

# IndoConnect

VOL.6 NO.1 2018

## RISING Tide

FOR INVESTMENTS IN INDONESIA

*INDONESIAN EMBASSY IN SINGAPORE  
GIVES RECOGNITION TO THE MOVERS  
AND SHAKERS OF BUSINESS INVESTMENTS  
IN INDONESIA*



ALSO INSIDE: WORLD SPOTLIGHT ON ART BALI  
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○ ICN'S ARUNIKA - A MUSICAL

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# INDONESIA'S COMPELLING NARRATIVES



**E**xcitement about Indonesia continues apace on many levels for world watchers. It's a land of opportunity for investors, its growth potential is riding each wave of challenges with equanimity, it has sent out strong signals of commitment to inter-racial harmony and cooperation with the international community towards global security - and now - it lures tourists from around the world with the promise of heady new destinations to explore.

Entrepreneurs and investors anticipate a steady engagement with Indonesia on the business front, regardless of the vagaries of politics, simply because the juggernaut of growth and development continues to gather momentum. It is strongly driven by a burgeoning populace and consumer base. The excited buzz among participants at the RISING Appreciation Gala Dinner held by the Indonesian Embassy here to give away the awards to Singaporean and Indonesian individuals and businesses who have contributed in advancing trade, tourism and investment (TTI) sector in Indonesia, was ample proof of

the great success of the inspirational role of economic diplomacy in this initiative. A paradigm shift is in the offing as Indonesia not only focuses on its huge potential but starts actively promoting concrete investment packages by "facilitating both parties, business climate and supporting infrastructure" as observed by Ambassador HE Ngurah Swajaya.

The broadening of Indonesia's tourism offerings and its agenda for technological advancement, is being empowered by the likes of 'RISING Pioneer' Awardees Mike Wiluan and Nazarisham Mohd Isa, who are quietly playing a pivotal role in helping develop the islands of Batam and Belitung.

Singaporeans can look forward to some momentous experiences with these developments taking places in such close proximity to the city-state. The Nongsa Digital Park (NDP)- project with a nine-hole golf course and a proposed international school and fitness park, spearheaded by Mike Wiluan's Infinite Studio, has a proposed investment of S\$700 million. Nazarisham, looking at developing a Maldives-style pleasure getaway, has committed US\$500 million developing Belitung.

Fuelled by an active patronage and its rich cultural leanings, Indonesia's creative world continues to flourish. From fashion to art to the performing arts, Indonesia has a huge pool of talent which is getting the attention of the world in a big way. Whether it is Arunika: A Musical or art works featuring Indonesian artists covered in this issue, Indonesia's contribution to the world's artistic traditions will continue to be much treasured and in demand at home and abroad.

With people- to-people connects as a driving force at every level Indonesia is on a trail-blazing path for that great leap forward to future prosperity. We invite you to join hands with us at INDOCONNECT in continuing our support for this compelling initiative.

**Nomita Dhar**

## CONTRIBUTORS



**HENNY SCOTT**  
The Singapore-based art consultant is an active member of many art organisations in the island, and a great champion of Indonesian art and artists. She has lived in Perth, Melbourne,

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**JENNY TAN**  
Exploring idyllic islands and charming cities, experiencing sensational sights, living like a local and savouring cultural cuisine, Jenny curates

and influence travel inspirations with captivating photography for affluent lifestyle frequent travellers to experience unforgettable memories in the archipelago of Wonderful Indonesia and beyond, connecting Singapore.



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She's been a Consulting Editor for 15 years to the Outlook Traveller group of publications and contributed to Discover India, BBC Good Food Guide

and others. In the past 25 years, her features have been published widely and now also in IndoConnect magazine.

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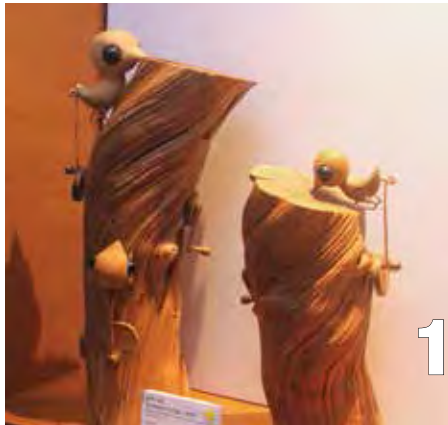
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# A Big 'Thank You' for Faith & Investments in Indonesia

by Pensosbud / Economy Indonesian Embassy, Singapore  
Photos: Michael Nio

HE Ngurah Swajaya thanked star investors and businesses who have committed investments in Indonesia's future





*“There are many questions directed to me, especially how entrepreneurs and investors must respond to the political year in Indonesia. My advice to you all is, keep investing, keep doing business in Indonesia, and still visit Indonesia. The political year will not reduce the commitment of the Government of Indonesia to guarantee businesses and investments”*

- HE Ngurah Swajaya



A total of 250 investors and business people from Singapore packed the main ballroom of Pan Pacific Hotel Singapore on 18th December 2018, to attend the “RI SING Appreciation Gala Dinner” held by the Indonesian Embassy to the Republic of Singapore. The annual event, which first held in 2017, aims to award Singaporean and Indonesian businesses that have contributed in advancing trade, tourism and investment (TTI) sector in Indonesia. The award was made as an effort for the economic diplomacy activities of the two countries, as well as strengthening the Singapore-Indonesia business community as well as diaspora by making a direct contribution to the bilateral relations of the two countries.

A total of eight entrepreneurs from Singapore and the Indonesian diaspora received the award given directly by the Indonesian Ambassador to Singapore, Ngurah Swajaya. Additional category RI SING Pioneers was added this year to the three categories, namely: Trade, Tourism and Investment. Here is a list of entrepreneurs who received awards and their categories: (see box list right).

#### **RI SING BUSINESS PIONEER**

**Nazarisham Mohd Isa**  
(Naza Holdings)

**Kris Wiluan**  
(Citramas Group Pte Ltd)

**RI SING Trade**  
**Fiona Chaw**  
(AIMCO Global Pte Ltd)

**Francis Tan**  
(Trejoy Pte Ltd)

**RI SING Tourism**  
**Wayan Subagia**  
(PT. Garuda Indonesia)

**Phillip Gan**  
(Singatour Travel Agent)

**RI SING Investment**  
**Dennis Wee**  
(Sembcorp)

**Shailendra Bhandari**  
(Ecooils Pte Ltd)

In his remarks, the Indonesian Ambassador to Singapore, Ngurah Swajaya assured entrepreneurs and investors to continue investing in Indonesia. “There are many questions directed to me, especially how entrepreneurs and investors must respond to the political year in Indonesia. My advice is to you all is, keep investing, keep doing business in Indonesia, and still visit Indonesia. The political year will not reduce the commitment of the Government of Indonesia to guarantee businesses and investments” he said.

“We also prove that during 2018, Indonesia-Singapore diplomatic ties are stronger than ever, and that the Indonesian Embassy’s economic diplomacy team in Singapore, engaged every agencies and stakeholders in Singapore to carry out Indonesia Incorporated economic diplomacy activities”

Also present at the dinner, Chairman of the Singapore Business Federation, Teo Siong Seng. In his remarks Teo Siong Seng said that during 2018, the SBF has collaborated with the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia and carried out business missions to five cities and prov-

inces in Indonesia. “The business mission is to encourage Singaporean entrepreneurs to expand their business in Indonesia, and during 2018, members of the SBF carried out business missions to Jakarta, Bali, Yogyakarta, Bandung and Batam,” he said. “In addition, we also conducted Business Forum activities and business matchmaking between various regional governments with Singaporean businesses” he added.

