

INDONESIA  
**Surabaya**

Cultural Cities Profile  
East Asia



10 June 2021  
Tom Fering / creative consultancy

# Contents

<b>Introducing Surabaya</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Surabaya in numbers</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>1. Context</b>	<b>3</b>
Location / region	3
Ethnic diversity	3
City vision, mission and branding	3
History	4
Heritage	5
<b>2. Culture, arts and civic policy</b>	<b>6</b>
Creative industries in Surabaya	7
Surabaya – Liverpool Sister City Cooperation	9
Surabaya Smart City	9
Cultural funding	9
Culture and equality	10
Culture, environment and sustainability	11
Culture and education	11
<b>3. Cultural ecosystem and infrastructure</b>	<b>15</b>
Cultural institutions (selected)	15
Creative hubs and marketplaces	19
Festivals	22
Movers and shakers	24

# Special Thanks

Commissioned by the British Council, the research was led by Dr. Tom Fleming, director, Tom Fleming Creative Consultancy (TFCC); Nana Yu-I Lee, senior researcher, TFCC; Chris Joynes, consultant researcher, TFCC. The Indonesia research teams were led by Dwinita Larasati at ICCN, with support from Arianti Ayu Puspita. The CIPG research team were Anesthesia Novianda, Ferzya Farhan and Muhammad Rinaldi Camil. The Tanahindie research team was led by Anwar Rachman, and included Muhaimin Zulhair, Fitriani A Dalay, Fauzan Al Ayyuby, Aziziah Diah Aprilya Wilda Yanti Salam, Ade Awaluddin Firman, Ruth Onduko, and Rafsanjani. ICCN's key city informants were: for Surabaya: Hafsoh Mubarak; for Surabaya: Vicky Arief; for Surabaya: Ashari Ramadhan; for Surabaya: Ronny Lopies; for Jayapura: Murda; for Bandung: Galih Sedayu; for Surabaya: Greg Wuryanto; for Surabaya: Akhmad 'Adin' Khoridin; for Surakarta: Liliek Setiawan; for Aceh: Zulhadi Usman.

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 Surabaya

Surabaya is a major commercial hub - known as a place of trade and economic dynamism, with huge shopping centres, huge business complexes, and a diversity of industries. But beneath the corporate landscape, Surabaya is also a city of education, with 72 higher education institutions housing a population of around 115,000 students; and a city of culture, with deep traditions and a dynamic contemporary creative economy.

As the former 'ocean gateway' for the C13th Majapahit Kingdom, the port of Surabaya, now called Tanjung Perak, is the second busiest sea-port in Indonesia, and the 43rd busiest in the world. Due to its strategic position, the port constitutes the centre of inter-island shipping for Eastern Indonesia.

The recently established brand narrative of 'Sparkling Surabaya' represents the city's tourism aspirations. Many visitors to Surabaya come to shop in the city's malls, many of which offer goods at lower prices to other cities in Indonesia. Many people also visit Surabaya for its cultural heritage and to experience the city's assimilation of Chinese and Arabic cultures.

## Surabaya cityscape

Photo © Get Your Guide

## Surabaya's unique cuisine

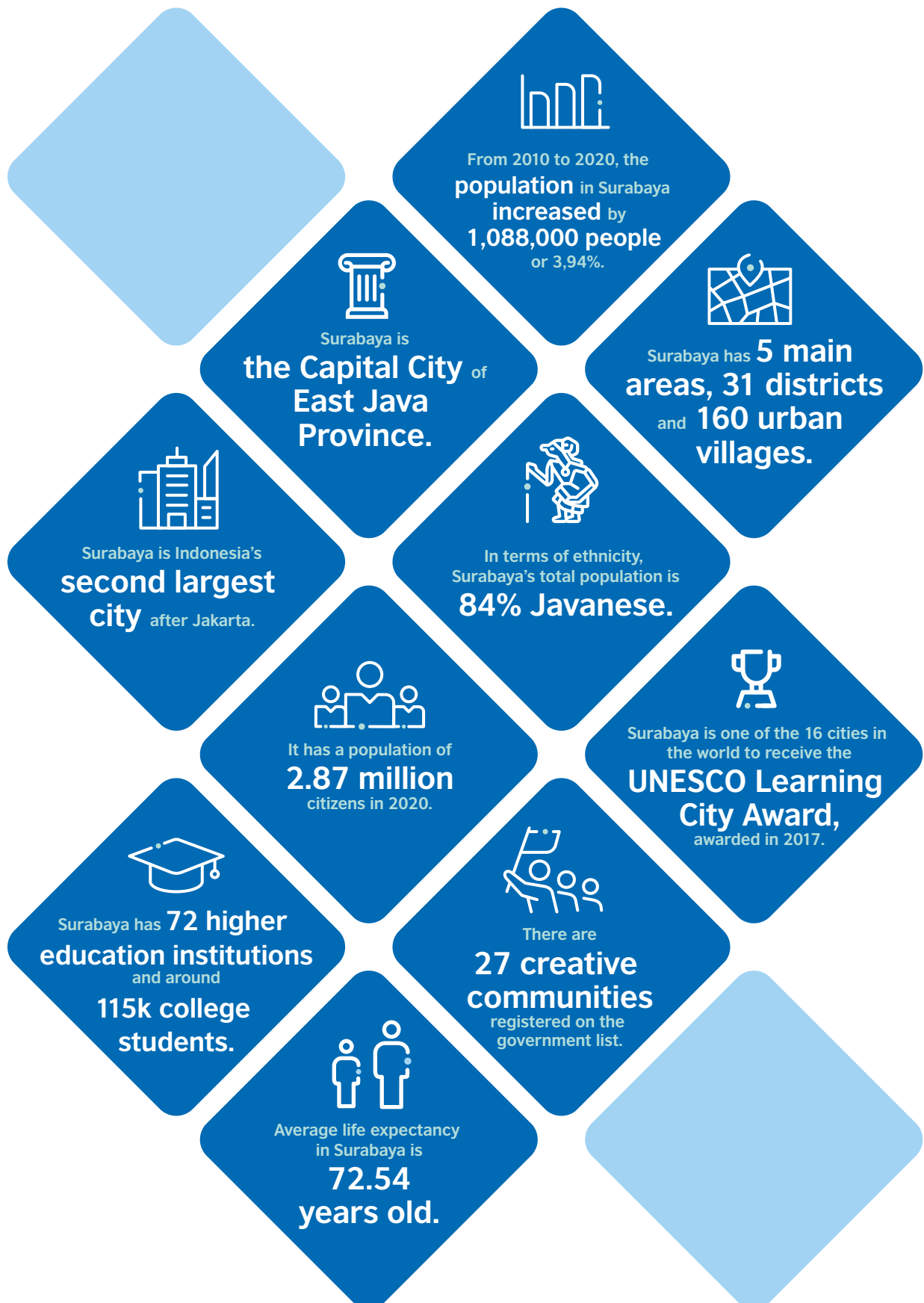
People from Surabaya, if asked what they miss most from their hometown, would commonly answer "petis", a condiment made of fermented shrimp that is usually mixed with the sauce for "rujak cingur", a salad containing cartilage and meat specifically from the nostrils and ears of cattle.

