

## **BIODATA ON SUDJANA KERTON (1922 – 1994)**

### **Profile**

Born in Bandung, West Java, Indonesia on 22 November 1922. Died on 6 April 1994 in Bandung at the age of 71.

### **Education and Career**

#### ***1940-1943***

Bandung. Worked in his own studio, painting portraits and still lifes. He was an autodidactic before and during the Japanese occupation. He participated in many group shows, at the time the young Indonesian painters came together for the first time, in the Keimin Bunka Sidosho Cultural Center, in Bandung and Jakarta.

#### ***1943***

Worked and studied with Dutch painters and instructors, such as Jos Pluimentz, Riesmulder, and Henk de Vos.

#### ***1944-1950***

Was active in art associations, participated actively in the revolution in Indonesia, drawing and painting war scenes. Worked on the "Patriot" newspaper under the editorship of Usmar Ismail as an artist-reporter, making documentary drawings and sketches of the events and activities during the revolution. In 1946 he became a Member of Pelukis Rakyat. Created sculptures from clay. His works showed his concern with the suffering of the common people. His success at these group shows gave him the opportunity to study abroad.

#### ***1950-1951***

Holland. Studied painting and sculpting.

Paris. Studied at the Academie de Grande Chaumiere.

#### ***1952-1955***

Traveled to the US and attended the Art Students League in New York City. Studied painting with Yaseo Kunoyoshi and graphics with Harry Sternberg and Will Barnet.

#### ***1962 - 1963***

Mexico City. Studied the technique of painting murals. He involved himself totally in painting and graphics.

#### ***1964 - 1965***

Spent five to six months traveling and gathering material in Indonesia for future artwork.

### **1966**

Received a commission to create a mural painting for the Indonesian Embassy in the Hague, Holland. Received an invitation to participate in the All-Asia Conference at the University of Indiana, Bloomington, where the theme was Asian Art.

### **1968-1973**

Became the owner of an Indonesian arts gallery in Mt. Kisco and North Salem, New York. Held classes in drawing, painting and batik. (Sudjana Galleries).

### **1976-1994**

Returned to live in Bandung, Indonesia and became active in painting and building/managing a gallery/studio on Dago Hill in the foothills of the volcano Mt. Tangkuban Prah. The paintings he made during this period show the typical lifestyle and culture of Indonesia, especially in West Java.

## **RECOGNITION**

### **1950**

Received two scholarships, one to study in the University of R. Tagore, India, and one to study in Amsterdam. He chose to study in Amsterdam, and was the first Indonesian artist to be sent to Europe through the Cultural Exchange Program.

### **1951**

Received two scholarships, one to study at the Institute of Contemporary Art in Washington, D.C., and one to study at the Arts Students League in New York. He chose to study at the Arts Students League.

### **1964**

Was invited to participate in a UNICEF competition, and his woodcut named "Homeward" was chosen as the work to be used for the UNICEF Christmas cards sold all over the world. He was the first Indonesian artist to be honored by UNICEF.

### **1970**

Accepted as a Lifetime Member of the Arts Students League.

### **1979**

Received an award from the Governor of West Java for his activities in social and humanitarian subjects (U.N.) and for his efforts in introducing the arts and culture of Indonesia to the world.

### **1999**

Received (posthumously) an award for outstanding work in art from the Minister of Education and Culture, the Republic of Indonesia.

## **COLLECTORS**

- The former President of R.I. Soekarno and Vice President, Defense Minister and Information Minister
- Stedelyke Museum, Amsterdam
- Mayor of Amsterdam.
- BULOG Office, Jakarta
- Indonesian Embassies in Den Haag and Moscow
- Singapore Art Museum, Singapore
- National Gallery of Indonesia
- Museum of Art and Ceramics, Jakarta
- Various individual private collectors in Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, the US, Germany, and the Netherlands
- Museum Pasifika, Nusa Dua, Bali
- Museum MACAN, Jakarta

## **GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

### **1942-1945**

Bandung. Group exhibition with revolutionary painters.

