

## 125.660 Spesimen Sejarah Alam

Komunitas Salihara Gallery

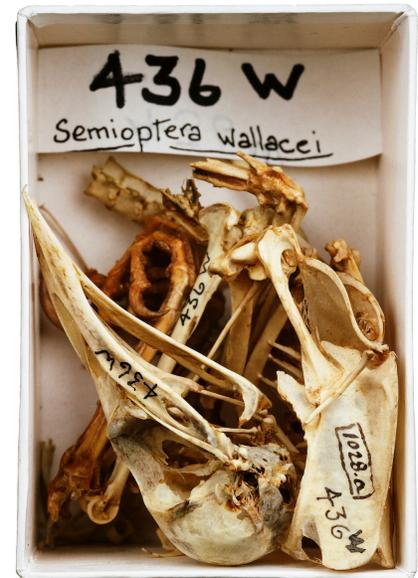
Jl. Salihara No. 16 Jakarta Selatan

15 August — 15 September 2015

Press Release 15 May 2015 – SAVE THE DATE

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### Exhibition Overview

*125.660 Spesimen Sejarah Alam* (125,660 Specimens of Natural History) is an art and science exhibition about colonial natural history collections and the environmental transformations they produced in Indonesia. The exhibition follows the course of Alfred Russel Wallace (1823–1913), best known for co-discovering the theory of evolution by natural selection. From 1854–62, Wallace travelled the Malay archipelago, documenting the region's biodiversity and amassing a gigantic collection of specimens for European museums. The exhibition invites artists to retrace, re-appropriate, or reassess the expedition, its documents, and its various artifacts; artists will examine the mobility of colonial knowledge and the transformations of the Indonesian landscape from a variety of perspectives and through various media.

The exhibition will take place at Komunitas Salihara; it includes works by 13 Indonesian artists and 12 foreign artists, as well as archival material, specimens from the LIPI/MZB collection, and related historical materials. *125.660 Spesimen Sejarah Alam* is proud to realize a unique partnership with the Research Center for Biology/Indonesian Institute of Science (LIPI/MZB) at Bogor-Cibinong. As a special highlight *125.660 Spesimen Sejarah Alam* will showcase a selection of items from LIPI's collection of historical glass plate negatives, which document the environmental and botanical transformations of the Indonesian archipelago at the turn of the nineteenth/twentieth century. These glass plate negatives have never before been presented to the public and comprise the only collection of its kind available in Indonesia.

The exhibition will also host a free public program aimed at a general public that brings together Indonesian and international artists, environmentalists, and natural scientists.

A gratis catalog in Bahasa Indonesian, including an essay on Wallace's Malay expedition by evolutionary biologist Andrew Berry, will be available at the exhibition.

Press Image Folder <http://bit.ly/1A5ZHJf>

galeri  
salihara

## Artists

### **Indonesian Artists**

Ari Bayuaji  
Theo Frids Hutabarat  
Aprina Murwanti & Bharoto Yekti  
Intan Prisanti  
EQUANORTH (Farid Rakun  
& Sigrid Espelien  
Ary Sendy  
Albert Yonathan Setyawan  
Andreas Siagan  
Zenzi Suhadi (WALHI)  
Satrio Wicaksono (Towuti  
Drilling Project)  
Tintin Wulia  
Mahardika Yudha

### **International Artists**

David Attenborough  
Fred Langford Edwards  
Lucy Davis  
Mark Dion  
Geraldine Juarez  
Flora Lichtman & Sharon Shattuck  
Shannon Lee Castleman  
Ed Scholes & Tim Laman  
Robert Zhao Renhui (Institute of  
Critical Zoologists)

## Free Public Program

### **Komunitas Salihara & Museum Zoologicum Bogoriense**

**1 August – 12 September 2015**

*125.660 Spesimen Sejarah Alam* will be accompanied by a series of public events at both Komunitas Salihara and the Zoological Museum at Kebun Raya Bogor. The events will be free of charge and address a broad public ranging from schoolchildren and university students to artists, ecologists, activists, and the media.