A representative from Enterprise Singapore, Director of Southeast Asia Cooperation, Chew Hwee Yong conveyed concrete things that had been achieved. “Development of industry cooperation 4.0, is our common priority and ESG together with the Indonesian Embassy in Singapore have succeeded in developing such cooperation, including in Kendal Industrial Park,” he said. “The development of startups and the digital industry such as in Nongsa is also a common priority, and with the operation of around 60 startups in Nongsa is very exciting,” he concluded.

In addition, Ambassador Ngurah also conveyed the opportunities and strategies for the future of both countries. “Along with the continuing uncertainty due to the rhetoric of the trade war between China and the US, the readiness of industrial complexes in Indonesia with gateways from Singapore, such as Batam, Bintan, and Karimun (BBK), provide an alternative to anticipate the trend of relocation of industrial estates from China, Taiwan and other East Asian countries. This is another opportunity to make the BBK’s as regional a production base for the ASEAN market with 630 million population size meanwhile anticipating the completion of Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations in 2019 as the largest comprehensive economic cooperation in the world,” he said.

### Investment Values

At present the investment value from Singapore for the period of January-September 2018 is recorded at USD 6.7 billion, up 10% compared to the same period in 2017. Meanwhile, tourist visits also increased 9.8% to 1.78 million foreign tourists for the period January-September 2018, and for trade, Indonesia’s total trade with Singapore in the period January-September 2018 was USD 25.4 billion, which increased by 18.2% compared to the same period last year or amounting to USD 21.5 billion. Ambassador Ngurah

hopes that investment can penetrate the value of USD 10 billion and the number of foreign tourists can reach 2 million foreign tourists.

Ambassador Ngurah also hopes that the appreciation night can strengthen the relationship between Indonesian and Singaporean businesses with relevant stakeholders and elements of government in Indonesia. “We now have to change the paradigm, not only sell potential, but have

to sell concrete investment packages by facilitating both parties, business climate and supporting infrastructure and not only talking about potential in general, but also encouraging this activity to create contacts which then become contracts”, he said. It is expected that with the strong synergy between the Indonesian Embassy in Singapore and all other relevant stakeholders, investors are increasingly convinced to invest in Indonesia.

## Investing in Singapore: Go-Jek Set to Ride the Singapore Market



In line with its agenda for a deeper penetration in Southeast Asia, the gateway island-nation of Singapore offers Indonesia’s Go-Jek a ready market to tap for its wide array of services

Singapore residents in areas like Singapore’s Central Business District, Jurong East, Changi, Punggol, Ang Mo Kio and Sentosa can now access Go-Jek services with the launch of ride-hailing firm Go-Jek’s beta version of its app on November 29, as part of its services across the island. The roll-out is set to gather momentum with more drive-partners onboarded over time to feed consumer demand. Already Go-Jek, Indonesia’s most valuable technology start-up, has seen a huge response to its recruitment of drivers for its services on the island. The company is test marketing the waters of its services by taking on driver-partners in batches to ensure satisfactory service from the new recruits. The plan is to offer full-blown Go-Jek services islandwide in early 2019.

Andre Soelistyo, Go-Jek president commenting on this new development in the company said: “It is with great pride that we begin the roll-out of our services in Singapore. Consumers throughout the country have told us that they want more choice in this sector and with the launch of our beta app, their wait is coming to an end.” He added: “We are asking all users, whether drivers or passengers, to provide us with ongoing feedback as we work towards creating the best possible service for the country.”

Go-Jek’s main rival in the ride hailing market in Singapore is Grab (which acquired Uber’s Southeast Asia Operations this March) but Soelistyo is bullish about his company’s edge over the competition with its array of services. For example back home in Indonesia, the Go-Jek app offers transactions ranging from shopping and courier deliveries to cleaning and even massage services. However the focus of the company in Singapore will be to ensure that its base offering – ride-hailing – appeals to Singapore commuters. Go-Jek plans on attracting new users of its motorbike taxis with various promos in the initial stages. Go-Jek’s focus, Soelistyo pointed out, will be on building a differentiated product rather than ‘market building.’

### Google & Temasek Participation

The burgeoning number of the region’s 640 million consumers going online, using smartphones to shop, commute and make payments, is a driving factor in Go-Jek intuitive to raise about US\$2 billion from existing investors, to fund its expansion plans in Southeast Asia. By 2025, ride hailing services in Southeast Asia are expected to surge to US\$20.1 billion in gross merchandise value from US\$5.1 billion in 2017, shares a Google-Temasek report. Go-Jek had a valuation of about US\$5 billion with Google, Singapore state investor Temasek Holdings and others stepping in as investors in its US\$1.5 billion funding earlier this year as reported by Reuters.



IndoConnect profiles the **RISING Pioneer Awardees** Mike Wiluan and Nazarisham Mohd Isa who have played a large role in helping develop the islands of Batam and Belitung respectively

## Digital Park Wizard **Michael Wiluan**

More well known for his work in the media and entertainment industry, Mike Wiluan also sees the infinite possibilities for growth in the IT industry



**T**he proposed investment for Indonesia's first technology park – the Nongsa Digital Park (NDP) – is a staggering S\$700 million. The project is spearheaded by Michael Wiluan, one of the scions of Batam's most established property development and energy groups.

It is already off with an auspicious start April when the first phase was opened with the official blessings of Indonesia's and Singapore's Foreign Ministers, Ms Retno Marsudi and Dr Vivian Balakrishnan. Minister Retno said that she highly appreciated the efforts of Michael Wiluan and his team for working hard to enable young talents from across Indonesia to work at NDP and create jobs and produce work that can be enjoyed across the globe.

The First Phase of NDP will consist of nine office buildings, the first three being inaugurated on 20th March 2018, with



two already fully occupied. This First Phase will see the creation of approximately 1,500 jobs, a number that will grow significantly as the whole NDP project enters future phases. It is slated to attract total potential investments for above US\$500 million.

Michael who is the 42-year old CEO of Infinite Studios, a media entertain-

ment company with its offices in Singapore and backlot in Batam has been on record as saying the vision is to create a "lifestyle digital campus that basically allows people to work, live and play".

This is why the company has deliberately positioned the tech park, which is the first private initiative to develop Batam island's digital economy, to be sited in the up-scale resort area. NDP is located within Nongsa Resort 170 ha area owned and operated by Citramas Group. Within this land bank, the Group has already developed Turi

Beach Resort, Nongsa Point Marina, Nongsa Village, Nongsapura Ferry Terminal, Infinite Studio's film and animation facility and Tamarin Golf Course..

Within the Digital Park itself are plans to build residential developments, nine-hole golf course as well as a proposed an international school and fitness park.



# Corporate Maverick Nazarisham Mohd Isa's Winning Moves

The Indonesian Embassy's RISING Pioneer Awardee and CEO of Naza Holdings in conversation with IndoConnect shared his joy on receiving the award and his experience in exploring the Indonesian market

**C**ongratulations on getting the recent award, which is an early recognition for someone who has been in the Indonesian market over just a year. Please share your thoughts about this?

I would like to thank the Embassy of Indonesia in Singapore for the RISING Pioneer Award. I am both humbled and happy by this recognition. It was my honour to receive the award at the Indonesian Appreciation Gala Dinner from His Excellency Ngurah Swajaya.

As a businessman I attribute all achievements to my hard work and that of my team. I don't believe in shortcuts but I think you must grab the opportunities when they come your way. Whether a venture is successful or not, either way there is always something to gain. If you win, you make money. Fail, you still gain experience. What is imperative is that one must be fearless.

**What are the factors that contributed to your decision to invest in Indonesia?**

In 2017, I and my partners went to Belitung for the first time. We were



At the awards (top right) Nazarisham receives RISING Pioneer award and appreciation from the Indonesian Ambassador in Singapore, HE Ngurah Swajaya and (above) with his wife

mesmerised by the virgin beauty of the island. Among this group was an experienced partner who owns a resort in the Maldives and saw tremendous potential for development in this untapped island. That's how it began.



