



When She Sings, When She Paints

SOLO EXHIBITION BY **SATYA CIPTA**

satya cipta

Publised as a supplement of

"When She Sings, When She Paints"

Solo Exhibition by Satya Cipta

Galeri ZEN1 Jakarta

Exhibition period April, 16th – May, 19th, 2025

at Galeri ZEN1 Jakarta

Jl Purworejo No.24 Dukuh Atas, Menteng Jakarta Pusat 10310

All works of art by artist

Curator Jean Couteau

All poems are written by Tjokorda Krishna Sudarsana from Puri Ubud-Bali

Catalogue by Guns Gunawan

Art Director Nicolaus Kuswanto

Published by Galeri ZEN1

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e-catalogue: issuu.com/galerizen1 | www.galerizen1.com

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"When she sings, her voice reaches out to the void—

a call cast into silence,

a cry for the impossible, the vanished,

the lost human same.

But O—when she paints,

her hand reaches for the infinite within finite paper”

Jean Couteau

When She Sings, When She Paints

When she sings, her voice reaches out to the void—
a call cast into silence,
a cry for the impossible, the vanished,
the lost human same.
Her voice unfurls, a boundless moan,
rising weightless in its sorrow,
a chant without end,
spiraling skyward until it dissolves
into the farthest hush of the cosmic rim.
And we—still earthbound—
we listen, in awe,
as if hearing the soul's own yearning.
But O—when she paints,
her hand reaches for the infinite within finite paper.
Each stroke of her pen
etches a path through the seen and the felt,
as if chasing shadows of the self
across the skin of things and men.
Line after line, she drifts outward—
not to escape but to find—
to find, perhaps,
the same lost human same,
this time among flowers and roots,
among trembling leaves and human faces.