01 Aug 2015		Satellite Exhibition at Museum Zoologi Bogoriense
15 Aug 2015	16.00 19.00	Press and Collectors Exhibition Preview Public Exhibition Preview
19 Aug 2015	19.00	Curators' Talk
22 Aug 2015	13.00 – 15.00 15.00 – 17.00	Taxidermy Workshop with zoologists from LIPI at the Gallery Urban Ecologies Discussion with Ciliwung Institute and Walhi
29 Aug 2015	13.00 – 15.00 15.00 – 17.00	Youth Workshop at the Gallery Biodiversity & Conservation Discussion at the Gallery
12 Sep 2015	13.00	Walk through Museum Zoologicum Bogoriense, Kebun Raya, Bogor
15 Sep 2015		Exhibition closes

## **Preliminary Interdisciplinary Research Workshop**

**LIPI/MZB – Biology Research Center**

**Bogor-Cibinong**

**13 May 2013**

On 13 May 2015, 8 of the invited artists from Indonesia had the opportunity to meet zoologists at LIPI/MZB's Biology Research Center Bogor-Cibinong for a day-long preliminary workshop and conversation. The objective of the workshop was to offer contemporary Indonesian artists working in many different mediums an opportunity to develop their project for the exhibition in direct dialogue with the scientific research environment of LIPI/MZB. The outcomes are not obvious, but the curators are committed to creating opportunities for new affinities, discoveries, and lines of artistic research. The group was the first artists ever to gain access and professional guidance to the scientific collections of LIPI/MZB. It is our hope that this experience will be both inspirational and long-lasting for the artists and scientists involved, leading to future contact and a strengthened interest in research-based artistic practice.

## **Independent Project Fundraising Campaign**

**100 Days of Natural History**

**125660specimens.org**

**8 May – 15 August 2015**

Beginning on 8 May 2015, and continuing for the remaining 100 days until the exhibition opening on 15 August 2015, the online campaign "100 Days of Natural History" releases one photograph per day from the two-year research process which preceded the exhibition. Every image is for sale as a single edition print to raise independent production support for the 13 artists who are currently creating new artworks for *125,660 Specimens Sejarah Alam*.

Each archival high quality print is available for \$100 USD through the website [125660specimens.org](http://125660specimens.org). Shipping will include an exhibition catalog signed by all the artists.

## **Project Team**

### ***Curatorial Team***

Dian Ina Mahendra, Komunitas Salihara Gallery Manager  
Asikin Hasan, Komunitas Salihara Curator of Contemporary Art  
Nirwan Dewanto, Komunitas Salihara Program Director  
Anna-Sophie Springer, Guest Curator  
Etienne Turpin, Guest Curator

### ***Scientific Research Partner***

Pusat Penelitian Biologi, Lembaga Ilmu Pengetahuan Indonesia (LIPI/MZB), Cibinong

### ***Scientific Curatorial Team***

Prof. Dr. Rosichon Ubaidillah, M.Phil., Head of Zoology Section, Museum Zoologicum Bogoriense  
Dr. Awit Suwito, Kepala Sub-seksi Manajemen Koleksi  
Dr. Amir Hamidy, Kurator Herpetofauna  
Ir. Maharadatunkamsi, M.Sc., Kurator Mammalia  
Dr. Djunijati Peggie, M.Sc., Kurator Serangga  
Mohammad Irham, M.Sc., Kurator Burung

### ***Exhibition Team***

Sonja Dahl, Project Coordinator  
Alex Berceanu, Design Research Coordinator  
Robin Hartanto, Design Research Assistant  
Alifa Rachmadia Putri, Media Strategist  
Widya Ramadhani, Research Assistant  
d-associates (Jakarta), Exhibition Designer  
Tatyana Kusumo, Exhibition Design Assistant

### ***Collections***

Perpustakaan Nasional Indonesia  
Lembaga Ilmu Pengetahuan Indonesia (LIPI)  
Museum Zoologicum Bogoriense (MZB)  
Linnean Society (London, UK)  
Natural History Museum (London, UK)

## **Project Initiators**

### ***Principal Hosting Institution | Komunitas Salihara***

Opened in August 2008, Komunitas Salihara is the first privately funded multidisciplinary arts centre in Indonesia. It was established by a group of writers, artists, journalists, and art lovers living in Jakarta, as a new, bigger, and better incarnation of Komunitas Utan Kayu—a small arts collective which was started in 1996 and was active both as an arts enclave and a centre for resistance during the last years of the “New Order” era, up until 2008. Komunitas Salihara is an arts and cultural centre that is particularly interested in innovative, cutting-edge ideas and works. We hold regular programs that include performances, exhibitions, literary readings, lectures and discussions. We are also interested in collaborative programs that transcend the boundaries of art and expand networks between artists, art institutions, and the public, both local and international. Each year, we present 80–120 programs consisting of performing arts (music, theatre, dance), visual arts, literature, lectures and discussions. Biannually, we hold a performing arts festival (Festival Salihara) and a literary festival (Bienal Sastra Salihara), with theme-related visual art programs. Komunitas Salihara is excited to act as principal hosting institution and collaborate on the project by presenting the exhibition in its galleries in Jakarta (opening August 2015), as well as by acting as a curatorial advisor and collaborator, particularly with regards to the call for proposals inviting Indonesian artists to participate in the development of the exhibition.

