

Press Release

Solo Exhibition of Ayu Arista Murti

# FLOWING WITH THE WATER

**Opening:**

Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> September 2017

7 PM

Exhibition runs until: October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017

*In this exhibition, Ayu Arista Murti presents the series of new paintings that depart from the idea and her contemplation of water. Beyond the narrative tendency of water that deals with many environmental issues, for example, Ayu tries to personally explore the link between water and human spiritual situation. Water is not only one of the most important natural elements in ecosystems and life cycles, but also it becomes a metaphor of many aspects in human life. Ayu deepens the interpretation of water especially in its relation to the purification rite, in which every cultural context creates spiritual and religious rituals to cleanse self collectively and individually.*

*Paintings in this series offer a perspective to see of the relations between woman's identity and water, an attempt to get into myths and mythology where many female characters in various stories use water as a symbol of feminine powers, or narrations of being survive over a firm and hard life. Flowing with the Water shows the paradoxes of inner world and outside world; hard objects and a melt water, a pushing stream and the pursuit of self-meaning.*

*Ayu Arista Murti was born at December 14<sup>th</sup>, 1972, at Surabaya (East Java), Indonesia. In 2004, Ayu graduated from of Department Visual Art and Design, Indonesia Art Institute, Yogyakarta. Her first solo exhibition were held on 2005, titled "Metafora Metamorfosa" (Metamorphic Metaphors) at Edwin Gallery, Jakarta. In this exhibition, Ayu showed painting and installation works. The works in this exhibition is considered as a form of criticism towards the tendency of people in following trend. Her next solo exhibition was: "Sweet Bitter Sour" at 24HR ART Gallery, Darwin, Australia (2006); "Rhyme of Lines, Edwin's Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia (2008); "Cloning Garden", by Edwin's Gallery, Jakarta (2010). Solo Exhibition at Valentine Willie Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (2010); and solo exhibition at Wada Gallery, Tokyo, Japan (2011).*

*Ayu has been awarded several times, among others: "The Best Encounter of Two Millennial Country of Peru - Indonesia", Embassy of Peru, Jakarta (1996); The Best Water Color and Sketch from ISI, Yogyakarta (1999); The Best Sketch Drawing from ISI, Yogyakarta (2000); Total Indonesia Award from YSRI and Total Company (2001); Best Artwork, Dies Natalis ISI,*

*Yogyakarta (2002); 5 major Phillip Morris Indonesian Art Awards by Phillip Morris Company and YSRI (2003).*

***Curated by: Alia Swastika***

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