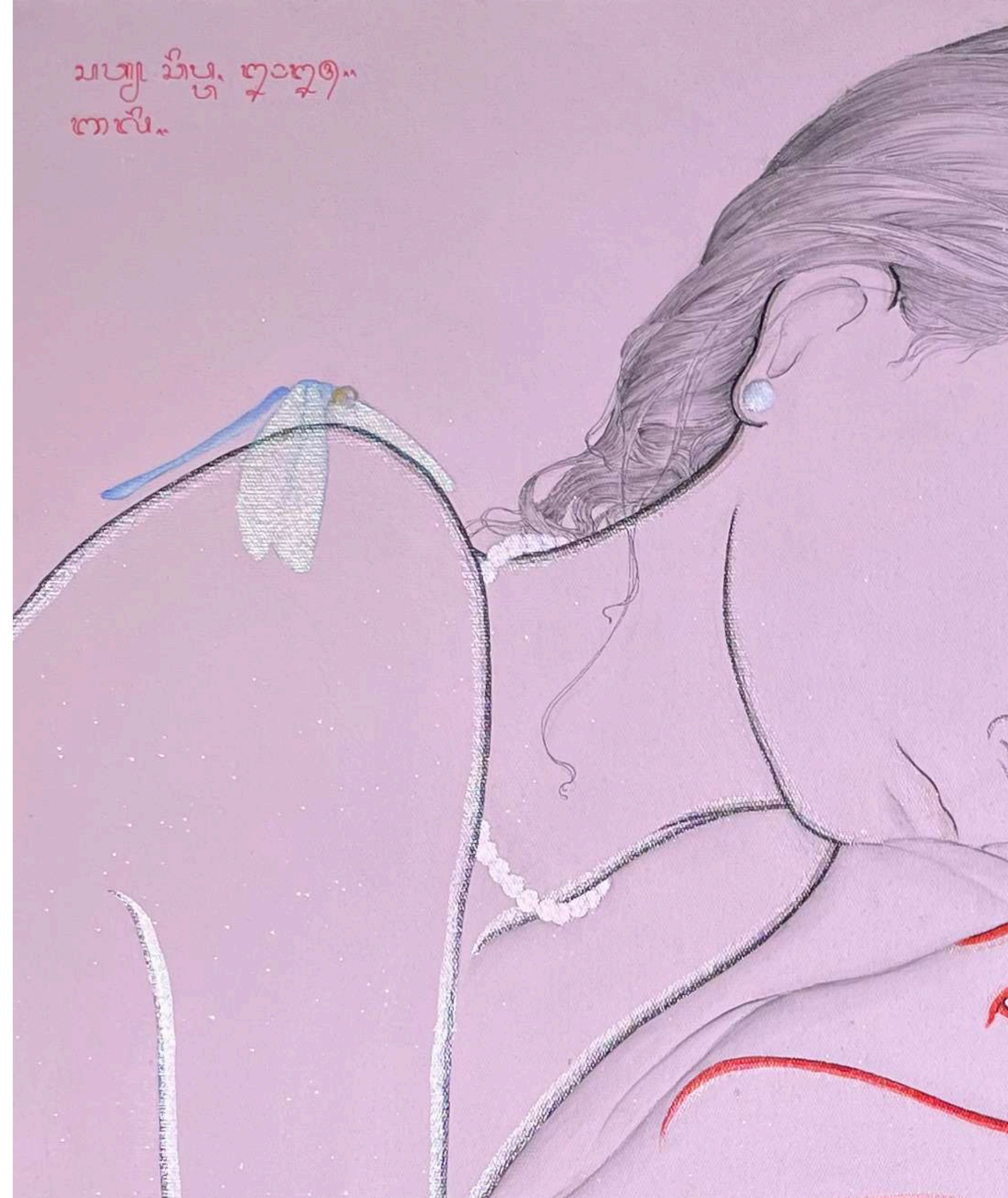


Satya's Paintings

In her paintings, Satya moves within a long breath of nature.
She is butterfly and bird; she is the rising grass and the bowing bell-flower.
She is the stray dog; she is even the snake, gliding invisibly across the earth.
She is the inert body on the ground, above which a wandering bird holds the thread of life and death.
She is the long red fingers; she is the swollen body, radiating desire and pain as it transforms into life.
She refuses to be thought, or even to think.
She does not ask questions—
not of things to be known,
nor of people to be understood or encountered.
She does not need ideas.
She only needs, under the cold purity of her line,
to release sensation.
Her art is simply affirmation—
not of ideas, not of desires,
but of being.
There is no you, no he, no we, not even an it.
There is only I.
An I that is a cry.
An I that is a line.
A primal I of womanhood, seeking the man as much as she fears his violence.
We see him arrive.
She finds him. He finds her.
They drift together in the air, wrapped in the breeze—
only for her to soon become belly and longing,
or else a lifeless form, bound to the sky by a blade of grass.



She is the object of violence.
She is also the plea for purity.
She is passive, yet she is fertile.
In Satya's cry, the nature of woman becomes object—
a moment of nature,
nature itself.
She is not woman as figure, but woman as element—
or at least wishes to be,
so she might escape the torment,
flee the dualism of paradise and hell.
There is no story here.
There is only presence, breath, becoming.



Satya the Artist

Satya stands at the crossroads of several traditions. Born Balinese, she spent much of her life in Lampung and Jakarta, where she studied theater at the Jakarta Art Institute. She never formally studied visual art. As a result, she is unburdened by the weight of art history—her approach to drawing emerged not through academic training, but as a visceral impulse, sparked by lessons taken some seven years ago in Bali.

She also learned the Lempad technique—a method of drawing defined not by narrative structure, as in classical Balinese art, but by the freedom of the line itself. Since Lempad, the line no longer serves solely to outline patterned icons—it exists for its own sake, beyond narrative, as a gesture of pure expression.

Though Satya uses this renowned “free line,” the content of her work diverges radically from her predecessors. Lempad spoke through myths, stories, and scenes of village life. For other classical Balinese artists, drawing is only one facet of a broader engagement with reimagined myths and philosophical forces.

