

Synopsis for Yogyakarta Gathering 2009

Background

The South Project is an international arts project that brings together the distinct voices of the Southern Hemisphere through south-south dialogue and cross-cultural exchange. It supports and promotes the experience and understanding of contemporary visual culture.

Established as an independent entity in January 2008, the South Project presents a new program with increased scope in partnership programming in Melbourne and other regions across the South. Its activity streams include:

- Gatherings
- Residencies
- Curated Projects and Exhibitions
- Publications Program
- Research
- Education Program (South Kids)
- International Exchange Projects
- Forums and workshops
- Participating Institutional Programs

International Scope

Since inception, The South Project has focused on a region in the south every year and delivered its renowned international 'gatherings', connecting with local and international audiences, arts networks and partners.

Building on the trajectory and reputation of these programs, it has gained recognition as an international arts initiative generating critical and creative cross-cultural exchange across the south. The South Project will continue to bring visual culture in the south to the attention of a global audience, further developing reputation, interest and promotion for exchange projects and expand its reach to new audiences in the region.

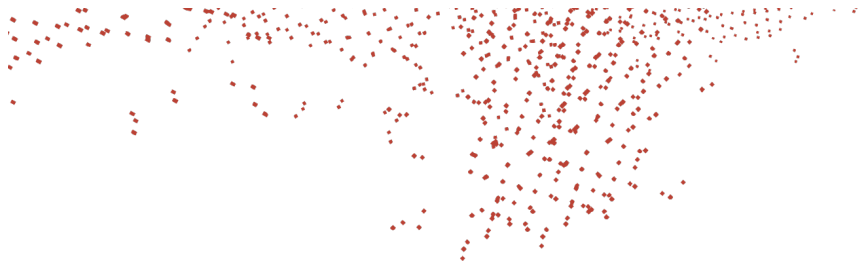
2004: Melbourne, Australia
2005: Pacific - Wellington, New Zealand
2006: Latin America – Santiago, Chile
2007: Africa – Johannesburg, South Africa
2008: Review international strategy

2009: South East Asia – Yogyakarta, Indonesia
2010: Melanesia – Noumea, Nouvelle Calédonie
2011: Melbourne, Australia (SOUTH 2011)
2012: South America: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Definition of Gathering:

A gathering is a group of people brought together in one space or place, usually congregating for a particular common purpose. The act of gathering –to meet, share and network– is intrinsic to human behavior. Creative expression, critique and reflection are naturally informed by environment, experience and our engagement with the world. So what role can Gathering play in shaping individual and collective perception and expression in the arts?

In a period of increased mobility where distances are more psychic than physical, how do we frame such gatherings and consider a transnational dialogue of relevance and beyond the usual suspects?



South Project Proposal: Yogyakarta 2009

The South Project is committed to cross-cultural exchange as opposed to cultural export. Its methodology is to work locally – on the ground – with several months in advance to ensure that the program presented is of relevance, participatory, collaborative and of value to the local audience. Gatherings are not major festivals or biennial events. It requires an ongoing dialogue with local partners (from grass roots to government to philanthropy). Gatherings are focussed on a non-hierarchical, open access framework with multiple-entry points and cater for all levels of engagement. The South Project Gatherings are FREE of charge and where possible provide participation fees to local and international participants.

Delivered through a series of exhibitions, actions, performances, workshops and collaborations, most of which will take in the public domain, the Yogyakarta Gathering in 2009 will be the first time that the South Project has travelled to Asia. Although a select group of Indonesian artists has already participated in South Project activities (such as Heri Dono, Titarubi, Jumaadi, Wulan Dirgantoro, and Dian Fatwa) the South Project has a growing network of potential support, such as the Indonesian Contemporary Art Network amongst others. The South Project also welcomes collaborations from other regions in the South to participate in Yogyakarta 2009.

The intention of the Yogyakarta Gathering is above all COLLABORATIVE, RECIPROCAL AND OF ACTIVATION.

Collaborative: The South Project will commence discussions in Melbourne, inviting an array of speakers from Australia, Indonesia and other regions of the South, to begin discussions around a Gathering in Yogyakarta. This material will be compiled and serve as the basis for stage two, whereby selections will be made based on their relevance to the South Projects objectives as well as the level of interest in such activities gauged in Indonesia. The South Project will work in consultation and collaboration towards these decisions.

Reciprocal: As demonstrated in the past, the South Project Gatherings have proven to be a launching pad for a wide range of new cross-cultural projects. The South Project is committed to strengthening such network activity and where possible support the realisation of future programs of those who have participated in South Project events. The South Project Yogyakarta Gathering will be the launching pad for future exchange projects between Indonesia and the South.

Of Activation: Following on from the activities in the South Project's Santiago Gathering (2006) the Yogyakarta Gathering aims to present a program in the public domain; encouraging interactivity, and infiltrating the everyday lives of the general public as a result. Focussing away from object based art, the intention of the Yogyakarta Gathering is to activate artistic processes, and circulate ideas within a broader sector than just the 'creative' community. The aim of the South Project is to provide an environment for local and international artists to spend an extended period of time to learn, research and work together. This program will include public workshops, South Kids programs (children aged 8 to 12) and key forums that will support the program.



Please address the following criteria in your 2009 South Project Yogyakarta
Expression of Interest:

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- Name
 - Email
 - Contact Number
 - Proposal
 - How you intend to fund your project
 - Please also include a copy of your CV and any other relevant support material such as images etc.

Expressions of Interest will be accepted via post or email:

Email:

info@southproject.org (Please do not send emails with images larger than 1MB)

Postal Address:

The South Project Inc
PO Box 21677
Little Lonsdale Street
Victoria 8011
AUSTRALIA

Expressions of Interest are due FRIDAY 10 OCTOBER 2008, 5pm