

PRESS RELEASE

"THE CIRCUS OF LIFE"

A solo exhibition by **Taher Jaoui**

Press Conference Invitation:

11 September 2020 (3 PM – 4 PM)

**(Please confirm through the RSVP
link provided)**

Exhibition Duration and Venue:

11 September – 11 October 2020

Tuesday – Sunday

(12 PM – 7 PM)

Tirtodipuran Link

Tirtodipuran St. No. 50
Yogyakarta, Indonesia



Exhibition Summary:

- **Srisasanti Syndicate art gallery** is pleased to announce the exhibition by **Taher Jaoui (French Abstract Expressionism artist)**, titled **"The Circus of Life"**;
- This is **Taher Jaoui's first solo exhibition in Indonesia**;
- The title-theme of this exhibition is **inspired by circus**; whereas circus in this context serves as **an analogy to the way Taher sees, feels and responds to how his world works**. He realizes that **the unexpected will keep on happening**, but **the slight point of optimism will manage to sneak in among despair or feeling of uncertainty**, just like how Taher has managed to endure through the crisis of COVID-19
- The theme-title of this show (The Circus of Life)
- The exhibition will showcase **10 new artworks** shown for the first time, which also include **an immense 2 x 4-meter painting**;
- The exhibition will follow **COVID-19 preventive measures** for the safety of visitors and all parties involved (detailed protocols listed on the last page);
- This exhibition is **open for public (free entry)** and runs for **1 month (11 September to 11 October 2020)** at **Tirtodipuran Link** (Tirtodipuran St. No. 50, Yogyakarta, Indonesia).

Exhibition Description:

Srisasanti Syndicate is pleased to announce the first solo exhibition of French artist Taher Jaoui in Indonesia. On view at Tirtodipuran Link from 11 September to 11 October 2020, the exhibition will showcase 10 new works shown for the first time.

The Circus of Life, the title and the theme of the exhibition, was inspired by the circus itself where the performance underlying beauty comes from the element of surprise. Even though people often knew what will eventually happen, the attractive movement and high speed with the seemingly fragile equipment at the show compels the audience to be speculative on the unfavourable events that could happen. The circus is an analogy representing the way Taher sees, feels and responds to how his world works. He realizes that the unexpected will keep on happening, but the slight point of optimism will manage to sneak in among despair or feeling of uncertainty, just like how Taher has managed to endure through the crisis of COVID-19.

In this series of new works, Taher has managed to put his feelings, emotions, intuition, and senses in balance to respond to things happening at his surroundings and turned it into dynamic strokes of lines and colors on the canvas. His lines are full of surprises, where we as the audience will ponder on guessing where one line begins and another ends.

Currently based in Madrid, Taher Jaoui paintings are rich assemblages of layered forms, vibrant colors, expressive gestures, mathematical signs and formulas. He creates work with an idea of continuing the legacy of abstract expressionism movement from the 50s and 60s, while subsequently inspired by African primitive art and graffiti. He works by combining and layering spray paint, charcoal, chalk, oils and acrylics paint on raw canvas.

In parallel with the exhibition, Kohesi Initiative will also present CONFLUENCE, a group exhibition with the theme of appreciation of artists from various backgrounds and identities that will showcase the works of Ivan Sagita, Moelyono, Abenk Alter and Alfredo Esquillo Jr.

Artist's Most Recent Curriculum Vitae:

TAHER JAQOI

Born in Tunisia, 1978

Works and lives in Madrid, Spain

Education: 2007, Paris Sorbonne University

Selected Exhibitions:

Solo Show: The Circus of Life, Srisasanti Syndicate, Yogyakarta; Indonesia, September 2020 | Galerie 81 Leonard, New York, February 2020 | Immersive Expression with Mykhailo Deyak, Mandarin Maison Gallery, Kyiv, Ukraine, March 2020 | Eternity Gallery with George Morton Clark Eternity Gallery, Paris, France, April 2020 | Jinsan Gallery, Seoul, Korea, January 2019 | Impossible Until it is Done with Pokras Lampas, Opera Gallery, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, April 2019 | Graham Modern and Contemporary Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa, May 2019 | Opera Gallery with George Morton Clark, Opera Gallery, Hong Kong, July 2019 | Galerie Kremers, Berlin, September 2019