Satya’s work, by contrast, is neither thematically traditional nor deeply rooted in formal references to Balinese or Indonesian culture or philosophy. Beyond her painting technique, she makes no attempt to affirm any specific cultural heritage—no stories, no cosmological symbolism. Instead, her art channels the raw immediacy of a woman’s lived experience. She speaks primarily of herself—without agenda, without message. What she expresses is her immediate being. It is her soul that speaks—directly, psychologically—something still rare in Balinese art, and uncommon in Indonesian art at large.

Satya does not “speak about” being a Balinese woman in the analytical or political mode. She is not crafting discourse, nor making demands. Her work bypasses analysis altogether. What she offers is a direct, unfiltered emotional experience. This is not because she is incapable of discourse—she is no outsider—but because, for her, feeling comes before thought. She does not primarily create art. Rather, she expurgates the contradictions of her self through her art. If in one moment she draws, in another she chants—a long, plaintive lament.



When she paints a woman floating in space, with a man reaching toward her, it is the simple, almost naïve hope for an ideal connection with a gentle, sensitive man. At other times, she is the woman transformed into a fantastically exaggerated belly, exuding desire from the mouth and obscene fertility in form. Or else she is a body collapsed flat on the ground, with only a stem of hope held by a passing bird. Sometimes she sees—or wants to see—life reduced to butterflies, flowers, birds: a world of nature imagined as pure. Other times she draws simple scenes: a stray dog, or a figure paying silent homage. Paradise is what she dreams of.

But there is another side—rarely shown in this exhibition—where she rips herself open or retaliates against the men who have harmed her.

Satya is not telling stories. She is revealing the conflicting demands of her psyche: the longing for purity in nature, the desire to become nature, and the pain, trauma, and inferno that lurk within it. She hovers between these extremes—not in argument or illustration, but as emotional release.

At first glance, some works may seem banal—bell-shaped flowers drooping, butterflies circling, insects buzzing. Yet in their simplicity lies extraordinary sophistication.

Satya is no ordinary artist. Her work is an outpouring of feeling—some of which she shows, some of which she hides. At times, she speaks of innocence; at others, of pain. From year to year, sometimes with intelligence, sometimes—like in this exhibition—with pure feeling and inspired by his mentor's poem—Tjok Krishna Sudarsana from Ubud Palace—, Satya is carving out a place among the best artists: among the rare artists who convey messages they themselves may not yet fully know they carry.

Jean Couteau | **Curator**



ARTWORK

Satya Cipta
"Fragments drift away,
Blossoms whisper tales of peace,
Soul finds home in dreams."
56cm x 140cm
Chinese ink, acrylic, 24ct gold on canvas
2024



Satya Cipta
"I weave it all,
like a wanderer who has lost their way.
Without feeling, without prejudice,
only a secret slowly blooming.
Like a flower whispering to the wind,
so faint, so real.
That secret eventually burns itself,
leaving ashes in an empty heart."
145cm x 145cm
Chinese ink, vermillion, 24ct gold leaf on linen
2024



