The Papermoon Puppet Theater has become a staple of the global arts festival circuit, with enigmatic modernist puppets that tell stories from myth to the birth of modern Indonesia. (New York Times, 2016)
Papermoon Puppet Theatre was founded in 2006, by Maria Tri Sulistyani (an illustrator, writer and theatre performer). Papermoon now developed together with Iwan Effendi (a visual artist who likes to tell stories), Anton Fajri, Beni Sanjaya, and Pambo Priyojati.

Papermoon continues to fulfill its big artistic heart with experimental performances by using contemporary puppet theatre to reach wider audiences. Not content with working in performance spaces, Papermoon has expanded into site-specific performances in markets, trains, antique shops and other places. Beside that, Papermoon also facilitates puppet-theatre workshops, and since 2008, once in every two year, we hold an International Biennale Puppet Festival calls PESTA BONEKA.
Lasem, a tiny town on the northern part of Java island, is where the Lasem River meets the Java Sea. Once an important port where vessels berthed to transport a bevy of treasures to places around the world, Lasem today is like a lonely old man, keeping his secrets quietly. While the fishermen tend their nets and children play around little wooden boats, one can still find ancient shards of Chinese porcelain buried beneath its sandy beaches. Suara Muara, or The Sounds of the Estuary, brings audiences on an aural journey, where the sounds of the past still exist, in unison with the lapping of the waves, presented in kinetic works.
Media Links:

http://jakartaglobe.id/features/singapore-exhibition-imaginarium-explores-depths-sea/
https://www.artsy.net/show/singapore-art-museum-sam-imaginarium-over-the-ocean-under-the-sea
HIDE and SEEK (2015)
Commissioned by Museum of Art Kochi, Japan

HIDE and SEEK project is the results of our residency project with The Museum of Art Kochi, Japan from July 22nd - August 30th, 2015. On our stay for less than a month in Kochi-Japan, we were doing workshops, exhibitions, and also performance where we collaborated with shamisen- a Japanese traditional instrument- player.

For the exhibition itself, we had 2 separated spaces, where we exhibited our previous works in one space, and the new work of Hide and Seek in another space.

http://www.papermoonpuppet.com/2016/01/hide-and-seek-project.html
Made in Commons (2014)
At Stedelijk Museum Bureau of Amsterdam

FINDING LUNANG (2013)
Feat., Iwan Effendi, commissioned work for ARTJOG 2013

VIDEO LINKS:
Notes: since vimeo.com has been banned in our country, please search “Finding Lunang” on Vimeo

https://vimeo.com/72795242

http://jakartaglobe.id/features/a-maritime-focus-at-artjog-13/
http://www.papermoonpuppet.com/2013_07_01_archive.html
https://m.tempo.co/read/news/2013/07/06/114494050/art-jog-offers-hundreds-of-artistic-works
http://ourindonesia.com/arts-culture/art-therapy-smart-therapy/
“LIVING ROOM” (2013)

a residency program at Koganecho Art Management

We let people touch, play and interact with our works, the puppets installation that represent old souls that captured and caught in an old ex-hostel in an ex-red light distict.

Performances of Papermoon Puppet Theatre:

MWATHIRIKA (2010-now)

Trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5BzqUH5bc6Q

Full play: http://asiasociety.org/new-york/events/papermoon-puppet-theatre-mwathirika

Mwathirika was a results of 6 months residency in US (New York City) and 7 months working process in Yogyakarta.

This play had been performed in Darwin Festival-Australia, Asean Puppetry Festival in Singapore, was invited by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and toured to 5 states and 7 cities in USA.

On 2015, MWATHIRIKA was toured to Edinburgh, Cardiff, Glasgow, London, Adelaide and also Myanmar.
Based on our research about the massive genocide which happened in Indonesia after the September 1965 tragedy, Mwathirika is dedicated to the victims and missing family members of September 1965 tragedy in Indonesia and of any other tragedy in the world caused by political turmoil.

Papernoon’s puppeteers need no words and minimal sound to communicate the emotions of their characters, and with an exemplary musical accompaniment and the intensity of the storyline itself, this is almost enough to make a grown woman cry. 

Mwathirika is a tender and touching tale of a dark time in Indonesia during the 1960s
(The Straits Times, Singapore)

Mwathirika neatly combines the country’s cultural heritage with modern art forms to make a bold self-examination
(The Australian.com.au)

Mwathirika is a deeply moving, beautiful and important piece of work. This piece is truly international, as it doesn’t rely on text or language but uses the power of sound and visual image to touch our hearts.
www.theclothesline.com.au

Delicate and moving, Mwathirika opens our hearts as well as our minds to the pain of war.
www.indaily.com.au
Papermoon Puppet Theatre brings home the tragedy of those years in an hour, far better than any books or pages of academic analysis, or facts and figures.

The standard of puppetry is extraordinary. The energy and artistic integrity of this company shines through in every scene. This is a magnificent piece of theatre, painting a portrait of the political in the everyday.

this high-quality piece drags us along in a poignant slipstream.

