminist, artist and artistic director of Jakarta Biennial 2021**

Dolorosa Sinaga a venerable sculpture and feminist icon will be helping the realm for Jakarta Biennale 2021.<sup>87</sup> The Biennale 2021 edition will tackle current affairs such as human rights, the environment, diversity, gender equality, political polarisation and digital disruption.<sup>88</sup>

**Grace Samboh, independent curator**

Grace Samboh is an independent curator, born in Jakarta and frequently travel between Yogyakarta and Medan. She is one of the curatorial team members for the Jakarta Biennale 2021 and is the curator of the "21 Years Retrospective of Jogja Biennale" archive show.<sup>89</sup>

**Cut and Rescue**

Cut and Rescue is a creative collective founded by a group of artists. The technique of collage is at the heart of their interdisciplinary projects. Cut and Rescue has been actively expanding its footprint both locally and across Asia through partnership and residency since its founding.<sup>90</sup>



**For Cut and Rescue, friendship and collaboration are important factors in reviving Jakarta's creative ecosystem.**

**Whiteboard Journal, Indonesian Collective Map 2011-2020, British Council**

<sup>83</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/amaliawirjono/>

<sup>84</sup> <https://www.linkedin.com/in/amalia-wirjono-70668b124?originalSubdomain=id>

<sup>85</sup> <https://rohprojects.net/>

<sup>86</sup> <https://koalisiseni.or.id/>

<sup>87</sup> <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2020/02/04/dolorosa-sinaga-s-biography-a-story-art-and-activism.html>

<sup>88</sup> <https://jakartabiennale.id/2021/en/home-2/>

<sup>89</sup> <https://dutchartinstitute.eu/page/7753/grace-samboh>

<sup>90</sup> <https://www.whiteboardjournal.com/focus/ideas/cut-and-rescue/>

## Music and Performing Arts

### Ananda Sukarlan

Indonesia's foremost classical composer, Ananda Sukarlan is noted for incorporating elements from the country's rich, distinctive musical traditions into his works. He is known for his collaboration with Spain's leading contemporary composers in premières of their works. He has collaborated with Fundacion Musica Abierta in Spain and through his Yayasan Musik Sastra Indonesia foundation to make classical music more accessible for disabled children.

### Erwin Gutawa

Jazz musician Erwin Gutawa fills a wide range of roles, including composer, musician, arranger, conductor and producer. With a career spanning three and a half decades, he has worked with leading Indonesian singers, and has also performed extensively with orchestras, including as a conductor for the London Symphony Orchestra. His public profile has risen further following his regular appearances as a judge on TV show Indonesian Idol.<sup>91</sup>

### Wendi Putranto<sup>92</sup>

Wendi Putranto or known as Wenzrawk<sup>93</sup> is the Co-Founder and Programme Director for M Bloc Space (PT Ruang Riang Milenial), a public creative space which is resulted from a collaboration between interdisciplinary creative practitioners in the State-owned Enterprise Peruri venue. Previously Wendi was a journalist and editor for Rolling Stone Indonesia and published the independent underground rock music zine Brainwashed. He also hosted a monthly music show on TVOne, and is the manager for the rock band Seringai and The Upstairs, and once also led as COO of Hammersonic Fest.

<sup>91</sup> <https://lso.co.uk/>

<sup>92</sup> <https://www.linkedin.com/in/wendiputranto/>

<sup>93</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/wenzrawk/>

<sup>94</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/studioramajkt/?hl=en>

<sup>95</sup> <https://indonesiatatler.com/tatler-list/500list/christian-rijanto>

<sup>96</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/christianrijanto/>

<sup>97</sup> <http://www.ismaya.com>

<sup>98</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/diphabarus/>

<sup>99</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/ponyourtone/>

<sup>100</sup> <https://www.linkedin.com/in/kukuh-rizal-arfianto-a6210b25>

<sup>101</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/suneatercover/>

### Studiorama

Studiorama is an audiovisual collective based on Jakarta, Indonesia that works across multiple disciplines of arts. Studiorama is well known for their music-focused events (that also incorporate other form of visual and performance arts) that are populated with highly-curated talents. Along the way, Studiorama has also hosted several international sidestream acts with cult following in Jakarta. As one of the main people behind Studiorama, Studiorama also organises the annual Archipelago Festival together with Sounds from the Corner.<sup>94</sup>

