

Solo Exhibition
AVON BASHIDA

06.03 – 16.03.2018

Sarang Building

Kersan Art Foundation in collaboration with PartNER Yogyakarta

Anthropology: Being One with the Idea of an Indonesian Mountain

'In the eighteenth century art lessons was a part of the training in the military Naval Academy in Copenhagen. One day per week was spent with lessons of drawing and painting to prepare the cadets to bring back information from countries, they would be sent to after graduating the academy. Hence a lot of the information gathered about foreign countries, was through Danish officials, traveling for the government. The Danish naval officer Peter Willemoes (1783-1808) was known as a military hero. Now his pictures hang in the Danish arts museum, Museum of Assens'

In Willemoes' time the goal was to get as close to objective observation as possible. The focus on personal presence today ironically amputates the documentation which is shared about cultural experience when traveling. The foundation of our empirical knowledge has been transformed from *being impressed to impressing others*.

The way in which we gather information about the world has changed many times over - especially with the advancement of photography; with the ability to capture images through point and shoot cameras, to having a smartphone as a prosthetic extension of the hand. We have gone from viewing slideshows of images gathered through the latest vacation, to prefer instant messages of our experiences. Our focus, or navigation on how we create images as evidence, has completely changed its course.

Today in the selfie- and wefie-culture an image of a place is no longer the main focus, instead the main subject of documentation is to show the transformation from *"I" witness here to "I" was here*. The position of the face in front of the frame, place the self in cultural narrative. *"I"* am the main story, and where I was, is second. Anyone can browse the internet for an image of a mountain in Indonesia, and so the shared documentation is that *"I"* experienced a mountain in Indonesia. This form of documentation has changed our way of thinking anthropologically –both in academia where personal evidence of experience is emerging, but also in the perception of the world in general. Information comes to us easily and so the discovery of the world turns to one of personal perspective. To explore is no longer something *"exotic"* as people in the twenty first century have the ability to travel frequently, or see pictures of faraway places through virtual travel. The tale of the physical explorer becomes personal in conjunction to the nonphysical explorer, as the experience of personal presence is contrasted.

Avon Bashida (b. 1986, Denmark) is a Danish photographer and performance artist who explores the human body and mind, researching anthropology and psychology within art theory through expression of her artistic practice.

Bashida holds a BA (Honours) in Photographic Arts from University of Westminster in London and a MA in Performance Studies from Tisch New York University. Bashida's

performances are expressions of physical forms which are created through paint, photography, video and documentation. The works are depictions of how the human race experiences itself—opposite of how it is placed in the world regarding gender, race, geography and intimacy.

By referring to both anthropological and psychological studies, Bashida unpacks human existence by pushing cultural ideals and physical boundaries flipping stereotypes using the body. A key element in Bashida's work is how the subjectivity of the human mind makes the onlookers incapable of experience without a pre-distinct approach, disposing our relation to others only through the understanding of ourselves.

Checklist:



Avon Bashida
Body in Leaves
Photographic collage
89 x 93 cm



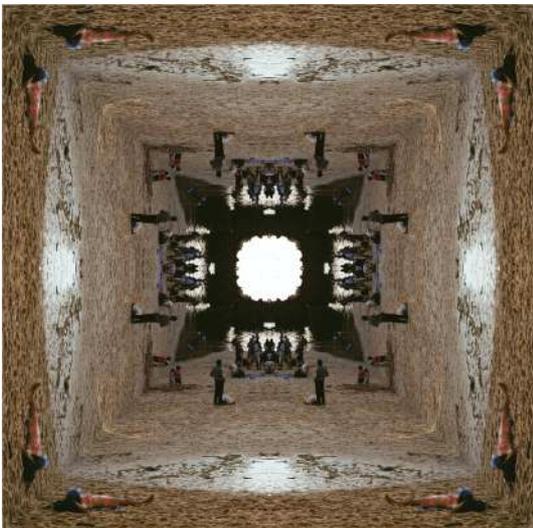
Avon Bashida
Cat-Rice-Bag
Photographic print
80 x 80



