

## NEWS RELEASE

### **UOB Indonesia invites emerging and established artists to draw on their artistic talents for the UOB Painting of the Year competition**

**Jakarta, 14 June 2016** – PT Bank UOB Indonesia (UOBI) is inviting Indonesia’s emerging and established artists to pour out their passion onto canvas and enter the 6<sup>th</sup> UOB Painting of the Year competition. The annual competition exemplifies UOBI’s long-term support of the art community.

Mr Kevin Lam, President Director, UOBI, said that at its most fundamental level, art touches the senses and draws the beholder into a relationship, thereby enabling a richer appreciation of art.

“UOBI hopes to raise awareness of how art can be more fully experienced by highlighting the importance of sensibility or how the audience can be moved and inspired by it. The UOB Painting of the Year competition also enables us to deepen the relationship of art with the community as we continue to encourage the enterprising spirit and creative mind of artists in Indonesia” said Mr Lam.

The judges of this year’s UOB Painting of the Year competition in Indonesia are: Dr Agung Hujatnikajennong, a lecturer in the Faculty of Arts and Design at the Bandung Institute of Technology; Mr Kuss Indarto, Art Curator and well known art writer; and Mr Heri Dono, one of Indonesia’s most recognised contemporary artist internationally.

In conjunction with the launch of this year’s competition, UOBI is presenting an art talk on the importance of sensibility in art and how the competition will impact the development of the art scene in Indonesia, in the city of Yogyakarta with key speakers such as

Mr Kuss Indarto, one of the UOB Painting of the Year, Indonesia judges and Mr Suwarno Wisetrotomo, art curator and academician<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Event will be held at Gallery RJ Katamsi, Indonesia Institute of Art, Yogyakarta, on Friday, 17 June 2016 from 3pm. Admission is free and open to public.

UOBI will also be showcasing 12 paintings from Indonesian winners of the competition over the past five years in the established and emerging category. The exhibition will include paintings by Indonesian artists who won the coveted regional UOB Southeast Asian Painting of the Year award, such as *“The Hymn of School”* by Y. Indra Wahyu, *“Old Stock Fresh Menu”* by Antonius Subiyanto and *“Exploitation of Fish”* by Anggar Prasetyo<sup>2</sup>.

A similar art talk and exhibition of the 12 paintings from Indonesian winners of the competition will also be held in Bandung, with Dr Agung Hujatnikajennong, one of the competition judges, as the key speaker<sup>3</sup>.

Mr Kuss Indarto, hopes the exhibition of the UOBI winning artworks in Yogyakarta and Bandung will inspire artists in both cities to produce more creative and high quality paintings and continue the legacy of winning artworks from Indonesia.

“The UOB Painting of the Year competition challenges Indonesian artists with higher standards and serves as a stepping stone to the international stage. Most of its past regional winners and finalists have been invited to exhibit their paintings overseas. This competition also elevates Indonesian art with the quality of craftsmanship improving every year.” said Mr. Indarto.

UOBI has chosen the cities of Yogyakarta and Bandung for the art talks and exhibitions as they play a dominant role in shaping the Indonesian art landscape. Yogyakarta has a vibrant artist community and attracts many artists from all over Indonesia, while Bandung serves as an avenue for modern art with many budding Indonesian artists enriching the art scene and gaining recognition.

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<sup>2</sup> UOB Painting of the Year exhibition of winners from 2011 to 2015 will be held at Gallery RJ Katamsi, Indonesia Institute of Art, Yogyakarta, On 17 - 24 June 2016 from 8am - 3pm. Admission is free and open to public.

<sup>3</sup> Art talk and UOB Painting of the Year exhibition of winners from 2011 to 2015 will be held at Sarasvati Art House, Jl. Jendral Sudirman, Bandung. Art talk will take place on 28 June 2016 at 3pm, and the UOB Painting of the Year exhibition will start from 28 June – 5 May from 9am – 7pm. Admission to the art talk and exhibition are free and open to public.

## **About UOB and art**

UOB started its annual UOB Painting of the Year competition in Singapore in 1982 and has since extended it to Thailand in 2010 and then Indonesia and Malaysia in 2011. Over the years, the competition has helped to discover and nurture emerging artists and encouraged established artists to push their creative boundaries.

The winner of the UOB Painting of the Year from Indonesia will compete with fellow winners from Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand, to win the most coveted regional title *UOB Southeast Asian Painting of the Year*. One of the winners from the four countries will also be selected to attend a one-month residency programme in Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, Japan, with the aim of encouraging the artist to exchange creative ideas with peers in the region.

The competition has cultivated a strong alumni of Indonesian artists over the last five years including: Mr Y. Indra Wahyu, the first Indonesian artist to win the UOB Southeast Asian Painting of the Year award in 2012, who is famous for his watercolour and sketch techniques; Mr Antonius Subiyanto, the second Indonesian artist to win the regional award in 2014, best known for using charcoal and gold acrylic in his artwork; and Mr Anggar Prasetyo, last year's UOB Southeast Asian Painting of the Year winner, who used a combination of different techniques such as moulding, spraying and acrylic painting, for his painting titled *Exploitation of Fish*.

## **About Sensibility**

This year, UOB is highlighting the importance of sensibility in art in the 2016 UOB Painting of the Year competition. Sensibility in art relates to emotions and feelings. It also relates to how we draw meaning from looking at an artwork.

The concept of sensibility is not new but against the current sentiments for instantaneous gratification, UOB feels that it is important to cast the spotlight back on our emotions and take time to view an artwork. We are making more apparent that self-awareness is important to the appreciation of art.



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### **About UOB Indonesia**

PT Bank UOB Indonesia (UOB Indonesia) is a subsidiary of United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB), a leading bank in Asia with global network of more than 500 offices in 19 countries and territories in Asia Pacific, Western Europe and North America.

UOB Indonesia was established in 1956. The bank's service network comprises 41 branch offices, 137 sub-branch offices and 185 ATMs across 30 cities in 18 provinces in Indonesia. UOB Indonesia's banking services are accessible through its regional ATM network, the ATM Prima and Bersama networks and the Visa network.

UOB Indonesia is committed to providing quality products and excellent customer service. UOB Indonesia offers various banking products and services categorised into Retail Banking business and Wholesales Banking.

The bank has a strong retail customer base through its wide range of saving products, mortgage services and credit card under Personal Financial Services while also catering the SME business under Business Banking. On the Wholesale Banking, it serves the needs of customers in Commercial Banking, Corporate Banking, Global Markets and Investment Management.

With its full suite of corporate/commercial and its extensive network in Asia, UOB Indonesia offer customers a range of treasury and cash management products and services. UOB Indonesia has been increasingly focused on helping companies with their expansion plans. It has facilitated many enterprises from industries such as construction, mining, real estate and the services sector expanding into Indonesia. UOB Indonesia is rated AAA (idn) by Fitch Ratings.

UOB Indonesia plays an active role in the community, focusing in Arts, Education and Children. Since year 2011 UOB Indonesia has held an annual art competition called UOB Painting of the Year which reflects from the Regional South East Asia competition held in Singapore since 1982. UOB Indonesia also encourages its employees to be involved in its regular volunteer activities. This includes the annual UOB Heartbeat Run, Blood Donation and Book Donation activities.

For further detail of UOB Indonesia, please visit [www.uob.co.id](http://www.uob.co.id)

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