### Christian Rijanto

Christian Rijanto<sup>95</sup> is the Co-Founder and Creative Director of ISMAYA Group, one of the leading organisations in the country's lifestyle and hospitality industry.<sup>96</sup> ISMAYA<sup>97</sup> has built a portfolio of restaurants, bars and clubs, and responsible for some of the biggest music festivals in the region, such as Djakarta Warehouse Project and We The Fest.

### Dipha Barus<sup>98</sup>

Dipha is a DJ, composer, producer in the electronic dance music genre. Besides performing in various national and international EDM concerts, festivals and gigs, in 2010 he joined indie band Agrikulture as a bass player, and in 2016 released a single with Indonesian singer Kallula which has over 8 million views on YouTube. In 2019 he joined the New York based dance music label Ultra Music, and through his collective Pon Your Tone also launched the indie label Darlin Records.<sup>99</sup>

### Kukuh Rizal<sup>100</sup>

With a diverse professional background in the music, film, retail and FMCG industries, Kukuh Rizal then developed his dream by establishing Sun Eater, a modern indie label and music collective.<sup>101</sup>

**Sarah Deshita**<sup>102</sup>

Sarah started her career as a radio announcer in Oz Radio and as Oz Radio's Music Director in 2010. In 2013 she became the Brand Manager for Ismaya Live, handling all marketing and curation for Ismaya Live events. Together with partners from Pon Your Tone and Double Deer Music, Sarah also launched the indie label Darlin Records and is a tastemaker in the industry being involved in the development of music projects and band management.<sup>103</sup>

**Kiki Aulia Ucup**

Kiki Aulia Ucup<sup>104</sup> is not a musician but a figure that is often synonymous with the music industry movement in Indonesia. Before being known as one of the people behind Synchronize Festival, Ucup started his career in the indie music label Demajors, and have managed several Indonesian bands such as Barasuara and Danilla Riyadi.<sup>105</sup>

**Film****Mira Lesmana**<sup>106</sup>

Mira Lesmana is an Indonesian film director and producer. Starting with her debut film, she had a trio of box office hits, *Kuldesak* (1999), *Sherina's Adventure* (2000) and *What's Up with Cinta?* (2002), that gave a significant boost to the Indonesian film industry. Also a songwriter and film producer, she makes films that take a light, humorous approach to serious social issues.

**Nicholas Saputra**<sup>107</sup>

Nicholas Saputra is an Indonesian actor and film producer. He became known in 2002 for his role as Rangga in cult classic romance "What's Up with Cinta?". Having won numerous Indonesian film awards, Saputra is also known as a dedicated environmentalist, active in conservation campaigns for years. He has served as the executive producer and producer for three acclaimed environmental films under his production company, Tanakhir Films.

**Mouly Surya**<sup>108</sup>

Mouly is an award winning Indonesian film director and screenwriter based in Jakarta. She launched her own film production company Cinesurya in 2007 and have screened and competed her films in Sundance and Cannes. Her latest film, *Marlina the Murderer in Four Acts* was premiered in Cannes in 2017 and received 15 nominations at the Citra Awards.<sup>109</sup>

**Joko Anwar**<sup>110</sup>

Joko is an Indonesian film director, producer, screenwriter and actor. His directorial debut *Arisan* was released in 2003 and since then have wrote and directed films across different genres: film noir, psychological thriller, horror and urban drama. His films have won several national and international awards, and his film *Impetigore* was submitted as Indonesia's official submission for the Academy Awards. Following the film *Gundala*, in 2020 he also announced the production of film series under the *Bumilangit Cinematic Universe*.<sup>111</sup>

**Amelia Hapsari**

Amelia is a documentary filmmaker and previous director for In-Docs, a non-profit organisation for documentary filmmaking in Asia. Through In-Docs she had started *Docs by the Sea*, an international documentary film forum. She is also the first Indonesian to be invited to be part of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences, and is currently the Framework Global Change Leadership Management for Ashoka.<sup>112</sup>

