

PRESS RELEASE



the last IDEAL PARADISE: a Site-Specific Installation and Performance about Social Constellations and Political Thinking



The internationally well-known choreographer and artist Claudia Bosse—recognized for her radical work with bodies and space—collaborates with artists and performers from Jakarta, Bandung, Yogyakarta, Denpasar, and Lampung for the Asia premiere of her site-specific work on terrorism, territory and the culturally and politically (un)conscious, presented in the unique setting of Perum Produksi Film Negara (PFN) in Jakarta.

the last IDEAL PARADISE is a transdisciplinary work at the intersection of performance and visual arts in open setups, where the audience is invited to move freely, to choose their own perspectives, and to develop their own dramaturgies. *the last IDEAL PARADISE* is an installation, a choreography, a performance, an inventory of a working process, that combines the political present and history with rituals and myths. It questions the regimes of our present and possibilities of living together, while continuing several years of thematic exploration and research on site in Jakarta.

Looking at both present and historical constellations through the lens of catastrophes, of personal and political tremors and upheavals, the work poetically explores the intersection of politics, religion, and the relationship between the state and the individual. A play on words, and an absurd composition, the title *the last IDEAL PARADISE* hints at a core trope of the performance: paradise and its many meanings and functions.

The Jakarta version is presented by Goethe-Institut Indonesien in collaboration with Perum PFN and supported by the German Federal Foreign Office and the Austrian Embassy Jakarta. The Jakarta-specific adaptation of the work was conceived through research, interviews and encounters by Claudia Bosse that took place in Jakarta in the years 2018 and 2019 and is realized in collaboration with multilingual ensembles of dancers, actresses, performers and amateurs of different generations.

The 2,5-hour installation and performance incorporates material reflecting social upheavals and ethnographic archives, transforming them and forming fragile, temporary communities with and for the audience.

“Seeing the performance at Tanzplattform 2018, a festival bringing together biannually the most outstanding productions in contemporary dance in Germany, we were intrigued by the unique concept and distinct

Goethe-Institut

Jl. Sam Ratulangi 9-15
Jakarta 10350

Contact

Ryan Rinaldy
Public Relations Manager
Goethe-Institut Indonesien
Ryan.Rinaldy@goethe.de
T +62 21 391 4042 - ext. 145
M / WA +62 878 9835 0125
www.goethe.de/indonesia

www.goethe.de

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transdisciplinary approach of *the last IDEAL PARADISE*,” says Anna Maria Strauss, Director of Cultural Programs at Goethe-Institut Indonesien.

“The performance raises questions about our very present and creates space to reflect on them both individually and collectively. We felt the topics raised—and the way they are raised—resonate strongly with the context in Indonesia, and we are very happy to have so many collaborators from different parts of Indonesia on board to shape the Jakarta edition of *the last IDEAL PARADISE*. As a site-specific work, the venue for the performance is really important, and we are thrilled to collaborate with Perum PFN with its rich history and fascinating premises in East Jakarta—the performance really molds into the spaces and takes the audience through a sort of parkour,” says Anna Maria Strauss.

In Claudia Bosse’s own words, the journey through different spaces that each individual spectator undertakes with *the last IDEAL PARADISE* is also a journey through different artistic formats that merge into each other. “It begins as an installation through which one moves alone as a spectator, then it becomes a choreography that one watches, then a procession in which one takes part, then it becomes a choral piece and then a live archive of the people involved, who one encounters almost like in a museum. The open position of the audience and the choice of their own perspectives is important to me in my understanding of theatre as a collective negotiation space in which the poetic and the political are linked in space,” says Claudia Bosse.

Artist talk after the performance will be available for the audience on 28 February.

Media representatives are cordially invited to the premiere, Wednesday, 26 February 2020, at Perum PFN. The event will start at 5 p.m. WIB. Media representatives who would like to interview the artists are kindly requested to inform our Public Relations Manager as listed below prior to the event. **Please note that documentation during the performance is not allowed.** Goethe-Institut Indonesien will provide you with a selection of images from the performance within 24 hours following the event.

When & Where: 26, 28, and 29 February 2020, 5:00-7:30 p.m. WIB
Perum Produksi Film Negara (PFN)
Jl. Otto Iskandardinata Raya No. 125-127
Kampung Melayu, East Jakarta

Public Reservation: www.eventbrite.com/e/the-last-ideal-paradise-tickets-90275054117 (FREE)

For press accreditation and press inquiries:

Ryan Rinaldy
Public Relations Manager
Goethe-Institut Jakarta
Ryan.Rinaldy@goethe.de
T +62 21 391 4042 - ext. 145
M / WA +62 878 9835 0125

www.goethe.de

 [Download poster of the last IDEAL PARADISE here](#)

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The work is the result of a multi-part working process over several years entitled *IDEAL PARADISE*. It began in 2015 as an installation with interviews from Cairo and Athens reflecting the political situations and social upheavals of the time. A following part took place at the Weltmuseum Vienna, where material from the ethnographic collection as well as objects and videos were incorporated. After this, the series expanded nomadically into urban spaces before making a stop at Tanzquartier Wien and giving rise to a performative landscape in Bucharest. The process culminated in *the last IDEAL PARADISE*, which was realized at a former post office loading station in Düsseldorf using elements derived from the whole series in collaboration with the performers and a local choir. The staging in Jakarta adds yet another layer to the work and process.

Concept, Space, Objects, Choreography: Claudia Bosse // **Sound, Media:** Günther Auer // **With:** Rotraud Kern, Mun Wai Lee, Alexandra Sommerfeld, Pat Toh, Ilse Urbanek // **Ghost Team:** Akbar Yumni, Alfiah Rahdini, Ayu Permata Sari, Ibed Surgana Yuga, John Heryanto, Laksmi Notokusumo, Liswati, Rita Matu Mona, Riyadhus Shalihin, Yola Yulfianti // **Assistance / Production Management theatercombinat:** Dagmar Tröstler // **Project Direction Jakarta:** Anna Maria Strauß // **Project Coordination Jakarta:** Dinyah Latuconsina // **Production Management Jakarta:** Maya, Ranggi Arohmansani // **Collaboration Installation:** Dea Widya // **Research:** Akbar Yumni, Dinyah Latuconsina // **Advise:** Karlina Supelli // **Translation:** Hendarto Setiadi // **Voice:** Clara Phedra // **Communication:** Oliver Maus // **Communication & Press Jakarta:** Ryan Rinaldy, Wilton Djaya, Luna Pujiyanto, Aisyah Nabilaa Antani // **Technical Direction:** Marco Tölzer // **Technical Direction Jakarta:** Sigit D. Pratama, Fajar Merian // **Hands and Support:** thisPLAY // **Liaison Officers Jakarta:** Louisiana Wattimena, George Ante // **Documentation:** Sancoyo Purnomo // **Admin theatercombinat:** Alexander Kosnopfl // **Production:** theatercombinat // **Coproduction:** FFT Düsseldorf as part of International Coproductions. Living Dead - Spukgestalten im Theater der Gegenwart // **Funding:** Wien Kultur // **Supported by:** Kunststiftung NRW

Production Adaptation Jakarta: Goethe-Institut Indonesien

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