

the
STORY BEHIND

Shedding Light

EXHIBITION

9 - 30 September 2015

The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre
Kerry Packer Civic Gallery

www.hawkecentre.unisa.edu.au

Acknowledgements

Jacinta Thompson Executive Director, The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre
Pat Rix Artistic Director / CEO, Tutti Arts

Exhibition

Artists from Tutti Visual Arts Studios (Adelaide) and Perspektif (Yogyakarta)

Curator: Patricia Wozniak

Installation: Patricia Wozniak, Melanie Fulton, Julian Tremayne, Kai Siller-Collins

With Thanks

Rosslyn von der Borch School of Humanities and Creative Arts Flinders University
Abby Witts School of Humanities and Creative Arts Flinders University
Kitty Sutcliffe School of Humanities and Creative Arts Flinders University
Chairani Anee School of Disability Studies and Community Inclusion, Flinders University

Assoc. Professor Anton Lucas School of International Studies, Flinders University

James Kurtze Co-Script Writer

Pavlos Soteriou Designer and Film Editor

Visual Arts Staff Tutti Arts

Volunteers Tutti Arts

Ross and Felicity Kurtze Touring Support

Moelyono Facilitator of Perspektif, Indonesia

Sri Hartaningsih Coordinator of Perspektif and disability activist, Indonesia

Tji Srikandi-Goodhart Australian Indonesian Association, SA

Ashleigh Cook Indonesian Language Student, Flinders University

Brooke Faulds Indonesian Language Student, Flinders University

Louise Carnell The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre

All exhibiting artists from Tutti and Perspektif
All Tutti Staff

Kerry Packer Civic Gallery

The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre

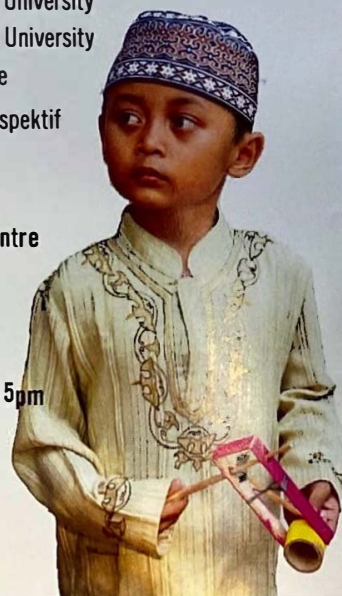
Level 3, Hawke Building

University of South Australia

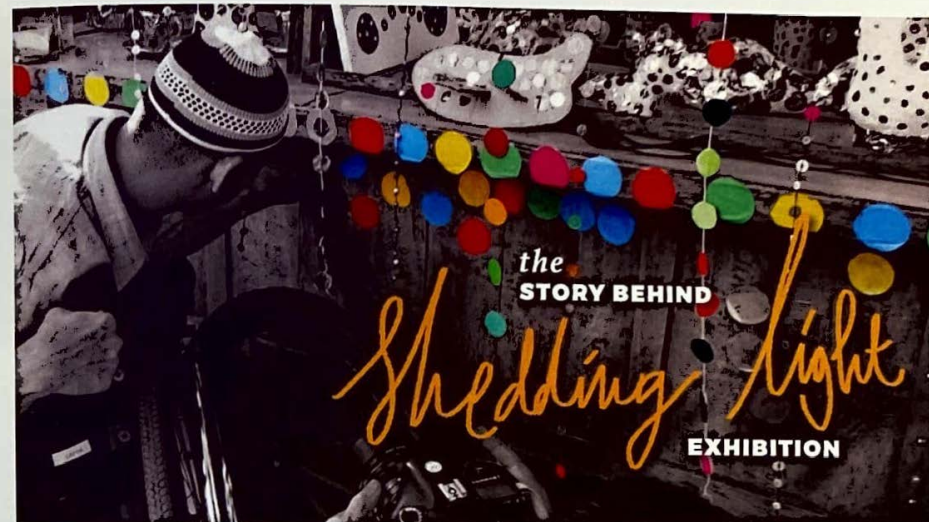
55 North Terrace Adelaide

Gallery open Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm

Late Thursdays until 7pm



Front cover art: 'Leopard and Kakilima', by Kurt Bosecke



Perspektif Exhibition, Yogyakarta, Indonesia, June 2015

The Story Behind Shedding Light is an exhibition of works that have been produced through a wonderful new collaboration between Adelaide's Tutti artists and a group of children and young people with disabilities in Yogyakarta. This collaboration has resulted in Shedding Light the performances and installations that are part of this year's OzAsia Festival.

