

A RESIDENCY SHOW 10 – 31 AUGUST 2024

CULT

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PUBLISHER Copyright 2024 © CULT Sdn Bhd 10A, Persiaran Bukit Tunku Bukit Tunku 50480 Kuala Lumpur Malaysia PROJECT DIRECTOR Suryani Senja Alias

> COORDINATOR Nia Khalisa Anissa

CONCEPT + DESIGN Imaya Wong

PHOTOGRAPHY BujBecs Production Aidan Tan Provided by the artists

ROOTS AND ROUTES

Roots and Routes is a group exhibition by four artists who have been on a residency program with CULT gallery from 2022 to 2023. Each artist was sent off to two locations – Kimberley Boudville and Nia Khalisa were hosted by Bon Ton Locale in Langkawi while Mati flew to Yogyakarta where they stayed in Lohjinawi. Mati's residency in Jogjakarta is supported by Ahmad Zakii Anwar and Valentine Willie. New spaces are meant to nurture renewed possibilities, thus exposing artists to fresh stimulants that can challenge set values, routines and practices. These residencies are not meant to emphasise on the end result but rather reflection that comes from being present in one's surroundings. Although these artists have produced a body of work that has been showcased in the forms of exhibitions and talks, the results of this excursion are not measured by its end date, but rather by the layers of practice built upon over time.

This show is a check-in – a revisit – a how are you to these four artists. To look into the works they are producing now and reflect on ways their practice has transformed – each at their own pace. We invite you to look at these pieces not in the vacuum of their current isolated spaces – but as a dance of individuals over time.

KIMBERLEY BOUDVILLE

the root of affection

An overgrown tree scaling up a concrete wall, unhindered by obstacles to continue growing — this inspired me to create forms that represent the growth manifested from a period in my life where I am constantly moving forward and finding my ground.

'the root of affection' series explores a form of endearment through the love language of physical touch. Through this expression, I was able to bring to life the roots of my affections that came from the warm embraces of love and support from my loved ones.

With this in mind, my affection presents itself in this series in the form of 'hugs' — huggable cushions wrapped in soft fabrics. It is a reminder for me to appreciate those who are still with me, as I can only wish to embrace my dearly departed loved ones one last time.





the root of affection: lapis
2024
Wire, paper, plastic, fabric, beads, thread
50 x 50 x 40 cm
RM 2,800





the root of affection: calypso 2024

Wire, paper, plastic, fabric, shells, silicone $30 \times 40 \times 30 \text{ cm}$ RM 1,800







the root of affection: copper 2023

Wire, paper, plastic, fabric, paint 20 x 20 x 25 cm RM 1,000





the root of affection: sky

2023 Wire, paper, fabric, elastic bandages 30 x 25 x 25 cm RM 1,000



the root of affection: dune 2023 Wire, paper, fabric, elastic bandages 25 x 25 x 20 cm RM 1,000









the root of affection: moss 2023 Wire, paper, fabric, elastic bandages, paint 30 x 25 x 25 cm RM 1,200