Here, the environment is pristine and the island (Belitung) has not been well developed since the days of Dutch rule. The area is surrounded by 60 million people hailing from Palembang, Jakarta, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur. This is a large market and source of growth and that is a great opportunity.

**How has your experience been so far doing business in Indonesia?**

To start a project in Indonesia you need a lot of support and we were fortunate to get the required cooperation from the Indonesian government, particularly from the embassy in Singapore and also the associated government bodies.

**What is the quantum of investment Naza Holdings plans in Belitung?**

We have decided to commit US\$500 million developing Belitung. The group of islands which is just one and a half hours flight from Singapore and primarily it was our endeavour to establish direct flights which we were able to achieve in collaboration with Garuda Indonesia. We are looking at



(Above row insets from l to r): Indonesia's Minister of Tourism Arief Yahya (centre) with Nazarisham receiving travel journalists and influencers on the Garuda Indonesia inaugural flight between Singapore and Belitung on 29th October 2018 and candid shots of their visit to Belitung



***“To start a project in Indonesia you need a lot of support and we were fortunate to get the required cooperation from the Indonesian government, particularly from the embassy in Singapore and also the associated government bodies..”***

- Nazarisham Mohd Isa

developing a lifestyle space. For this we were able to acquire large pieces of land, a total of 22 hectares, which is a mix of freehold and leasehold. It's a huge piece of land and I don't think I will, in my lifetime, be able to finish the job I'm starting but I am sure the effect of this investment will be far reaching and will be bourne by generations to come. We have signed a 70-year lease and in the next five years we are looking to do a lot of development

### **Vision & Extent of Investments**

- Construction and management of economic zone for Tanjung Kelayang in sub-district Sijuk of Belitung regency
- Development of the pepper and fruits plantation sector through reliable commodity management to fill export quotas abroad including Singapore, Thailand, and Australia
- Construction of the marina port area in Tanjung Pendam, sub-district Tanjungpandan
- Cooperation in management and constructing of international airport H.A.S. Hanandjoeddin Tanjungpandan Belitung
- Construction of a sports racetrack in Buluh Tumbang village, to support tourism sector activities by promoting sports tourism

work here. Towards this end we have already partnered with a subsidiary of a city construction group, who will be the developers of this lifestyle space which we are intending to create.

In the meanwhile, our travel arm, MTN Getaways Pte Ltd, has been introducing Belitung to international travellers from as far as Brazil and markets such as China, Malaysia etc. It is my pleasure to share that we have received rave reviews from those who have gone there. This is indeed very encouraging and we are very motivated to continue with our plans.

### **Recently there has been a spate of natural disasters. Are you worried?**

Natural disasters or calamities can happen anywhere. As far as Belitung is concerned studies and surveys show Belitung Island is not very different from Singapore and is sheltered from calamities such as volcanic eruptions, earthquakes etc. So we will continue to work as per our plans.

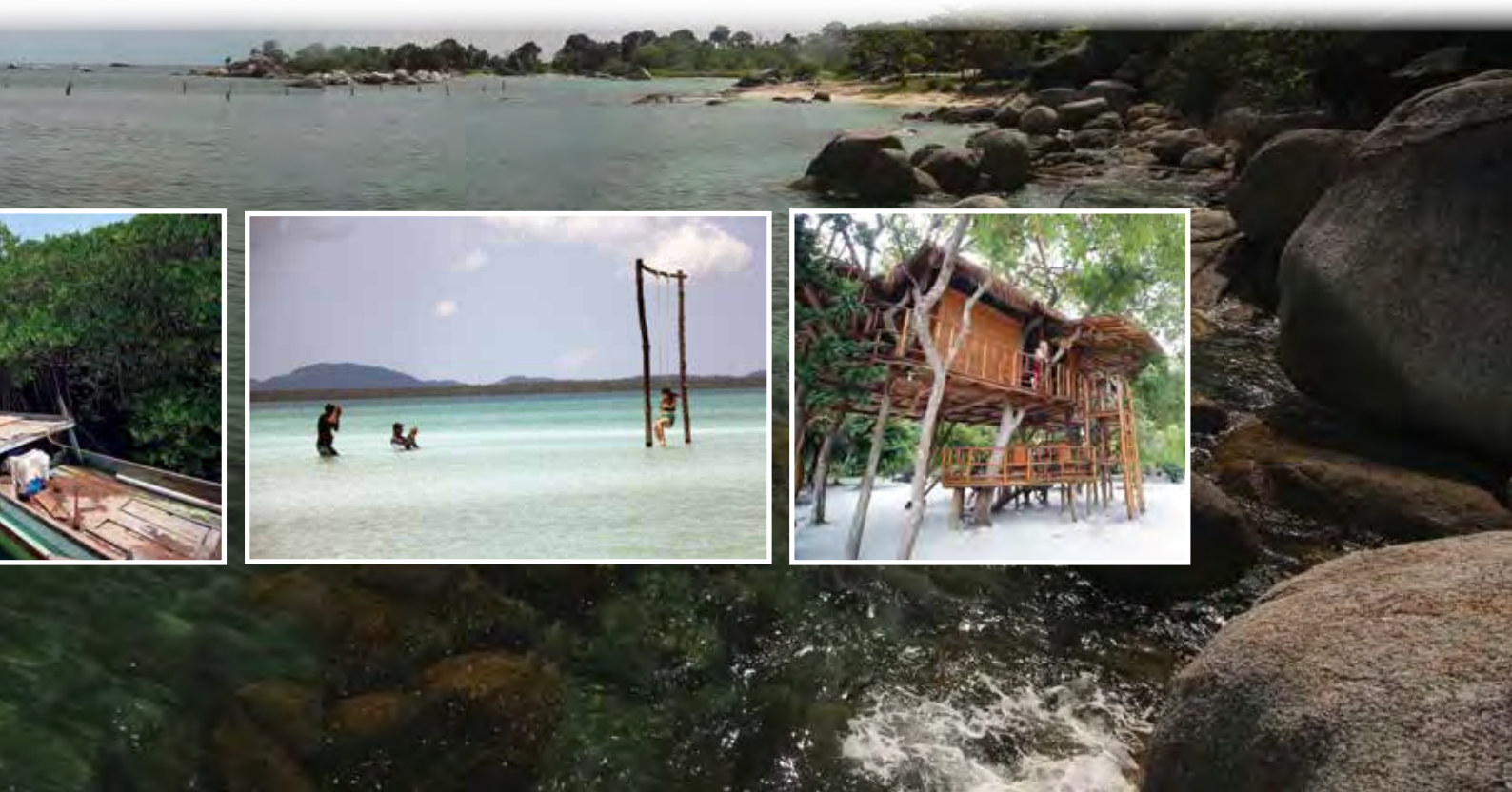
### **What is your advice to potential investors who might be interested in Indonesia?**

We have to go out and look for opportunities. Indonesia has a large

population of 280 million - I believe it is definitely a place to go. And don't base your judgment just on media reports,. Go there and see for yourself. You will be filled with confidence in the country and its potential”.

### **About Nazarisham**

The self-made millionaire has an inspiring back story. After quitting school at 13 to support his family, he learned to overcome fear and grab the opportunities that life presented him. He rose up the ranks, starting as a guard in a security company to eventually owning shares in the company. He then became an entrepreneur and never looked back. Today under Naza Holdings, apart from the security company he used to work at, there are another 18 companies and subsidiaries under the Naza Holdings banner that include PT MTN Bersatu Sukses which is heading the investment activities in the Bangka-Belitung Province. Naza Holdings is today a multi-faceted conglomerate whose engagements range from the business of security, commodities, bullion and precious gems trading to gold mining, building management and tourism.





