

Recent Books from Indonesia – Dec 2022

Mary Martin Booksellers Pte Ltd
Blk 231, Bain Street
#03-05, Bras Basah Complex
Singapore 180231
Tel : +65-6883-2284/6883-2204
info@marymartin.com
www.marymartin.com

Art

Art Fallen From Heaven : Modern Balinese Sculpture / Koos van Brakel
Edam, Netherlands: LM Publishers, 2022
216p.
9789460220517
\$ 79.50 / HB
1316gm.

Art Fallen from Heaven, modern Balinese sculpture, offers a new perspective on the origin of modern Balinese sculpture in the 1930s. After the subjugation of Bali by Dutch colonial rule, the driving force for renewal was the shift of patronage by the ruling monarchs to the tourists and the western art market. This new patronage ushered Balinese woodcarvers into the world of contemporary artistic endeavors. Before, "art for art's sake" was an unknown concept in Bali. The artists' association Pita Maha (1936-1939) played an important role in positioning the until then unknown woodcarvers, as artists. This publication also offers a description on key developments in the post-war era 1950-2020, an annotated exhibition overview of Balinese sculpture in the years 1932-1973, an overview of the sculptors of the artists' association Pita Maha and more than 200 illustrations of traditional and modern sculpture and historic photographs.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=839044>

Nyoman Nuarta: Reflections and Interpretations / Jeremy Allan
Jakarta: Afterhours Books, 2015
1v.
9786026990068
\$ 395.00/ HB
2828gm.

The four-decade career of Nyoman Nuarta has spanned many of the most interesting—and tumultuous—periods in the history of modern Indonesia. As a witness to these events, either from the outside as a student activist and iconoclastic artist, or the inside as a favored creator of monumental art objects to adorn the structures of the government and economic elite, Nyoman Nuarta has employed this unique perspective on Indonesian life and society to create a body of compelling and accomplished body of work of great importance and lasting value.

In Reflections and Interpretations, Nyoman Nuarta reminisces on his exceptional career through an examination of his own selection of works. From Proklamator, Nuarta's first commission, won in 1979 even before graduating from the Faculty of Fine Art at the Bandung Institute of Technology, to the massive Garuda piece recently installed at the entrance of Soekarno-Hatta International airport, the pieces included in this book cover the

major creative periods in Nuartha's career. In this book, Nyoman Nuartha tells of the external events and internal passions driving the creation of each work, whether political protest, public monument, or private reflection. Nuartha's own words are complemented by brief explanatory introductions placing each piece into a historical and social context.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=838195>

Politics/Current Affairs

Hatta and Indonesia's Independent and Active Foreign Policy: Retrospect and Prospect / (Eds) Evan A. Laksmana & Lina Alexandra

Jakarta: Centre for Strategic and International Studies, 2022

196p.

Includes Bibliography

9789791295444

\$ 30.00 / PB

378gm.

The extant literature on Indonesian foreign policy focuses on how successive Indonesian presidents since 1945 have, first and foremost, grappled with different domestic forces when engaging the world. Many have also highlighted how presidential idiosyncrasies shape overall foreign policy formulation and implementation. On the other hand, Indonesian diplomats have consistently invoked the sacrosanct "independent and active" principle as the ultimate guide to the country's foreign policy. So, which one matters: the principle or the domestic politics of foreign policy.

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