<sup>102</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/sarahdeshita/>

<sup>103</sup> <https://music.britishcouncil.org/news-and-features/2017-05-25/liverpool-sound-city>

<sup>104</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/kikiauliaucup/>

<sup>105</sup> <https://www.synchronizfestival.com/>

<sup>106</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mira\\_Lesmana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mira_Lesmana)

<sup>107</sup> <https://instagram.com/nicholassaputra>

<sup>108</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/moulysurya/>

<sup>109</sup> <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm3029226/>

<sup>110</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/jokoanwar/>

<sup>111</sup> <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm1322135/>

<sup>112</sup> <https://www.linkedin.com/in/amelia-hapsari-5107065a?originalSubdomain=id>

## Mandy Marahimin

Mandy Marahimin<sup>113</sup> is an Indonesian film producer, working for Tanakhir Films. She produces both fiction and documentary films. Her latest feature documentary is titled *Semesta* (Islands of Faith), which was released theatrically and is now on Netflix. She also works for Ideosource Entertainment, a venture capital that funds films as an investment analyst, and as the Outreach Director for Good Pitch South East Asia and Good Pitch Indonesia. She is currently the interim director of InDocs, a non-profit organisation with missions to cultivate talents in documentary filmmaking and to grow the documentary film ecosystem in Indonesia and Southeast Asia.<sup>114</sup>

## Riri Riza

Riri Riza, is an Indonesian film director, producer and writer. He is notable for his directorial work on *Petualangan Sherina* (Sherina's Adventure; 2000), *Gie* (2005), *Laskar Pelangi* (The Rainbow Troop; 2008), and *Ada Apa Dengan Cinta? 2* (What's Up with Love? 2; 2016). He is also known for his creative partnership with Indonesian producer Mira Lesmana, with whom he manages the film production company, Miles Films. He also is the co-Founder of Rumata Artspace in Makassar.<sup>115</sup>

## Meiske Taurisia

In 2008 she co-founded *babibutafilm*<sup>116</sup> where she produced *BLIND PIG WHO WANTS TO FLY* (2008) winning the Fipresci Award; *POSTCARDS FROM THE ZOO* (2012) in competition at Berlinale; *ROCKET RAIN* (2013) in competition at Forum Independent-Karlovy Vary; *THE FOX EXPLOITS THE TIGER'S MIGHT* (2015, short) in competition at Semaine de la Critique-Cannes; and recently *CUTS* (2016, documentary) at Panorama IDFA. In 2016, she founded Palari Films together with film producer Muhammad Zaidy and in 2016 produced *ATHIRAH* (2016) which won Best Film at Festival Film Indonesia.<sup>117</sup>

## Literature

### Goenawan Mohamad

Goenawan Mohamad is a poet, essayist, playwright and editor, known for his critical and insightful thinking. Most of his writings concern issues of human rights, religion, democracy, and corruption. He is the founder and editor *Tempo Magazine*, and is a vocal critic of the status quo. Goenawan also co-founded *Aliansi Jurnalis Independen* (The Alliance of Independent Journalist), and *Institut Studi Arus Informasi* (The Institute of Information Flow) that monitors any form of violence towards Indonesia journalism.

### Ayu Utami<sup>118</sup>

Ayu Utami is a writer, journalist and activist and writer. She has worked for several magazines, such as *Humor*, *Matra*, *Forum Keadilan*, and *D&R*. Following the government's closure of the top-selling news platform in Indonesia, she co-founded *Aliansi Jurnalis Independen* (The Alliance of Independent Journalists) to protest the policy. She currently works for cultural journal *Kalam* and for *Utan Kayu Theatre*.

### Teddy W. Kusuma and Maesy Ang, founders of POST Bookshop<sup>119</sup>

POST Bookshop is an independent bookshop located in South Jakarta. Founded in 2014 by Teddy W. Kusuma and Maesy Ang, POST has an established reputation for its curated portfolio of non-mainstream publications. It also doubles as a café and welcomes readers to browse through its collection of unsealed books.