# RISING Chic – Better Together

IndoConnect and PWIS presented a special presentation of fashion, food and a fun time for a good cause!

Since the Golden Jubilee celebrations of 2017 commemorating Indonesia-Singapore diplomatic ties, there has been a series of events that feature Indonesia and Singapore working together to further strengthen people-to-people ties. In the same spirit the organisers of RISING Chic, Sun Media Pte Ltd the publishers of IndoConnect Magazine and Persatuan Wanita Indonesia Singapura (PWIS), presented a lunch-fashion programme that brought together one of Indonesia's leading fashion designers, Novita Yunus of Batik Chic and Singapore fashion jewellery company Mimento. It was a fun event that also raised some funds for a PWIS project to upgrade and help build a learning centre in Batam for less fortunate children and women living in the centre's neighbourhood. The event was graced by Mrs Mahaswi Swajaya, the wife of the Indonesian Ambassador to Singapore. Ms Nomita Dhar, the publisher of IndoConnect and Ms Irvina Hulyer, President of PWIS said they were grateful for the support shown by the 100 lady guests who came



that day to Mamanda Restaurant.

Ms Hulyer also gave a brief background on PWIS, saying that it is a non-profit organisation recognized and registered under the Embassy of Indonesia in Singapore that focuses on organising charity events to help and support the disabled and orphaned children in Batam. 





# Batik Chic & MIMENTO

## Rise to the Occasion

Indonesian fashion label Batik Chic and Singapore jewellery accessory company MIMENTO add sparkle to RISING Chic

**N**ovita Yunus is the Founder and Creative Director of Batik Chic since 2009. NY by Novita Yunus (pictured here standing far left beside Mrs Mahaswi Swajaya) is a premium brand of Batik Chic created under the framework of



the 2013 Indonesia Fashion Forward programme of Jakarta Fashion Week 2014. She has launched several stunning collections in a series of shows for Jakarta Fashion Week beginning with the 'Geometri' (2014) and then 'Ocean' (2016) collections. Novita Yunus has also spread her wings overseas and made Indonesia proud when she launched her 'Bumi Langit' as an Autumn/Winter Collection in Amazon India Fashion Week (2017) and has also brought it to Italy.

Novita has attained many achievements since 2013. She has received the Indonesia Fashion Forward (2nd generation) Award. This is given to designers who are able to expand and penetrate global markets (2013); in the same year she won an award from the ASEAN Japan Center for Best Product and Mitsukoshi in-store. This was followed by Anugerah Perempuan Indonesia Award as Perempuan Kohesif as well as Ernst & Young Winning Women Award

in 2014. She also was awarded an Australian scholarship to study about Fashion and Textile (2015); Kartini Award and Galeries Lafayette Bravo Woman Award (2016). Over a period of 10 years with her two brands Novita has managed to establish two galleries and also fifteen outlets that can be found in Jakarta and Surabaya. NY by Novita Yunus is also expanding in the international markets of Asia, Europe, Australia and America.

### MIMENTO Magic

With the vision to inspire others to slow down and relish the moment in a city full of fast buys, the team behind MIMENTO (headed by Mrs Adriana Mimento), multi-label accessories boutique and concept space, has worked closely with the international brands within their distributorship, with a touch of finesse and a whole lot of heart.



Experience their brands Les Néréides N2 by Les Néréides, Tai, Bronzallure MILANO, Misaki, Jet Set Candy (located at Level 1) and Les Georgettes, Gas Bijoux, Zag Bijoux, Yeanimm, Buckley London, Bloop, Estella Bartlett, Quay Australia, Shadez, (located Level 3) Takashimaya Department Store, 391 Orchard Road, Singapore or find them on Facebook.com/mimentolife or tel: 63856838. 



# A Walk in The Garden

by Henny Scott

CushCush Gallery, Bali presented an art exhibition at a unique venue  
- The American Club of Singapore



**H**is Excellency Mr. Ngurah Swajaya, the Ambassador of Indonesia to Singapore and Mrs. Mahaswi Swajaya were Guests of Honour for the Art Launch of The Garden, a group exhibition curated by Denpasar-based CushCush Gallery held on November 9th, 2018.

Jointly approved and greatly assisted by The Fine Art Sub-Committee of The American Club, "The Garden" features 33 artworks by 7 masters and rising stars who have deep links to Bali: Putu Sutawijaya, Wayan Sujana 'Suklu', Davina Stephens, Nyoman Wijaya, Ida Bagus Putu Purwa, Budi Agung Kuswara 'Kabul' and I Kadek Septa Adi.

Their works embody the spirit of nature, landscapes, and beauty of Bali. The show opens for two months until January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Balinese gardens continue to capture the imagination of visitors through the generations. They are often featured internationally and in national parks such as the Hort Park in Singapore. During the opening speech, Ambassador Ngu-

rah Swajaya shared with audience the stories about the Balinese gardens he saw in cities in Germany where he used to live in a previous posting. In Berlin, the Garden of the Three Harmonies or Tri Hita Karana, grew out of town twinning links forged between Berlin and Jakarta.

His Excellency Mr. Ngurah Swajaya also delighted viewers with compelling narrative of everyday scenes and rituals in Bali as Suriawati Qiu guided viewers through the exhibition.

The exhibition also showcases limited-edition wooden sculptures called Punyan, which means tree in Balinese. Inspired by Balinese nature and the spirit from childhood, the sculptures were made of various upcycled wood, recycled copper wire and plastic beads. A collaborative project between the Papermoon Puppet Theatre x LagiLagi x CushCush Gallery, this is a wonderful example of a contemporary art project exploring sustainable initiative-with profits going to the 'Charcoal For Children' creative program for children in Bali.

The organiser, CushCush Gallery is a Denpasar-based contemporary art platform well known for making a positive and much needed contribution to Bali's contemporary art infrastructure with strong focus on community engagement and educational program for all ages.

Their efforts bear recognition with one of their programmes, LagiLagi, a creative sustainable program for children whose DIY drawing charcoal from repurposed off-cuts and twigs won the Good Design Award 2018 (Japan), the highest recognition in design innovation.

CushCush Gallery founders, Suriawati Qiu and Jindee Chua, expressed gratitude for this unique opportunity to showcase contemporary art from Bali and were thankful to Henny Scott for linking them up with The American Club; there were also indebted with the generous support of The Indonesian Embassy. It is their first show outside Bali and the opening weekend was a great success with positive interests from art lovers.

The launch was very well attended by The American Club members and at-

*Continued on page 14...*





*"A true Balinese garden is a thing of mystery and romance. 'Mysterious' because it poses questions about its inhabitants – the pixies suggested by the ornamental statues, and the spirits who occupy the ubiquitous shrine. 'Romantic' because it is in the soul of the Balinese who create gardens to love nature. It is Mother Nature's embracing qualities – Her softness and Her allure that are felt in the Balinese home."*

- Made Wijaya (Michael White), 1999, Tropical Garden Design, co-published by editions Didier Millet and Wijaya Words, Singapore



# World Spotlight on Art Bali

The exhibition attracted the attention of world leaders as well as art collectors from the region

It started from the visit by the head of BEKRAF (The Creative Economy Agency of Indonesia), Mr. Triawan Munaf, to ArtJog (Yogya Art Fair) in 2016 that Heri Pemas, Co-Organiser of ArtJog received the agency's support to achieve his dream of creating a new space and platform to showcase boundary-breaking contemporary artworks by local and international artists in Bali. That was how Art Bali was born.



