

MEDIA RELEASE

SURVIVOR: DADANG CHRISTANTO

Survivor: Dadang Christanto is a major art project by contemporary Indonesian-Australian artist Dadang Christanto. Initially developed in 2008 as a live protest against an environmental disaster that occurred in East Java which saw hot volcanic mud wipe out 11 villages and destroy many lives, *Survivor* has since transgressed beyond cultural borders, evolving into a universal, multi-faceted reflection upon human survival and what it means to endure tragic historical events, loss and death.

Commencing with a single 2 hour performance at **Gosford Regional Gallery (April 1, 1-3pm)**, local volunteers silently occupy the gallery space in silent vigil, symbolically covered in mud and holding a photographic portraits of faces lost in the disaster. The performance is followed by a visual exhibition consisting of detritus from the performance, video and photographic documentation memorialising the catastrophe and its ongoing consequences.

Dadang Christanto will also spend time on site throughout the exhibition to conduct interactive workshops with local schools and volunteers.

"The entire history of a village – its livelihood and future is being buried under the mud. While Christanto's work is politically confronting, it is also a poetic experience that reminds us of human fragility and erasure in the face of disaster." Aaron Seeto, Curator.



CURRENTLY SHOWING AT

VENUE Gosford Regional Gallery

DATES 1 April 2012 – 20 May 2012

HOURS 10am - 4pm 7 days

ADMISSION FREE

TELEPHONE 02 4325 0056

MEDIA INFORMATION AND INTERVIEWS

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Dadang Christanto, *Survivor*, 2009, performance at 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, Sydney. Image courtesy of the artist and 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, Sydney. Image credit: Garry Trinh

TOUR ITINERARY

Gosford Regional Gallery

Lismore Regional Gallery

The Glasshouse Regional Art Gallery

Goulburn Regional Art Gallery

Devonport Regional Gallery, TAS

Pinnacles Gallery, QLD

1 April 2012 - 20 May 2012

7 July 2012 - 25 August 2012

15 October 2012 - 2 December 2012

1 April 2013 - 31 May 2013

1 June 2013 – 31 July 2013

23 November 2013 - 15 December 2013

Presented by Kultour in partnership with 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art and toured by Museums & Galleries NSW. This exhibition is supported by the Contemporary Touring Initiative through Visions of Australia, an Australian Government program, and the Visual Arts and Craft Strategy, an initiative of the Australian Government and state and territory governments.