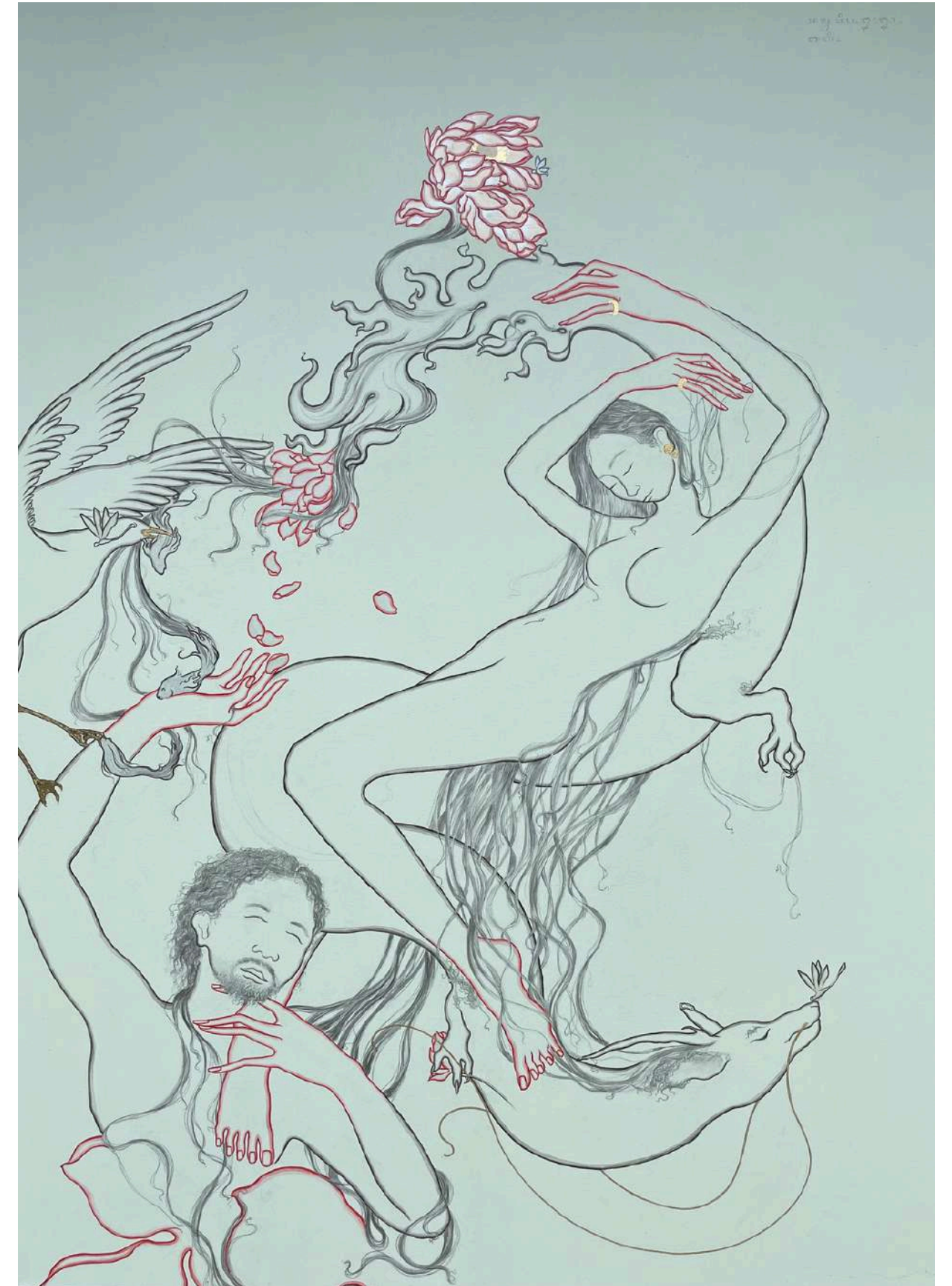
Satya Cipta

**"Every moment, there is a voice calling.
A soft whisper pounding the stillness within.
What is illusory becomes real.
What is real pierces the bone,
scratching the flesh.
Shadows keep dancing
on the embers of doubt,
without end, without pause."**

210cm x 156cm

Chinese ink, vermillion, 24ct gold leaf on linen

2024



Satya Cipta
(Kinstugi)

**"And I,
stand here.
Between being and nothingness,
between darkness and light.
Alone,
bearing witness to a wound,
that never fades away."**