*Art Bali was officially opened by Indonesia's Minister of Finance HE Ms Sri Mulyani (Photo: BEKRAF)*

Held for one month at a purpose-built facility that took 40 days to complete, thanks to the support of BEKRAF, the inaugural edition of Art Bali was officially opened by Minister of Finance, Ms. Sri Mulyani on 9th October 2018.

Art Bali serves as a parallel event to the IMF-World Bank Conference that took place in Bali's Nusa Dua. Ms. Sri Mulyani could not hide her pride and satisfaction with the quality and the presentation of the artworks and encouraged delegates to the Conference to visit Art Bali.

It was indeed a great opportunity to enjoy 39 artworks created by some of the country's best Indonesian artists and rising talents and visitors were very impressed with what was shown at the Fair.

Singapore's Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, Ms Grace Fu and her team enjoyed visiting the Fair and were treated to an exclusive guided tour led by the curators; they also got to meet some of the artists in the course of the tour.

Ms Grace Fu was not the only personage who visited Art Bali. Head of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Christine Lagarde; Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) and Coordinating Minister for Economic and Social Policies Tharman Shanmugaratnam, who also happens to be a well-known figure in the Singapore art community, did not miss the opportunity to engage with curators Rifqi Effendi and Ignatia Nilu. DPM Tharman was also interviewed by Metro TV when he was there at the

exhibition. Philippine's art collectors couple Lito and Kim Camacho, already familiar personalities in the Indonesian art scene, continued to show strong interest in Indonesian arts and were seen actively engaged with members of Bali's art community.

The art community truly embraced this new platform and appreciated the support and enthusiasm of the organising committee and BEKRAF. Many shared the sentiments of the island's local art community that Art Bali will continue to be held annually.

Art Bali ended on November 9th and if you did not have the opportunity to drop by, you can still virtually visit the fair at <http://artbali.co.id>



*...continued from page 12*

tracted luminaries from the local art scene. Spotted at the exhibition were General Manager of The American Club, Mr. Devin Kimble, Mrs. Garima Lalwani who represented Fine Art Committee Members, Director of National Arts Council Mr. Eng Teong Low, the wife of The British High Commissioner Mrs Anne Wightman, BBC World News broadcast journalist Mr. Rico Hizon, respected art collector and architect Mr TK Quek, Co-Founder of Art Stage Singapore Mrs Maria Elena Rudolf. A wonderful evening was had by all attendees.

We congratulate all the artists participating in this show. A salute to CushCush Gallery team, Suriawati Qiu, Jindee Chua and Joey Tan for bringing Balinese charms to Singapore.

The exhibition ends on January 7th, 2019. Readers who wish to view this educational exhibition but who are non-members of the American Club, please contact Henny Scott [atghjsscott@gmail.com](mailto:atghjsscott@gmail.com) to arrange access to the club.



## Jan Camerone's Reflection of Our Hearts at Goshen

The 71-year old artist from Jakarta presents 18 of his most recent large symbolic oil paintings

**F**or most of his working life Jan Camerone was an advertising man. After he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich, he spent 10 years in Europe before finally returning to Jakarta where he established an advertising agency as its principal Art Director and managed to keep his creativity for more than 20 years. He became a full time artist only after he retired.



His latest works can be viewed at the Goshen Art Gallery @ DUO Galleria from the 3rd to 13th January 2019. The exhibition was officially opened by HE Ngurah Swajaya who welcomed many VIP guests, admirers and collectors of his works. Camerone was also on hand to greet everybody and talked about his paintings. Since his childhood, he showed his love in drawing. He began his education in art as an apprentice of Mr. M. Toha, the palace painter of President Soekarno's era at that time. Currently, if not painting at his workshop, Jan Camerone spends most of his time travelling, while also participating in various exhibitions in Jakarta.



## Masriadi will Show His Latest Work at Art Basel Hongkong

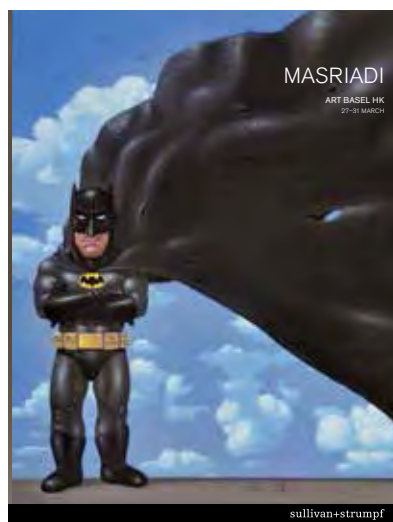
by Henny Scott

In late March, Asia's flagship art fair, Art Basel Hong Kong, will feature top artists including I Nyoman Masriadi, one of Southeast Asia's most important contemporary artists

**M**asriadi's work investigates themes of contemporary life featuring larger than life superhero characters on large canvases. The figures are strong and monumental, yet vulnerable and tender.

From humble beginnings, the younger Masriadi hawked souvenir paintings to tourists in Bali. His first major museum solo exhibition 'Black is My Last Weapon' was at the Singapore Art Museum in 2008, and he has since gone on to reach extraordinary success with international exposure at various galleries in New York, Singapore and Sydney. Masriadi's work entitled "The Man From Bantul (The Final Round)," was sold for more than US\$1 million at Sotheby's Hong Kong in 2008 which made him the most "expensive" living contemporary artist in the region.

Born in 1973 in Gianyar, Bali, he studied at Jogjakarta's Institut Seni Indonesia. He



was one of three recipients of the inaugural Asia Arts Game Changer Awards in 2013 - a prestigious recognition for contemporary artists presented by the Asia Society. Masriadi is the only Indonesian artist to have been awarded this honour.

Other notable Honorees include Zheng Fanzi (China), Subodh Gupta (India), the Japanese group teamLab and Takashi Murakami.

Ursula Sullivan, co- Director of Sullivan + Strumpf representing Masriadi at the fair is very excited to return to Art Basel Hong Kong: "Masriadi is one of Indonesia's most interesting and internationally relevant artists. It's a thrill to have the opportunity to place his work to with really important collectors." The gallery maintains a presence in Singapore and Sydney, Australia and has successfully shown works by other Indonesian artists including historically significant artist FX Harsono.

A major event in the contemporary art world's calendar, Art Basel Hong Kong provides an in-depth overview of the region's diversity through both historical material and cutting-edge works by established and emerging artists represented by galleries from Europe, North America, Latin America, Asia, and Africa.

To plan your visit to Art Basel Hong Kong and enjoy the immersive art experience, start with saving the dates from 27 to 31 March 2019. For more details, please visit <https://www.artbasel.com/hong-kong>

# ARUNIKA

*a musical*



The annual ICN production from PINTU (Pelajar Indonesia Nanyang Technological University) promises something new this year. Instead of adapting a known folk tale, *Arunika: A Musical* is a totally original story that deals with a time *before* the Dutch actually colonised Indonesia. IndoConnect talked to the production's Artistic Director, Hans Albert Lianto, to know more

**I**CN Cultural Production stands tall among student performance groups in that it strives to be a “professional student-run musical performance group.” Its commitment and dedication to producing quality entertainment while creatively having its own voice with the students writing their own scripts, composing their own songs and choreography have garnered a strong following here. In the past many of their productions have been inspired by Indonesian stories, personalities and even folktales. This year they are stretching their artistic muscles by creating a completely original story that takes place in 19th century Batavia (as Jakarta was previously known) during a lesser-known period in the country's history that saw slavery being practiced by the Dutch East India Company. Arunika's Artistic Director, Hans Albert Lianto, said this time, the story will encompass issues and values such as prejudice, social justice and inequality. It will also mirror life as things are not always black and white, and the main characters are not absolute heroes or villains.





