

PRESS RELEASE

27 MAY 2023

**ROH presents *murmur*, a group exhibition presenting the works of multidisciplinary artists from different parts of Asia — Thailand, the Philippines, Hong Kong, and Indonesia — in conversation with each other.**

**Jakarta, May 2022** – ROH is pleased to present *murmur*, an exhibition that considers the relationship and transformation between words and their corresponding etymologies, ideas, images, and form, in a discrete cycle. The show presents the works of multidisciplinary artists from different parts of Asia — Thailand, the Philippines, Hong Kong, and Indonesia — in a dialogue that ponders on these transitive sequences. Time and memory make up the important aspects of the show, in relation to history, the past and the present. The term *murmur* is considered as onomatopoeic, a word that phonetically resembles the sound it creates. In some ways this distinct linguistic quality provides a framework to understand the exhibition further.

In the Indonesian language, the word *mur* is used to define a hexagonal nut often paired with a screw or bolt to fasten up multiple parts that compose a machine or a system. Interestingly, when the word *mur* is repeated twice, with a hyphen in the middle in the Indonesian grammar, *mur-mur* becomes the plural version of itself. Through its utilitarian and linguistic clues, the two possibilities of deciphering the show aims to better understand what the artists attempt to say in their works, as well as emerging dialogues between one another. There is an aspect of bringing to form things that may be inherently formless and indescribable through words, and a notion of looking at an artwork the way we look at a word in multiple languages. As words and sounds travel among speakers of differing linguistics and geographical origins, an artwork therefore always carries within it simultaneous layers of contexts and meanings.

*murmur* includes works by Agung Kurniawan (b. 1968, Jember, Indonesia), Aracha Cholitgul (b. 1988 Bangkok, Thailand), Bagus Pandega (b. 1985, Jakarta, Indonesia), Banny Jayanata (b. 1983, Surabaya, Indonesia), Dusadee Huntrakul (b. 1978, Bangkok, Thailand), Faisal Habibi (b. 1984, Jakarta, Indonesia), Gary-Ross Pastrana (b. 1977, Manila, Philippines), Nadya Jiwa (b. 1994, Braunschweig, Germany), Pratchaya Phinthong (b. 1974 in Ubon Ratchathani, Thailand), Tromarama (art collective formed in 2006), and Tsang Kin-Wah (b. 1976, Shantou, China). The exhibition is open by invitation on 27 May and to the public starting from 2 to 25 June 2023. Visit the gallery's official website [www.rohprojects.net](http://www.rohprojects.net) and follow the gallery's Instagram account [@rohprojects](https://www.instagram.com/rohprojects) or reach out to [info@rohprojects.net](mailto:info@rohprojects.net) for further updates on operational hours and announcements of public programs.

**ROH**

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ROH is a gallery initiated in 2014 that aims to serve the Indonesian art ecosystem by building a consistent local program, while simultaneously fostering a broader, borderless dialogue. ROH has played a more nomadic role in the past couple of years while building its new permanent space, exploring unconventional presentations for artists in dynamic temporal settings and situations. In 2022, ROH has moved into its new permanent space in Jalan Surabaya 66, Jakarta, carefully reconsidering a colonial mid-century house into a flexible space for contemporary art.

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For further information, please reach out to [info@rohprojects.net](mailto:info@rohprojects.net).

Wednesday - Friday, 13:00 - 19:00

Saturday - Sunday, 11:00 - 19:00

Closed Monday, Tuesday and public holiday

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