

INDONESIA NOW

A House in Bali by Sinta Tantra



HIGHLIGHT on Art and Culture Exhibition: ISA Art Advisory presents “A House in Bali”, the first solo exhibition of British based Indonesian artist Sinta Tantra in Jakarta. Known for her geometric abstraction and her signature bright color palettes, Tantra’s career came into prominence from her site-specific works in the public realm – combining the disciplines of painting, design, art and architecture both inside and outside the gallery space.

Tantra’s eclectic combination of Eastern and Western culture provides her with a uniquely well-placed perspective from which to visually reinterpret McPhee’s reflections on the relationship between the abstract and the music of Gamelan through her paintings and murals.

From world-renowned public commissions – such as the 300-meter painted bridge in Canary Wharf, London for the 2012 Olympics – to wall based murals and paintings; Tantra’s works are thoughtful, sensitive – complimenting geography, space and materials.

The title of the exhibition draws inspiration from Colin McPhee’s 1946 book, A House in Bali. As a young Canadian composer, McPhee traveled to Bali during the 1920s and 1930s where he learned about gamelan and explored ways of how to capture its abstract sounds in Western musical notation. The book depicts Bali as a place rich in culture, spiritual values and pleasure.

As Tantra puts it: "Growing up in London, my Balinese father daily played gamelan music on the cassette player at home. For him, it was a way to transport himself back to the small village where he grew up and immerse himself in fond memories. In his book, McPhee writes about the relationship between the abstract and syncopated sounds of Gamelan music and how, like jazz, the music is percussion led. In this new series of paintings, I wanted to draw a stronger focus on a sense of rhythm and how line and colour represents a sort of musical notation across the canvas."

Born in New York to Indonesian / Balinese parents, Tantra was brought up in both Britain and Bali. Her work draws inspiration from her heritage and her adopted home of London. This exhibition is supported by Indonesian Luxury and LAFLO.

About Sinta Tantra

A British artist of Balinese descent, Sinta Tantra was born in New York in 1979. She studied at the Slade School of Fine Art, University College London 1999–2003 and at the Royal Academy Schools London 2004–06. Highly regarded for her site-specific murals and installations in the public realm, commissions include; Palio di Siena (2017), Folkestone Triennial (2017) Newnham College, Cambridge University (2016); Songdo South Korea (2015); Royal British Society of Sculptors (2013); Liverpool Biennial (2012); Southbank Centre (2007). Tantra's most notable public work includes a 300-metre long painted bridge commissioned for the 2012 Olympics, Canary Wharf, London.

International group shows include; High Noon, Accademia Belle Arti di Rome, Rome (2017), Quotidian, Pearl Lam Gallery, Shanghai (2017); Lost and Found: Place, Space and Identity at The World Trade Centre in Jakarta (2016); Nick Hornby & Sinta Tantra: Collaborative Works, Choi and Lager Gallery, Cologne (2015); Bend Sinister, i-CAN, Yogyakarta (2014); Gatekeeper, William Holman Gallery, New York (2014); Indonesian Contemporary Art and Design, Grand Kemang Hotel, Jakarta (2013); The Fine Line, Identity Gallery, Hong Kong (2013); Confined, NEST Gallery, The Hague (2012). Solo shows include; A Romance of Many Dimensions at Pearl Lam Gallery in SOHO Hong Kong (2016) and Fantastic Chromatic at Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery (2015).

A recipient of many awards including the prestigious Bridget Riley Drawing Fellow at The British School at Rome (2017); British Council's International Development Award (2014); and Deutsche Bank Award (2006), Tantra's work has been featured in both UK and international press including The Evening Standard, Tate Shots, FAD Magazine, The Jakarta Post and BBC Radio Indonesia.

About ISA Art Advisory

ISA Art Advisory is a Jakarta-based art consultancy established to advise and encourage art for corporate and individual lifestyles. Our corporate art program prioritizes the collaboration between the company's vision, and bringing art to the work environment at all levels.

ISA Art Advisory's objective is to increase the public awareness and benefits of bringing art out of museums and galleries and into in public spaces. ISA advises clients on selecting and acquiring artworks that meet their taste, style and budget. ISA Art Advisory provides customers the complete package of art management services like hanging systems, specialist lighting, insurance and restoration.

Indonesian Luxury

Indonesian Luxury is an online resource and marketing with a 360 degree solution for Art and Design. It is a curated database and concierge for higher middle class homeowners to build and acquire luxurious art and furniture products for their homes.