Hans elaborated on what audiences can expect from ICN 2019, "Unlike in the past, this year we're not adapting a known folk tale. We're doing an original story in a time and place that has never been fully explored before: 19th century Batavia. This was a time before the Dutch had actually colonized Indonesia by force and when slavery was still prevalent in the city."

Hans who is a third year NTU Computer Science student said, "We also moved away from the usual tropes of playing the characters as stereotypes where the Indonesians are depicted as the so-called 'good' people, always doing the right things. We explored the viewpoints of the Dutch and found a richer and deeper dimension in the story when boundaries are blurred between who is good and who isn't based on their actions and their own prejudices. Thus we were able to have

a more even handed 'judgement' of the characters when it comes to the commonly portrayed theme of the fight between good and evil."

This year ICN's cast and production team numbered 145 people and they faced many challenges researching what life was like in Batavia back then. "One very challenging aspect of the production was how to represent the Indonesians and Dutch in the 1800s. There is much more diversity as we had to cater to a large number

of supporting characters that includes outfitting the Moluccans and Balinese of that period in traditional and slave costumes, as well as Dutch citizens and guards. Altogether we had to come up with wardrobe for 32 performers! The audience will get a glimpse of this at the start of the musical when we open with a very vibrant song and dance segment introducing the city of Batavia that showcase many of these costumes. That was fun to do." And quite worthwhile too, as the story highlights the need for everyone to be free of discrimination. "At the end of the musical, we also want the audience to reflect how much pain and tragedy could have been avoided if we are all more understanding and tolerant towards one another and not judge based different looks, social class, race or religion. Hopefully this one slice of history can go some way in helping realise this," said Hans.

DRAMA CENTRE THEATRE  
National Library Building Level 3  
100 Victoria Street. S(188064)

Saturday, 16th February 2019  
2.30 pm & 7.30 pm

Tickets: [show.icnmusical.com](http://show.icnmusical.com)



# An Alternative Perspective: Going Commercial

Residential vs Commercial? Investing in commercial properties has its perks and potential for greater returns

Photo by Edwin Soo / Wikimedia Commons

**W**hile many Indonesians might be familiar with Singapore's residential property market, there is another dimension in investing in the island's commercial real estate scene many are not aware of said Mr Jay Ong, Associate Marketing Director of PropNex (pictured right). Actually many do not realise some of the perks of investing in commercial properties. For example, they are not subjected to the Additional Buyer Stamp Duty of 20% on residential property but just the usual 3% Buyer Stamp Duty, making them on par with local buyers. Seller Stamp Duty is also not applicable to commercial properties.

This is one of the aspects of commercial property ownership many foreigners, not just Indonesians, are not aware of. One other reason that plays a part is that many agents here just specialise in residential market but not the commercial properties market said Jay. So it pays to talk to real estate agents who are well versed in both residential and commercial properties and be able to give a comprehensive picture of the opportunities available in the whole Singapore market.

## Property Ownership

There are other factors that make the commercial property sector worthwhile considering.

Property laws here state that foreigners are not allowed to buy landed residential property (with the exception of those in Sentosa) but this is not applicable



to landed commercial shophouses. Freehold ownership of residential homes for foreigners are usually limited to condominium units but they can purchase freehold commercial shophouses and the land it sits on. So for those who are interested in buying a piece of land in Singapore, they may consider buying landed commercial shophouses. Note even Singapore permanent residents (PRs) need approval to purchase landed residential properties here in Singapore.

## Investment Returns

Commercial returns compared to residential is comparable and can even be better depending on the type of commercial property one owns. For example, current rental yields for residential properties generally average around 3% per annum (which is considered very good). Compared to this, rental yields for commercial properties ranges from 3% to 7%.

When it comes to shophouses, present

price trends show that even during recessionary periods, their price levels do not fall. There are niche segments such as conservation shophouses. While the commercial rental returns on letting out such a commercial conservation shophouse is not that much, these shophouses hold their value very well as their supply is limited. And because of their heritage value one also gets to own a piece of history. It is a favourite buy of many high net worth investors as well as local and foreign investment trusts. As a result the prices are always on the rise. They may not offer great rental yields now but have excellent prospects for a windfall future capital gain.

For better rental yields one should look at another segment of commercial properties: retail shops, office and industrial spaces and buildings. Rental yields for them can range from 3 to 7 per cent. Even the humble HDB shophouses in the heartlands can offer good returns. Foreigners are often under the impression or have been told that they are not allowed to purchase HDB properties in Singapore. This is not true. Foreigners are allowed to purchase HDB shophouses and some of these shophouses come with living quarters. Although they are sold on leaseholds of up to 99 years, depending on their location, multi-million transactions have been recorded as high as above S\$10 million!

There are also another couple of factors that contribute to his bullish outlook for this sector. As Jay explains, unlike the



residential market where cooling measures have been introduced to moderate the rate of price increases to maintain affordability, the commercial sector is less susceptible to such cooling measures as it is very much in Singapore's interest to attract foreign companies and buyers into its commercial sector. There is great competition for the foreign investment dollar among the countries in the region and the island-republic should avoid controlling entry or raising the costs of setting up a business, office or factory here for foreigners.

### Where to Start

"Apart from our work in the residential property segment, we have extensively advised clients on the potential of the commercial sector in Singapore. For example, we have had clients who were keen to invest in luxury condominiums in the Orchard Road belt who changed their minds when we showed how one can realise a better return from purchasing shophouses and offices which generate better rental yield, with larger crowds that makes it easier to attract tenants."

In the area of industrial properties, they are available with 30- and 60-year leases as well as freehold. Generally, they can cost from \$300,000 (30-year lease) and generate good rental yields of 5 to 7 per cent. For Jay, the industrial segment is an especially interesting sector with good potential returns and he said, "especially if you know what to buy." His experience and expertise extends to study of potential growth areas. He gave one example: "We anticipate demand and growth to be good for Singapore's food & beverage industry due to the imminent population growth which is projected to be 6.9 million and lifestyle changes (e.g. increase in food delivery services and vending machines etc) that is leading to the rise in demand for approved



(Above column): Once the ancestral home of a Straits-Chinese family, the NUS 'Baba House' located at No. 157 Neil Road, is an example of an architectural beauty that has been carefully restored by the URA. Source: [www.ura.gov.sg](http://www.ura.gov.sg)

Food Factories. With the limited supplies of food factories and industrial land zoned for food production, this will potentially lead to an increase in food factories' prices.

Another factor that makes commercial property buying attractive is the great range of choices and types of commercial properties and level of investments available throughout the island. So the profile of one's portfolio can be very extensive.

As a very rough guide or rule of thumb - small offices can start from \$1 million and industrial space starts from \$300,000 (30-year lease up to freehold). HDB units (depending on location) starts from \$1 million (99-year lease).

### Commercial vs Residential

Is there any downside if one was to choose investing in commercial over residential property? Jay answered, "Not really" but as usual one has to be careful in treading this segment of the market. He gave as an example why commercial property may be more attractive than residential, Collective Sale or Enbloc of mixed- used development (Developments with both Residential and Commercial component) are sometimes difficult to complete successfully. A good example of this is the current collective/enbloc sale at People Park Complex and People Park Center in Chinatown. Residents of such mixed development are usually more acceptable to such collective sales as their lease is running out and chances of them selling in the open market will be tough. However, this is not true for owners of the commercial units in the development due to the high rental yield they are collecting at the moment. Unless there is a very attractive offer, many of the owners of the commercial units will usually object to such sale. So knowing which type of commercial property, location and potential returns are important in assessing which ones to invest in. And, of course, it also all comes back to the needs of the investor.



## WHY PAY MORE TAX WHEN BUYING PROPERTIES IN SINGAPORE?

LEARN HOW TO INVEST IN COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES AND PAY THE SAME TAX RATES AS LOCALS.