100cm x 150cm

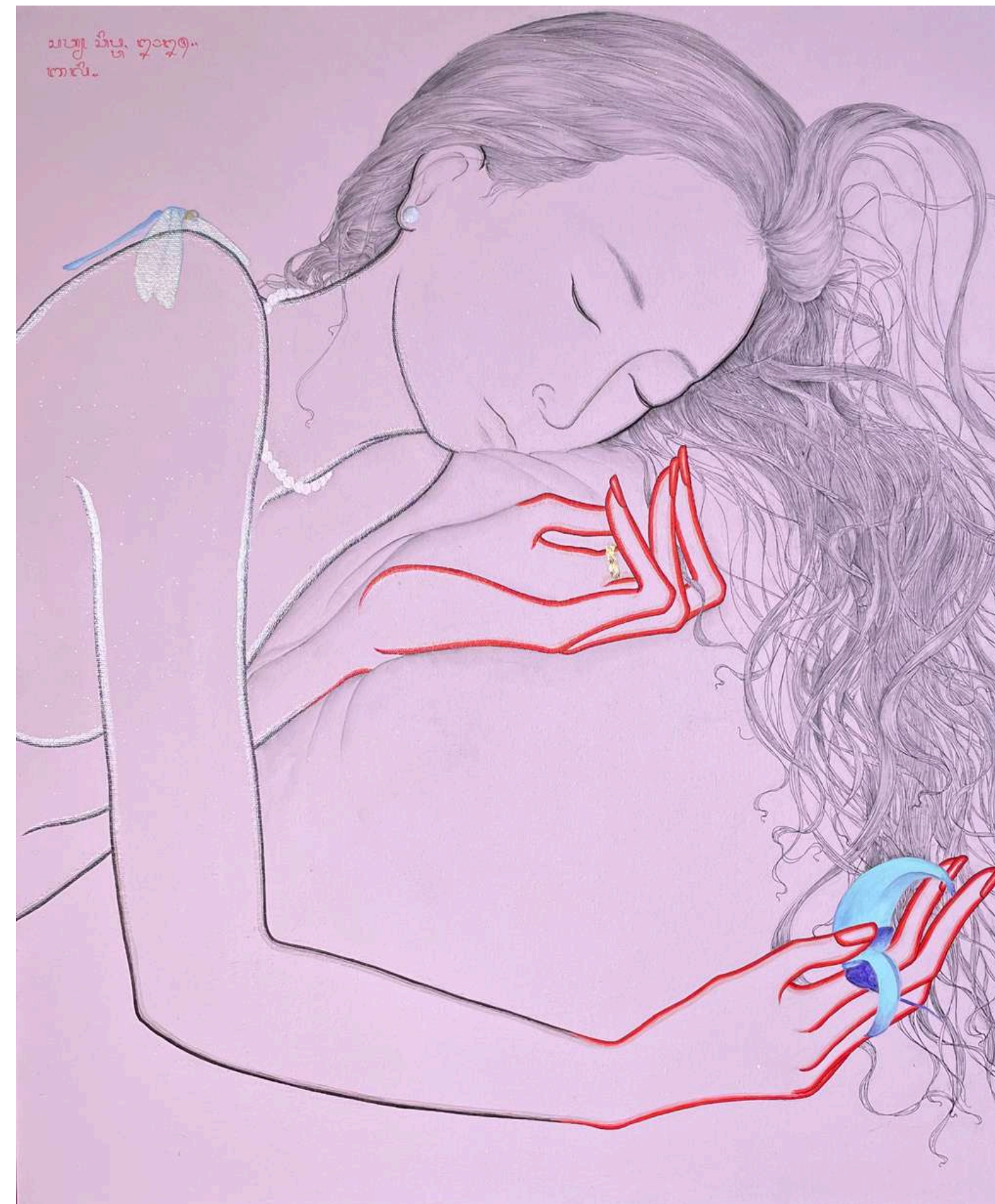
Chinese ink, vermillion, 24ct gold leaf on canvas
2024



Satya Cipta
"Thank you, O God, for this gift divine,
In the symphony of life, may its melody entwine"
60cm x 80cm
Chinese ink, vermillion, 24ct gold leaf on canvas
2025



Satya Cipta
Tears stain pink embrace,
Love's farewell in tender grace,
Heart's journey finds peace.
50cm x 60cm
Chinese ink, vermillion, 24ct gold leaf on canvas
2025



Satya Cipta
"May this new beginning, ever so fair,
Accompany us on the journey, beyond compare.
Towards home, where hearts find peace.
In Your embrace, where worries cease."
60cm x 70cm
Chinese ink, vermillion, 24ct gold leaf on canvas
2025



Satya Cipta
"Love's silent embrace,
In hearts pure, without a word,
True essence revealed."
200cm x 150cm (2panel)
Chinese ink, acrylic and 24ct gold on canvas
2025



Satya Cipta
"In twilight's embrace,
contentment blooms silently.
Boundless joy unfolds..."

