

CERTIFICATE

639/SM/FSRD/UKM/4/2023

This certificate is presented to

Lois Denissa

as exhibiting artist on the International Art Exhibition

"Homage to Setiawan Sabana: Nusantara & Setiawan Sabana"

held at Exhibition Hall, Building B, Universitas Kristen Maranatha

on Friday, 9th June 2023 - 14th June 2023



REKTOR
Prof. Ir. Sri Widiyantoro, M.Sc., Ph.D., IPU
Rektor Universitas Kristen Maranatha



**FAKULTAS
SENI RUPA DAN DESAIN**
Irena Vanessa Gunawan, S.T., M.Com.
Dekan FSRD Universitas Kristen Maranatha



SURAT TUGAS

Nomor : 005 /Srt.Tgs/D-3/FSRD/UKM/VII/2023

Yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini, Ketua Program Diploma III Seni Rupa dan Desain Universitas Kristen Maranatha memberikan tugas kepada :

- Nama : Dr. Ir. Lois denissa, M.Sn.
- NIK : 610046
- Jabatan : Dosen Biasa
- Alamat : Jl. Prof. drg. Surya Sumantri No. 65 Bandung
- Uraian Tugas : Penyaji Karya Seni International Exhibition “Homage To Setiawa Sabana” dengan Judul Karya: “Paper Flower and Sabana's Spirit”
- Hari / Tanggal : Senin-Jumat / 09-14 Juli 2023



Mengetahui,

Irena Vanessa Gunawan, S.T., M.Com.
Dekan Fakultas Seni Rupa dan Desain

Bandung, 07 Juli 2023

Hormat kami,



Yosepin Sri Ningsih, M.Ds.
Ketua Program Diploma III Seni Rupa dan Desain

Nusantara, Table Tennis, and Humanity: Cultivating the Soul, Cultivating Sports, and Cultivating Emotions within Setiawan Sabana

By Dr. Ismet Zainal Effendi, S.Sn., M.Sn.

It is difficult to find correlations between the idioms: Nusantara, Table Tennis, and Humanity, as all three have different contexts and domains in life, as well as in scholarship.

Nusantara, as known by many people, is a term that refers to the Indonesian archipelago, with the philosophy that our country is vast and diverse, consisting of islands connected by waters. The combination of “Nusa” (island) and “Antara” (between) signifies that the existence of the scattered islands is united (not separated) by the waters, indicating that Indonesian society is a maritime society, not a continental one. The diversity or pluralism of Indonesian society is strengthened and connected with the presence of these waters. Nusantara, as a discourse, is no longer just a term or label; it is a concept of patriotism for the Indonesian people, encompassing pride and loyalty. People are proud to be inhabitants of Nusantara with all its richness and are loyal to being part of the Indonesian nation, ready to defend it. Nusantara becomes a source of strength and spirit, a passion to progress with courage and pride.

Table Tennis, also known as Ping Pong or by the names “whiff-whaff” or “gossima,” is undoubtedly a branch of sports. The context is clear: it is a type of sports game that involves the use of a ball (made of celluloid), a paddle with rubber coating (bat), a net, and, of course, a table. Ping Pong requires agility in hitting the ball, which is designed to bounce easily. Hence, keen eyesight and the speed of arm movements must be synchronized to catch and hit the ball with the bat. This agility is the essence of the game, and winning points greatly depend on it, in addition to the playing strategies.

The sport of Ping Pong began to be known in the 19th century, around the 1880s in England, initially as an indoor game to pass the time during the winter. In Indonesia itself, table tennis started to be recognized in the 1930s. Over time, the game of table tennis became more popular among the people of England.

In 1921, England established a ping pong organization called the Table Tennis Association (TTA). It was followed by the establishment of other table tennis organizations, such as ITTF (1926) and USA Table Tennis or USAR (1943).

Humanity, undoubtedly, encompasses the ‘sense of humanity,’ a feeling wrapped in compassion and caring. The context of humanity goes further into discussing empathy and sympathy, emotions that focus on ‘feeling with’ others in a particular situation. Humanity refers to upholding the nature of being ‘human,’ inherently social beings capable of living alongside one another and the environment. The aspect of humanity is not communal but personal, a quality that sincerely upholds human values, living and coexisting by offering kindness and peace to one another.