the root of affection: nude

2023 Wire, paper, elastic bandages 70 x 50 x 60 cm RM 2,800







the root of affection: nude

2023 Wire, paper, elastic bandages 70 x 50 x 60 cm RM 2,800



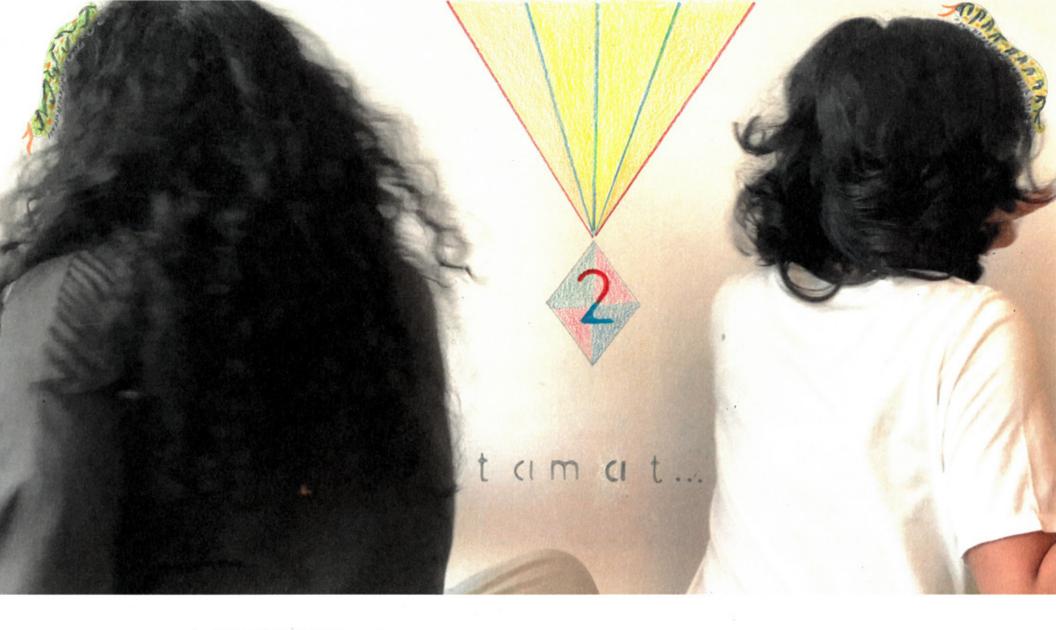
the root of affection: midnight

2024

Wire, paper, plastic, fabric, thread, cardboard, polaroid photos 50 x 30 x 40 cm
Artist Collection (Not For Sale)

MATI

Mati the agreed assimilation between A(**Ma**)t and Bin(**ti**). Perfecting a blissful balance as independent individuals with a collaborative curiosity. Working together since 2018 and being an official duo since 2022, Mati is a partnership committed to expanding perspectives through shared conversations, experience and experimentation. Amat and Binti both carry a background of an education in Cinematic Arts and literature respectively, eventually expressed into unrestricted mediums including film, self publishing, photography, performance and conceptual art.



9. INT. PRESENT DAY

light! Colourful bright lights land them back in the present day. He and She awake in their initial position, jolting up and away from the surprising sorcery they have just experienced.

HE Sumpahan ke pengalaman?

Peringatan! AAA!

ANDTOLOGI An ongoing series by Mati 2023

A portrait with paint that never dries, a scent with changing notes every passing hour. A composed concerto with improvised imperfections, flavours that taste like this or like that — The nature of stories to us is like this. So much like this and more. But wait, there's more. There is always more.

Andtologi is an on-going series translating our understanding of storytelling. With our combined individual strengths and tertiary backgrounds in literature and cinematic arts, Andtologi spelled this way sounds the word 'Anthology' and acts as the continuous unending "...and then"s and ways of telling them.

first instincts. second chances. three frames what if i told you there is no good situation or bad circumstance? just situations and circumstances. okay sure, whatever smart answer you conjure is yours to believe in but not mine. do you have a story? here's two. here, take my time, i'll take yours, thank you.







Andtologi: Masa

2023

Coloured pencils, highlighters, photograph print on acid free paper $\,$

21 x 29.7 cm (Each)

Total: 6 pieces (3 works per set, 2 sets total)

RM 2,000 for a set of 3 A4 works







Andtologi: Masa

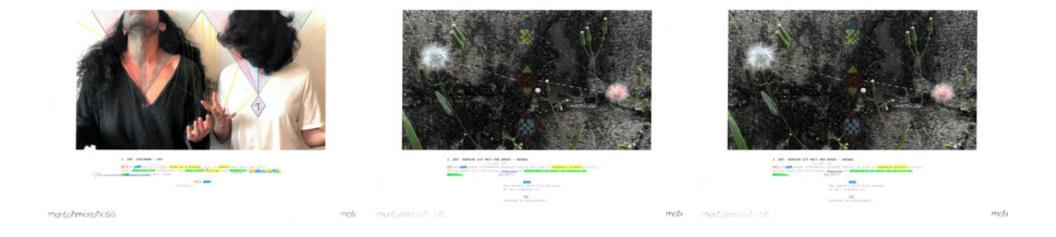
2023

Coloured pencils, highlighters, photograph print on acid free paper

21 x 29.7 cm (Each)

Total: 6 pieces (3 works per set, 2 sets total) RM 2,000 for a set of 3 A4 works

A story told in 9 frames. This story follows two characters in navigating the curiosities and concerns of adulthood.