<sup>113</sup> <http://www.torinofilmlab.it/people/6350-mandy-marahimin>

<sup>114</sup> <https://www.linkedin.com/in/somemandy?originalSubdomain=id>

<sup>115</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/rizariri/?hl=en>

<sup>116</sup> <http://www.torinofilmlab.it/people/705-meiske-taurisia>

<sup>117</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/dmeiske2/?hl=en>

<sup>118</sup> <http://www.ayuutami.info>

<sup>119</sup> <https://tirai.co/post-santa>

**Laura Prinsloo**<sup>120</sup>

Publisher Laura Prinsloo plays many roles within Indonesian literary culture. She is the Managing Director of Kesaint Blanc publishing house, Head of the National Book Committee Head of the International Book Exhibition, co-founder and Chair of the '17000 Pulau Imaji' ('17000 Islands Of Imagination') foundation, and Deputy Head of the International Cooperation Committee for Indonesian Chambers of Commerce. Laura is currently leading Jakarta's application to be a member of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network as a City of Literature.



**The [National Book] Committee is concerned with the whole ecosystem: not just promoting the literature that we have, but also trying to develop our writers and publishers and promoting a culture of reading...Since we started four years ago, the National Book Committee has recorded more than 1,500 titles sold to foreign publishers. In a way, it has proven that Indonesian content can compete in the global market.**

**Laura Prinsloo, chair of National Book Committee, co-founder and chair of 17,000 Pulau Imaji (17,000 Islands of Imagination) Foundation**

**Mikael Johani**

Mikael Johani<sup>121</sup> is a poet, critic, and translator from Jakarta. His works have appeared in various publications in Edinburgh, London, Johannesburg, Hanoi and Kuala Lumpur. His English translation of Gratiagusti Chananya Rompas's poem, one by one the bodies died, won an Honourable Mention from the 2018 Hawker Prize for Southeast Asian Poetry. He organises Paviliun Puisi, a monthly open mic in Jakarta.<sup>122</sup>

**Intan Paramaditha**

Intan Paramaditha is an Indonesian author and feminist academic. Known as a 'gothic feminist' Intan explores issues that relate to gender, sexuality, culture and politics. She previously taught in Sarah Lawrence College and University of Indonesia and have spoken at various national and international literary events and festivals.<sup>123</sup>

**Eka Kurniawan**

Eka Kurniawan is an Indonesian writer and screenwriter. In 2015 he became the first Indonesian to be nominated for the prestigious Man Booker International Prize. His book, Vengeance is Mine, All Others Pay Cash is being adapted into a film and to be released in 2021.<sup>124</sup>

<sup>120</sup> <https://instagram.com/lauraprinsloo>

<sup>121</sup> <https://mikaeljohani.com/>

<sup>122</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/mekitron/>

<sup>123</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/sihirperempuan/>

<sup>124</sup> <https://gnolbo.com/links/arsip>

## Creative Industries

### Yoris Sebastian<sup>125</sup>

Yoris Sebastian was General Manager of Hard Rock Cafe from 1998 to 2006, and in 2006 left to establish creative planning and consultancy firm “Oh My Goodness”. In the same year, he received the British Council Award for International Young Creative Entrepreneur, and in 2008, was winner of Asia Pacific Entrepreneur Award.

### Handoko Hendroyono<sup>126</sup>

Handoko Hendroyono is a creative entrepreneur. Originally an expert in design and brands, he is a leading thinker on communications and advertising, and has written several books covering those topics including ‘Fish Eye’, ‘Brand Gardener’, and ‘Do’. He is also a film producer, who has produced several well-known Indonesian movies including ‘Cahaya dari Timur’, ‘Surat dari Praha’, and ‘Filosofi Kopi’.

### David Irianto (Tedx Jakarta, Greatmind.id)<sup>127</sup>

David Irianto<sup>128</sup> is a designer, journalist and content curator. He co-founded the media platform Greatmind.id, the creative content agency Simpul Group, the book label Pear Press and content management service Ide Laju. He is also on the curatorial board for TedxJakarta.