The connection between Nusantara, Table Tennis, and Humanity lies in the person of Setiawan Sabana (SS), a senior artist and geographer who has traveled extensively and dedicated his artistic creations as an essential part of his life. SS is not just an artist; he is an icon and a living legend in the academic world, holding the position of a Professor and well-known for his engagement in print media.

SS can be described as a “masagi” artist who has reached the level of “makrifat,” the highest stage, where artists move beyond trivial discourses and market-driven concerns. It is the level when creating art becomes intrinsic and devoid of excessive tendencies towards financial gains or popularity.

For SS, Nusantara is a field and playground where he takes pride, representing a comfortable space for his struggle. Living and creating with a sense of Nusantara is his way of fighting for artistic values. Table Tennis is not new to SS; apart from being an athlete who became a champion in world-level championships and participated in various tournaments (including the Chicago Open and US Open in Iowa City), Ping Pong is his life, not just a sport or physical activity. Ping Pong has become a spiritual behavior, a ritual-spiritual activity with conceptual significance, much like creating art.

Similarly, the context of humanity for SS is about refining emotions, striving to control oneself from basic self-actualization processes towards achieving self-transcendence. The essence of humanity is about living life fully as a human being; denying it would mean negating the essence of living as a human being.

In summary, for Setiawan Sabana (SS), Nusantara represents a source of pride and a comfortable space for artistic struggle, Table Tennis goes beyond a mere sport and becomes a ritual-spiritual expression, and Humanity involves refining emotions and embracing the essence of being human. These three aspects converge in SS's life, defining his identity as an artist and academician.

SS skillfully blends and integrates these three contexts into his artworks, which are exhibited in a solo exhibition at the Exhibition Hall, Building B, Maranatha Christian University. His visual works are predominantly dominated by forms and icons related to Table Tennis (Ping Pong), using paper as his primary medium. Various-sized Ping Pong paddles, tables, Ping Pong balls, and objects shaped like books are the dominant elements in his current exhibition. SS also showcases two-dimensional works using paper as the medium, adding soft touches of colors, and even displaying "quotes" or pearls of wisdom derived from his thoughts.

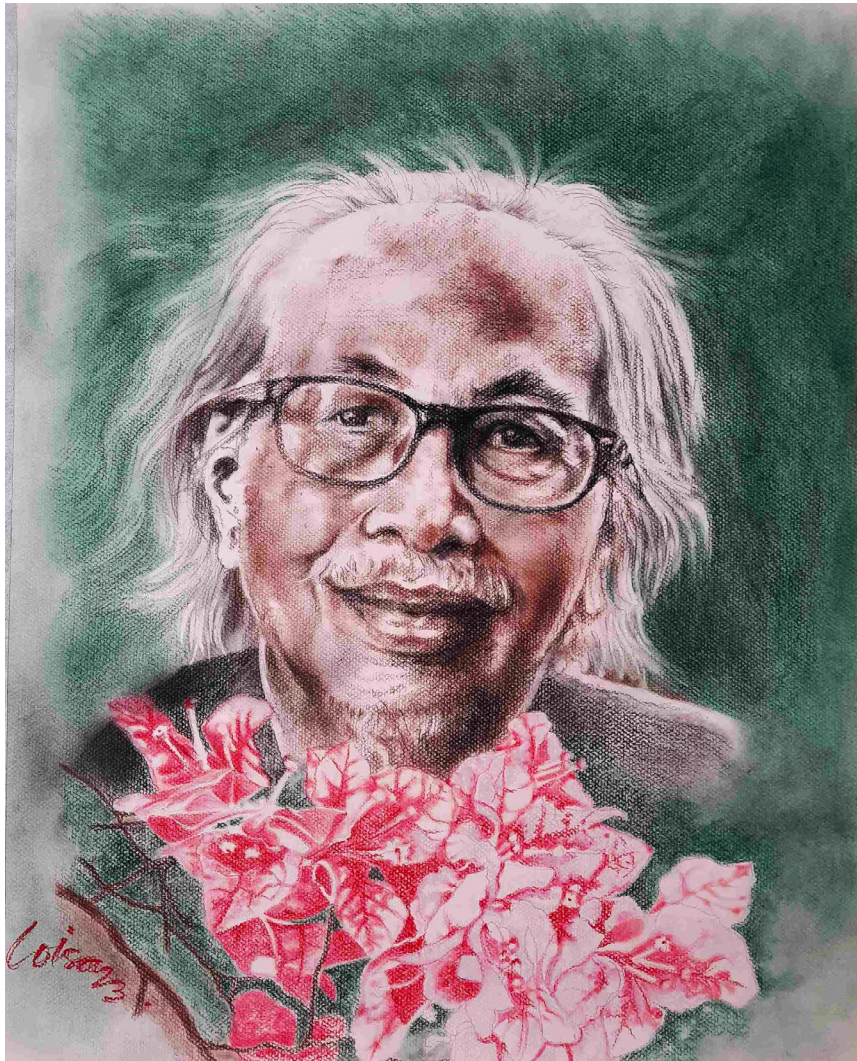
What makes this solo exhibition unique is that SS invited other participating artists to join his exhibition, transforming the term 'solo' into 'multiple' with the presence of artworks from other exhibition participants. These sympathetic works also reference the themes of the exhibition, with some artists responding to one or two contexts, while others visually respond to all three of them.