Avon Bashida
Scarf for Tourists 1
Digital collage on fabric
90 x 90 cm



Avon Bashida
Scarf for Tourists 2
Digital collage on fabric
90 x 90 cm



Avon Bashida
Scarf for Tourists 3
Digital collage on fabric
90 x 90 cm



Avon Bashida
The Idea of Being One with an Indonesian Mountain
Digital collage on fabric
180 x 90 cm

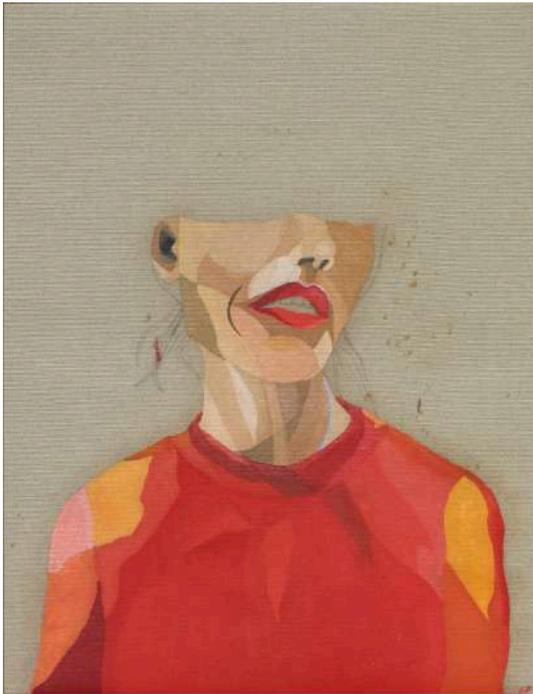
ANTHROPOLOGY:

Being One with the Idea of an Indonesian Mountain

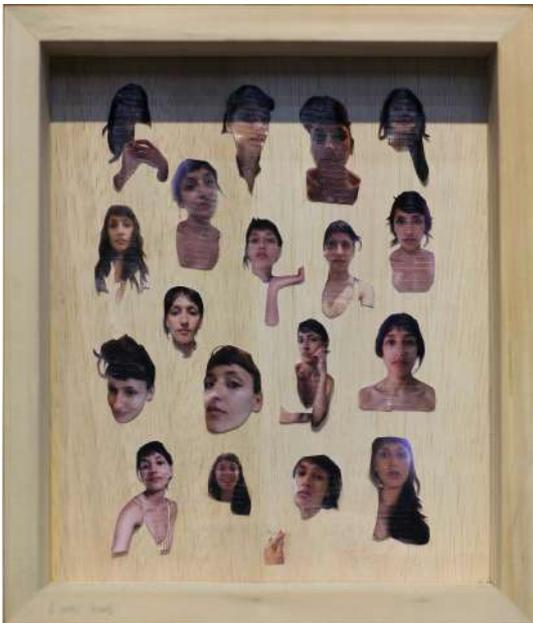
Avon Bashida



Avon Bashida
Unfinished Finished (The View from Chicken Church)
Pencil and oil on canvas
78,5 x 61,5 cm



Avon Bashida
Unfinished Finished (Imagining Indonesia)
Oil on canvas
51 x 38 cm



Avon Bashida
I Was Here
Photographic collage on wood frame
33 x 28 cm



Avon Bashida
Notes of the Explorer
Collage of plastic, photography and paper
63 x 65 cm



Avon Bashida
Flora Indonesia
Installation, tree in resin frame,
90 x 90

Diary series:

The diary series consist of a row of intuitive impressions from the artists experience in Indonesia.



Avon Bashida
Indonesia (In Denmark they only know the
bearded men)
Pencil and oil pastel on paper
29 x 21 cm



Avon Bashida
Klein Blues
Pencil and oil pastel on paper
29 x 21 cm



Avon Bashida
Pupa
Pencil and oil pastel on paper
29 x 21 cm