

SAPUTRA HANDIWIRMAN
Indonesian artist

SAPUTRA HANDIWIRMAN is among the first contemporary Indonesian artists. He obtained no less than \$318,600 for one of his paintings in 2018. He has thus entered the Artprice Ranking (sales products) of the world art market in 2017/2018, he ranked 403rd.

The artist

Saputra Handiwirman is born in Bukittinggi, Sumatra, Indonesia. He graduated from the Indonesian Institute of Arts (ISI) in Yogyakarta. He lives and works in Yogyakarta. He is also the co-founder of the Jendela Group, considered as the best contemporary art collective.

Artwork

Saputra Handiwirman was first known for his installations of found objects and objects - wire, wire, pieces of paper, pieces of plastic and hair - which were presented as they were. However in the mid-2000s, he presented several surprising works with very realistic techniques. The same goes for his installations, which were more rigorous in the choice of materials and techniques.

Saputra Handiwirman works at the same time painting and sculpture, evoking a semblance of recognition of something that has been seen before but is unidentifiable. In his painting, he focuses on the perception and the way of seeing. It is like an extension of still life. The artist leaves vast possibilities of association to the viewer. What remains unchanged with Saputra Handiwirman is his vision of beauty. He seeks to offer beauty from "things" around him.

Rifky Effendy, curator of the Singapore Biennale, said of Saputra Handiwirman: "In the map of contemporary art development in Indonesia, his works have contributed a different shade of colour, especially in the post-reformasi era, when most artwork is tightly connected to the social and political discourse. The artworks depict a symptom of tradition, caught between the collective value of a society - which has lost its belief in such value - and the individual belief in fighting for such values. By poeticizing the everyday, he reflects a constantly shifting world."