



Beads of Identity and Woodcuts of Protest from North Borneo

by Pangrok Sulap in Collaboration with blockA.D.E.

brought to you by the Section of East Asian Art History

University of Zurich, Lichthof, Hauptgebäude, Rämistrasse 71, 8006 Zurich

Friday, 22nd of June 2018, from 10:00 to 18:00

Eleanor Goroh is a beader & poet based in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. She has joined exhibitions and recitals around Malaysia. In 2017, she started to play the traditional mouth organ to accompany her poetry with melodies. As an artist, she is exploring the traditional arts to trace back her indigenous heritage. Her exhibit *Roots & Seeds* will show her beadwork designs accompanied with her latest poetry, telling a story of her journey crossing borders in search for the oldest musical instrument in Borneo. Eleanor Goroh is a member of the *Tamparuli Living Arts Centre (TaLAC)* an independent artist-run residency in Sabah.

Beads are part of our costume heritage and act as repositories of knowledge. They were items of trade, a form of currency and status symbol within a society. Beads are tangible items, which carry stories, memories and identities.

Rico Leong is a woodcut artist, print-maker and illustrator from Ranau, the town by the foothills of Mount Kinabalu, Sabah, and member of Pangrok Sulap. He is based in Kuala Lumpur and had his first solo exhibition in 2017. Since then, he has been invited to workshops and presentations around South-east Asia. His woodcut print exhibition will show the pieces he has been working on for the past year, mainly depicting relations of men towards nature.

Woodcut is one of the earliest ways of printmaking before the invention of machines. It is a very pragmatic and low-cost way to spread messages to the masses. Today, it has returned as a DIY-method to make our own prints manually, instead of using the common printer machines.

BlockA.D.E. (Block Art of Direct Expression) is a two year old swiss woodcut collective, which was founded through the inspiration of the east asian social and political movement in relation with artistic tendencies and means of expression. There will be the occasion to talk and get informed about the history, backgrounds and actuality of the movement, as also the opportunity to learn more about the handcraft and workshops, which will be held in switzerland as collaboration projects of these two collectives.

We welcome everyone to join as and are looking forward to cross-cultural exchange.

For Questions please write to: mirco@ogge.ch

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