







Conversation - 4

Relationship Building:

New Ways Forward in The Visual Arts Sectors of
Indonesia and Australia



PENNY BURTT

Penny Burtt is the Group CEO of Asialink, Australia's leading centre for creative engagement with Asia hosted by the University of Melbourne. She joined Asialink from global payments company Visa, where she served as Vice President, Government Affairs, Asia Pacific. Prior to Visa, Penny led External Relations and Client Service Risk for the Asia Pacific with McKinsey & Company. Penny is a former diplomat and represented Australia at a senior level in Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia, and at the United Nations in Geneva and New York as well as serving as an Adviser to the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs. Burtt has volunteered with and served on the boards of non-government organisations in Asia, the U.S. and Australia. Penny was on the Board of the Substation, an independent arts centre in Singapore for 7 years, as well as serving as a governor of the Singapore Institute of International Relations and BoardAgender, Singapore's women's board advocacy organisation. She is currently an advisor to the Australia-ASEAN Strategic Youth Dialogue and the Asian Business Trade Association.



HIKMAT DARMAWAN

Hikmat Darmawan is the Vice President of Jakarta Arts Council (Dewan Kesenian Jakarta), an autonomous body endorsed and funded by the province of Jakarta whose role is to formulate policies for supporting and developing cultural activities in Jakarta. He is also a film and literature critic since the 1990s for various national media, including Tempo, Kompas and Republika. He is one of the founders of Pabrikultur, which alongside Mizan Group, initiated the Madani International Film Festival in 2018. He is also a comic curator, with some of his projects including London Book Fair (2019), Europalia Indonesia-Belgia (2017) and Frankfurt Book Fair (2015). He is one of the recipients of the National Books Committee (Komite Buku National) residency program in London (2018) and Asia Public Intellectual Nippon Foundation program with a research focus on the globalisation of manga subculture in Japan, Thailand and Indonesia in 2010.



ELENA WILLIAMS

Elena Williams is an international education and development practitioner with over ten years' experience in Indonesia. Williams is currently undertaking doctoral studies at The Australian National University examining the impact of study abroad programs on Australia-Indonesia relationship building and public diplomacy. Between 2013 - 2017 she served as the Indonesia-based Resident Director for The Australian Consortium for 'In-Country' Indonesian Studies (ACICIS), and since then has held roles with The University of Melbourne, The Victorian Department of Education and AFS Australia advising on learning abroad in Indonesia. Williams holds a Masters of Applied Anthropology & Participatory Development from The ANU and BA Honours in Indonesian Studies from The University of Sydney, and is passionate about building intercultural literacy, leading diverse and multicultural teams, and working with government, non-government and university partners to build better relationships between Australia and Indonesia. Williams is a board member with DFAT's Australia-Indonesia Institute, supports the Asia Education Foundation's 'Go Global' program as an Indonesian language ambassador, and serves as a mentor and advisor with a range of organisations, including: ACICIS, The Australia-Indonesia Youth Association (AIYA), The Conference of Australian and Indonesian Youth (CAUSINDY), and The University of Sydney.



CHLOÉ WOLIFSON

Chloé Wolifson is a Sydney-based freelance writer, researcher, and curator. She is a contributor to the Sydney Morning Herald, has written about exhibitions and art fairs across Australia and the Asia-Pacific for many Australian and international publications, and is a regular author of catalogue essays for artists and galleries. Wolifson has curated numerous exhibitions and public programs in independent, artist-run and commercial spaces, and has extensive experience in arts administration and management, including working at Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney from 2005 to 2013, and as a board member of Runway Australian Experimental Art Journal from 2013 to 2015. Wolifson holds a Bachelor of Art Theory (Hons) and Master of Art Administration (UNSW).