Where MWATHIRIKA was performed:

- "MWATHIRIKA", grantee of Empowering Women Artists supported by Kelola, HIVOS, Ford Foundation and BIYAN, at LIP-Yogyakarta (December 2010),
- "MWATHIRIKA" at Goethe Institute-Jakarta (January 18th, 2011)
- "MWATHIRIKA” at IFI (Institut Francais Indonesia)- Bandung (August 2012)
- "MWATHIRIKA” at Kennedy Center, Wahington DC, USA (Sept 2012)
- "MWATHIRIKA” at Williams Center of The Arts, Laffayette College, Easton, Pennysilvania, USA ( Sept 2012)
- "MWATHIRIKA” at Halbritter Center Juniata College, Huntingdon- Pennysilvania, USA (Sept 2012)
- "MWATHIRIKA” at Weis Performing arts Center, Bucknell University, Lewisburg-Pennysilvania, USA (Sept 2012)
- "MWATHIRIKA” at West Liberty , Iowa, USA (Sept 2012)
- "MWATHIRIKA” at RISD Theatre, Providence-Rhode Island, USA (Sept 2012)
- "MWATHIRIKA” at Asia Society, New York City, USA (Sept 2012)
- "MWATHIRIKA” at Asean Puppetry Festival, Singapore (November 2012)
- "MWATHIRIKA” at Darwin Festival, Australia (August 2013)
- "MWATHIRIKA” at World Puppetry Carnival, Jakarta (September 2013)
- "MWATHIRIKA” at C Venues, Edinburgh Fringe Festival, 2015
- "MWATHIRIKA” at Southbank Center, London, UK 2015
- "MWATHIRIKA” at Center of Contemporary Art, Glasgow, Scotlandia , 2015
- "MWATHIRIKA” at Millenium Stage, Cardiff, Scotlandia, 2015
- "MWATHIRIKA” at OzAsia Festival, Adelaide, 2015
Secangkir Kopi dari Playa (2011- now)

( http://playapuppet.blogspot.co.id )

Full play:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFjwuHeEzJm
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WmW0t2coodI
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3G2DtNDelBQ

Set in a classic-style decorated 'stage', the 50-minute play is moving due to its meaningful gestures and music accompanied by appropriate narration. (Jakarta Post, 2016)

( Secangkir Kopi dari Playa ) tells a history with a deep feeling (BBC, 2013)
Secangkir Kopi dari Playa is a site-specific puppet play that has been performed in an antique shop, an old house, a coffee shop and a gallery.

The play is about a man who kept his promised for more than 40 years, for not getting married with someone else.

Based on a true story about the long lost lover after the September 1965 tragedy in Indonesia,

Playa was performed for the first time in an antique shop in Yogyakarta.

By performing in a secret place, we hope to bring a different experience for the audiences while they watch the performance.

This performance brought Papermoon to a deeper level of art .. it goes to someone's life.

Online Article :
http://www.bbc.com/indonesia/multimedia/2013/10/131012_picgal_papermoon_puppet_theater
http://www.antarafoto.com/semi-budaya/v1380682884/item
Based on the notes of the adventurers on the 14-15th century on their journey to find Nusantara (Indonesia these days), “Laki-Laki Laut” becomes another journey for the audiences to see the mythical side of Indonesia.

By combining puppetry, actors, dancers, video art, and life size puppet installation on carousel, “Laki-Laki Laut” brought lots of surprises for the audiences, either performed both indoor and outdoor space.

Media Links:

http://bestplay.pk/watch/p4fBMtTtoE
SURAT KE LANGIT / LETTERS TO THE SKY (2014-now)

Trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EMQcFTK7e8Y

...a performance dedicated for our beloved ones who already passed away...

**Letters To The Sky** is inviting family with children in the age 7+ to learn how to feel the loss as an emotional experience, so we could appreciate what we have today. Through this performance, we are also inviting people who miss their beloved one who already passed away, to write a letter to them, then send it to us.

We will be their postmen, to send those letters to the sky.

MEDIA LINKS:


http://www.emergingwritersfestival.org.au/tag/isla/


For puppets that speak no words, and have just one unmoving facial expression, it’s incredible how emotionally expressive they can be.

*(Asia Calling, 2016)*

This is a play about how books could bring your imagination alive.

It’s a commissioned work by Bangkok International Children Theatre Festival on 2016.

In Bangkok we made several workshops with parents and children, while in Yogyakarta we did the workshop for artists and artisans, and all puppets that were made by the participants were installed and played in the performance.
This is a performance for all ages, about having HOPE, and HOME, and the importance of sharing it with others. This play is a commissioned work by Singapore Art Museum, under “IMAGINARIUM 2016”, as part of Papermoon's exhibition piece entitled “SUARA MUARA”.
While doing 1 month residency in a washi (traditional Japanese) paper mill, the whole team of Papermoon did a collaboration with Japanese dancers, violist and composer. THE TRANSLUCENCE is about live the dream, and be patient in the journey. Kochi this time, brought us to a longer journey, to see through the papers, to find ourselves.
The White World of Siwa and Malini (2017)
(commissioned by National Gallery of Singapore for Children Biennale)
Some of Our COLLABORATIVE WORKS

SENLIMA (in collaboration with Retrofuturisten from Germany).
A world premiere play based on the story of people who was exiled from their society, and never found their way back home.

