

International Journal of Indonesian Studies

[ISSN 2203-4692](https://doi.org/10.24090/ijis.v1i2.1234)

Volume 1, Issue 2, Autumn 2015

“Joko Widodo”
(acrylic on 50x70cm canvas, 2014).

Dewi Candraningrum



When I painted Joko Widodo

The portrait I painted of Joko Widodo in August 2014 was to open the story of resistance toward a general involved in the 1998 student shootings. I painted two portraits of Wiji Thukul the previous month. 1998's history and the massive sexual attack on Indonesian Chinese women have been denounced from official records and documents. History is written by the victors, and (her)story is written on muted walls. The politics of memory, *Gesichtspolitik*, has never occupied a central place in our self-understanding of national history. Poetry is a measure, an attempt, an attest, that goes beyond a genocide memorial—a national monument to victims of past conflict, mass-rape, land-grab and massive angst under the repressive Authoritarian New Order regime. Hopes for Joko Widodo are dim at present with the weakening-function of KPK under his patronage. Colors in the portrait are intended to exhibit a poetic voicelessness. *Gesichtspolitik* is meant to give voice to those who are being disremembered. Painting addresses the role of politics in shaping collective memory. They connect the construction of identity and monuments to justice (Surakarta, 24 February 2015).

Contents

From the Editor

<i>Yacinta Kurniasih</i>	3
--------------------------------	---

RESEARCH ARTICLES

Indonesia's Foreign Politics 1955-1965: Between decolonisation and beacon politics

Haryo Kunto Wibisono, S.AP, M.AP	4
--	---

Homosexuality in Indonesia: Banality, Prohibition, and Migration

Wisnu Adihartono	18
------------------------	----

The Fiqh Paradigm and the Religious Justification for the Secular State: The Traditionalist Muslims and the Dutch Colonial Rulers

Saefur Rochmat	33
----------------------	----

Politeness: Front Counter Staff in "X" Mini Market

Mitha Dwi Djayanti & Ribut Wahyudi	51
--	----

Indonesian and Translation: National Identity in the Global Border Contests

Elisabet Titik Murtisari	70
--------------------------------	----

Instructional Leadership Practices of the Excellent School Principals in Aceh, Indonesia: Managing the Instructional Program

Syarwan Ahmad & Maznah Hussain	81
--------------------------------------	----

Diffusing Consumerism in Indonesia:

A study on the Yogyakarta Consumer Institute (YCI)

Abdul Rohman	96
--------------------	----

Promoting Intellectual Property Securitization for Financing Creative Industry in Indonesia: Challenges and Solutions

Mas Rahmah, S.H., M.H., LL.M.	110
------------------------------------	-----

***Pesantren Literature* as a Form of Ideological Discourse Countering Communism:**

The Representation of Communist Figures in Ahmad Tohari's *Kubah*

Muhammad Taufiqurrohman	128
-------------------------------	-----

The Role of Community Solid Waste Management in Achieving a Sustainable Final Disposal Site, Yogyakarta

Widodo Brontowiyono	141
---------------------------	-----

ESSAYS

UIN Jakarta: Islam and the West, Democracy and Education:

Usep Abdul Matin	148
------------------------	-----



From the Editor:

To Whom It May Concern

I am a daughter of Indonesian history and I believe in 1965

(A poem by Yacinta Kurniasih, September 2014)

The International Journal of Indonesian Studies [IJIS] is proud to present its Autumn Issue, 2015. It has been a long-learning process for all of us in the IJIS Coordinating Editorial Board, since we launched our inaugural edition in November 2013. We are grateful for everyone's patience as our "baby" overcomes the first and admittedly faltering steps in its development. There are of course many people to thank. We thank firstly our contributors who are mostly early career researchers, Phd students, and even 'first timers' to publish their work in English. We also thank our reviewers, without whom we could not begin to consolidate the academic credentials and integrity of IJIS.

The Autumn Issue again presents a variety of subjects in the field of contemporary Indonesian Studies: political history, linguistics, Islam and democracy, gay issues, the environment, education, intellectual property securitization, consumerism and literary and translation studies. We are particularly proud to present the study of the 'gay Indonesian migrant', as we feel it is an important, rare and encouraging contribution to a fairly marginalized discourse. And, congratulations to all contributors for whom English may well be their second, third and sometimes even fourth language. We are again very appreciative of the artistic contribution made by **Dewi Candraningrum**.

The basic philosophy of IJIS remains its commitment to promoting and helping disseminate new Indonesian scholarship especially from early career researchers and/or Indonesian scholars seeking opportunities to publish in English in a peer-reviewed journal. Again, we sincerely welcome your submissions and ask potential contributors **to closely adhere to the IJIS formatting guidelines**. We have had to 'indulge' some variations in formatting, citation and referencing techniques for this second issue and we trust our readership will be patient with us and our contributors as this element of IJIS is more stringently addressed in forthcoming issues.

We are very pleased to welcome Dr Howard Manns (Monash University) and Dr Elisabet Titik Murtisari (Satya Wacana University) as members of the IJIS Coordinating Editorial Board. Finally, we ask for your support firstly in disseminating news of IJIS's Autumn Issue through your networks; second, in constructive critique of this collaborative project; third, and most importantly, contributing **your** work for publication in future issues.

Ms Yacinta Kurniasih, Dr Matthew Piscioneri, Dr. Roby Marlina and Dr. Baiq Wardhani

Again, we especially thank the reviewers of the papers included in the Autumn issue of IJIS. You know who you are and we invite expressions of interest from others in reviewing for IJIS.

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Special Acknowledgements:

Elisabet Murtisari

Howard Manns

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