Others might answer 'rawon', a black meat soup that gets its colour from *keluwak*, a herb harvested from *Pangium*, a tall tree native to the mangrove swamps of Southeast Asia that produces a large poisonous fruit which can be made edible by fermentation.

*Petis* and *Rawon* are just two of the distinctive native foods from Surabaya, with recipes that are handed down among generations. Any exploration of Surabaya's food culture would reveal the rich historical journey of this urban coastal city.



# Surabaya in numbers





# 1. Context

## Location / region

Surabaya is a coastal city, located on the north coast of East Java province, overlooking the Madura Strait to the north and east. The city is divided into five main areas: West Surabaya, North Surabaya, East Surabaya, South Surabaya and Central Surabaya, consisting of 31 districts and 160 urban villages (kampongs).

80% of Surabaya is on a coastal lowland, 3 to 6 metres above sea level. To the south of the city, in Lakarsantri and Gayungan Districts, there are two hills with an altitude of 25-50 meters above the sea level.

Just like other tropical areas within the archipelago, Surabaya has just two seasons: rainy and dry. Rainy season starts in November and usually ends in April, the dry season occurs from May to October. The temperature in Surabaya ranges from 25°C to 30°C.

## Ethnic diversity and languages

Surabaya's ethnicity and culture is majority Javanese (83.68%). Other ethnic groups include Maduranese (7.5%); Chinese (7.25%) and Arabic (2.04%).

Surabaya is home to a variety of languages. The language that is commonly used is a typical Javanese dialect known as *Boso Suroboyoan*, which has a large influence in almost all regions of East Java Province. Other languages include Mandarin, Madura, and Arabic. Regardless of the language diversity, all Surabaya residents use Indonesian as the nation-wide official language.

## City vision, mission and branding

The city's mid-term development plan, or *Rencana Pembangunan Jangka Menengah Daerah/ RPJMD* (2016-2021) presents a civic vision of Surabaya as a peaceful, globally competitive and ecologically oriented city. This model focuses on maintaining productivity in industry and trade, including the creative industries, while implementing initiatives associated with the sustainable development goals and local culture.

Recent amendments to this have since included adopting a digitally-based 'social bureaucracy'.

Since 2005, Surabaya Municipality has used "Sparkling Surabaya" as a tourism slogan. The concept behind "Sparkling Surabaya" is to present the city as a comfortable and safe place with the best urban facilities. Surabaya has been actively promoting its 'soothing metropolitan atmosphere' through its city parks and gardens.



**Surabaya Municipality appreciates and welcomes the initiative of the Indonesian Agency for Creative Economy (BEKRAF) to facilitate the establishment of a legal body for creative economy actors in Surabaya. By having a legal organisation that focuses on creative economy, in the future programmes and events related to creative economy, the municipality can just right away involve the organisation, in order to have an improvement of the programs and events.**

**Surabaya Mid-Term Development Plan 2016-2021**



Old Town quarter at Surabaya

Photo © Discovery Cathay

## History

In the 13th Century, the Kali Mas estuary, on which the present-day Surabaya is built, was the main ocean gateway to enter the capital of the Majapahit Kingdom. In 1705, Surabaya was established after Mataram entered into an agreement with the Dutch colonial administration, who were given the freedom to build fortresses throughout Java.<sup>1</sup> During the Dutch East Indies era, Surabaya was capital of Surabaya Regency. In 1905, Surabaya received municipal status and in 1926 was designated as the capital of the East Java Province.

During the war for Indonesian Independence, the city acquired the name 'the city of heroes', based on the role that Surabayan youth, known as Arek-arek Suroboyo, played in the fight against the colonial powers. One of the most famous events is the Battle of Surabaya, which took place between 27 October 1945 – 20 November 1945, which is nationally commemorated every 10th November and which is celebrated by the landmark of the city's own Tugu Pahlawan (Heroes Monument).

## “City of Heroes”

The name “Surabaya” comes from the words “sura” (shark) and “baya” (crocodile). The name is believed to depict the struggles of life of Surabaya people, who live in coastal areas, between land and sea. It also symbolises the way of life of Surabaya people, who mingle with others.

Surabaya gained the title “City of Heroes” due to a historical occurrence called the “Battle of Surabaya” that peaked in November 1945, a fight between regular infantry and militia of the Indonesian nationalist movement and British and British Indian troops, as a part of the Indonesian National Revolution against the re-imposition of Dutch colonial rule. This battle helped galvanise Indonesian and international support for Indonesian independence, and 10 November is celebrated annually as Heroes' Day.

<sup>1</sup> Basundoro, Purnawan.2012. Sejarah Kota Surabaya Sejak Masa Kolonial Sampai Masa Reformasi (1906-2012). Departemen Ilmu Sejarah Fakultas Ilmu Budaya Universitas Airlangga dan ELMATERA Publishing

## Heritage

Surabaya Municipality has put in place clear regulations and mechanisms for the recording and preservation of the city's cultural heritage, not only to preserve original tangible heritage but also to help inform the parallel development of segmented urban tourism within the city, particularly historical and thematic tourism.

Currently, there are 273 cultural objects, buildings, sites and areas that are officially under the protection of Surabaya Municipality, whose Cultural Heritage Protection programme has a budget to carry out maintenance on cultural heritage sites and historical relics that have been listed in the work programme. The city has also designated a series of Socio-Cultural Development Areas of cultural interest, which have been singled out for conservation and preservation. These include, for example, the Tomb of Sunan Ampel, an area of pilgrimage, and the Kota Lama old town area.

In terms of intangible cultural assets, Surabaya has several very distinctive cultural activities, rituals and performance arts. These include Ludruk, a theatrical form consisting of 5 to 6-hour performances that blend humorous drama, music and dance; Larung Ari-Ari, a traditional birthing ceremony where the people of the coast carry or wash the placenta of their newborns in to the sea; the Macapat Dhandang Gula song; Sedekah Bumi Earth Offerings; and Temu Manten Pegon a traditional cultural form that brings together three cultural elements: Arabic, Chinese, and Surabayan/East Javanese.



**Ludruk is a traditional theatre with male actors. It has the rules of male actors that are dressed up as females and act like females to produce a certain humorous effect. Ludruk consists of panjak or musician (gamelan players), bedhayan or tandhak (actors), and a show master. It usually contains themes that are close to daily lives, such as romance, struggle, merchant, and so on. Ludruk now faces the challenge to survive among other cultural expressions. As long as all Ludruk stakeholders are adaptive to the changes of the era, especially regarding the advancement of information technology, it will hopefully thrive and grow.**

**Kukuh Yudha Parnanta,**  
Culture Enthusiast, Airlangga University



## 2. Culture, arts and civic policy

Surabaya's existing frameworks for the support of arts and culture are largely part of the legacy of Tri Rismaharini, who was Mayor of Surabaya for two terms between 2010-2020. Risma is now the Minister of Social Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia<sup>2</sup>, but during her time in office as Mayor of Surabaya, she built Surabaya's approach to social development.