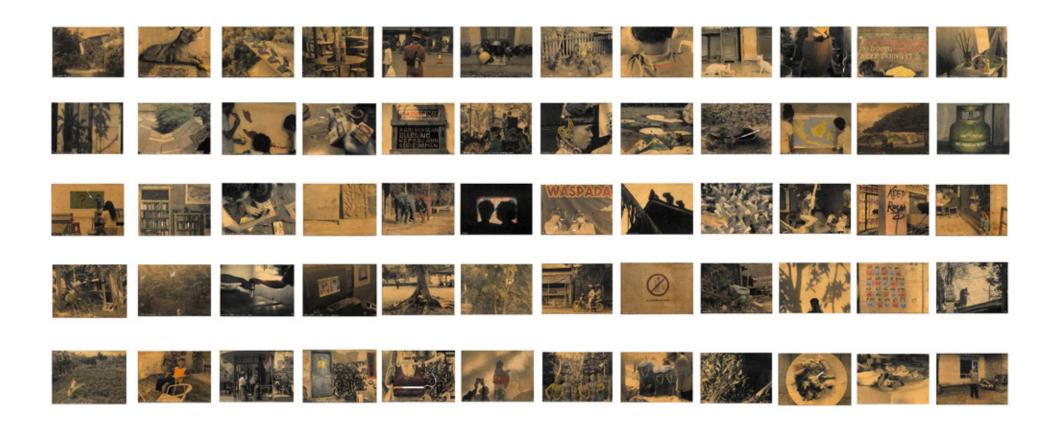
Andtologi: Mentahmorphosis

2023

Coloured pencils, highlighters, photograph print on acid free paper 42 x 29.7 cm (Each)

Total: 9 pieces

RM 4,000 for a set of 9 A3 works



Andtologi: Istimewa

2023

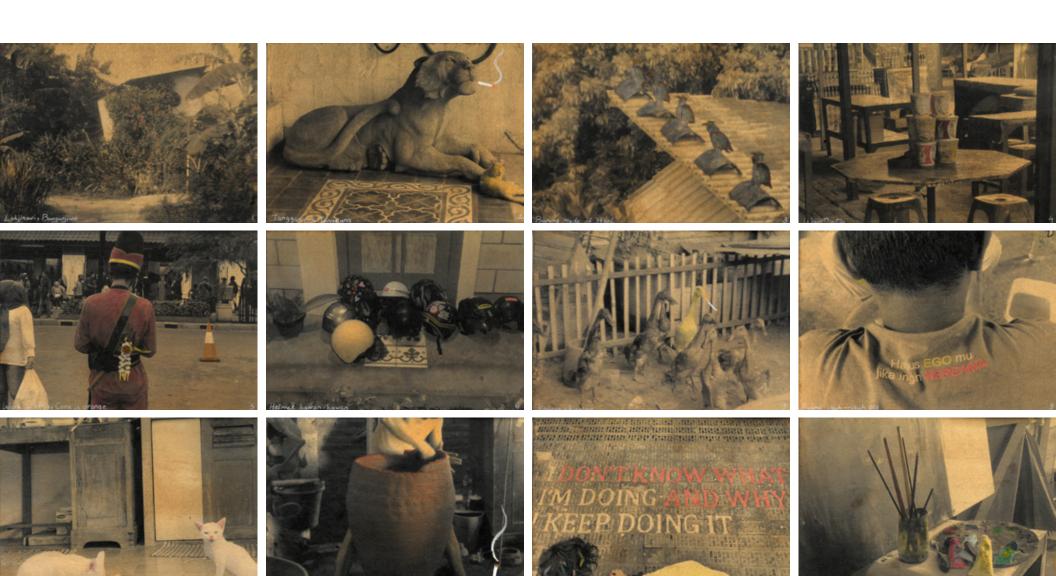
Coloured pencils, highlighters, photograph print on acid free paper 14.8 x 21 cm (Each)