120cm x 150cm

Chinese ink, 24ct gold leaf, acrylic on canvas

2025



Satya Cipta

"In gratitude embrace, a bud appears. Upon the stem of yearning, it cheers. A verdan hue, tender and bright. Unfurling softly in the gentle light..."

115cm x 140cm

Chinese ink, 24ct gold leaf, acrylic on linen

2025





Satya Cipta

Special Edition Hand Fan

This artwork is created in a limited edition,
with only 10 copies available. Including; box, pouch, tassel, certificate

23 cm

Satin cloth, Mahogany

2025



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ARTIST PROFILE



Satya Cipta

Date of Birth: 1988

EDUCATION

2010

- Bachelor of Art in Theater, Jakarta Institute of Arts (Institut Kesenian Jakarta).

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIP

2023

- Artist in resident. Footscray Community of Arts, Melbourne-Australia.

2022

- The ASEAN-India Artist Camp. Organised by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

2017

- Artist in resident. La Salle College of Arts, Singapore.

POSITION HELD

2023

- Show & Art Director. The 10th Toraja International Festival (TIF). Alun-alun kota Rantepao-Toraja South Sulawesi.
- Show & Art Director. Indonesian Music Expo (IMEX) Museum Puri Lukisan Ubud-Bali.
- Opera Waterbom. Kuta-Bali

2022

- Show & Art Director Indonesian Music Expo (IMEX) at Puri Lukisan Museum Ubud-Bali March, 24-27.

2021

- Show Director & Art Director. The 9th Toraja International Festival (TIF). Balusu', Toraja, SouthSulawesi.
- Art Director. Indonesian Music Expo (IMEX) at World Music Expo (WOMEX) in Porto, Portugal.

2020

- Show Director & Art Director. The 8th Toraja International Festival (TIF). Lolai, Toraja, South Sulawesi (December 12/Off Air & December 19/OnAir).
- Show Director & Art Director. Spice Islands Festival (SIF). Bandaneira, Banda Islands, Mollucas (November 14/Off Air & November 21/On Air).
- Show Director & Art Director. Indonesian MusicExpo (IMEX) – Live Streaming. Ubud, Bali. (October 11-18).
- Show Director & Art Director. Lokaswara Online Festival – Live Streaming. Ubud-Bali. (September 19th).

2014

- Present Art Healing Instructor Workshop. USADA Bali Cultural Center, Ubud, Bali.

EXHIBITION

2024

- 'ArtJakarta' group exhibition. Presented by Gajah Gallery, Jakarta-Indonesia
- ArtJakarta group exhibition. Presented by Artsociate, Jakarta-Indonesia.
- "Cut on The Bias" group exhibition. Presented by Gajah Gallery. Jogjakarta-Indonesia.
- "Art Jakarta Garden" group exhibition. Presented by Hybridium and Artsociate. Plataran hutan kota, Jakarta.
- "Telapak Sendiri Tuter Terbelah" Group exhibition. Presented by Arsociate-Lawangwangi Bandung

2023

- "Art and Dine". Group Exhibition. Presented by Galeri Zen1 at Ritz Carlton hotel.
- "Embrace" 211 Minnesota Street Project in San Francisco, California. Presented by Roundcollab Gallery.
- CETAK group exhibition of art prints at Purga Artspace Ubud-Bali.
- Art Moments Bali at Intercontinental Resort, Jimbaran-Bali by Art Sociates x Lanö Art Project
- 'Sekala-Niskala' group exhibition at Footscray Community of Art, Melbourne-Australia, by Project11 Foundation.

2022

- Lobby Teater Kecil Pameran 20 Perupa peduli. Jakarta, March 31,2022.