This has been recognised through a range of national and international awards, including: 1st ranking in Indonesian Smart City Award categories for smart governance, smart living, and smart environment in 2011; Environmentally Sustainable City 2012; Indonesian Green Region Award (IGRA) 2012; The Asian Townscape Award (ATA) 2013; Parahita EkaPraya award for gender mainstreaming) 2013; Child-Friendly City Award (Kota Layak Anak) 2015; Adipura Paripurna environmental award 2016; UNESCO Learning City Award 2017; Scroll of Honour Award from UN Habitat 2018; and The Guangzhou International Award Online Popular City 2018<sup>3</sup>. Surabaya was also chosen as the host of the Preparatory Committees for the UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development in July 2016, and UN World Habitat Day in October 2020.



**It is necessary for Surabaya to have a Regional Regulation (Peraturan Daerah) particularly on creative economy, and to establish a creative economy committee. The legislative and executive bodies agree and have given positive responses to implement the plan; now it is just a matter of time.**

**Hafshoh Mubarak,**  
Chairperson of Surabaya  
Creative Network

<sup>2</sup> <https://regional.kompas.com/read/2020/12/23/06450661/per-trip-risma-pns-masyarakat-wali-kini?page=all>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.surabaya.go.id/id/page/0/49215/penghargaan>

## Creative industries in Surabaya

In the last 10 years, Surabaya has shown signs of growth in the creative economy. Driven by the young demographic, the city has become a hub for a range of creative sectors, in particular art, product design, craft, interior design, visual communication design, animated film, software, television, radio and print media. Additionally, vocational high schools and universities support the availability of trained and sector-competent human resources in this sector.

The Surabaya Creative Economy Development Team has authored a plan to make Surabaya the centre of creative industries in Indonesia by 2029, prioritising the development of Gastronomy, Film, Fashion, and Visual Communication Design sectors.<sup>4</sup>

---

Taman Bungkul park,  
centre of Surabaya



---

<sup>4</sup> Interview with Hafshoh Mubarak, Chair of Surabaya Creative Network.



## Transforming Surabaya to become an ASEAN Creative Industries Hub

Startup Nations Summit (SNS) was an international conference held as a part of a series of events in Surabaya: Inno Creativation (14-15 November 2018) and Bekraf Festival 2018 (14-17 November 2018), then concluded with Mlaku-mlaku Nang Tunjungan. These four events aimed to strengthen the plan to make Surabaya as the Asian Digital Capital City.



**It is our aim that one day Surabaya becomes the hub for Asia and ASEAN for creative industries and for the implementation of information technology.**

**Tri Rismaharini,**  
Mayor of Surabaya,  
during the Startup Nations Summit,  
November 2018

## Key city policies and support for culture and the creative industries

Surabaya Municipality is very serious in implementing its commitments related to culture and art. In 2019 Surabaya was designated by the national government as a pilot city for the development of Indonesian culture<sup>5</sup>.

In providing support to the city's emerging creative industries, their potential role in the city's life is acknowledged by two recent civic interventions:

Firstly, the formation of the Surabaya Creative Network (SCN) in February 2016. SCN is a forum and a gathering place for creative and cultural communities, as well as individuals and academics, seeking to develop and transform the potential of the city's creative economy. To date, SCN has registered and involved participation from 110 creative and cultural communities, 214 creative individuals, and 15 academic departments from across the city's universities. Represented bodies include Surabaya Art Council (DKS), Surabaya Web Community (SUWEC), Serikat Mural Surabaya, various professional design and architecture associations, and stakeholder-led communities engaged in music, heritage, and literature.

Secondly, the City Development Planning Agency (Bappeko) has recently initiated a comprehensive and sustainable creative economy development programme for the city. The Surabaya Creative Economy Development Team, in collaboration with creative economy stakeholders, including entrepreneurs, SMEs, academics, practitioners and communities, have worked to map solutions to particular issues of skills, resources and infrastructure for supporting creative industries. The results have informed regional and city legislation, and proposed the establishment of a creative economy committee.

<sup>5</sup> <https://surabaya.liputan6.com/read/4061524/surabaya-jadi-contoh-pengembangan-kebi-di-indonesia>

In supporting culture more widely, Surabaya Municipality has well-established regulations regarding the maintenance of cultural heritage. Led by the Culture and Tourism Office and in accordance with central government programming, the city has subsequently enacted regulations for the protection of specific buildings and sites; campaigns for the preservation of cultural heritage; and has also formed an advisory team for cultural heritage, consisting of academics and independent professionals. This team also undertakes inspections of cultural assets in Surabaya, as well as research, documentation, and record-keeping.

The city authorities have also established a Creative House under the auspices of the Culture and Tourism Office, built specifically for Surabaya residents to develop talent in the arts<sup>6</sup>.

There are also additional city policies designed to enhance and protect culture within daily life. Examples include Mayor Regulation Number 42 (2015), which requires government employees to wear traditional Javanese outfits during office hours.

## Surabaya – Liverpool Sister City Cooperation<sup>7</sup>

After a visit by Surabaya Mayor Tri Rismaharini to Liverpool, UK in 2017, the Liverpool city delegation visited Surabaya as a follow-up from the Letter of Intent – Sister City cooperation. In this visit in 2018, the Memorandum of Understanding Sister City Liverpool – Surabaya was signed which highlighted potential areas of cooperation and similarities between the two cities, which include: creative economy development, port management, smart city development, and human resource management.

## Surabaya Smart City

In developing the city's digital profile, there are several policies that support the city's engagement with Indonesia's Smart City movement, although they focus largely on initiatives for strengthening e-governance<sup>8</sup> rather than digital creativity. In addition to the establishment of a number of digital hubs, Surabaya Municipality has won two Smart City Awards, in 2011 from *Warta Ekonomi* and *eGov Magazine*, and in 2018 from Indonesia's Smart City Index by Kompas R&D Centre.

## Cultural funding

Civic funding for cultural matters has been given special attention by the city authorities, with the Regional Revenues and Expenditures Budget disbursing funds for cultural preservation, arts activities and infrastructural investment in working spaces for cultural and artistic activists, including the construction of the "Rumah Kreatif" (Creative House).

In general terms, funding for creative and cultural communities and events comes from a combination of government and non-governmental organisations, private sector sponsorship, individual donations and international donor agencies. For example, C2O, a library and collaborative workspace is funded through self-help, grants from donor organisations such as British Council and Ford Foundation, and from collaborative partners such as universities.