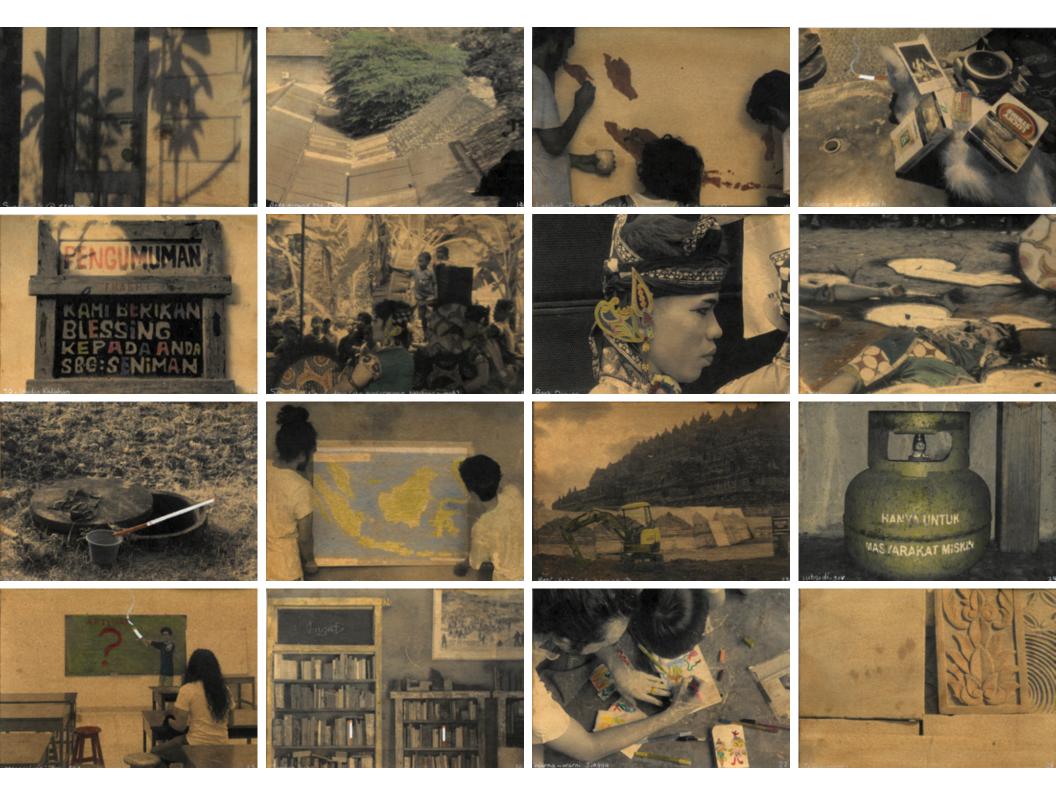
Total: 60 pieces

RM 1,200 for a set of any 5 photographs (12 sets in total – to be sold in sets of 5 only or all 60 photographs as one collection)

Istimewa is the continuation of the on-going Andotologi series platforming our chosen method of storytelling. 60 photographs to represent the 30 day experience from the perspective of two people.

The day before our flight to Jogja departed, we were reminded of one sentence from ten different people: "Absorb everything, live fully there and don't make any work" to our response of nodding agreeably. We lied.









In English there is the saying 'Airing out one's dirty laundry' to mean making ones' private stories and matters known to public. Its Malay synonym is 'Cerita dalam kain'. Taking from both these terms, the series 'Cerita Atas Kain', translating to 'Stories on cloth', stages selected online chats between Amat and Binti spanning over the years they have been acquainted from 2017 to 2024. The chats are displayed on items of clothing that become more intimate as the years progress. Private chats between partners are not typically something shared with other people, in this current age, both privacy and voyeurism share the same thread. It used to be just Amat, Binti and Zuckerberg and is now shared with you. Cerita Atas Kain explores just this and shows just that.

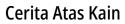












2024

Silk-screen on mixed textiles
Varied dimensions
Total: 7 pieces
Artist Collection (Not For Sale)





Tak Kuasa is an ongoing series. This title holds a double meaning in the Malay language. Literally translating to 'no power' and in Malay an expression to mean, that someone has no willpower, no energy, no force, no time to face an issue at hand. Having no power over a circumstance, therefore, having no willpower to keep powering through.