2021

- 1st (ART). Group artist exhibition, Zen1 Gallery at Seminyak Village, Bali.
- SEA The Showcase, virtual exhibition based in London-United Kingdom, South East Asian Art; www.seatheshowcase.com
- Selected artist for Festival Menstruação, virtual exhibition based in Brazil, supported by Ministerio do Turismo Rio, Brazil.
- 7 mira(rt)cle, group exhibition by Gallery Zen1 at Seminyak Village, Bali.
- L-Project, virtual exhibition by Linda Gallery based in Jakarta, www.lproject.com.

- Celebra®tion Moments, virtual exhibition with Art Moments Jakarta by Zen1 Gallery, at Zen1 GalleryTuban, Bali.
- Irrational Wishes, group exhibition at Lawangwangi Artspace Bandung, West Java.
- The Wandering Soul, solo exhibition December 11, Presented by Zen1 Gallery at Art;1Museum Jakarta

2020

- Contemplating Alternatives. Woman artist group exhibition, Gajah Gallery, Yogyakarta.

2019

- Bali Mega Rupa. Balinese Artists Group Exhibition organized by Bali Culture and Tourism Board, Bali Province.
- Satya: A Great Talent in Its Bud. Solo exhibition. The Oberoi Gallery. Denpasar, Bali.
- Merdeka dalam Ekspresi. Group exhibition. Denpasar Art Center, Denpasar, Bali.
- Intimists 2. Group exhibition. La Fenice Art Gallery, Hong Kong.
- Myth and Woman. Group exhibition. Monkey Forest Gallery, Ubud, Bali

2018

- A Budding Talent. Solo exhibition. Puri Lukisan, Ubud, Bali.
- Art Bali: Celebration of the Future. Annual Group Exhibition of 47 artists selected from across Indonesia. AB-BC Building. Nusa Dua, Bali.
- Vidyadiva. The 2nd Balinese Woman Artists group Exhibition. Denpasar Art Center, Denpasar, Bali.
- Cultural Tourism Gallery. Solo charity exhibition. Melia Hotel, Nusa Dua, Bali.

2017

- The Offering. Woman artist group exhibition. Monkey Forest Gallery, Ubud, Bali.
- Luwih Utamaning Luh. Woman artist group exhibition, Denpasar Art Center Gallery, Denpasar, Bali.

2016

- EPICENTRUM. The 4th Indonesian National Exhibition, Manado-North Sulawesi.

WORKSHOP

2023

- Line Drawing Workshop at Footscray Community of Arts, Melbourne-Australia.
- Traditional Painting workshop for Emphaty School at SC Studio, Ubud-Bali.

2020

- Batuan painting technique. Given at USADA Bali Cultural Center, Ubud, Bali.

2019

- Balinese Art Therapy at USADA Bali Cultural Center, Ubud, Bali.

PERFORMANCE WORKS

2024

- Satya Cipta with Indonesian National Orchestra live concert at Nijmegen-Netherland for Music Meeting Festival.
- Satya Cipta with Indonesian National Orchestra performed at Amare Concert Hall, Den Haag-Netherland.
- Satya Cipta with Indonesian National Orchestra performed at Katowice Miasto Ogrodow, Poland
- Satya Cipta performed at JIAcuratedkiosk, Sanur-Bali
- Soprano for Khan Xing Wei Opera at Indonesian Music Expo

2023

- Satya Cipta featuring Indonesian National Orchestra for Gitarja opera directed by Mhyajo in Gedung Kesenian Jakarta
- Satya Cipta featuring Monica Lim and Mindy Mengwang at the opening of Sekala Niskala exhibition, Melbourne-Australia.

PERFORMANCE WORKS

2022

- Satya Cipta featuring Indonesian National Orchestra concert in Elbphillharmonie, Hamburg. October
- Satya Cipta featuring Indonesian National Orchestra concert in Haus der Indonesischen Kulturen Berlin. October
- Satya Cipta featuring Indonesian National Orchestra concert in Closing party B20 for G20 at Taman Bhagawan Bali, November.
- Satya Cipta featuring Indonesian National Orchestra for Opera Gayatri at Theater Jakarta, July.