In this exhibition, SS seems to invite the audience to realize the importance of diversity and pride in the context of Nusantara. He emphasizes that pluralism is a gift, as is the wealth of Nusantara's cultural heritage (khazanah). Both of them deserve to be celebrated and appreciated. The presence of supporting artists with various dimensions, techniques, and media symbolizes this diversity in the exhibition.

SS also encourages the audience to be agile and active in facing life. Table Tennis, as a symbol of agility, is not limited to professional athletes only. Agility and keenness are essential qualities in addressing the complexities of life. The last message is related to humanity. SS urges the audience to contemplate and embrace emotions contemplatively in living as human beings. Empathy, sympathy, and mutual understanding are inherent traits of humanity. Showing love, compassion, helping one another, and spreading kindness will have a positive impact on oneself and the environment, for humanity and the universe, giving life meaning and nobility.

In this exhibition, SS and the supporting artists together showcase expressions of the triumph of emotions and physical prowess, the grandeur of empathy and sympathy, and the magnificence of the human spirit and soul. The cultivation of the soul combined with sports and enhanced by emotions makes life as a human being feel mature and noble. This exhibition holds a spiritual essence that surpasses other meanings.

Sarijadi, March 2023.



Lois Denissa

Indonesia

Paper Flower and Sabana's Spirit

42 x 60 cm, Soft Pastel on Paper, 2023

Paper flower, Bougainville Spectabilis is a flower that when we feel has a texture characteristic resembling paper. The surface is thin, dry and transparent with a diverse choice of flower colors: white, pale pink, pink, bright red, orange, pale purple, dark purple and various dappled color mixtures.

This paper flower brings us back to remind the paper artist Setiawan Sabana who throughout his life worked to process the concept of paper. He judged himself like fragile and temporary paper. 'I was born with the birth of paper and ended this life with the loss of paper (paperless) . The disappearance of paper will be a temporary disappearance of his body..., but the spirituality of his work lives on in our hearts.





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International Art Exhibition

Homage to

Setiawan Sabana

“Nusantara & Setiawan Sabana”

CURATORS

Ismet Zainal Effendi (Indonesia)
Md. Imran Hossen (Bangladesh)



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Homage to

*Setiawan
Sabana*

“Nusantara & Setiawan Sabana”

CATALOG

Homage to Setiawan Sabana 2023 International Exhibition
9th - 14th June 2023

Exhibition Hall Universitas Kristen Maranatha

Jl. Prof. drg. Surya Sumantri, M.P.H. No. 65
Bandung, 40164, Jawa Barat, Indonesia

Curator

Dr. Ismet Zainal Effendi, S.Sn., M.Sn.