'pokoknya, semua pokok sudah mati' a sentence meaning 'the point is all the trees are dead', as an opening piece and statement on subjects surrounding this series. A sentence stringed by us mid conversation with neighbours in Yogyakarta while discussing a recent logging that happened near the lodging where we stayed during our monthlong artist residency. 'pokoknya, semua pokok sudah mati' is the piece chosen to open the '**Tak Kuasa**' series and is presented on a comforter with alphabets cut-out of craft carpet grass to amplify this statement of a synthetic near-future. Made on a comforter, to represent both serene sleep and night terror tragedies. A comforter that holds the responsibility to nurture rest, embroidered with a restless statement in lowercase alphabets as a white flag admittance that one is tired of shouting.

The crippling cycle of issues that follow us into dreamscapes and how we best deal with it when we, in the greater sense and subjectivities of our circumstances, are powerless. Going to start a revolution from our beds, make friends with everyone in our heads instead: the point is, all the trees are dead.





Tak Kuasa

2023

Craft carpet grass, miniature model figures on comforter 140 x 200 cm
Private Collection

NIA KHALISA

Batik *tjap* pictures by Nia Khalisa evoke a sense of nostalgia through the sepia tints of the wax and the faded, rustic appearance of the hand-dyed fabrics that they are printed on. The subjects of her stamps, which are custom-made according to her drawings, are inspired by creatures, plants, and patterns from her surroundings. A long spell in Indonesia to study art and batik, frequent collaborations with Bon Ton in Langkawi, and frequent day trips into the jungle while back in Selangor keep her in contact with nature. The spaces in her pictures convey a sort of spiritual calm and perfect isolation within nature, but could also be interpreted as a disquieting emptiness by those used to the density of cities. A new line of experiment within her practice are the two hanging pattern chains made of stamped fabric cut-outs layered in resin and linked together, a take on beaded curtains from the 1960s/souvenir shops?

Written by Ellen Lee







Bayang wayang series: Gunungan

2024

Drawn & stamped batik cutouts layered in resin, beads, bell $40 \times 100 \text{ cm}$ RM 2,400





Bayang wayang series: Seafood Dinner

2024

Stamped batik cut-outs layered in resin, luminous beads, fishing sinkers

40 x 100 cm

RM 2,400



Hikayat Orang Kampung

2023

Stamped batik naturally dyed with Ketapang leaves & tunjung $31\,x\,160\,cm$ RM 1,700



Batik — an art that also has presence in Malaysia. Historically, the humble batik is "a cloth with purpose", and reflects the culture and roots of its people.

Often handed down within families for generations, as her grandmother did, the craft is intertwined with cultural identity and through the symbolic meanings of its colours and designs, expresses creativity and spirituality. Not only is it wearable, Batik was used in ceremonials and each motifs had its own meanings. Different regions would have their own style and colours.

As Batik motifs draw inspiration from its surrounding ecosystem, Nia tends to adopt traditional elements of the design and their attached meanings into her work but with a twist to narrate her own personal experiences. Upon practising the craft, she is currently exploring the use of natural dyes and botanical printing. The modest tones of naturally dyed textiles harmonise gently with her quiet and delicate imagery.



Cebis-cebis dari Pulau



Senja

2024

Stamped batik on Ketapang & tawas dyed raw silk, malam 90 x 16 cm

RM 700



Bukit Lembu

2024
Batik cut-outs stitched & stamped batik on hemp
90 x 16 cm
RM 700



Halaman

2024

Stamped batik dyed with Ketapang & tawas on raw silk 90 x 16 cm RM 700



Paya teratai

2024

Stamped batik dyed with Ketapang, tawas & tunjung on raw silk $90\,x\,16~\text{cm}$ $RM\,700$



Bakau di Kilim

2024

Stamped batik dyed with Ketapang & tawas, found roots on hemp 90 x 16 cm RM 550



Sotong, sotong, sotong

2024 Stamped batik, bleached hemp 90 x 16 cm RM 550



Ikan, ikan, ikan

2024

Found scrap fabric embroidered on hemp 90 x 16 cm

RM 550

