

Tang Contemporary Art presents:

LAND OF FREEDOM HERI DONO SOLO EXHIBITION

Artist: Heri Dono

Exhibition Dates: June 29 – August 12, 2017

Location: Tang Contemporary, 19th Floor, 18 On Lan St, Central, Hong Kong

Opening Reception: Thursday, June 29, 2017 from 6 – 8pm

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (HONG KONG – June 9, 2017):

Tang Contemporary Art is proud to present the first solo gallery exhibition of Heri Dono in Hong Kong, “Land of Freedom” June 29 – August 12, 2017 features new paintings and an installation work from one of the most celebrated artists from Indonesia. Heri Dono (b. 1960) has exhibited internationally including the Venice Biennale (2003, 2015), Asia Society New York, Singapore Art Museum, and the Gwangju Biennale (1995, 2006) and is considered to be an artist at the forefront of contemporary Indonesian art today.

For almost forty years, Heri Dono has developed a fantastical world of dichotomies in his paintings. Humorously juxtaposing reality with imagination, folk with contemporary art, politics with fiction, the tension between these opposing forces create narratives that cut across a complex, multi-layered system of ideologies. Having lived through the struggle against oppression by the Indonesian regime in the 1980s, and later the ‘reformasi’ in 1998 that spawned from the end of Suharto’s regime and developed into the neo-liberal globalization of Indonesia as it is today, Heri Dono’s artistic methodology re-examines power structures through satirical illustrations of humans versus the Other, man versus machine, offering a kind of passage for others to survive real life transitions during challenging times.

Known for his uniquely contemporary, Javanese style inspired by traditional Wayang Kulit (puppet theatre), Heri Dono “humorously skewer[s] the current political situation with imagination and illusion, he presents the tension between illusion and reality and highlights the intersection of local culture and contemporary art”, writes critic and curator Hou Hanru, “they enact a kind of Sci-Fi and tragic comedy. He calls it Heridonology.” Through his construction of thoughtful layers in his work, he is able to emphasize the more serious, underlying reflections on and criticisms of social and political issues such as military intervention, political corruption, and environmental destruction, allowing easier engagement with often difficult concepts.

His new series of paintings speak to very current times. The tides of global politics have shifted with the inauguration of new world leaders, causing a great divide of opinion among the masses. Wild compositions of political caricatures, spaceships, animals, machines, and mythological beasts illustrate the relationships of these new power structures at odds with each other, with all the casualties that come between. In “Trump vs the Dragon” and “Between Two Cards”, both paintings examine the ethics of choosing one thing over another, each begging the question, do their moral consequences weigh the same? Who gains, and who suffers?

This exhibition will also showcase his 2004 kinetic-sound installation “Born and Freedom”. Inspired by John Barry’s song ‘Born Free’, the archaic-looking figures of five dogs leashed to five humans parallels the relationship between the Indonesian population and the government, despite being freed from military regime after the 1998 reform.

ABOUT ARTIST

Heri Dono was born in 1960 in Jakarta, and he is one of Indonesia's top contemporary artists. His multi-media installations and paintings present the diversity and openness of contemporary art. Dono currently lives in Yogyakarta.

He has participated in artist residency programs in Australia, Switzerland, and the United States, as well as biennials in Moscow, Taipei, and Sao Paolo. Dono has won numerous awards for his art, such as the UNESCO Prize at the Shanghai Biennale in 2000 and the Prince Claus Award in 1998.



Super Trump - Land
Acrylic on Canvas
150 x 125 cm
2017

Artist will be present and available for interviews, please contact us in advance for scheduling.

Tang Contemporary Art
19th Floor, 18 On Lan Street, Central, Hong Kong
Gallery Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 11am – 7pm

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ABOUT TANG CONTEMPORARY ART

Tang Contemporary Art was established in 1997 in Bangkok, later establishing galleries in Beijing and most recently Hong Kong. The gallery is fully committed to producing critical projects and exhibitions to promote Contemporary Chinese art regionally and worldwide, and encourage a dynamic exchange between Chinese artists and those abroad. Acting as one of the most progressive and critically driven exhibition spaces in China, the gallery strives to initiate dialogue between artists, curators, collectors and institutions working both locally and internationally. A roster of groundbreaking exhibitions has earned them international recognition, establishing their status as a pioneer of the contemporary art scene in Asia.

Tang Contemporary Art represents leading figures in Chinese art including Ai Weiwei, Huang Yong Ping, Shen Yuan, Wang Du, Liu Xiaodong, Yang Jiechang, Xia Xiaowan, Sun Yuan & Peng Yu, Yan Lei, Wang Yin, Wang Yuping, Yang Jiang Group, Guo Wei, Zheng Guogu, Michael Lin, Lin Yilin, H. H. Lim, He An, Zhao Zhao, Wang Yuyang, Weng Fen, Yang Yong, Xu Qu, XU Xiaoguo, Ji Zhou, Cai Lei, Ling Jian and Chen Wenbo, additionally collaborating with international artists such as Rirkrit Tiravanija, Navin Rawanchaikul, Sakarin Krue-on, and Prasert Yodkaew.



Between Two Cards, 2015, Acrylic on canvas 布面丙烯. 200 x 150 cm.