<sup>6</sup> [https://humas.surabaya.go.id/2019/08/19/lestari-kesenian-rakyat -Pemkot-title-shows-sawunggaling-children-world /](https://humas.surabaya.go.id/2019/08/19/lestari-kesenian-rakyat-Pemkot-title-shows-sawunggaling-children-world/)

<sup>7</sup> <https://kerjasama.surabaya.go.id/2018/05/surabaya-dan-liverpool-tanda-tangani-kerjasama-sister-city/>

<sup>8</sup> Adi Suhendra, 2017. Kesiapan Pemerintah Daerah dalam Mewujudkan Kota Cerdas di Bandung dan Surabaya. *Matra Pembaruan* 1 (1), 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.21787/mp.1.1.2017.1-9>



## Culture and equality

Surabaya city supports many projects and policies related to gender mainstreaming within the city's civic and social life. Examples include the Surabaya City Caring for Women programme, the Surabaya Gender Award, as well as the authority's collaboration with communities and equality institutions on a broad range of public-facing pro-equality events and initiatives. These include the Surabaya Women's March, Surabaya Soul City, Women Incubator Solidarity & Humanity Surabaya, Savy Amira Women's Crisis Centre, Women Youth Development Institute Indonesia, and those projects led by the Srikandi Project.

Culture and equality is also a strong theme carried by the city's creative communities, including the SUBStitute Makerspace for inclusive crafting.

Workshop by SUBStitute  
Makerspace

Photo © SUBStitute Makerspace





## Culture, environment and sustainability

Several years ago, particularly under Risma's mayoral leadership, Surabaya City Government sought to address a number of overarching environmental issues by initiating policies for environmentally friendly urban planning and development, and by including sustainable development targets across three policy areas: economic development, social development and environmental protection.

As a result, Surabaya is now seen as a leading city for environmental conservation in Indonesia. Surabaya's role in the concept of sustainable urban planning received international recognition when the city was chosen to host the 2016 UN Habitat Preparatory Committee meeting.

In general terms, ecological and cultural perspectives heavily inform the city's approaches to urban planning, to waste and to seasonal flood management. Across all areas, the city authorities and the mayoral office works with grassroots society and community through programmes for recycling, city greening, park management and irrigation, engaging with residents to transform the metropolitan city into a greener and cleaner city.

## Cultural and environment case studies

### Adiwiyata Award 2020<sup>9</sup>

An environmental education programme for students from elementary to high school, which includes hydroponic plant courses, a 3R (Reduce, Recycle, Reuse) movement campaign, and an eco-friendly building programme.

Adiwiyata is also an award programme in which schools and individuals who succeed in achieving environmentally-friendly indicators or show particular achievement in building sustainable environmental change are recognised by the Surabaya government.

### Environmental Awareness in Schools

This is a voluntary programme which aims to encourage sustainable collective action undertaken by schools in implementing environmentally-friendly behaviour among students and staff. With inputs and support from the Surabaya Environmental Office, the school is expected to develop and implement school-based eco-friendly policies and practices.

### Environmental Awareness in Businesses and Industry

Focusing on issues such as energy conservation, waste management and electronic systems, Surabaya government regularly undertakes annual programmes of awareness-raising and socialisation on environmental matters with the city's broad range of manufacturing industries and businesses. Business actors are usually encouraged to participate in the programme in return for certification that eases business procedures and regulations in other fields. Eco Pesantren (Religion Boarding School) 2019 &

### Eco Pesantren (Religion Boarding School) 2019 & Eco Campus 2019<sup>10</sup>

Targeting religious schools, this programme is designed to help apply an eco-friendly policy and sustainable environmental approach. The programme is also a medium through which to teach pupils on managing the environment. The programme has also become a means for recognising and awarding those Pesantren and campuses that have succeeded in the development of smart and eco-friendly learning spaces.

<sup>9</sup> <https://dispendik.surabaya.go.id/berita/2019/13-sekolah-di-surabaya-raih-penghargaan-adiwiyata-nasional-dan-mandiri-2/>

<sup>10</sup> <https://tunashijau.id/category/eco-pesantren/>



Taman Baca Masyarakat (People's Reading Park) under flyover

Photo © Hipwee Travel

## Culture and education

UNESCO has awarded Surabaya with the title “Learning City”, based on the city’s activities in promoting inclusive learning through initiatives targeted at developing a culture of learning within family, community, and the work environment.

For instance, in developing the concept of a learning city, Surabaya Municipality encouraged the community to take an active role by initiating Kampung Pendidikan (Learning Village), a programme in which the community agrees to allocate time for learning activities. This is further supported by the establishment of institutions such as the Balai Pemuda complex, with centres for learning languages, mathematics, and arts and culture, each staffed by volunteers from the city’s student and academic communities.

Surabaya city is also actively investing in public arts and culture education programming. For example, in 2019, the Department of Culture and Tourism (Dinas Kebudayaan dan Pariwisata) arranged the “Arts Workshop for Surabayans” programme, offering free classes and training in many artistic skills including painting, dancing, music, and so on. Similarly, the city-funded Creative House, also under the auspices of the Culture and Tourism Office, was built specifically to support Surabaya residents in developing their talent in the arts<sup>11</sup>.

The creative industries in Surabaya are also actively supported by at least 13 universities and higher education institutions, including Sepuluh Nopember Institute of Technology (ITS), Petra Christian University, Surabaya University, Tristar Culinary, and Arva Fashion School.

Several other public education initiatives are conducted by various stakeholders, including communities and volunteers, especially in terms of literacy and literature.

## Culture and education case studies

### Taman Baca Masyarakat (People’s Reading Park)<sup>12</sup>

Throughout the city, there are over 500 locations of Taman Baca Masyarakat, a community library funded and built by the government of Surabaya. These community libraries include book collections, a computer area, and learning centre. Taman Baca Masyarakat (TBM) also run annual education programmes associated with arts, culture and public health that people can freely join.

### Sanggar Kegiatan Belajar (Study Activities Studio)<sup>13</sup>

Sanggar Kegiatan Belajar is a free non-formal school for disadvantaged children from elementary school to high school level. The programme was aimed to provide productive and creative activities for pupils in order to encourage their studies at home. The programme is run in neighbourhoods across Surabaya.

### Rumah Bahasa (Language House)<sup>14</sup>

Located in Balai Pemuda Surabaya, Rumah Bahasa is a free language school where children and adults can learn up to 13 languages for free including Arabic, Dutch, English, Japanese, German, Korean, Mandarin, French, Russian, Spanish, and Thai. Foreigners are also welcome to learn Bahasa Indonesia and Javanese. The courses are run across 12 to 15 class sessions.

### Historic commemorations

Since Risma became mayor, there has been a particular focus on commemorating historical events as a means of educating younger generations through cultural events. For example, the City Government and Surabaya Juang Community are working together to reconstruct the story of the Battle of Surabaya of November 1945 by organising activities and events. Central to this is the parade held every 10 November, organised as a collaboration between society institutions, creative communities, and the city government.

