

YAVUZ GALLERY | PRESS RELEASE | 15 MAY 2019

Slices

Solo exhibition by Wedhar Riyadi

Opening: 25 May 2019, 4 – 7 pm

On view: Until 16 June 2019

Yavuz Gallery is proud to present Indonesian-artist **Wedhar Riyadi** in his highly anticipated first solo exhibition in five years. Entitled *Slices*, the show comprises of nine paintings from his new body of work that explores the psychological depths of popular cultural imagery and its implications on the production of reality and the ideal body.

Based in Jogjakarta, Indonesia, Wedhar is part of a group of Indonesian artists whose work is strongly influenced by the era of change, which saw the fall of the Suharto regime, the subsequent transition to democracy, and an increasing influx of Japanese and Western popular culture in local entertainment. The impact of these socio-political changes found expression in his work, which appropriates and draws upon various forms of mass media to create surreal, absurdist worlds.

In *Slices*, Wedhar focuses and expands upon on the influence of the digital age and mass media, through paintings that distort, rearrange and carve up imagery of the human figure. Starting his process with a collage made from images gathered from various magazines or fashion advertisements, the artist cuts up, tears, layers and manipulates the figures into new phantasmagorical compositions that simultaneously highlight and omit parts of the body. These collages are then reproduced and translated into textured and lush oil paintings, seamlessly blending realism and fantasy through his appropriation of familiar forms and objects. These new works and its process allude to the phenomena of the contemporary internet age, where anything is easily attainable through applications and gadgets, easy to be manipulated, modified and reproduced as we see fit. The everyday portrayal of the human figure as a result has been distorted from reality, polished and manipulated to the extent of fantasy.

As the artist states, “I see [my works] as a reflection of the world we live in. Culture clashes, emotions, and human beings with all their varied problems and tensions.” The exhibition *Slices* reflects the best and worst of our digital lives - a world where the bizarre, twisted and manipulated are manifested and normalised.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Wedhar Riyadi (b. 1980) received his Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Indonesian Institute of Art in 2007. His wide-ranging practice encompasses drawings, paintings, murals, sculptures and illustration. Drawing upon various forms of mass media, Wedhar represents a generation of Indonesian artists whose works defy the traditional boundaries of fine art and popular culture. Wedhar has exhibited widely in Asia, Australia, Europe and USA. He participated in the 9th, 10th, and 11th edition of Art Jog (2016, 2017, 2018) and in the 7th Asia Pacific Triennale of Contemporary Art (2012). In addition to numerous private collections worldwide, his works are included in the collection of the Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art (Australia), National Gallery of Victoria (Australia), Anne & Gordon Samtag Museum of Art (Australia) and the Akili Museum of Art (Indonesia).

For inquiries and more information, please contact Caryn Quek at caryn@yavuzgallery.com or tel: +65 6734 3262.

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9 Lock Road, #02-23, Singapore 108937 | Tel: +65 6734 3262 | info@yavuzgallery.com | www.yavuzgallery.com
Opening Hours: Tue – Sat: 11am – 7pm, Sun: 1pm – 5pm | Mon & public holidays: by appointment only

Selected Works



Stack On A Chair #2, 2019, oil on canvas, 200 x 145 cm



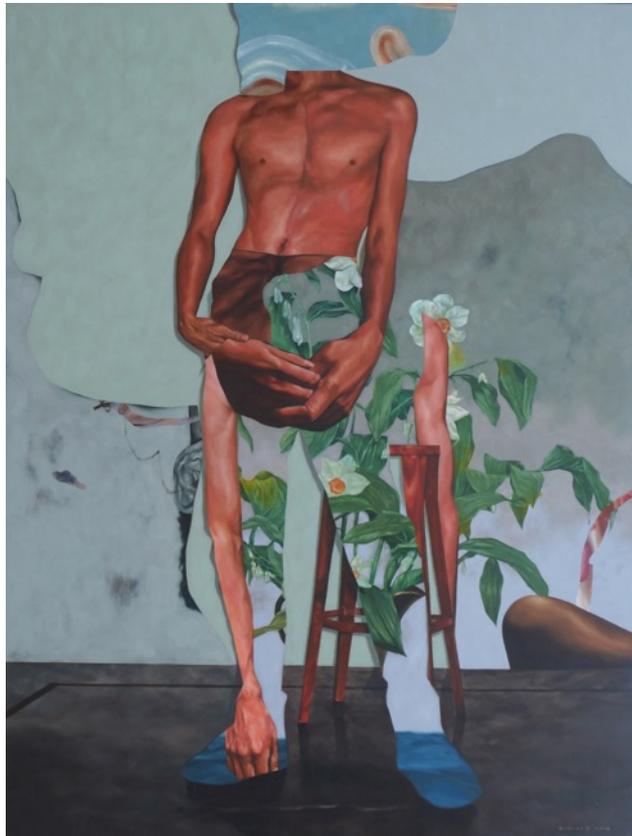
Patches, 2019, oil on canvas, 200 x 145 cm

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Side View, Front View, 2019, oil on canvas, 200 x 140 cm



Body Bouquet, 2019, oil on canvas, 200 x 150 cm

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