Joko Tarub Bathe in the Lake, Attacked by Terrorists, Protected by 7 Bidadari.
2016, Acrylic on canvas 布面丙烯, 150 x 125 cm

當代唐人藝術中心：

自由之地 赫利·多諾 個展

藝術家：Heri Dono 赫利·多諾

展覽時間：2017年6月29日至 8月12日

展覽地點：當代唐人藝術中心，香港中環安蘭街 18 號 19 樓

開幕時間：2017年6月29日星期四，下午六時至八時

新聞稿：請即發佈（香港2017年6月9日）：

當代唐人藝術中心將於 2017 年 6 月 29 日至 8 月 12 日舉辦赫利·多諾首次香港個展“自由之地 (Land of Freedom)”，為觀者呈現這位印尼著名藝術家最新的繪畫和裝置作品。赫利·多諾生於 1960 年，是印尼當代藝術界的領軍人物，作品曾亮相於 2003 年和 2015 年的威尼斯雙年展、紐約亞洲協會博物館、新加坡美術館、1995 年和 2006 年的光州雙年展，以及全球各大藝術展覽盛會。

四十多年來，多諾先生在藝術實踐中嫺熟地運用二元對立式語言，風趣詼諧地構造出奇幻美妙的藝術世界。現實和想像、民間文化和當代藝術、政治和虛構等截然相反的元素在畫面中相互並置，形成一股奇特的張力，折射出錯綜複雜的意識形態系統。多諾先生有著豐富的成長背景，他經歷過上世紀 80 年代蘇哈托政權的高壓統治，看到 1998 年蘇哈托下台後轟轟烈烈的“烈火莫熄” (reformasi) 運動，見證印尼從此步入新自由主義的全球化進程並取得今日的發展。因此，他善於通過個人和他者、人類和機械的調侃式對比，探討並揭示權力結構的實質，為現代人撥開迷霧、在快速變化的現實環境中找出生活和因應之道。

多諾將傳統的哇揚皮影戲和先鋒的當代藝術融為一爐，形成獨特的爪哇風格。藝術評論家兼策展人侯瀚如曾這樣寫道：“他以豐富的想像力和幽默感諷刺時政，將虛幻與現實相互交織，也使本土文化和當代藝術相得益彰，營造出天馬行空般的科幻意境和令人黯然神傷的喜劇效果，這就是他所說的‘多諾體系’。”他將深邃的思考層層滲透在作品之中，嚴肅反思並批判了一些社會和政治問題，比如軍事干涉、政治腐敗、環境破壞等等，以深入淺出的方式讓觀者體悟精微奧妙的理念。

本次參展的新作系列反映了藝術家對時政的思索。隨著世界各國首腦的換屆和更迭，全球的政治走勢已悄然變化，公眾對此也是看法不一。在創作中，藝術家將宇宙飛船、動物、機械和各種神獸構成耐人尋味的政治漫畫，展現出新政權彼此間的分歧、爭鬥和死傷。《川普和龍》(Trump vs the Dragon) 和《兩張牌》(Between Two Cards) 兩幅作品以民主黨和共和黨的競選為背景，探討了人們如何在兩者之中擇善而從，這樣的抉擇將如何影響人們的生活，到頭來誰是贏家，誰是輸家？

本次展覽還將展出多諾先生 2004 年的聲音裝置《出生和自由》(Born and Freedom)。該作靈感源自英國作曲家約翰·巴瑞的音樂“Born Free”，表現五隻小狗被五個人牽著脖子，寓意著蘇哈托政權垮台雖已在 1998 年垮台，但印尼人民和政府間的關係還是不盡如人意。

關於藝術家

赫利·多諾 1960 年生於雅加達，是印尼最具國際知名度的當代藝術家之一。他通過對皮影戲的探索形成了獨特的創作風格，“以虛構與幻想幽默地諷刺時政，體現出虛幻與現實之間的張力，也使本土文化與當代藝術相得益彰”（侯瀚如）。

從藝術生涯的初期開始，赫利·多諾就想要把多元的當代文化與印尼傳統文化結合起來。無論在形象的創造和敘事的選擇上，他都用詼諧幽默的語言將哲學、佛教、印度教、民間故事、社會現狀等雜糅到一起。但多諾也強調，在他幽默的表達方式後，沉澱著他對於軍事干預、政治腐敗、環境破壞等社會與政治問題的反思與批判。此種舉重若輕的處理方式為他的作品賦予了層次感，也更加耐人琢磨。



Born and Freedom, 2004, 玻璃纖維, 亞克力, 無線電, 金屬, 每個約 90 x 65 x 36 cm

藝術家將出席開幕酒會並接受傳媒訪問,請預先聯絡以便安排。

關於當代唐人藝術中心

當代唐人藝術中心於1997年在曼谷成立，其後在北京開設展覽空間，以及最近期香港的新空間。唐人致力策劃及提供具啟發性展覽，向亞洲和國際推廣中國當代藝術，促進中國當代藝術與國際性之交。作為中國最具學術影響力和開創性的當代藝術平台之一，唐人致力於為本地及國際的藝術家、策展人、收藏家和藝術機構搭建交流對話平台。當代唐人藝術中心歷年來以充滿開拓性的展覽在國際上贏得了高度評價，確立亞洲當代藝術先驅的地位。

當代唐人藝術中心代理的中國著名藝術家包括艾未未，黃永砫，沈遠，王度，劉小東，楊詰蒼，夏小萬，孫原&彭禹，顏磊，王音，王玉平，阳江組，鄭國谷，林明弘，林一林，林輝華，何岸，趙趙，王郁洋，翁奮，楊勇，徐渠，徐小國，計州，蔡磊，郭偉，凌健，陳文波等，也與裡克力·提拉瓦尼、阿運·拉挽猜哥，薩卡琳·克盧昂，大宛·瓦突亞，巴舍·越格爾等海外藝術家合作。

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