<sup>11</sup> <https://humas.surabaya.go.id/2019/08/19/lestarik-kesenian-rakyat-Pemkot-tittle-shows-sawunggaling-children-world/>

<sup>12</sup> <https://surabaya.liputan6.com/read/4060388/pemkot-surabaya-tambah-66-taman-baca-masyarakat-hingga-oktober-2019>

<sup>13</sup> <https://surabaya.liputan6.com/read/4022744/surabaya-kurangi-anak-putus-sekolah-melalui-sanggar-kegiatan-belajar>

<sup>14</sup> <https://rumahbahasa.surabaya.go.id>



---

Sentra Wisata Kuliner – a popular food market

Photo © Sentra KLA



### 3. Cultural ecosystem and infrastructure

Surabaya's cultural infrastructure and range of cultural institutions are very broad in scope, and Surabaya city in particular has invested in programming and institutions for preserving arts and culture through both infrastructure and education.

For example, the government of Surabaya has facilitated arts and cultural performances by providing and maintaining institutions such as UPTD Tugu Pahlawan, Taman Hiburan Rakyat, Balai Pemuda, Taman Hiburan Pantai Kenjeran, and Wisata Religi Ampel. In 2018 the city authorities hosted or sponsored over 653 artistic events and cultural performances.

These civic efforts to intensify local arts and culture in Surabaya were recognised nationally by the Indonesian Museum Awards in 2018, when the city was awarded the 'Anugerah Purwakalagrha IMA 2018'.

Additionally, the city has a range of socially and culturally active stakeholder-led communities, covering art, literature, theatre and social development. Many of these communities directly collaborate with or contribute to the city's strategic planning for culture through the Surabaya Creative Network.

There is also a growing number of co-working spaces which focus on fostering the city's digital and creative entrepreneurs through the provision of space, facilities and events for networking, training and business development.



**My aim is to promote Sentra Wisata Kuliner (Culinary Tourism Centre) to young entrepreneurs in Surabaya, as an effort to activate the economy during the pandemic. I have asked the 'crazy rich' young Surabayan entrepreneurs to promote food and beverage in SWK, by inviting them for dinner in SWK.**

**Eri Cahyadi,**  
Mayor of Surabaya, 2021

#### Cultural institutions (selected)

Surabaya is home to many museums, libraries and theatres, as well as a range of civic-supported learning centres. The city also has a broad range of cultural sites and monuments which are promoted as key cultural landmarks.



The Department of Transportation offers various themed city tour programmes<sup>15</sup> taking in a range of destinations, including for ‘Historical Tourism’ (taking in Red Bridge Monument, Tunjungan Street, Heroes Monument, etc.), ‘Cultural Tourism’ (Suramadu Bridge, the House of Sampoerna), ‘Religious Tourism’ (Sunan Ampel Mosque, The Great Mosque, Cheng Ho Mosque, Sanggar Agung Pagoda), ‘Nature Tourism’ (Kenjeran Beach, Mangrove Forest, etc.), and ‘Shopping & Culinary Tourism’ (Mirota Handicraft, Turi Market, Zangrandi Ice Cream, etc.).

### **East Java Cultural Park<sup>16</sup>**

The East Java Cultural Park in Surabaya functions as a centre for the study and development of arts in East Java. The park is a public space for artistic and cultural activities to take place, and includes a range of formal venues for art performance, including the Cak Durasim Building, Jayengrana Hall, Prabangkara Gallery as well as facilities and spaces in other areas of the Cultural Park complex. Events and activities include workshops, classes and performances covering dance, theatre, music, drawing, painting and fine arts, puppetry and other arts.

### **Sentra Wisata Kuliner<sup>17</sup>**

Sentra Wisata Kuliner (SWK) is a civic-sponsored centre for culinary tourism. A large marketplace and food court, it hosts over 40 food stalls run by local SMEs offering local specialities plus regional and international cuisine. The centre also organises a range of international events around cuisine, food and culture.

### **Public Library of Surabaya City<sup>18</sup>**

Located in the middle of the city, adjacent to the City Hall, the Public Library is managed by the city authorities. It offers archive and research facilities, study space and a multimedia lab.

### **SIOLA Surabaya Museum<sup>19</sup>**

SIOLA Surabaya Museum is housed in a historic building once used by Indonesian fighters. After the Independence period, the Siola building became one of the main shopping centres in Surabaya, before housing the Surabaya City Museum, which tracks the history of the city and its wider role in Indonesia’s national history.

### **House of Sampoerna Museum<sup>20</sup>**

House of Sampoerna (HoS) is a Dutch colonial-style building complex built in 1862 and located in the “Old Surabaya” area. Offering a history of the colonial and post-colonial tobacco industry, the museum also includes an exhibition hall in its Galeri Pavillion.

### **Pringgodani Building at Taman Hiburan Rakyat**

With support from the city authorities, the Pringgodani Building in Taman Hiburan Rakyat (THR) has been used as a free space for the Javanese theatrical tradition of Ludruk since 2010. The building has a maximum seating capacity of 300 people, a central stage for performance, and additional facilities such as a Gamelan ensemble. Performances take place throughout the week, with a low-price ticket entry.

### **Kota Lama Surabaya**

During the colonial era, Surabaya’s Kota Lama old town was delimited into European, Arabic and Chinese districts. Whilst neglected over time, the area has now been designated by the city authorities as an area for cultural heritage and environmental preservation. It is now a hub for city tourism, hosting cultural activities and enterprises associated with cuisine, handicrafts and textiles, and traditional arts.

### **Ampel Mosque & the Tomb of Sunan Ampel<sup>21</sup>**

Ampel Mosque was built by Sunan Ampel, one of 9 saints that spread Islam over Java Island. Constructed in 1421 and one of the biggest mosques in Surabaya, the architecture is a blend of old Javanese with Arabic styles. Hosting the Tomb of Sunan Ampel, the mosque and surrounding area is a place of cultural heritage and a pilgrimage destination, with many shops and small enterprises selling crafts, souvenirs and religious artefacts.

<sup>15</sup> [surabayatourism.com](http://surabayatourism.com)

<sup>16</sup> <http://cakdurasim.com>

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

<sup>18</sup> <https://dispusip.surabaya.go.id>

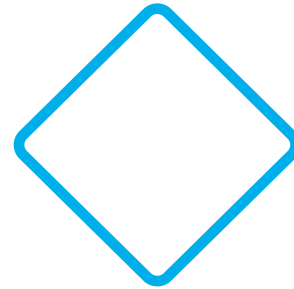
<sup>19</sup> <https://pesonajatim.com/museum-surabaya-cerita-sejarah-kota-pahlawan/>

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.houseofsampoerna.museum/about-hos>

<sup>21</sup> <http://javaisbeautiful.com/2011/08/31/ampel-mosque-ampel-tomb-arab-market-surabaya-pilgrimage-spot/>

### Surabaya City Parks

Through its innovative and forward-looking urban environmental policies, Surabaya is well-known for its many city parks including Cahaya Park, Rainbow Park, Bungkul Park, Flora Bratang Park, Surya Park, Harmoni Park, Apsari Park, Mundu Park, Jayengrono Park, Prestasi Park, Ekspresi Park and others. In addition to being maintained in collaboration with local communities, these parks are frequently used as centres