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Homage to

*Setiawan
Sabana*

“Nusantara & Setiawan Sabana”

Universitas Kristen Maranatha
Jln. Prof. drg. Surya Sumantri, MPH. no. 65
Bandung - Indonesia

International Art Exhibition: “Nusantara & Setiawan Sabana”

Friday, June 9th - 14th 2023
Exhibition Hall 1st Floor, Gedung B

Publisher

Faculty of Arts and Design
Universitas Kristen Maranatha

Opening Speech from the Chairman of the Committee

Greetings to all of us,

Allow me to express my gratitude and high appreciation to Maranatha Christian University for organizing the International Exhibition “Homage to Setiawan Sabana: Nusantara and Setiawan Sabana”. We dedicate this artistic event to commemorate the services of the deceased as a role model for everyone, especially his colleagues and students.

This exhibition was opened by Prof. Ir. Sri Widiyantoro, M.Sc., Ph.D., IPU as Chancellor of Maranatha Christian University and will be followed by a performance from Prof. Dr. Endang Caturwati, S.S.T., M.S. The international exhibition “Homage to Setiawan Sabana: Nusantara and Setiawan Sabana” was attended by 15 universities and 112 artists and art academics from within and outside the country. Apart from Indonesia, registered foreign participants came from 13 countries, namely Bangladesh, Malaysia, Mexico, Qatar, Senegal, Spain, the Netherlands, Germany, India, Israel, Japan and Serbia, Israel.

On this occasion, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the artists who participated in the exhibition and other parties who have contributed so that this exhibition can run well. To the committee, I thank you for all your hard work so that this exhibition can be carried out smoothly. Lastly, I would also like to thank and appreciate the families who have attended this event. Hopefully, through this exhibition, we can commemorate Prof. Dr. Setiawan Sabana, MFA (Alm.).

Aamiin

Chairman of the International Exhibition Committee “Homage to Setiawan Sabana: Nusantara and Setiawan Sabana”

Belinda Sukapura Dewi

Opening Speech from Dean of Faculty of Arts and Design



Prof. Dr. Setiawan Sabana, MFA, is a figure who throughout his life has provided inspiration and role models, that through art and sports we build a positive spirit, convey the best messages for humans and humanity.

This is demonstrated by the involvement of artists, colleagues, students, families and all committees, especially from the fine arts department and all departments within the Faculty of Arts and Design at Maranatha Christian University who together made this homage event possible. Those who has been submit work and those have worked hard in the preparation and implementation of this exhibition, to all parties that we cannot mention one by one, from various institutions, from various countries, we express our deepest gratitude and appreciation.

Therefore, we thank God Almighty, for the family and friends that God gave to the late Prof. Setiawan Sabana. The success of this “Homage to Setiawan Sabana: Nusantara and Setiawan Sabana” Exhibition shows that his inspiration and work will always be lived and continued.

April 27 2022 – April 27 2023 , thank you for allowing us to enjoy a glimpse of your presence at the Faculty of Arts and Design, Maranatha Christian University. Rest well Prof, from us who love you.

Irena Vanessa Gunawan

Curatorial Statement from the Curator of Homage to Setiawan Sabana



International Art Exhibition Homage to Setiawan Sabana 'Nusantara & Setiawan Sabana' is an extraordinary art exhibition held in Maranatha Christian University. The international art exhibition is organised by Maranatha Christian University. This exhibition has shown such a great diversity as numerous artists from different countries took part in it. In this exhibition the artworks have portrayed the memory of personal and professional life of the famous artist 'Setiawan Sabana'. I feel proud that a number Bangladeshi artists also have participated in this exhibition and shown their distinct style of art. In their artwork they have mainly illustrated the uniqueness of Bangladeshi art and culture. Among the artworks of Bangladeshi artists, the utilisation of pencil is worth mentioning. To show respect to the honourable artist Setiawan Sabana, some artists presented colourful flowers with acrylic while others have shown the divine loneliness in their paintings. Abstract artists also have responded to this showcasing. Across the artworks Bangladeshi women have been portrayed in oriental patterns. In addition, the transformation of human life has been pictured throughout the paintings. Most importantly, the fact that human beings are remembered by their work has been focused.

The participation of German artists has taken the exhibition into another level. They have portrayed life and peace with their abstract paintings while the Indian artists have presented various mediums of artworks. The Japanese and the Malaysian have presented a different type of painting where the pain and sorrow of losing their dearest person is clearly visible.