2020

- Main singer for Music of the Gayatri Opera. Composed by Franki Raden and Directed by Mia Johannes.
- Private Show at Majapahit Tribute Park, Light of Nusantara a commission piece in conjunction with Indonesia G20. February

2017

- Déjà vu. New media arts performance and exhibition. La Salle College of Art, Singapore

2016

- Acting as Soprano singer in Cymbeline (a play by Shakespeare), directed by Prof. Leon Rubin (ESSEX University). Performed at Denpasar Art Center, Bali

2006 – 2013

- During this period, Satya Cipta worked with some theatre groups in Jakarta and some directors such as Slamet Rahardjo, Jose Rizal Manua, Putu Wijaya. She also took part in some television commercials, a movie, short films and collaborated with other artists.

INVITED PUBLIC LECTURES

2024

- Aotearoa International Ethnomusical Wānanga in Tāmaki Makaurau (Auckland). Enhance the representation and voice of women in art, ensuring a balanced and inclusive approach.

2020

- Woman Artist in Bali: A Personal Perspective. Presented at Kinship Studio Bali. Denpasar, Bali Delivering Pain through the Art. Presented at theShow and Tell program at Rumah Rabbit's. Denpasar, Bali

2019

- The History, Styles, and Iconography of Balinese Art. Presented at USADA Cultural Center, Ubud-Bali.

NOMINATIONS

2022

- ASEAN-India Artist Camp. Udaipur-Rajasthan, India

2023

- The Sovereign Art Prize Hong-Kong

INTERVIEWS

2024

- Project: Preserving Contemporary Indonesian Art in Australia, for thesis research of Masters of Cultural Material Conservation; Serena Stella, supervised by Dr. Eliza O'Donnell at The University of Melbourne.
- Mekong Review. Art Beyond Tourism by Naima Morelli

2023

- Plural Art Magazine-Singapore, 'An afternoon of tea, pisang goreng, and feminism with artist Satya Cipta', interviewed by Naima Morelli, June.

<https://pluralartmag.com/2023/06/06/an-afternoon-of-tea-pisang-goreng-and-feminism-with-artist-satya-cipta/>

Indonesian program at radio SBS Audio program, Melbourne-Australia in May by Sri Dean.

2021

- International Women of Mystery, blog internationalwomenofmystery.co/ based in Madrid, Spain.
- Interviewed by Bich Ngoc Vu from Hamburg University for her Scription, recommended by lecturer of Hamburg University, German.

PANEL DISCUSSION

2020

- Artist Talk Series at Studio Mendut Art Center. Muntilan, Central Java.

PODCAST PROGRAM

2023

- Satya Cipta: Woman Who Travel Podcast – A Podcast on Condé Nast Entertainment (New York).

<https://podcasts.apple.com/id/podcast/women-who-travel-condé-nast-traveler/id1321118314?i=1000593942837>

<https://www.cntraveler.com/tag/women-who-travel-podcast>

2022

- Satya Cipta: From Bali with Love by Beez And Honey – A Podcast on Anchor (New York).

<https://anchor.fm/beezeand/episodes/Satya-Cipta-From-Bali-with-Love-ekvb69>

Acknowledgements

Galeri ZEN1 and Nicolaus Kuswanto
with humble say thank you to :

Satya Cipta
Prof. DR. Bambang Wibawarta, S.S., M.A
Jean Couteau
Haerul Bengardi
Sandiana Soemarko
Erwin Soeyanto
Daniel Ginting
Rini Anggraeni
Agricon Indonesia
Tjokorda Krishna Sudarsana
Citra Haristra
Yovie Widiyanto
Guns Gunawan
Sanjaya
Iqbal Mula Taufik
Ni Wayan Venna Octatita
Dwiga Moniq Adelin
Ibnu Suprayogi
Doctore
Ni Made Yuli Aryawati
Asosiasi Galeri Seni Indonesia
Java Frame, Jakarta
Global Art Frame





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