Komunitas Salihara's mission is to facilitate and introduce a variety of art activities and different ways of thinking. The Community is home to a theater space and a gallery, and is also a place to regularly hold lectures and discussions. Moreover, this alternative cultural center for the capital of Indonesia, Jakarta, is not owned by either the central government, the municipal government, or any foreign embassies. Rather, Komunitas Salihara is part of a cooperative effort that aims to nurture a thoughtful life and a sense of beauty unfettered by political agendas, the interests of certain groups, or monetary incentives. We believe that the ease with which citizens can think, express, and communicate is important for the development of a nation's wisdom. This requires the realization of ambitious projects; a concerted effort needs to be made so that we can help one another, learn from one another, and enrich our artistic knowledge and thinking.

### ***Invited Guest Curators***

**Anna-Sophie Springer** is an independent curator, writer, editor and co-director (with Charles Stankieveh) of K. Verlag, an independent Berlin-based publishing project exploring the book as a site for exhibition making. Her practice merges curatorial, editorial, and artistic interests by stimulating fluid relations among images, artifacts, and texts in order to produce new geographical, physical, and cognitive proximities, often in relation to historical archives. She has previously worked as Associate Editor of publications for the 8th Berlin Biennale for Contemporary Art and as Editor for the pioneering German theory publisher Merve Verlag, Berlin, before launching K. in 2011. Anna-Sophie is also a member of the Haus der Kulturen's (HKW) SYNAPSE International Curators' Network where she co-edits, with Etienne Turpin, the *intercalations: paginated exhibition* book series co-published by K. in the framework of the HKW's "Anthropocene Project." As a curator, her previous exhibitions (often in collaboration) include the touring group show *Ha Ha Road* (UK, 2011–12), on the subversive power of humor; *The Subjective Object* (GRASSI Ethnographic Museum Leipzig, 2012), on display practices and the archive; as well as the series *EX LIBRIS* (Galerie Wien Lukatsch, Berlin and other venues, 2013), exploring various libraries as curatorial spaces. Anna-Sophie received her M.A. in Contemporary Art Theory from Goldsmiths College, University of London, and her M.A. in Curatorial Studies from the Hochschule für Grafik und Buchkunst, Leipzig. She has given talks at international institutions including the Indonesia Association, Cornell University; Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design, University of Toronto; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; Weltkulturenmuseum, Frankfurt/Main. In 2014 she was the Craig-Kade Visiting Scholar in Residence at Rutgers University, New Jersey.

**Etienne Turpin** is a philosopher researching, designing, curating, and writing about complex urban systems, political economies of data and infrastructure, aesthetics and visual culture, and Southeast Asia colonial-scientific history. At the University of Wollongong, Australia, he is a Vice-Chancellor's Postdoctoral Research Fellow with the SMART Infrastructure Facility, Faculty of Engineering and Information Science, and an Associate Research Fellow with the Australian Center for Cultural Environmental Research, Department of Geography and Sustainable Communities. In Jakarta, Indonesia, he is the director of an exact office and the co-principal investigator, with Dr. Tomas Holderness, of [PetaJakarta.org](http://PetaJakarta.org). He is also a member of the SYNAPSE International Curators' Network of the Haus der Kulturen der Welt in Berlin, Germany, where he is co-editor, with Anna-Sophie Springer, of the *intercalations: paginated exhibition* book series as part of Das Anthropozän Projekt. He has taught visual culture, design, and design theory at the College of Environmental Design, University of California Berkeley; the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan; and, the Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design, University of Toronto.

*Image 1st page:* Wallace specimen of a *Semioptera wallacei* (Standard Wing bird of paradise) in the skeletal collection, Museum of Zoology, Cambridge University, UK; courtesy of Fred Langford Edwards.