Like some Bangladeshi artworks, the Mexican paintings have promoted loneliness and spirituality at this exhibition, as have the paintings from Senegal, Spain and Netherland which showed emptiness.

In the meantime, one of the artists from Qatar has presented a portrait of Setiawan Sabana with the title 'Soul with Us'. Several Indonesian artists also presented the same style where they pictured the soul of the professor in a metaphoric way. The black and white medium of some art works has not only increased the relevancy of the exhibition but also shown the skills of the artists. If we observe their artwork intensely, we would understand that they have tried hard to present their work in a completely different way from the traditional art mode of Indonesia.

In conclusion, I want to say that the collaboration among participant countries has made this art event successful and memorable. Through this exhibition the memory of the honourable professor Setiawan Sabana will be remembered forever across the countries.

MD Imran Hossen



Great Professor of Nusantara "Setiawan Sabana"

By MD Imran Hossen

Prof. Dr. Setiawan Sabana also known as Prof. Wawan was a graphic artist, lecturer, and professor of Indonesian fine arts. He is known as one of the leading figures in Indonesian printmaking and art using paper as a medium. Wawan graduated from the Department of Graphic Arts, Faculty of Art and Design, Bandung Institute of Technology (FSRD ITB), in 1977. He then received a Fulbright Scholarship in 1980, and continued his education to Masters Level at Northern Illinois University, in the same field. The following year he held a solo exhibition at the US University. He completed his doctoral degree in 2002 from the Bandung Institute of Technology with research on contemporary art in Southeast Asia (particularly Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and the Philippines). He became dean at FSRD ITB until 2005.

From the beginning, his artistic career was known to be close to the medium of paper. His interest in paper does not only stop at paper as a form, but also at things that are more essential. In a solo exhibition entitled *The Universe of Paper* (pictured below), he said that the paper in the exhibition can be interpreted by the big universe (macrocosm), the small universe (microcosm), and the supernatural universe (metacosmos), following the Sundanese philosophy which recognizes universe big, small, and spirit.

Apart from dealing closely with paper, Wawan is also known to be close to graphic arts. His graduation from the majoring in printmaking, a field of art which was not highly regarded by critics, he took as a challenge to promote graphic arts in Indonesia. He had participated in research on contemporary Japanese graphic art in 1989, for four months, at the invitation of the Japan Foundation. In Japan, he made time to return and exhibit, namely a solo exhibition at the Natsuhiko Gallery, Tokyo, in 1990, and a solo exhibition at the Oda Gallery in Hiroshima in 1991. During 1990, he participated in several printmaking exhibitions, including the "International Print Exhibition" in Bangladesh, "Modernities and Memories" in Venesia, Italia, and "The Thirteen Asian International Art Exhibition" in Malaysia.

His artistic career in the field of printmaking was stopped in 1998 due to being too late. However, after an exhibition entitled "Diagnosis" held at Galeri Soemardja,

ITB, from 24 October to 14 November 2014 which contained a showcase of his graphic art works, he stated that he had never really left printmaking and would return again. He said he would return to printmaking with themes, tools, materials and techniques that were "typically Indonesian", rejecting printmaking that originated in Europe or Japan. The continuation of this exploration will still be accompanied by his work using paper as a medium.

Wawan married a second time to Lilis Nuryati, an ecoprint and shibori artist, on December 11 2019. He was previously married to Elly Setiawan (real name Elly Siti Muslihat), a Japanese Literature lecturer from the Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Padjadjaran University. Elly died on 17 May 2018. He has two children, namely Patra Aditya and Syarif Maulana.

Wawan has a gallery that he started in 2012, located at Jalan Rebana no 10, Bandung, named Garasi 10. Apart from preparing this gallery for art activities, it is also a place for discussions.

Wawan has won several awards, including Satyalancana Karya Satya XX Year from the President of Indonesia in 2002. In addition, he also received the Special Contribution Award of the Asian Art Exhibition for outstanding contributions at the 22nd Asian Art Exhibitions, 2007. He also won a silver medal at the Seoul International Art Exhibition in Seoul, Korea, in 1984. The following year, he won a gold medal at the same exhibition.

