

ART SEASONS *presents*

BOREDOM THERAPY

a Gatot Indrajati & Nano Warsono Exhibition

17 October to 13 November 2020

Opening Reception: 17 October, 2pm- 6pm

Free to the public



Gatot Indrajati, 2020, Alprazoland, Acrylic on Canvas

Exhibition Description:

In Boredom Therapy, both Gatot Indrajati and Nano Warsono want to reflect the world in this troubled time (pandemic), the new normal, from a view from a small place they called home. How to heal ourselves from the fears and worries of our everyday life? How to deal with depressed lives and livelihoods? Gatot and Nano believed that art to us and making art to the

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artist is one of the solutions to comforts the grim and gloom, to relieve fatigue and that good things still prevailed in our society. Creating creative ideas can adapt to the changing aspects of life, explaining the different perspective of life and shifting psychological burdens into creativities. Hopefully, arts can resonance the effects of this pandemic and moving forward, new, unexpected norms and opportunities will appear in the horizons.

Gatot and Nano are similar yet un-similar. Both loved music and played the electric guitar, and yet Gatot is into Blues, and Nano is Grunge. Both spend hours surfing the internet, and Gatot pursue ideas to create arts, and Nano goes for arts, music, politics and history. Gatot is an introvert who loves gardening, and Nano prefers outdoor activities and visiting historical sites.

The overarching Gatot's philosophy in making art is to explore the unnoticed things that appealed to him, from everyday life; the simple pleasure. He finds no satisfaction in major themes like socio-political or humans and identities, etc., as he feels one cannot be truthful in the realms of such topics. From his early days of conceptualising the wooden dolls, his army of love, Gatot is clearly reminiscing on simple things that look fun, a temporary pleasure perhaps. A hug, a smile, playing the guitar, washing hair, or gardening, all are simple things that always happened in our daily life, too common it often escapes to be observed or remembered. We forget that simple and ordinary things often bring happiness, although short but are very meaningful to our life. Today, Gatot paintings took a more mythical, fairy tale liked expressions, a hybrid of both world, real and fictional, but still brimming with simple things that is his signature on the canvas. Gatot is the winner of 2016 UOB Southeast Asian Painting of the Year.

Nano, on the other hand, the emphasis is on socio-political contexts. Nano's art life process is about fictions and histories. He works with binaries of anti-capitalist, anti-materialist, anti-west position, on comparison of capitalism/materialist equal to economic and social ills, predator and victim, East versus West, etc. Nano may have influenced ideologically by post-colonial theories, his concerned of the global world order affecting Indonesia, and the economics, politics, social problems, ecology, and mass culture closer at home make up his visual language on in his works. Nano's indulgence in the global pop culture is evident, his roots in graffiti art and graphic novels were famous, even till today. Nano creative used of the riches of mass media collaterals for his artistic consumption are always closely related to the socio-political environment he is in, but at the same time is the negation with his imagination that new story, fiction or history emerged from that.

In the artworks of Boredom Therapy, they have created a fictional world that brings surreal and imaginative experiences to the audience. These creative stories and journeys make out from this pandemic situation, make us believe that this world is still a better place to stay. In Gatot's Alprazololand, it's his quirky take from the name of a medicine, Alprazolam used to treat anxiety and panic disorder. He wants to illustrate that there are positive sides of things that occur during this worldwide pandemic. While, we human being feel the pressure of social and economic depressions and our society suffered, on the other hand, mother nature become picturesque and clean, our environment and animals thrive. A solemn reminder to all, the importance of coexistence and the fragile eco-system of this planet we all live. Nano's God Of Medicine is about the irony of life and the ambiguity during this pandemic and the race to produce the first Covid-19 vaccine. Back to the past, every culture has their mythology and their gods, in the likes of Asclepius, ancient Greek God of Medicine, and Baosheng Dadi, Chinese God of Medicine, and closer to home, Java Bathara Aswan from the traditional puppet show. They all came into play in this painting, in Nano's fusions of repertoire; a profusion of metaphors, juxtaposing the myth, the history and the fiction with all the modern characters and symbols. A similar topic but yet an un-similar works from the two artists.

In pursuing meaning in life, our perception of life, boredom can lead us to discover ourselves, to be more mindful of and treasure each moment, or act with more kindness towards others and the society. Allowing ourselves to feel bored regularly can be therapeutic. So, Boredom Therapy anyone?



Nano Warsono, 2020, God of Medicine, Acrylic on Canvas



Gatot Indrajati, 2020, After Five Months, Acrylic on Canvas

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Gallery hours:

Monday to Friday 11am – 7pm

Saturday by Appointment only,
 Closed Sundays and public holidays.