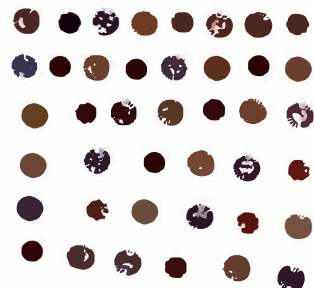
The story begins in 2013, with a residency at Tutti by Indonesian writer and disability activist Khairani Barokka. During her residency Tutti's visual artists began to explore and experiment with Indonesian themes and aesthetics in their work. The interest in Indonesia continued to grow after the residency ended. In April 2014 the Tutti choir and performing artists performed Indonesian songs at Adelaide's IndoFest and in June that year James Kurtze, Pat Rix and Patricia Wozniak from Tutti went to Yogyakarta for a visit that was facilitated by Rossi von der Borch and Abby Witts from Flinders University. During this visit

connections were made with disability activists and organisations, and with the prominent Indonesian visual artist Moelyono. Inspired by what Tutti has achieved for artists with disability in Adelaide, a small group of individuals, led by Moelyono, formed *Perspektif* in September that year. This fledgling group, with no funding, and without a fixed address, has met at least once a month since then, bringing children and young people with disabilities together to find their voices through art. The idea of people with disabilities having a voice, and of that voice being heard, is one that is only just beginning to take root in Indonesia. *Perspektif* is breaking new ground.

The artworks by *Perspektif* artists exhibited here have been created during workshops in which Moelyono has encouraged the participants to throw away the powerful and constraining ideas about 'right' and 'wrong' ways of making art, and instead to focus on finding their own authority in



'Batik Titik', by Surya, Perspektif artist



'Gold and Silver', by Hepi, Perspektif artist

self-expression. They have begun this journey at the point which is the starting place for all visual artworks: the dot.

The artworks by Tutti artists have been created over two years of learning about and creating artistic responses to Indonesia, exploring both common ground and points of difference. In the past year Tutti artists have communicated via Skype with artists with disabilities such as Andika Indra Saputra. Both Tutti and Perspektif have followed each other's progress towards Shedding Light through each other's Facebook groups. You can view these journeys by going to:

Tutti Visual Art Studio: <https://www.facebook.com/TuttiVisualArtsStudio>

Perspektif: <https://www.facebook.com/perspektif.yogyakarta?fref=ts>

The two short films in this exhibition document the evolution of the collaboration that has led to *Shedding Light*. James Kurtze's film traces what happened after Okka's residency in 2013 and during his first visit to Indonesia in 2014. James' extraordinary eye takes us through his search to find people with a disability like himself and the idea for *Shedding Light* which came from the experiences of James, Pat and Patricia in the crazy

neon-lit wonderland that is the Sultan's Square in Yogyakarta at night.

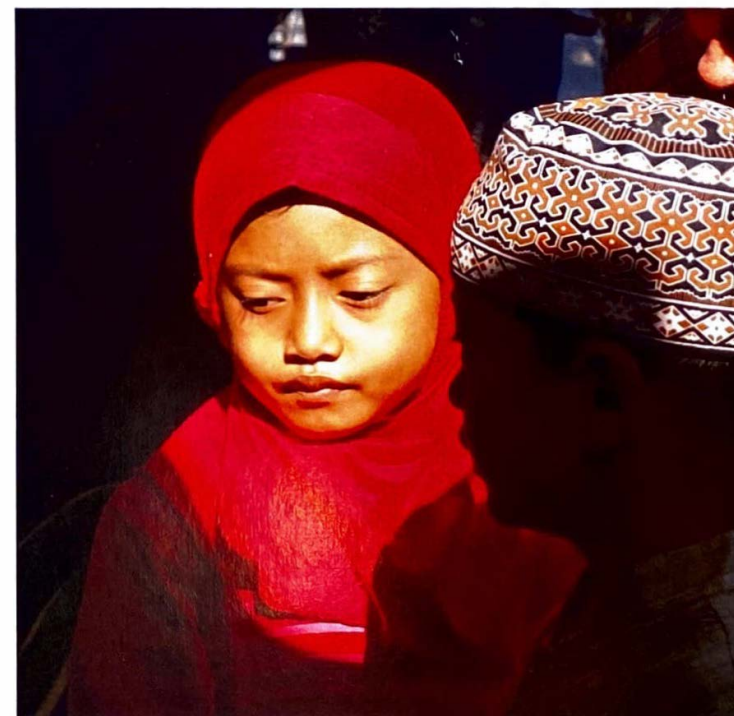
Perspektif's short film (made by Eko Urip Mulyanto) documents the group's journey to now through its workshops and two exhibitions. Interviews with some of the parents of children involved in Perspektif reveal the ways that whole families are seeing these children differently as a result.

