

Emotive

The creative energy and ideas of four young Balinese men have been the catalyst of a contemporary art exhibition at the recently established OMS Fine Art Gallery in Sanur.

Feelings and emotional responses to life are the driving force behind the works displayed in “Emotive”, the exhibition that opened at OMS Fine Art Gallery on the 16th February, and continuing through until 15th March 2014.

While Bali is famous for its traditional arts, contemporary art is, as a whole, largely misunderstood by the public and receives little, if any support from the Balinese government, and the corporate and private sectors.

The current lack of young local art writers and curators in the contemporary art scene presents problems in the development of this important modern cultural language in Bali.

It is important for young artists to have opportunities to interact, share ideas as well as the critical analysis and debate of their work. In this process the interaction with art enthusiasts, curators and art writers is also of value to introduce differing opinions and new possibilities.

Made Susanta Dwitanaya, born 1987 in Tampaksiring, Central Bali, graduate from the Arts Department of Undiksha University (2005 - 2010), however, is dedicated to the serving the art community by writing about art and curating exhibitions for young Balinese artists.

Made, along with other members of the art community has been instrumental in the birth of 2 new art projects. They established GSRBT community (Underground Art Movement), and the launching of a new phot copy art media publication named ROK MINI.

In the exhibition “Emotive” Made Susanta Dwitanaya combines talents with artists Kadek Darma Negara, Made Suka Merta and Wayan Subiartana, all are under the age of 27. Made contributes an essay in the art catalog as well as in the creation of a documentary film, presented during the opening of the exhibition, exploring the creative processes of the artists.

In his paintings Made Suka Merta makes strong social statements, with images of the economically marginalized people of the community. His three paintings, along with one painted digital print with acrylic reveal narratives of the forgotten people of the Indonesian society whos’ lives are displaced in the shift from the agrarian to the modern consumer culture. His technique of rendering the paint to build the compositions, without concern to detail add a strong aesthetic impact as well as underline the emotional experience of the subjects.

Kadek Darma Negara’s small abstract works in pen, charcoal and watercolor on paper are combinations of symbols taken from his Balinese Hindu heritage along with unusual abstract forms. Beautifully presented the works are balanced and harmonious to the eye, and are a highlight of the exhibition.

The featured subject of Wayan Subiartana paintings is Rangda, the mythical wicked witch that appears in the Calonarang dance doing battle with Barong, the Balinese collective representation of benevolence. In the dance, an important feature of Balinese Hindu temple ceremonies, good and evil are in confrontation and are representative of the Balinese philosophy that they are integral to the balance of opposing universal forces. To the artist Rangda signifies the negative human emotions we all encounter in everyday life.

The exhibition opening featured live music, film documentary and an action painting performance by the 3 artists. The OMS Fine Art Gallery in Sanur, which opened late in 2013, is a much needed new exhibition and performance venue for the art community of Denpasar. With a vision of supporting young local artists, the gallery is a much welcomed addition to the contemporary art infrastructure of Bali.

OMS Fine Art Gallery Komplek Sanur Arcade, No, 27 A, Jalan Danau Tamblingan, Sanur.



Emotive Artists live mural during exhibition opening.



Kadek Darma Negara, Emotion Tones 2014



Wayan Subiartana I'm The Living Legend 2014



Made Suka Merta, Surat Untuk Pak Presiden' 2013