

# Samstag Museum's "Mooi Indie" Celebrates Contemporary Indonesian Art

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Wedhar RIYADI, Noise from the fertile land (Keributan dari negara subur) no.1, 2011, oil on canvas, 250 x 180 cm. Purchased 2011, Queensland Art Gallery Foundation Collection: Queensland Art Gallery. Photograph by Natasha Harth, QAGOMA (Queensland Art Gallery.)

The **Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art** has collaborated with Berlin- and Singapore-based gallerist **Matthias Arndt** to develop an exhibition celebrating the diverse, culturally aware, and social engaged art of one of Australia's nearest and most important neighbors: Indonesia.

"Mooi Indie – Beautiful Indies" opens on July 31 as part of the Adelaide Festival Centre's OzAsia Festival. The exhibition features works by **Jumaldi Alfi**, **Arin Dwihartanto Sunaryo**, **Eko Nugroho**, **Wedhar Riyadi**, **Entang Wiharso**, and the Indonesian artist collective **Tromarama**.

Taking as its starting point the social, political, and cultural factors that have contributed significantly to the identity and character of Indonesia's contemporary art scene, Mooi Indie explores themes such as gender, culture, identity, human rights, and the environment.

In his curatorial statement, Arndt explains: "Mooi Indie, the Dutch term for Beautiful Indies, was originally the title of eleven reproductions of the watercolor paintings by the Dutch artist Fredericus Jacobus van Rossum du Chattel (1856-1917), showing

merely harmonious scenes of East Indies.

“The Mooi Indie – Beautiful Indies show presents five different contemporary artists and artworks by the collective Tromarama. Although each of the presenting artists has an individual point of view, they all combine in their passion for modern Indonesian art and culture.”

Matthias Arndt is at the forefront of the promotion of contemporary Indonesian art within the Asia Pacific region and beyond. He launched ARNDT Berlin in 1994 and in January 2013 opened a gallery space in Singapore within the Gilman Barracks art district.

*For more information visit the Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art website [here](#).*