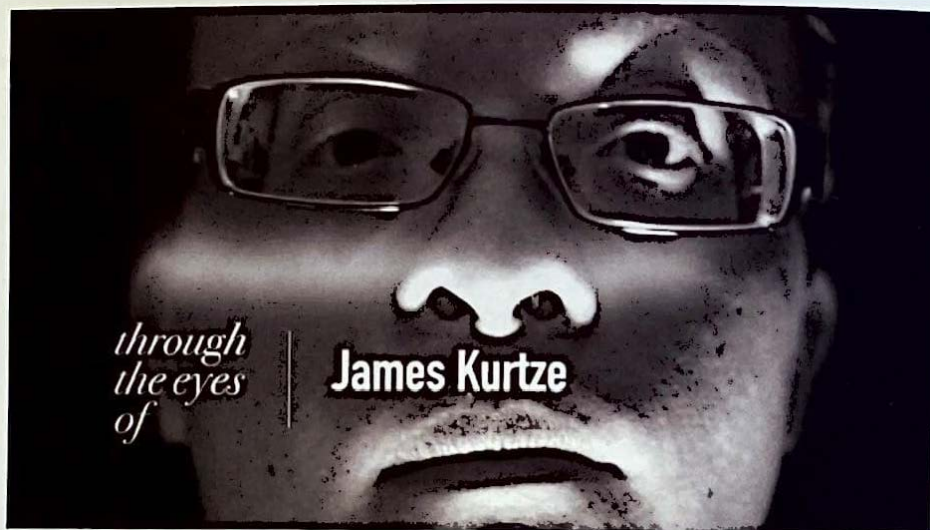
In a world where people with disabilities are still too often defined by their disability, art is a powerful tool for social change. In a world where deeper understanding and acceptance of each other across language and cultural differences is needed, everyone has a part to play. These artists with disabilities are taking their place in the grassroots people-to-people diplomacy that is a vital part of international understanding, through learning about each other and from each other. The sensory tree in this exhibition, a fusion of Australian native trees (wattles and eucalypts) with the majestic Indonesian banyan tree, is a symbol of this connection.

Pat Rix



Still from the film, 'The Story Behind Shedding Light' with Perspektif and Tutti artists





James Kurtze in the film, 'The Story Behind Shedding Light'

ABOUT THE PARTNERS

Founded in 1997, **Tutti** is a leading disability arts organisation based in Brighton South Australia where award-winning music and theatre, film, new media and installation art works are created by disabled artists for a growing local and international audience.

Tutti is characterised by an emphasis on participation, by its disability approach to decision-making and leadership, and by how diversity and inclusion run right through its work. People with disability are involved in all aspects of the organisation from board membership to programming, hiring and recruitment.

Perspektif is a visual arts community founded in 2014 by Indonesian visual artist Moelyono with a group of supporters – artists and activists.

Perspektif is Indonesia's first holistic visual arts program for children and young adults lacking educational opportunities. It aims to give children and young adults with disabilities the tools to speak in their own terms through art. It also supports parents in learning to see the potential of their children in a new way.

Artist Talk

Don't miss Point to Point: *The Story Behind Shedding Light* Artist Talk on Friday, Sept 25th 11am

This is a great opportunity to hear first-hand the different perspectives of self-identified disabled artists, cultural advisers and professional artists from **Tutti Arts** in Adelaide and **Perspektif**, a newly formed visual arts group for children and young people with disabilities in Yogyakarta.

Across age and cultural differences Art has become their language of choice and this artist talk, interpreted conventionally and in sign language for both languages will reveal the discovery of common ground and how both groups have begun to explore it through Art.

The panel discussion will be facilitated by Dr Rosslyn von der Borch from the School of Humanities and Creative Arts, Flinders University.

INDONESIAN SPEAKERS:

Laksmayshita Khanza Larasati Carita
(Performing and Visual artist)
Andika Indra Saputra (Perspektif Facilitator
and Visual artist)
Sri Hartaningsih (Journalist/Disability Activist)
Moelyono (Visual Artist & Founder of Perspektif)
Ramadhany Rahmi (Indonesian Sign
Language Interpreter)

AUSTRALIAN SPEAKERS:

James Kurtze (New Media Artist)
Scott Pyle (Visual Artist)
Kimberley Sellers (Visual Artist)
Patricia Wozniak (Visual Artist/ Curator)
Pat Rix (Artistic Director & Founder of Tutti Arts)



THE STORY BEHIND SHEDDING LIGHT

We take this opportunity to thank Jacinta Thompson for her support and encouragement of this long term project which furthers Tutti and the Hawke Centre's commitment to full access and equal opportunity as a fundamental human right for people with a disability worldwide. In doing so it claims a space for Disabled artists in the international arts conversation and illuminates the increasing global reach of disability culture.

Presented by:

The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre.

Partners include Tutti Arts, Flinders University, The Australian Indonesian Association of SA and Perspektif, Yogyakarta.

Tutti means 'everyone' and is an inclusive multi arts community with the vision of taking the work of Disabled Artists to the World.

www.tutti.org.au

MEDIA CONTACT AND CURATOR:

Patricia Wozniak

Visual Arts Coordinator

Tutti Arts

Phone: 0430 711 657

patricia.wozniak@tutti.org.au



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