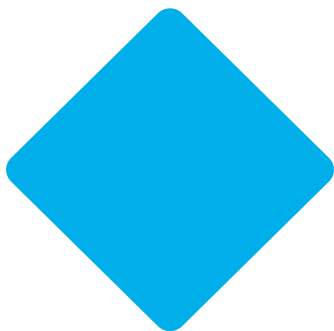


---

### Gamelan workshop at Cak Durasim, East Java Cultural Park

Photo © Cak Durssm

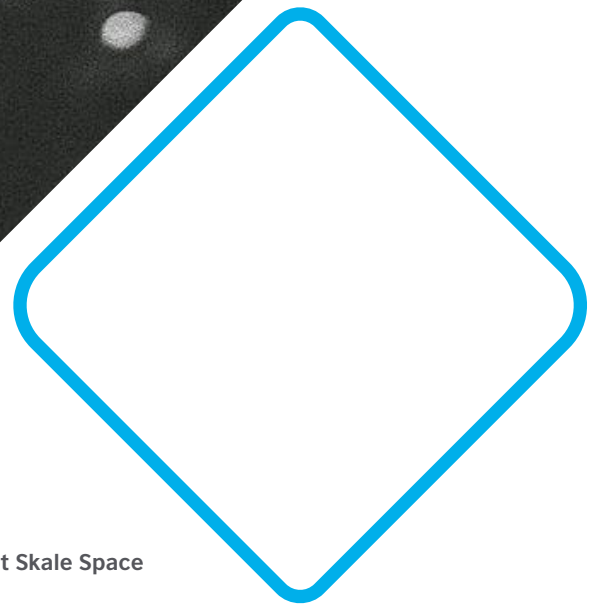




---

Performance at Skale Space

Photo © Skale Space



## Creative hubs and marketplaces

Surabaya has a range of creative hubs, including those managed or supported by city authorities and national government, and those that operate as stakeholder-managed social and cultural development initiatives. The latter often have an active role in questioning and challenging the civic authorities over a range of issues. Importantly, the Surabaya Creative Network is playing an important role as a bridge between creative communities and city authorities, and engaging with both to strengthen existing cultural provision in the city.

In addition, there are a growing number of commercial co-working spaces in Surabaya, particularly orientated towards digital and creative enterprises. They include, for example, Nin3 Space, Koridor, SUB Co, Regus, Wisma and others<sup>22</sup>



C20  
Library  
& Collabtive

Photo ©  
Putera Mentari



**The awareness towards inclusivity is still low in Surabaya. It is hard to find public facilities that accommodates all kinds of users. Not all local creative spaces have provided inclusive facilities either. Therefore the initiatives of SUBStitute show that it is necessary to start paying attention to inclusivity. SUBStitute raises our spirits and affects our differently-able friends, also by providing training and skills that can be used to find jobs, or gain income, that will make them independent and able to contribute to the economy.'**

**Yusuf,**

Disabilitas Motor Indonesia, on SUBStitute, an inclusive creative space in partnership with British Council – DICE (Developing Inclusive Creative Economy)

## Creative hubs and marketplaces (selected)

### Surabaya Creative Network <sup>23</sup>

Surabaya Creative Network (SCN) was founded in 2016 with the goal of supporting the formation of a creative economic ecosystem in the city. With activities including Research and Development, Human Resource Development, and Marketing, SCN is made up of representatives with a variety of organisational and occupational backgrounds covering creative industries, economics and academia.

<sup>22</sup> <https://keluyuran.com/coworking-space-di-surabaya/>

<sup>23</sup> <https://instagram.com/surabayacreativenetwork>



Working with industry players, communities, government, and media, SCN is supporting the city council in the creation of regional regulations for supporting the Creative Economy in Surabaya. SCN is also collaborating with creative elements in mapping the potential, development and design of long-term strategies for the creation of a solid creative economic ecosystem.

### **Balai Pemuda Rumah Kreatif (Creative House).<sup>24</sup>**

The city-funded Balai Pemuda Creative House, run by the Culture and Tourism Office, was built specifically to support Surabaya residents in developing their talents in the arts.<sup>25</sup> In total, there are 13 kinds of art courses taught at Balai Pemuda Creative House, covering music, dance, theatre, fine art and handicrafts. All are taught free of charge to residents and visitors.

### **DILo Surabaya<sup>26</sup>**

Digital Innovation Lounge (DILo) is a government-sponsored creative hub for digital creatives and entrepreneurs. Initiated by Telkom Indonesia and The Indonesian Informatics and Technology Society (Masyarakat Informatika dan Teknologi Indonesia/ MIKTI), DiLo itself is established in many cities in Indonesia as a form of commitment by Indonesian State-Owned Companies (Badan Usaha Milik Negara/ BUMN), to build digital entrepreneurship and to support the technological empowerment of communities in Indonesia. DILo Surabaya is a place for talent, startups & communities to collaborate through pre-startup development programmes with supporting activities and facilities.

### **Gerdhu (Gedung Kreatif Digital Hub)<sup>27</sup>**

Gerdhu is a coworking space and community centre for digital communities and creative entrepreneurs, offering ICT facilities and services for startup incubation and IT development, including through training and seminar events.

### **WAFT Lab<sup>28</sup>**

WAFT Lab is an interdisciplinary collective which focuses on subculture and technology. Starting as a hangout between friends, WAFT Lab consists of 12 people with backgrounds in arts, social sciences, engineering, computers, and education. The Lab has held interdisciplinary events such as the VIDEO:WORK video art festival; ELECTRO:WORK, an electronic music festival; NO: WORK, an interdisciplinary education and art project; and ABANDONED, an art exhibition. In addition, WAFT Lab also often holds workshops and collaborations with other art collectives. Since its formation, WAFT Lab has emphasised a DIY, grass roots approach based on the local 'hangout' culture and its pluralistic, metropolitan nature.

### **C2O Library and Collabtive<sup>29</sup>**

Established in 2008 and based in the centre of Surabaya, C2O Library & Collabtive is an independent library and coworking community space. C2O acts as an independent library, a co-working space, and an event space for educational activities and activities for positive environmental and social change. C2O organises musical events, exhibitions, discussions, film screenings, workshops, and other educational activities. Since 2015, C2O has hosted Pasar Sehat, an affordable organic food market managed by Surabaya Sehat, a community of women and farmers from around the regency.

### **Skale Space<sup>30</sup>**

Skale Space is a creative hub that hosts visual arts and music activities. Formed in 2017 following discussions about the difficulty of finding places to organise spontaneous creative activities, Skale Space has networked with a broad range of creative actors and communities in Surabaya, particularly youth groups. It provides programmes of exhibitions, showcases, gigs, art talks, and workshops that invite local and cross-regional creatives. Skale Space is currently researching and preparing a digital platform to showcase the work of local creatives.