- NO ADDITIONAL TAXES
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Jay Ong  
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9011 0002

Joyce Foo  
(R050390A)  
9180 2890

# Club Coco Nut: Edutainment Centre Arrives at Orchard Road

The popular recreational and learning interactive retreat for families makes its debut in Singapore's most iconic address in the heart of town

**T**anglin Mall at Orchard Road was abuzz with hectic activity as Club Coco Nut, a multi-disciplinary edutainment space, for children aged 6 months (accompanied) to 6 years+, welcomed scores of families to discover its offerings. This well-equipped centre is truly a godsend for modern parents looking for some respite from the pressure of looking after their kids. The centre takes their children off their hands for a while, keeping these charged-up wards entertained with a slew of activities which include engaging classes and free play – all under one roof. What's interesting is that the club also doubles up as kind of leisure space for the parents as well, as they can take some time out to socialize with other parents or even catch up on work. A flexible programme makes Club Coco Nut a very attractive proposition for day edutainment offering a range of membership options to suit the needs of the children and parents.

Club Coco Nut's massive sprawl of 3000 sqf features four distinct zones. Each of these are purpose-designed to foster creativity, engagement and innovative learning. The Social Space for example is a common area with access included in all memberships. Kids can have free and inventive play here with the Mutable tables, climbing wall, Peranakan play-house, Magnatile Wall and reading corner. Meanwhile mums and dads can take time out to chill over a coffee from the pantry or even take off for an hour (for a fee) in case they have some errands to run. The 'Move' zone is free of obstructions, allowing kids to enjoy various sports, hip-hop dance, yoga, karate or even, plays in Mandarin drama or English. In the 'Create' Zone Space children enjoy art exploration, sensory workshops, painting, arts and crafts, food discovery and more. The 'Quiet' zone is for mums and dads to catch up on emails or come work for the day (for a fee). This child-free zone allows parents to also socialize with other adults.



**Launch Prices**  
One hour ad-hoc @ S\$49

**Monthly membership**  
4 hrs @ S\$180 (Olive)  
10 hrs @ S\$350 (Peach)  
15 hrs @ S\$450 (Coral)  
20 hrs @ S\$560 (Pink)  
50 hrs @ S\$990 (Rainbow)  
For more log on to  
[www.clubcoconut.co](http://www.clubcoconut.co)



# Artemis Grill: Festive Fare with THE View

Check out this rooftop restaurant for its iconic flavours of coastal Spain, Southern France, Italy and Greece



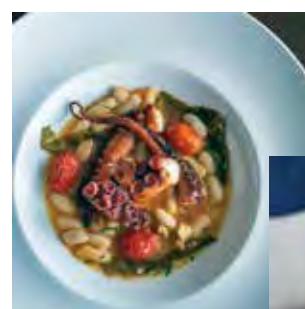
The table setting looks smashing...so festive with the candles and floral centerpieces, the ruby red ribboned serviettes and the sparkling glasses on a faultless white table cloth. All you need now is a group of friends and family gathered around you to pour over that spanking new especially-curated menu for the festive season and summon up the impeccable service to enjoy this sensory journey. Artemis Grill & Sky Lounge, the restaurant with a view, is a contemporary Mediterranean-inspired rooftop restaurant in Singapore's CBD and has long been reputed for its excellent cuisine and beautiful service. This festive season is the perfect excuse to treat yourself to a soul-satisfying culinary experience of its iconic flavours of coastal Spain, Southern France, Italy and Greece.

For the festive season, Executive Chef Oliver Hyde has pulled out all the stops for those delicious Mediterranean-inspired flavours. For example, in the month of December the festive specials featured dishes such as the Whole Grilled John Dory, with Red Wine, Beurre Blanc, Fennel & Seaweed Salad or the Stuffed Rabbit Saddle with Wilde Mushrooms, Candied Chestnuts and Armagnac Jus (\$120), both of which are perfect for 2 to 4 guests to share for dinner. Do leave some room for the truly indulgent Valrhona Chocolate Torte Dark Guanaja 70% Cacao, Feuilletine, Raspberry, Praline Ice Cream (\$16). All year round Artemis is a magnet for foodies and of particular indulgence are its signature



*For the festive season,  
Executive Chef Oliver  
Hyde has pulled out all the  
stops for those delicious  
Mediterranean-inspired  
flavours.*

wood-fired meat and seafood dishes enjoyed with panoramic views Marina Bay cityscape from one's perch 40-floors high from the top of the CapitaGreen building on the corner of Cecil and Cross Streets. Established by The Red Door Group, Artemis is a stylish and unique destination for rooftop dining and drinks in Singapore's CBD and is currently open for lunch on weekdays, and dinner Monday to Saturday nights. Location: Level 40, 138 Market Street, Singapore 048946. Reservations/ Information: Call +65 6635 8677 or log on to [www.artemisgrill.com.sg](http://www.artemisgrill.com.sg).





**INAUGURATION GENWI**  
13 Oct 2018, KBRI Singapura



**KESAKTIAN PANCASILA**  
1 Oct 2018, Sekolah Indonesia Singapura



**GARUDA TRAVEL FAIR**  
19th Oct 2018 Suntec City



**NUSA TENGGARA BARAT  
BUSINESS MEETING AT ITB  
ASIA 2018**  
18 Oct 2018, Marina Bay Sands  
Expo & Convention Centre



**10 NEW BALI BOOK LAUNCH**  
26 Oct 2018, Swissotel The Stamford





**33RD ASEAN SUMMIT VISIT***13-15th Nov 2018, Suntec City***PALU AND DONGGALA EARTHQUAKE & TSUNAMI DISASTER FUND RAISER***28th Oct 2018 Harley Davidson Singapore, Tampines Hub & KBRI Singapore***GOVERNOR BANK OF INDONESIA VISIT***5th Nov 2018, KBRI Singapore***UPACARA SUMPAH PEMUDA***29th Oct 2018  
Sekolah Indonesia  
Singapura*





**JAGA SAGA GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
24 to 25th Nov 2018, Batam



**SMART NATION CONFERENCE**  
28th Nov 2018, Bali



**BANDUNG BUSINESS MISSION**  
2 to 5th Dec 2018, Bandung



**LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF PAPUA VISIT  
(EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA)**  
4th Dec 2018, KBRI Singapura



**BATAM INTERNATIONAL CULTURE CARNIVAL**  
9th Dec 2018, Nagoya Batam







**JOYS OF CHRISTMAS  
CONCERT**  
9th Dec 2018, Cathedral of the  
Good Shepherd



**RISING DESIGN BAZAAR**  
21st Nov 2018, Empress Place



**DHARMA WANITA PERSATUAN (DWP)  
ANNIVERSARY**  
10th Dec 2018, Ambassador's Residence, KBRI Singapura





Garuda Indonesia inaugurated direct flights from Singapore to Belitung last October and invited IndoConnect to explore...

# The Best of Belitung

Text by Radhika Shukla  
Photos by Jenny Tan



(Photo spread): Sand Island



Lengkuas Island



Kepayang Island



Garuda Island



*Island hopping around the 200 small islands off Belitung's coastline offers the chance to relax on unspoiled beaches with minimal crowds, snorkel in the waters and experience the dense mangroves. Travelers will be lulled into the routine of climbing off and on their boat, jumping into the clear, gentle waves below and wading onto the nearest beach*

**K**nown in English as The Rainbow Troops, **Laskar Pelangi** is Andrea Hirata's famous novel, Indonesia's bestselling work of fiction that has been translated into over 20 languages. The inspirational story is set on the Indonesian island of Belitung in the Java Sea, and showcases its tin mining past, amid a backdrop of lush greenery, and pristine beaches studded with imposing granite boulders that lend an air of drama to the landscape. Although the story of one of hope and struggle against poverty, the beauty of the island lends a distinctly upbeat vibe to the book and subsequent movie.