Art Fairs: Art Central Hong Kong, One Four Gallery, Hong Kong, March 2020 | Architectural Digest Show, Uncommon Beauty Gallery, New York, USA, April 2019 | Fresh Paint Art Fair, Mika Gallery, Tel Aviv, Israel, May 2019 | Busan Art Fair, Uncommon Beauty Gallery, New York, USA, June 2019 | Art Jakarta; Srisasanti Syndicate, Jakarta, July 2019 | Beirut Art Fair, Banzy art Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon, September 2019 | Art Market Budapest, Galerie Kremers, Berlin, Germany, October 2019 | Art Expo Malaysia, Srisasanti Syndicate, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, October 2019 | CONTEXT Miami Art Fair, Oliver Cole, Miami; USA, December 2019 | CONTEXT Miami art Fair, Oliver Cole, Miami; USA, December 2018 | Aqua art Fair, Uncommon Beauty Gallery, Miami, USA, December 2018.

Group Exhibition: Group Show, Opera Gallery, New York; USA, February 2020 | Dystopia, Banzy Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon, February 2019 | An Atlantic Bridge BERLIN - USA, Galerie Kremers, Berlin, Germany, May 2019 | Works on paper III, Galerie Kremers, Berlin, Germany, May 2019 | Celebration of Compassion, Srisasanti Syndicate, Yogyakarta; Indonesia, July 2019 | Opera Gallery, Dubai, UAE, March 2018 | Oliver Cole Gallery, Miami, USA, September

Gallery Profile:

Srisasanti Syndicate is a Yogyakarta based art gallery that was established by ST. Eddy Prakoso with one main aim; to “Initiate Global Appreciation” by consistently presenting artworks of exciting visual artists through annual in-house programs in their home base (Tirtodipuran Link) and participation in various international art fairs. It also initiates routine collaborative show programs with partner galleries from Singapore, the Philippines, Malaysia, Australia and the United States of America.

The gallery focuses its attention in the presentation of established artists and housing of various non-exhibition programs, which ranges from book publishing to artist residency project. The group represents and routinely collaborates with numerous household names of the contemporary art scene, such as Alfredo Esquillo Jr. (b. 1972), Heri Dono (b. 1960), Ronald Manullang (b. 1954) and Taher Jaoui (b. 1978).

Moreover, Srisasanti Syndicate also partners with talented emerging artists through a mutually beneficial art management program. The gallery works side by side with artists on a long-term perspective; enhancing the artists’ portfolio by providing continuous opportunities to have their works and ideas presented in both exhibition and non-exhibition format.

The presentations of Srisasanti Syndicate’s roster of prodigies are being undertaken by its junior gallery, Kohesi Initiatives. Several exciting names have participated in the past, and some are even still participating in the art management program. To name few, there are Atreyu Moniaga (b. 1988), Bob Sick Yudhita Agung (b. 1971), Galih Reza Suseno (b. 1990), Gatot Indrajati (b. 1980), Roby Dwi Antono (b. 1990), Suroso Isur (b. 1983) and Valdo Manullang (b. 1990).

Inquiries:

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 @srisasanti.syndicate

Website:

www.srisasanti.com

Attachment: Some of the exhibit artworks:



THE SINGING WHALES · 2020 · mixed media on canvas · 200 x 200 cm



DOUBLE TRAPEZE · 2020 · mixed media on canvas · 180 x 180 cm



SWORD SWALLOWERS · 2020 · mixed media on canvas · 200 x 200 cm



A TIGER IN FLAMING HOOPS · 2020 · mixed media on canvas · 200 x 400 cm

COVID-19 Preventive Measures for THE CIRCUS OF LIFE:

- Temperature check upon arrival
Visitors with body temperature over 37.7 °C will not be allowed to enter the gallery space and told to immediately contact health authorities.
- Handwash/sanitizer stations available around the gallery space
Visitors will be directed to wash their hands upon arrival.
- Limiting the number of visitors into 20 per time
Visitors will be asked to give contact details before or upon arrival.
- Wear a face mask at all times
Visitors will have to wear face protection at all times when in gallery space.
- Keep a safe distance from other people
Visitors will have to maintain a 2-meter safe distance between other visitors and gallery sitters.
- Provide Employees with standard operation protocol for COVID-19
Educate employees about how they can reduce the spread of COVID-19 by social distancing and avoiding using other employees' phones, desks, offices, or other work tools and equipment, when possible.
- Nearby emergency hospital: Rumah Sakit Pratama (2.2 KM), Rumah Sakit Wirosaban (2.4 KM)
Having emergency contact with nearby health authorities if unwanted circumstances ever arrive.