SAIDJA / Hette Pepper (In collaboration with Het Volksoperahuis from Netherland).
A new production based on the history of the colonial time, to reconnect the history of Indonesian and Dutch.

SEMATAKAKI (in collaboration with the Theatre and Dance Department, University of New Hampshire, USA).
A world premiere production, based on the story of people who tries to erase their own history, so they could live in a safe circumstances.

CERITA ANAK (in collaboration with Polyglot Theatre-Australia).
An interactive performance for children and adults, based on the story about boats from the children in Lasem (northern part of Java) and a little village in Yogya, and also the refugees children based in Australia.
Pesta Boneka is an independent international biennale puppet festival initiated and hosted by Papermoon Puppet Theatre since 2008 in Yogyakarta-Indonesia. Not only attended by puppetry artists, PESTA BONEKA has been a place where people could see how puppets could be messengers who deliver message in many different forms, through many different cultures in many different ways.
PESTA BONEKA: an Independent International Biennale Puppet Festival

- PESTA BONEKA #1 (2008), participants: Carla Pedroza (Mexico), Carla Ori (Australia), Danielle Poidomani (Australia), Anne Sophie (France)
- PESTA BONEKA #2 (2010), participants: Wayang Beber (Solo-Indonesia), Wayang Kancil (Yogyakarta-Indonesia), Wayang HipHop (Yogyakarta-Indonesia), Automne 2085 (France), Sanggar Teater Boneka Indonesia (Yogyakarta-Indonesia), Papermoon Puppet Theatre (Yogyakarta-Indonesia)
- PESTA BONEKA #3 (2012), participants: Pak Raden, PM Toh, Wayang Kancil, Wayang Hip Hop, Indieguerillas, Nasirun, Wayang Beber, Wayang Ukur Ki Sukasman (Indonesia), The String Theatre (UK), Angela Stempel (USA), Marianna Lis, Olga Salamon (Polandia)
- PESTA BONEKA #4 (2014), participants: ANINO Shadowplay (Phillipines), Jae Sirikarn Bunjongtad (Thailand), Bernd Odgrodnik (Iceland), Cake Industries (Australia), Polyglot Theatre (Australia), Tokyo Independent Collaboratory (Japan), Belen Rubira (Spain), Tamas Kovacs (Hungary), GNAYAW Puppet (Mexico, Spain, Indonesia), Anak Muda Bicara teater (Indonesia), Papermoon Puppet Theatre (Indonesia)
- PESTA BONEKA #5 (2016): Tim Spooner (UK), Frigg (Netherland), Lemonys Puppet Theatre (Australia), Anino Shadowplay (Philippines), For What Theatre (Thailand), Babymime (Thailand), Ahmad Nasir Formuli (Afghanistan), Papermoon Puppet Theatre (Indonesia), Flying Balloon Puppet (Indonesia), Anne Sophie Le Court (France).
This enjoyment of creating our own puppet is maybe the first step in bringing our puppets to life.
-Athina Ibrahim (Editor, participant of puppet workshop)-

Papermoon Puppet Theatre – known for their whimsical puppets and experimental puppetry in performance and exhibitions across the globe – flexed their imaginations to create some of the most unconventional puppet lanterns using only bamboo, paper and glue.
Papermoon Puppet Theatre has been doing exploration on puppetry since 2006. Through workshops that we do, we would love to share our experience as a group of artists who love to make puppets then bring them to life. We start our workshop with theatre games, and we let our participants to build their own puppet by using our techniques.

1. Puppet Movement Workshop

Duration : 60 - 180 minutes
Participants : teenagers, adults
How many : 5-20 people

By using simple materials, such as newspaper or plastic, the workshop will give an experience of the basic technique from our practice. From crumpled papers, we could make a simple performance by the end of the workshop.
2. Puppet Making Workshop

**Basic:**
- **Duration:** 1-2 hours
- **Participants:** children or teenager
- **Duration:** 3 – 4 hours
- **Participants:** adults, senior

**Master class**
- **Duration:** 1 – 2 weeks, each day 3-4 hours
- **Participants:** teenagers, adults

Learning the different techniques of puppet making out of papers, rattan, bamboo, balloon, fabrics, found objects, or fruits and vegies!!!

Paper shadow puppets, Lantern puppets, Paper rod puppets, table top puppets, to giant puppets.

For more details of material, we could discuss further about it.
3. **Workshop of MAKING a PUPPET PERFORMANCE**

Duration : 3 hours – 2 months (depends on the techniques and the results)

Participants : children, teenagers, adults

The workshop will combine the puppet making, puppet movement, and also the story making. Each process will be depend on the condition of the participants, and also the aim of the workshop itself. Not only putting the end result as the goal, we actually put the happy process as our main goal.
Papermoon Puppet Theatre

www.papermoonpuppet.com

contact person

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please
don't be hestitate
to contact us...