<sup>24</sup> [http://www.kabarsurabaya.org/2020/02/rumah-kreatif-surabaya-mulai-buka-kelas\\_26.html](http://www.kabarsurabaya.org/2020/02/rumah-kreatif-surabaya-mulai-buka-kelas_26.html)

<sup>25</sup> <https://humas.surabaya.go.id/2019/08/19/lestari-kesenian-rakyat-Pemkot-title-shows-sawunggaling-children-world/>

<sup>26</sup> <https://dilo.id/surabaya>

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/gerdhuapik>

<sup>28</sup> [www.waft-lab.com](http://www.waft-lab.com)

<sup>29</sup> [www.c2o-library.net](http://www.c2o-library.net)

<sup>30</sup> <https://instagram.com/skalespace>



### **SUBStitute Makerspace<sup>31</sup>**

In accordance with their motto, “An access to tools and knowledge,” SUBStitute is a makerspace which provides an inclusive platform and opportunities to creative workers, communities, artists, educational institutions, people with disabilities, and those who have been marginalised and lack the opportunity to access education. SUBStitute was initiated in 2019, and with support from the DICE British Council programme, SUBStitute holds workshops in leather craft, woodworking, sewing, knitting, welding, and 3D printing. SUBStitute also holds a Do It Yourself (DIY) Festival, which brings various groups together to celebrate the culture of hand-crafting. As for their regular programmes, SUBStitute also provides craft workshops and seminars, and seeks to build networks of collaboration.

### **String Orchestra of Surabaya<sup>32</sup>**

The String Orchestra of Surabaya is a city-funded amateur classical orchestra. Currently it has 51 members, with the youngest being 9 years old. The group often holds European classical music performances, and collaborates with various communities or individuals, including international visitors. The orchestra also works in the field of musical training and education.

### **Koridor<sup>33</sup>**

Koridor is a joint co-working space owned by the Surabaya City government, built to accommodate the creative ideas of Surabaya youth and stimulate the growth of digital and creative startups. Apart from acting as a workplace and forum for networking and exchanging ideas, KORIDOR also provides training facilities, including by instructors from Google.

### **Nin3 Space<sup>34</sup>**

Nin3 space is a community enterprise and coworking space that offers members various facilities and working spaces, including a library for creative communities, and seminars on creative SMEs and business start-ups across digital and creative industries.

### **SUB Co<sup>35</sup>**

SUB Co is an alternative workspace that accommodates creative and flexible work spaces for independent workers and freelancers.

### **Mirota Handicraft<sup>36</sup>**

Mirota Handicraft is a Batik and handicrafts

### **Sanggar Ludruk Marsudi Laras<sup>37</sup>**

Sanggar Ludruk Marsudi Laras is a theatrical community made up of students, university graduates and young people, committed to preserving and maintaining the Javanese theatrical traditions of Ludruk. They provide training and hold performances with contemporary and current themes aimed at the younger generation, in order that the Ludruk tradition might remain relevant.

### **Rabo Sore<sup>38</sup>**

Rabo Sore is a literary community focused on literacy and literary works. Founded in 2003 at the State University of Surabaya (UNESA), it has a long-standing commitment to preserving literary works, especially East Javanese literature. It acts as a network for writers, and hosts readings, discussions and workshops on poetry, short stories, essays and novels.

### **Serbuk Kayu<sup>39</sup>**

Serbuk Kayu is a performance art collective formed in 2011, focusing on the role of art in raising awareness of social issues. They undertake performance art events and social interventions across the city. Currently Serbuk Kayu has approximately 40 registered members, and 20 active members.

<sup>31</sup> [www.substitutemakerspace.com](http://www.substitutemakerspace.com)

<sup>32</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/stringorchestraofsurbaya/>

<sup>33</sup> <https://koridor.surabaya.go.id>

<sup>34</sup> <https://www.coworker.com/indonesia/surabaya/nin3-space/> / <https://www.instagram.com/nin3space/>

<sup>35</sup> <https://subco.id>

<sup>36</sup> <https://mirota-batik-handicraft-surabaya.business.site>

<sup>37</sup> <http://www.ludruk-marsudilaras.com/2012/10/ludruk-marsudi-laras-surabaya.html>

<sup>38</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/RaboSore/>

<sup>39</sup> <https://serbukayu.org/>

**Serikat Mural Surabaya**<sup>40</sup>

Surabaya Mural Union is a street art community founded in 2011. SMS comprises about 10 active groups. Working with residents, it has produced more than 100 street art works throughout Surabaya, many with a social or political intent. These include campaigning for arts over the city's consumer-led culture, questioning the attitude of the Surabaya City Government and the Arts Council towards the existence of their community, and in 2018, offering resistance in response to acts of terrorism.

**ORE (Other Rag Enterprise)**<sup>41</sup>

ORE is a retail store and hub that was first established in 2008 after meeting juggernauts of great friends, artists, designers at gigs, parties, galleries and friend's houses. It houses many local brands (Indonesian and East Javanese) and also includes a café called Carpentier Kitchen that was launched in 2012 by Dewi Asthari and Alek Kowalski.

**Festivals**

Surabaya seeks to maintain a series of established festivals, ranging from food to the commemoration of historical events. In so doing, the city creates annual events designed to operate both as a way of maintaining these traditions but also of promoting Surabaya's cultural life to the Indonesian public.

These annual festivals are usually well-scheduled in advance and are announced through the official Surabaya Tourism Information Centre.<sup>42</sup>

**Festivals – case studies****Mlaku-Mlaku nang Tunjungan**<sup>43</sup>

Mlaku-Mlaku nang Tunjungan is a festival held in Tunjungan Street where hundreds of small and medium-sized enterprises present

local products including textiles, clothing, food, handicrafts and souvenirs. The event is accompanied by bands and musical performance, stand-up comedy, and traditional dance performance. The festival has also become an event at which awards are presented to outstanding citizens and community groups that have contributed to social development in Surabaya. This festival is usually organised by the Cultural and Tourism Department of Surabaya, and is usually held every month.

**Rujak Uleg Festival**<sup>44</sup>

Since 2007, Rujak Uleg Festival has been a much-anticipated annual event in Surabaya. The community-orientated festival is usually held around May, commemorating the birth of Surabaya. It features individual and community competitions for performance, costumes and traditional dance, such as reog and barongsai.

**Indonesian Painting Market**<sup>45</sup>

Indonesian Painting Market is held every October as the biggest Surabayan exhibition of fine art. Artists from across Indonesia exhibit and promote their artwork to collectors, gallery owners and the public. The Indonesian Painting Market has also provided a forum for the general public to access and experience contemporary art.

Surabaya Cross Culture International Folk and Art

**Surabaya Cross Culture International Folk and Art Festival**<sup>46</sup>

Held annually in July, the Surabaya Cross Culture International Folk and Art Festival is hosted by International Council of Organisations of Folklore Festivals, Folk Arts Indonesia and Surabaya Government, with the support from East Java Governor and the Indonesia Ministry of Culture and Tourism. It provides a medium for cultural exchange between communities and individuals, where different nationalities gather to share traditional performances, handicrafts, storytelling and costume.

