

# GALLERY4A

ASIA-AUSTRALIA ARTS CENTRE

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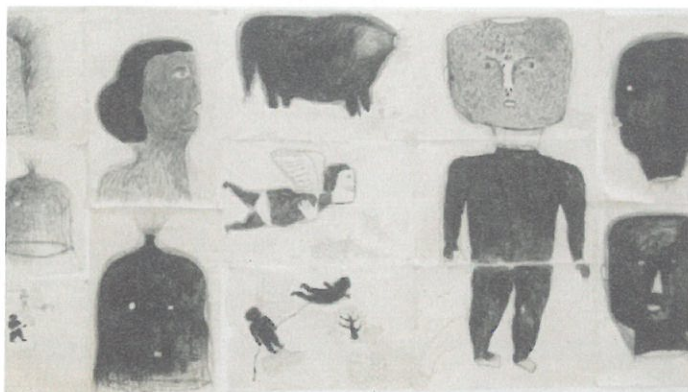
## MEDIA RELEASE

2 August – 13 September 2008

~~Home Sweet Home~~ Home is Not Sweet Home JUMAADI

So this is fxxking, beautiful our future..? SOO-JOO YOO

Opening Friday 1 August at 6pm with a special story-telling performance by JUMAADI



Gallery 4A presents two new solo exhibitions by JUMAADI and SOO-JOO YOO.

### Home Sweet Home Home is Not Sweet Home JUMAADI

JUMAADI's work retells stories based on personal memory and the folkloric tradition in the form of drawings, paintings, performance, weaving and installation. His exhibition, ~~Home Sweet Home~~ Home is not Sweet Home, is based on the human-induced mudflow disaster in the Sidoarjo region of the artist's native East Java.

In ~~Home Sweet Home~~ Home is not Sweet Home, the artist uses a mix of sculpture, photographs as well as multi-panel drawings and paintings to present a poetic encounter with the individual tragedies resulting from the mudflow disaster. The artist is known for his multi-panel work, which bring together micro-stories and events to form a larger narrative.

"Each figure takes a place within the space to create a story. Here I can hide and seek, confess and deny or tell you something about my father, my mother or about those villages buried by mud, robbed of their memories and history. Like a little bird, I pick up some of those stories and memories and give them another chance to live within my own story." JUMAADI

Mud began erupting from the ground in Sidoarjo in 2006 and continues unabated to this day, washing away the homes, schools, places of worship, paddy fields and factories. The disaster has been blamed on the mining work undertaken by a private gas and oil company and is also said to have been triggered by the strong earthquake in Yogyakarta and Central Java earlier that year. JUMAADI's exhibition ~~Home Sweet Home~~ Home is not Sweet Home will be a heartfelt and evocative elegy to lament this incident. It will be accompanied by an artist book with photographs by JUMAADI and text by Javanese poet Triyanto Triwikromo, available for purchase at Gallery 4A. The artist will officially open the exhibition with a story-telling performance.

JUMAADI was born in Sidoarjo, East Java, Indonesia in 1973. He has been living in Sydney since 1996 where he obtained a Bachelor of Fine Art at the National Art School and is currently a Masters of Fine Arts candidate. Winner of the John Coburn Art Prize for Emerging Artists as part of the Blake Art Prize, the artist is currently represented by Legge Gallery, where he has been exhibited numerous times. He has had solo exhibitions in the French Cultural Centre, Surabaya, Indonesia, and Mura Clay Gallery, Sydney and has exhibited in various group exhibitions internationally and nationally.

### So this is fxxking, beautiful our future..? SOO-JOO YOO

SOO-JOO YOO's work negotiates tension and chaos through the use of tangible lines and colour, space and lighting. Born in Korea, YOO currently works and resides in Sydney. The artist works mainly with installation, using everyday materials which attract her emotionally.

*So this is fxxking, beautiful our future..?* will consist of an installation located on the Ground Floor of Gallery 4A. Visible 24-hours a day to Gallery 4A passerbys, the installation will fill the gallery with the reflective light and colours which bounce off industrial materials such as vinyl, foil, plastic tubes, wire, aluminium pipes and rubber mats. The work exploits sensations of rapid movement and spatial confusion to present an optical dance of chaotic nature in contemporary life.

YOO aims to confront viewers with the unpredictable, fragile reality of life, and questions of the unknown source of power, force and energy, inherent in everyday life. The installation references the structure and system of the urban and natural environments as well as human sensations of hope and desire.

SOO-JOO YOO completed her Masters of Visual Art at the Victorian College for the Arts in 2006. YOO had her first solo exhibitions in 2007 at West Space Gallery and Flinders Gallery and was recently shown at Linden Gallery and the Adelaide Fringe Festival where her exhibition was awarded Most Excellent Exhibition. She also won the 2007 The Age Melbourne Fringe Festival Visual Art Award, 2006 Flinders Lane Gallery Award and 2001 Nokia Art Award.

#### EXHIBITION DETAILS

**2 August – 13 September 2008**

~~Home Sweet Home~~ Home is Not Sweet Home JUMAADI  
*So this is fxxking, beautiful our future..?* SOO-JOO YOO

OPENING Friday 1 August at 6pm with a special story-telling performance by JUMAADI  
ARTIST FLOORTALKS: Saturday 16 August at 2pm



Images: (top-left) Jumaadi, untitled (detail), 2008, wax pencil on paper, Photo: courtesy the artist and Legge Gallery; (above and top-right) Soo-joo Yoo, *So this is fxxking, beautiful our future..?*, Lights, vinyl, foils, clear tubes, wire, aluminium pipes, rubber mats, various media

#### About The Asia-Australia Arts Centre / Gallery 4A

Gallery 4A, the Asia-Australia Arts Centre was founded in 1997 as an initiative of the Asian Australian Artists Association Inc. (4A), a non-profit organization established to present and promote the work of Asian-Australian artists and a greater understanding of diverse cultures through the arts.

Our exhibition program focuses on contemporary art practice. Our exhibition program is culturally diverse, and many of the projects and artists who exhibit here reflect this diversity. The exhibition program has played a significant role in the cultural development of this region. We also run regular public programs including video art screenings and artist talks.

The Asia-Australia Arts Centre provides a vital cross-cultural dialogue through an innovative and comprehensive program of exhibitions, conferences, seminars and workshops. Over the past 10 years we have exhibited over 300 artists from around Australia as well as from India, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Vietnam, China, the USA, the UK and New Zealand.

#### MEDIA CONTACT

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