Driving through the pleasantly uncrowded streets of Belitung, it is easy to see why it is tipped to be a promising destination for tourists from Singapore. The island is home to beautiful unspoiled beaches, unique culture, a great variety of delicious fresh seafood, and with several new resorts and development to come – now just an easy hour's direct flight from Singapore. The laid-back island vibe allows visitors to simply ease into a slower pace, spend a few days beach- and island-hopping while taking in the sights and sounds of the culture and food of the island.

The island's government is hoping to build its tourism sector to attract 55% more tourists annually, according to Evi Nardi (Head of Culture & Tourism for East Belitung). Currently, tourist arrivals stand at 200,000 annually, of which the bulk are from within Indonesia. With the advent of more direct flights and new resort options, Belitung now hopes to draw more visitors from China, Singapore, and Hong Kong.



Leebong Island



Tanjong Tinggi Beach

*Photos taken with LG flagship  
smartphone G7 + ThinQ*





(Top row from l to r): The Andrea Hirata Museum



Kaolin Lake



Peramun Hill boulders



Tj Kelayang Eco Beach Tent



Mangrove eco system at Sand Island

Island hopping around the 200 small islands off Belitung's coastline offers the chance to relax on unspoiled beaches with minimal crowds, snorkel in the waters and experience the dense mangroves. Travelers will be lulled into the routine of climbing off and on their boat, jumping into the clear, gentle waves below and wading onto the nearest beach.

The white talc powder sand of Belitung's **Sand Island**, Instagram-worthy photo opportunities abound for the social media savvy, with uninterrupted backdrops of the open sea, and swings and hammocks for those inclined to simply drift and relax.

The stunning private **Leebong Island** nearby allows for unique treehouse style accommodation, beautiful teakwood villas, or more rustic tents for larger groups. It offers a couple of laid-back dining and cafes set on secluded quiet beaches, serving up fresh caught seafood with a view. Visitors can curl up with a favorite read and enjoy the sound of the gentle waves in one of several gazebos dotted around the beaches, while children enjoy the simple pleasures of a playground in the sand. Leebong Island is a great option for a day trip from Belitung or for overnight stays for the jaded traveler looking for a Robinson Crusoe-style getaway.

**Lengkuas Island**, off Belitung's coast, houses a traditional Dutch lighthouse that dates back to 1882, where visitors may climb three floors up to enjoy a panoramic view of the clear green waters below.

The **Eco Beach Tent** resort by Billiton offers a refreshing new glamping experience for the traveler looking to experience a change from the usual resort. Eco-

friendly wooden tents on stilts provide a welcome respite from standard-issue resort rooms, and open out onto a stretch of secluded white sandy beach minus the crowd. Tents are air conditioned and well appointed, yet retain the rustic, close-to-nature feel that is a welcome break for the city dweller looking to get away from it all.

Belitung island is also home to the endangered tarsius monkey. These tiny nocturnal animals can be sighted amid the forested areas of the island – we were lucky enough to spot a few at the foot of the **Peramun Hill**. The Peramun hill is renowned in Belitung for its lush growth of medicinal herbs and plants and is an easy and fun climb for adults and children – the summit offers an uninterrupted view of the rich green landscape of Belitung.

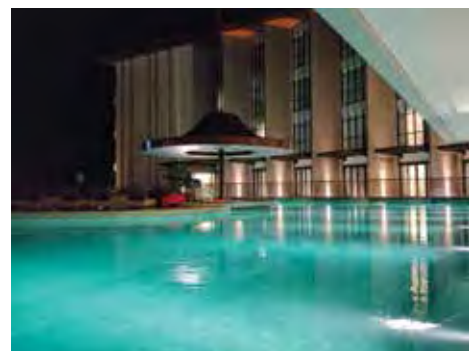
Tipped as one of Indonesia's 10 new alternatives to Bali, Belitung in the coming months and years will see exciting development aimed at boosting international tourism. The Sheraton group, for example, is due to open the doors to a new resort on the island in March 2019. With Belitung now conveniently accessible from Singapore, this will no doubt herald an exciting period for the development of tourism on Belitung – travelers would be well advised to watch this space for the year ahead!

**How to get there:** Indonesian flag carrier Garuda Indonesia operates a direct flight to Tanjung Pandan 4 times per week. This is a convenient direct flight, just 1 hour 30 mins in duration.

**Where to stay:** ★★★★★ Fairfield Inn by Marriott. An easy 30 minute drive from the airport



On Tj Kelayang Beach



Fairfield Inn by Marriott



PICTURE  
POST

# DRAGONS' LAIR



Get ready to delve into earth's deep antiquity with a tryst the stealthy, fork-tongued Komodo Dragons (right), the largest, heaviest lizards in the world. They can be found at Komodo National Park of East Nusa Tenggara. Just 11.3 km away is Ranko Cave (pictured above) in Labun Bajo. Both **Labuan Bajo & Komodo National Park of East Nusa Tenggara** have the potential to be as huge a success as a tourist attraction as Bali is, under the umbrella of the newly promoted 'The 10 New Bali'.



Get your copy of "The 10 New Bali" a superb 234-page photo book, put together with the help of a select group of highly talented photographers who visited 10 gorgeous places that are showcased in it for their many attractions.



For **The 10 New Bali** book sales enquiries:  
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Email: martinlukas@indonesiaphotogallery.com





# Overseas Family School



## ACADEMIC

- OFS maintains the highest academic standards
- Rigorous implementation of International Early Years Curriculum (IEYC), International Primary Curriculum (IPC), International Baccalaureate (IB) and IGCSE Curricula

## DIVERSITY

- Around 3000 students from more than 70 countries - no dominant culture
- Student-life is a rich cultural experience, unique among international schools in Singapore

## LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

- OFS offers a very wide range of languages to learn, from Kindergarten through to IB Diploma in Grade 12
- The OFS Study Preparation Program (SPP) allows rapid acquisition of English for students who need to learn or improve their English
- SPP is an intensive, highly successful and widely acclaimed program

## SPORTS & ECAs

- OFS promotes a huge array of sporting interests for all ages
- Our prime focus is to promote full involvement - all students, all ages
- There is a huge range of ECA clubs and activities at all levels

## ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

- Besides sports and ECAs, there is a separate Enrichment Program with a greater focus on individual teaching and coaching
- Classes include a wide range of skills from mother tongue to sports to music

## MOTHER TONGUE SUPPORT

- We offer Mother Tongue classes in 14 different languages from Pre-K2 through to Grade 5, for 4 periods per week
- Mother Tongue classes are integrated into the curriculum, and do not involve an extra fee
- The Mother Tongue languages that we offer are Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Norwegian, Russian, Spanish and Swedish

## CAMPUS

- All of our four schools, Kindergarten, Elementary, Middle and High School, are located on the same campus
- Since August 2015, all four schools operate from a stunning new campus

Overseas Family School is:

- authorised by the International Baccalaureate (IB), Geneva, Switzerland
- registered with Cambridge Assessment International Education, UK
- accredited K-12 by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), USA
- a Member School of International Early Years Curriculum (IEYC) registered with Fieldwork Education, UK
- a Member School of International Primary Curriculum (IPC) registered with Fieldwork Education, UK
- registered by the Committee for Private Education (CPE), Singapore
- [Registration No.: 199104269R (1/9/2015 - 31/8/2019)]
- EduTrust Certified [Certificate Number: EDU-2-2072 (Validity: 21/12/2015 - 20/12/2019)]

**For more information, contact:**

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Cert No.: EDU-2-2072  
 Validity: 21/12/2015 - 20/12/2019