

Dipping in the Kool Aid

organized by **Mary Lou Pavlovic**

March 4 - March 31, 2018

Daily 10 am - 5 pm

**Tony Raka Art Gallery
Jl.Raya Mas No. 86 Mas, Ubud
Bali, Indonesia**

Opening Reception:
Saturday, March 3, 6-8 pm

Featuring Work By:

**Ridwan Fatkhurodin (a.k.a. Kriyip)*
Rodney Glick
Elizabeth Gower**
Titus Garu Himawan*
Djunaidi Kenyut**
Rena Lawrence
Fatoni Makturodi***

Mary Lou Pavlovic
Angki Purbandono
Mangu Putra
Imam Sucahyo**
Herman Yosef Dhyas Aries Utomo
(a.k.a. Komeng)***

***Prison Art Programs**

****In collaboration with incarcerated artists**



Mangu Putra, *Foregiveness #2*, 2015

This exhibition celebrates the artistic interactions of Indonesian and Australian artists with prisoners who are incarcerated in Indonesian jails. Collectively, their interests center around the socially beneficial roles played by the prisoner as artist/artistic collaborator, and the artist as prisoner. Examining the role of aesthetics in socially-engaged exhibitions, they ask: how might the consideration of aesthetics contribute to political readings of the works on display?

Dipping in the Kool Aid grows from an experimental laboratory run by artists working predominantly in Klung Kung Prison, Bali. Among the artists and collaborations included is Djunaidi Kenyut, who invites prisoners to make self-portraits by etching their own facial features onto postcard-size mirrors. Mary Lou Pavlovic's Preserving Life Workshop, undertaken with female prisoners, develops a large wall work featuring flowers and deceased butterflies that are donated by the local butterfly park. Imam Sucahyo creates a large multimedia drawing with his imprisoned friend upon visits to Tuban Prison in East Java. In an ongoing project, Elizabeth Gower invites prisoners to create fragile paper collage "Rotations." This incarnation of the project includes 365 fragile paper collages made with materials sourced from discarded packaging in the prison cafe.

The exhibition also includes works by Indonesian artist Angki Purbandono, who was incarcerated for one year in Yogyakarta (2013) for smoking marijuana. Angki, refusing to accept his imprisonment, famously declared instead that he was undertaking an artist's residency, and taught a guard how to take photographs. While in prison, Angki also established the Prison Art Programs, a group of inmates and ex-inmates who exhibit art inside and outside the jail. The group has formed The Prison Art Foundation (*Yayasan Seni Penjara*) and artworks by the founding members are also included in the exhibition. Borrowing its title from the old American prison slang for entering uninvited into a conversation, *Dipping in the Kool Aid* also features studio works by internationally renowned artists Rodney Glick and Mangu Putra.

Dipping in the Kool Aid was selected through apexart's Open Call.
For more information or images: press@apexart.org or visit apexart.org.

Mary Lou Pavlovic is an artist who lives and works between Bali, Indonesia, and Mittagong, Australia. In 2015, she completed a PhD at Monash University, Melbourne, about beauty and how it may be associated with progressive politics in visual arts today. As part of the PhD Pavlovic received an Endeavour Award research fellowship to examine how her studio work was affected by Balinese cultures, this being the reason she moved to Bali. In 2015, after visiting those incarcerated in Indonesian jails, she helped establish an art program in a jail, as prisoners stated they had little constructive activity. Pavlovic is represented by Tony Raka Art Gallery in Bali, Indonesia.

apexart's programs are supported in part by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The Buhl Foundation, Bloomberg Philanthropies, The Greenwich Collection Ltd., William Talbott Hillman Foundation, Affirmation Arts Fund, the Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation, the Fifth Floor Foundation, and with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

#DippinginKoolAid

**291 church street, new york, ny 10013
t +1 212 431 5270 www.apexart.org**