



DADANG
CHRISTANTO
SURVIVOR

GALLERY4A

INVITATION

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The Board of 4A
invites you to the opening of

DADANG CHRISTANTO
SURVIVOR

On 15 August 1230-3pm

to be launched by
Professor Ian Howard
Dean, College of Fine Arts, UNSW

At Gallery 4A
181-187 Hay Street

Exhibition dates 18 August - 19 September 2009

Survivor is a new performance artwork by Dadang Christanto and is the key work in this new solo exhibition at Gallery 4A. The work responds to the impact of human disaster, in particular the tragic man-made mud catastrophe in the Sidoarjo region of East Java. Around 30-50 local volunteers will participate in this performance.

Silently occupying the gallery space, each person will be covered in mud from the neck down and hold photographic portraits. Previously staged in Jakarta in 2007, this presentation in Sydney will be the Australian premier of this important and powerful project.

Three years ago hot volcanic mud started erupting from the site of a gas exploration well and to date, 11 villages in East Java have been effectively wiped-out. Christanto's interest in this disaster relates to his previous work about his father's disappearance during the Suharto regime in the mid-1960s. In the context of the mud disaster the unrelenting build up of mud in the region, is making villages slowly vanish.

This will be a unique, one-off performance – on Saturday 15 August from 1230-3pm. Afterwards gallery visitors will be able to see documentation and the detritus of the performance, as well as other recent work by Dadang Christanto.

Dadang Christanto was born in 1957 in Tegal, Central Java and studied painting in Yogyakarta. Over the past decade his work has gained recognition across Australia with solo exhibitions at the Art Gallery of New South Wales and Sherman Galleries in Sydney, and at the Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory. Christanto has been included in two Asia-Pacific Triennials at the Queensland Art Gallery and he has exhibited in some of the key Contemporary Asian Art museums in the Asian region including Fukuoka Museum of Modern Art, Fukuoka; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo; Kwangju Biennale (2000) as well as at the Venice Biennale (2003) and the Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney. In 1997, in recognition of his long-term artistic achievement, he was awarded a Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant.

Events Calendar

◇ **Survivor - Opening and performance**
Saturday 15 August 1230-3pm

◇ **2 Degrees: Art, Activism and Climate Emergency**
Wednesday 12 August, 430pm-6pm

This round table discussion brings together radical organisations working with artists and politically engaged artists working with community organisations and NGOs, in the areas of climate or related urban development issues. Some take their work onto the streets, some use galleries and other sanctioned public forums. The forum will include Wardah Hafidz, founder of the Urban Poor Consortium established by Jakarta-based artists over a decade ago and artist Dadang Christanto.

Organised by The Cross Art Projects

◇ **Saturday Afternoon Poetry Readings**
Saturday 12 September, 2pm

Gallery 4A in association with Giramondo Publishing and the University of Western Sydney Writing and Society Research Group present an afternoon of readings by poets exploring disaster and the dislocation and trauma of migration. Including Kim Cheng Boey, Jennifer Maiden and Fiona Wright.



GALLERY4A

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Open 11am-6pm,
Tuesday - Saturday, closed public holidays



Gallery 4A is an initiative of the Asian Australian Artists Association Inc (4A). We gratefully acknowledge our Principal Patrons Geoff and Vicki Ainsworth; Daniel and Lyndell Droga and Dr Dick Quan; Patrons Richard Funston, John Lam-Po-Tang, Kerr and Judith Neilson; Benefactors Peter Talbot and Dr Gene and Brian Sherman AM and Friends Ari and Lisa Droga, Phillip Haw, David Droga, Richard and Margie Holden, VisAsia, Annika Droga-Susskind, Isabella and Sam Droga, Ann Lewis, Peter Fay, Yeehwan Yeoh and Matt Cox, Liane Rossler, Brooke Aitken, Claire Armstrong and John Sharpe. The assistance of the Commonwealth Government through the Australia Council, its funding and advisory body, the NSW Government through Arts NSW and the City of Sydney.