

RESPONSE – SOLO EXHIBITION BY JEN ASHBY AT THE SIKA GALLERY

Australian multi media artist, Jen Ashby presents her seventh solo exhibition, *Response*, at the Sika Contemporary Art Gallery Sanggingan, Ubud, Bali, on the 5th October 2012 at 6.30pm and runs through to the 26th October.

Ashby has created this body of work not only as a response to living in Ubud, Bali over the past year but also as a response to social and humanitarian issues, inspired by local Indonesian and international newspaper articles that she has read during this time spent here in Indonesia.

Domestic servitude has a strong focal point within this exhibition and is a controversial and sensitive topic that has recently received much attention in the international media. Ashby believes that this is an important collective issue that needs to be brought to the attention of the public and addressed by all of us who live in this global community for the betterment of not only Indonesian workers but all workers employed within this industry.

Ashby shares her personal concerns regarding some of these issues in the form of 15 large scale, mixed media “wall drawings” 190 x 140 cms and through a sensory installation within the space of the Sika Gallery.

The installation “Servitude” features suspended 15 puppets 130 x 30 cms contained within a darkened space 9 x 4m in the gallery and specially lit to project shadows. These puppets design is influenced by the famous Indonesian Wayang Golek shadow puppet and they reflect the identities of Indonesian maids working abroad who have been abused by their employers.

Within the exhibition space Ashby recreates a working installation to represent her working studio environment and the opening event will also include a performance.

The exhibition opening is to be officiated by owner of ARMA museum Mr. A. A. Rai and will continue until the 26th October 2012 at the Sika Contemporary Art Gallery.