### Hadi Ismanto

Hadi Ismanto<sup>129</sup> is the founder and CEO of New Media Folder, a media company comprising of Manual Jakarta – an independent online publication focusing on lifestyle in Jakarta; MALT Studio, a Jakarta based graphic design agency and The Third Company, a social marketing agency. He is also the Director of Strategic Communications for ADGI (Indonesian Graphic Design Association).<sup>130</sup>

### Jacob Gatot Sura<sup>131</sup>

Jacob is an architect and co-founded several creative hubs, notably Uma Seminyak in Bali and M Bloc Space<sup>132</sup> in Jakarta, the latter being one of the first public private partnership creative hubs located in the state-owned enterprise Peruri venue. Jacob also co-founded Seminyak Design Week and Titik Temu Coffee.

### Hogi Wirjono and Lita Nugraheni, Brightspot Market<sup>133</sup>

Hogi Wirjono and Lita Nugraheni are two entrepreneurs with a passion for bringing creative together. Hogi is also a DJ. They work independently and together (always with other collaborators), to energise the creative scene across Jakarta. Their main event / programme is Brightspot – a creativity festival which takes place at the end of October every year. Brightspot is growing in scale. The first event had 5,000 attendees, the most recent had close to 90,000. Brightspot is also growing in prominence and strategic significance for the Indonesian creative economy, with a direct partnership with JFW (including shared events), and increasing numbers of established creative firms seeking exposure through the platform Brightspot provides. Eschewing cigarette sponsorship, Brightspot is also trying to take a strategic lead against the dominance of tobacco-sponsorship in the arts.



**We were the first pop up market in Indonesia. There is a strong fashion and lifestyle focus, with bands...we take over abandoned spaces and malls. It is more than a market though – it is becoming a fully-fledged creative festival, so it is not just about consumption.**

**Hogi Wirjono**

<sup>125</sup> <https://instagram.com/yorissebastian>

<sup>126</sup> <https://instagram.com/handokohendroyono>

<sup>127</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/tygerd/>

<sup>128</sup> <https://greatmind.id/contributor/david-irianto>

<sup>129</sup> [https://www.instagram.com/hadiismanto\\_\\_/](https://www.instagram.com/hadiismanto__/)

<sup>130</sup> <https://manual.co.id/>

<sup>131</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/masjacob/?hl=en>

<sup>132</sup> <https://mbloc.space/>

<sup>133</sup> <https://www.brightspotmrkt.com/>



## 5. Opportunities to connect

Being the capital city of among the fastest growing nations in the world, Jakarta cannot escape the fact that it has become a megapolitan city that has to provide the lead for the social and cultural development required by the country, both in terms of tangible and intangible infrastructures and facilities.

As in other capital cities, opportunities in Jakarta to collaborate in the fields of culture and creative industries are in abundance. However, Jakarta is also facing the challenges of a capital city, compounded by issues of environment and climate change, infrastructure, poverty, equality, and human rights. Evidence shows that many of the city's creative initiatives are, in part, seeking to identify solutions for these challenges.

In terms of creative representation, Jakarta has a representative on the **Indonesia Creative Cities Network**, while from the government side, it is home to headquarters of international organisations, such as ASEAN. Jakarta also has an active role in the Meeting of Governor/Mayor of ASEAN Capitals (MGMAC) and U20 Mayor Summit.

Jakarta is also currently undergoing a process of applying to UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) as a City of Literature. Building on its historical activities in nurturing literature, libraries, authors and publishing industries, Jakarta has also been active in global events on literature. The city has been selected by the International Publishers Association as the host for their 33rd Congress in November 2022. Supported by the Jakarta Provincial Government, this event could potentially attract a wide range of visitors and audience, making it “the next Frankfurt” in terms of books, literature and the publishing industry.

However, the most appealing part of Jakarta today is the growth of **alternative spaces**, where young people and creative enterprises find their place for expressing, exchanging and delivering their products and services. This phenomenon is enhanced by the encouragement from the central government, who obviously are becoming more open and approachable to community initiatives and small-scale cultural entrepreneurship, including as part of collective efforts to revive the economy post-pandemic.

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