### **1946-1948**

- Tasikmalaya. Group exhibition to raise funds for the Red Cross.
- Solo. Painters of the Revolution.
- Jogjakarta. Sono Budoyo Museum.

### **1949**

Bandung. Societeit Concordia by St. Lucas Guild.

### **1950**

Jakarta. Harmonie Building.

### **1951**

Amsterdam. Moederne Boekhandel.

Gedung Sticusa.

### **1951**

- U.S.A. Moving exhibition featuring Indonesian artists.
- Major cities in U.S.A., Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, National Arts Club, N.Y.C., and others.

### **1955-1960**

- Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

- Hunterdon Museum, New Jersey.
- Westport Gallery, Westport, Conn.

***December 1981***

Bandung. Arts Exhibition, "My Bandung," sponsored by Bandung City.

***November 1982***

Jakarta. Arts Auction, Mitra Budaya.

***September 1983***

Bandung. Exhibition sponsored by Branschwieg, Germany.

***November 1983***

Jakarta. Arts Auction, Mitra Budaya Cultural Center.

***December 1983***

Bandung. "Exhibition of 12 Painters," French Cultural Center.

***January 1984***

Bandung. Arts Group "Black and White" sponsored by Bandung Journalists Association.

***April 1985***

Bandung. "1985 Arts Exhibition."

***August 1985***

Jakarta. "Exhibition of Indonesian Products," sponsored by the Indonesian government.

***1986***

Jakarta. Exhibition of 50 Painters, TIM.

***1987***

Jakarta. Exhibition of Indonesian Painters by the Department of Education & Culture.

***1989***

Jakarta. International Rotary Exhibition, Hotel Borobudur.

***1989***

Jakarta. Group exhibition, at TIM.

***1990***

Jakarta. Group exhibition at Red and White Gallery.

**1990-1991**

United States. KIAS Exhibition.

**April 1993**

Holland. Indonesian Modern Art, at Oude Kerk, Amsterdam.

**September 1993**

Australia. Asia - Pacific Triennale of Contemporary Art Exhibition, Queensland Art Gallery.

**October 1994**

Jakarta. International Fine Arts Exhibition, at Hotel Shangrila.

**May - June 1995**

Bogor, West Java. Bogor City Exhibition. Struggle for Independence.

**May - July 1995**

Bandung. Group exhibition of senior artists in Bandung Gallery.

**July 1998**

Bandung. Group exhibition at Standard Chartered Bank, as held by Gallery Hidayat.

**2000**

Jakarta. Participated in a group exhibition of Indonesian graphics/prints at Bentara Budaya.

**February - May 2002**

Bandung. Participated in a group exhibition titled "Cakrawala Asali #001," in GaleriKita.

**July - August 2004**

Exhibition, "A Separate History: Sudjana Kerton in Modern Indonesian Art," at Sanggar Luhur Studio-Gallery, Bandung.

**SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

**May 1960**

New York City. Monede Gallery, 929 Madison Avenue.

**1964**

Brooklyn Heights. Hicks Street Gallery.

**1965**

Amsterdam. Tropisch Museum.

**1975**

Valhalla, N.Y. Library of Westchester Community College.

**October 1980**

Jakarta. Exhibition at Taman Ismail Marzuki, sponsored by Jakarta Arts Council.

**April 1984**

Jakarta. Balai Budaya Gallery.

**July 1985**

Jakarta. Sponsored by Jakarta Arts Council, Taman Ismail Marzuki.

**1988**

Jakarta. Erasmus Huis.

**1996**

Restrospective exhibition at Gedung Seni Rupa Depdikbud, Jakarta, "Nationalism and its Transformation."

**1999**

Exhibition of sketches and graphics at Museum Benteng Vredeburg, Yogyakarta, titled "The Revolution & Evolution of Sudjana Kerton."

**2000**

Exhibition of selected works at the residence of the Mexican Ambassador in Jakarta.

**2001**

Exhibition, "Sudjana Kerton's Anatomy of an Oplet", at Galeri Cemara 6, Jakarta.

**September - October 2002**

Exhibition, "Sudjana Kerton the Artist: A Traveler between Two Worlds," at Ganesha Gallery, Bali.