

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Asialink brings NT/Eastern Indonesian collaboration to the Darwin Festival

Ta Teut Amarasi - Awakening

A visual arts exhibition of contemporary prints and traditional textiles

15 to 31 August

6-10 pm daily, Wesleyan Church, George Brown Botanic Gardens, Darwin

Opening celebration: 6pm Sunday 24 August

Artists' forum: 5.30pm Monday 25 August, Wesleyan Church, George Brown Botanic Gardens, Darwin

A visual arts exhibition of traditional Indonesian hand-woven textiles and contemporary prints on hand-made paper will be showcased at the Darwin Festival in August in **Ta Teut Amarasi-Awakening**. The exhibition is the outcome of an ongoing artistic collaboration between Darwin artists and *Sanggar Uim Nima*, an Indonesian weaving collective.

In 2007, Darwin artists, Winsome Jobling and Leon Stainer, travelled to Baun, Amarasi, in West Timor to introduce fine art print and paper-making techniques to *Sanggar Uim Nima*. Local plant crops including grasses and banana trees were utilised for papermaking, while the community learnt print-making techniques including linocut and copper engraving.

From the workshops a series of limited edition prints has been produced. These prints, which employ motifs and imagery used in *Sanggar Uim Nima*'s textile work, will be exhibited as part of **Ta Teut Amarasi - Awakening** along with a range of the community's traditional textiles.

Winsome Jobling has been working as a paper-maker in Darwin for over twenty years, experimenting with native and exotic local plants as fibre sources, while Leon Stainer, originally from Tasmania, has been working as a printmaker in the Northern Territory since 1993.

This project has been made possible through Asialink Arts' **Eastern Indonesia – Northern Territory Partnership**, a program that brings together arts practitioners currently working with and in remote communities to develop strategies to encourage the transmission of traditional culture to future generations. Through the program Asialink aims to foster the creation of regional, national and international networks and markets that will provide long-term support for the communities involved and promote confidence and pride in their artistic traditions.

Sarah Robins from Asialink says, '*Ta Teut Amarasi is the result of cultural exchange conducted in Eastern Indonesia over the past two years. We're thrilled to have this exhibition included in the Darwin Festival, and believe the relationships established through this program have enormous long-term potential for the artists involved.*'

Ta Teut Amarasi-Awakening is funded by The Ford Foundation, Jakarta and Arts NT and produced by Asialink in partnership with Yayasan Kelola, Charles Darwin University, the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Nomad Art Productions and the Darwin Festival.

Asialink Arts' pilot Eastern Indonesia - Northern Territory Partnership Program commenced in 2006.

For more information regarding this Media Release please call

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