

I NYOMAN MASRIADI
Indonesian artist

I NYOMAN MASRIADI is a major contemporary painter of the post-Suharto era. No doubt he is the leader on the Indonesian art scene. With cumulative sales of \$2,147,227, he ranked 97th in the Artprice (Sales Product) ranking of the art market worldwide in 2016. He was 152nd with cumulative sales of \$896,262 in 2016/2017 (4 lots sold). In 2017-18, he ranked 171st with cumulative sales of \$1 million (4 lots).

I Nyoman Masriadi is the Southeast Asian living artist who sells the most expensive at auction up to \$1 million for his triptych "The Man From Bantul (The Final Round)," on the theme of boxing, in October 2008. Also in 2008, he already sold at Sotheby's a painting "Sorry Hero, Saya Lupa" (Sorry Hero, I Forgot)", describing Batman and Superman sitting next to each other on toilet seats, for \$619,000. In 2016, he sold an artwork at Sotheby's HK called "Two colour" for \$381,679.

The artist

I Nyoman Masriadi is born in 1973 in Gianyar, Bali. He studied art at the Seni Indonesia Institute in Yogyakarta where he currently lives. In 1997, he won the award "Best Painting at the Dies Natalis ISI Yogyakarta".

Artwork

While incorporating the history of Indonesian culture into his paintings, the artist observes contemporary, social and cultural life. Sometimes his characters may appear as archetypes of comic book heroes, cow boys, soldiers or athletes. His imagination and techniques have evolved a lot over the past 15 years, moving mainly from folklore to radically contemporary comic/pop. In his paintings ('Spares'), exhibited in 2014 at the Paul Kasmin Gallery, Hong Kong, I Nyoman Masriadi continued his descriptions of strong Indonesian characters, with exaggerated features like this muscular black man, in shorts, without a t-shirt, without shoe, and holding sunglasses in hand with a subtitle 'No more lost glasses'. For his second solo exhibition at the Paul Kasmin Gallery in New York in 2016, Masriadi presented paintings that, according to the gallery, "described superhuman characters whose stories, rooted in Indonesian cultural history, proposed spiritual and often biting social commentaries on contemporary life and world pop culture."