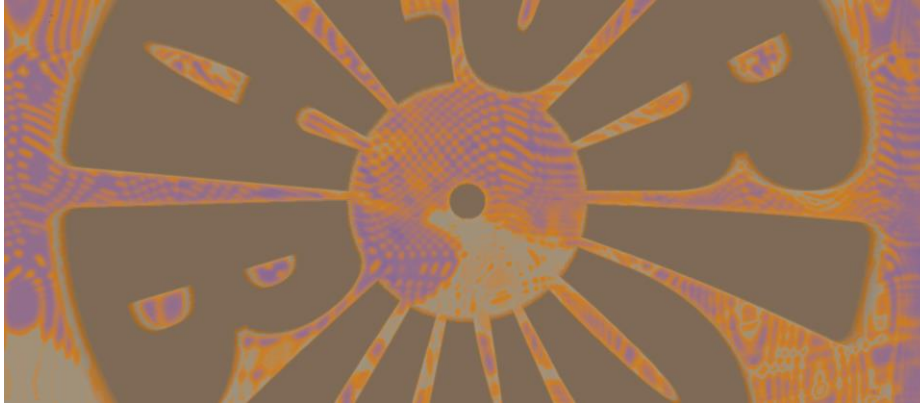


PRESS RELEASE



Mery Kasiman and Eight Artists Kick Off Alur Bunyi 2023 with “Asta”



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Goethe-Institut Indonesien's music concert series, Alur Bunyi, is back another year with several collaborative performances by well-known Indonesian musicians and artists. On Thursday, 4 May at GoetheHaus Jakarta, starting at 7:30 p.m. WIB, Indonesian female pianist Mery Kasiman will kick off the Alur Bunyi 2023 concert series, leading her own ensemble of classical and electronic music.

“In this year's first edition, we convinced Mery to form an ensemble that fuses acoustic and electronic music. The experience of listening to the sounds produced in this experiment is expected to make the audience think again about the boundaries of music,” says Elizabeth Soegiharto, Goethe-Institut Indonesien Program Coordinator.

Mery will present new poetic pieces arranged specifically for the evening, entitled “Asta”. “Asta” means eight in Sanskrit and is supposed to represent eight elements of the good life: Family, friends, health, education, freedom, purpose, love, and peace. “I can feel these eight elements in everyday life. They inspired me to form stories in each of the compositions that will be presented,” tells Mery.

For example, for the family element, Mery made a composition with a theme based on her father's birthday. In addition, as many as two poems by author Zen Hae, namely *Dua Tangisan* and *Di Halte Malam Jatuh*, were musicalized by Mery and will be performed in Alur Bunyi.

Aligned with the idea of “Asta”, Mery will be joined by other musicians: Carmen Caballero Fernández, Dalilektra, Dani Ramadhan, Danny Robertus, Julian Abraham Marantika, Sanjung Prima Cahaya Dewi, and Yasintha Pattiasina. The selection of instruments ranges from the classic sounds of the string quartet and flute to the contemporary modular synthesizer, blending different styles. This appearance will also be complemented by a visual treat from Patricia Adele Hutauruk.

In “Asta”, Mery and her ensemble reflect on the idea of stories in humanity, the process of experiencing cycles, and how they influence emotions. The process is the catalyst; composing the texts with fellow performers before the concert, the music will be synthesized together and re-formulated live on stage, chasing purity and creating its own unique identity, like life itself.

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Rather than resulting in only shallow celebration, these reflections produced followup questions to contemplate more than worldly matters further; on life, its mysticism, and eternity.

Registration for this concert can be done through the link bit.ly/alurbunyiastha and is free of charge.

Concert series and a festival

Alur Bunyi 2023 will showcase numerous series of concerts and be followed by the Festival Alur Bunyi in the middle of the year. Entering its 7th year, this year's Alur Bunyi takes into account representation, accessibility, as well as sustainability.

The program will be packed with talented artists who exhibit these values, curated carefully to challenge and inspire audiences, introducing them to new ideas, new sounds, and new ways of thinking. Through this program, Alur Bunyi continues to provide a creative space to champion local talents while fostering sonic-focused discussion.

About Goethe-Institut

The Goethe-Institut is the Federal Republic of Germany's cultural institute, active worldwide. We promote the study of German abroad and encourage international cultural exchange. We also provide a comprehensive image of Germany through information on German political, social and cultural life. Our various cultural and educational programs support intercultural dialogue and enable cultural participation. These programs strengthen the structures of civil society and support global mobility.

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