<sup>40</sup> [https://id.wikipedia.org/wiki/Serikat\\_Mural\\_Surabaya](https://id.wikipedia.org/wiki/Serikat_Mural_Surabaya)

<sup>41</sup> <https://www.oreisnobody.com/home/about>

<sup>42</sup> SurabayaTourismInformationCenter <https://www.instagram.com/eventsurabaya>

<sup>43</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIICJAKuAFI>

<sup>44</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUVTRE3MDmo>

<sup>45</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1oiiGN6HFhI>

<sup>46</sup> [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9XBFz0NEz\\_k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9XBFz0NEz_k)

**Juang (Fight) Parade<sup>47</sup>**

Commemorating the Battle of Surabaya and the war for Indonesian independence, Juang Parade is held every 10th November as part of Hero's day. Based at the Tugu Pahlawan historical landmark, the parade includes theatre, recitals, and music. The Surabaya Department of Culture and Tourism hold this event to provide entertainment while providing education to the public about the history of Indonesia, especially Surabaya.

**DIY (Do It Yourself) Festival<sup>48</sup>**

A community-led event organised by the SUBStitute Markerspace community, in collaboration with Surabaya City Network, this event is held to promote, encourage and exhibit creative work undertaken by members of the community, at the same time as encouraging and engaging others to participate in the network.

---

**DIY (Do It Yourself) Festival**

Photo © British Council



---

<sup>47</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=To3kxtFCoZE>

<sup>48</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yvl7gY6AlqU>



## Young Entrepreneurs for Creative Industries

In 2019, HIPMI Surabaya and Surabaya Youth Group (Karang Taruna) launched a collaboration programme that identifies business potential in all urban villages / kampongs in Surabaya. It provided entrepreneurship training for the kampung youths in the creative industries.



**We aim to create many more young entrepreneurs, with higher qualities, for Surabaya. We hope for these entrepreneurs to thrive and grow, so we can reduce the numbers of unemployment.**

**Anantha Wijaya,**  
Vice Chairman of Himpunan Pengusaha Muda Indonesia/ HIPMI (Indonesian Association of Young Businessmen)  
Surabaya, 2019

## Movers and shakers

### Suvi Wahyudianto<sup>49</sup>

Suvi Wahyudianto (“Wood Powder”) is a member of the Serbuk Kayu performance art community. A graduate of UNESA (State University of Surabaya), he is regarded as one of Indonesia’s most promising young artists. He was one of the finalists at Surabaya Art Award in 2012 and also a finalist at Piratez Painting in 2013. In 2015 he participated in Biennale Jatim with his mono print artwork, and in 2016, held his solo exhibition “Homo Sapirin” at C20 Gallery, Surabaya.

### Kathleen Azali<sup>50</sup>

A researcher and academic working in the histories and intersections of information, digital technology, design, and society, Kathleen is founder and director of Surabaya’s independent C20 Library & Collabtive. She is also Research Associate at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), Singapore.

### Hembing Kriswanto<sup>51</sup>

Hembing Kriswanto is a literacy and literary activist, campaigning for the maintenance and development of an East Javan literary tradition. He is director of the Rabo Sore literary community, which in 2018 received the Anugerah Sutasoma award for contributions to East Javan culture.

### Al Fajr Wiratama ‘Xgo’<sup>52</sup>

Al Fajr, known as ‘Xgo’ is a street artist and activist, and chairman of the Surabaya Mural Union. A vocal advocate for creativity in the city, he has frequently had encounters with city authorities, while also working with residents and community groups to engage them in mural painting and street art.

<sup>49</sup> <https://serbukayu.org/2018/03/13/suvi-wahyudianto/>

<sup>50</sup> <https://kathleenazali.github.io>

<sup>51</sup> <https://www.instagram.com/rabosore/?hl=en>

<sup>52</sup> <https://www.actasurya.com/berkarya-lewat-mural/>

**Shienny Kurniawati**<sup>53</sup>

Shienny Kurniawati is a classically-trained musician, and the founder of the String Orchestra of Surabaya, an amateur orchestra that works with communities and young people. The orchestra often holds European classical music performances and collaborates with various communities or individuals.

**Hafshoh Mubak**<sup>54</sup>

Hafshoh Mubarak is Chairman of the Surabaya Creative Network, which works with city authorities and creative communities in developing plans and strategies for the development of the creative and tourism industries in Surabaya.

**Ratu Fitri**<sup>55</sup>

Ratu Fitri is a local community activist and campaigner. In 2015 she joined Surabaya Sehat, a local collective that hosts the Pasar Sehat organic community market, and in 2017, she set up the Warung Hati enterprise, serving local and natural healthy food. In 2017, she initiated Arek Feminis, a feminist collective that organises Surabaya's Women March and provides classes and workshops on women's issues such as sexual harassment or suicide prevention. In 2019, she co-founded SUBstitute Makerspace with Riyan Kaizir and Dicky Firmanzah. As its director, she focuses on inclusivity by allowing diverse users to have access to tools and practical knowledge.

**Dwiki Nugroho Mukti**<sup>56</sup>

Dwiki Nugroho Mukti is an artist and curator who has an active role in Surabaya's contemporary cultural life. A co-founder and continuing member of the Serbuk Kayu performance art community, since 2013 he has been managing the SANDIOLLO artspace, which functions as a room for discussion, exhibitions and residencies. He is also founder of the Subarsip of Fine Arts, an arts archival organisation, and founder of Sartcas, a syndicate art collective and alternative space. He was main director of the 2019 Biennale Jatim 8 in 2019 and the 2021 East Java Biennale 9, and has published a number of books including the Wild East Java-East Java art collective map book.

**Dwi Januartanto**<sup>57</sup>

Dwi Januartanto is a conceptual artist and the founder of the Serbuk Kayu performance art community. His work focuses on the aesthetics and techniques of modern art, and is never constrained to a certain medium. Key themes include sexual desire, fear, anxiety, and the surrounding environment. In 2017, Januar was an invited artist at the Biennale Jatin 7: World is a Hoax.

**Ludruk performance at Pringgodani Building**

Photo © Harian National



<sup>53</sup> <https://www.linkedin.com/in/shienny-kurniawati-57416074/>

<sup>54</sup> [IG: surabayacreativenetwork, hebzmubarak]

<sup>55</sup> <https://www.linkedin.com/in/ratu-fitri-06433218b/?originalSubdomain=id>

<sup>56</sup> <http://serbukayu.org/2018/03/13/dwiki-nugroho-mukti/>

<sup>57</sup> <http://serbukayu.org/2018/03/31/dwi-januartanto/>



 **British Council Indonesia**

 **@idBritish @idBritishArts**

 **@idBritish @idBritishArts**

 **[www.britishcouncil.id](http://www.britishcouncil.id)**