



## Made Bayak | Artist

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„I, Made Bayak, was born in Tampaksiring, Gianyar, and showed promising artistic and musical talent from an early age. I went on to study at the Indonesian Art Institute (ISI) Denpasar from 1999–2006.“

„I got my talent from my mother’s side of the family; my grandfather and my great-grandfather were lontar (Balinese ancient manuscript) readers and writers and also did lots of Rajah (mystical drawings in Balinese culture). At a young age, I liked watching them doing that kind of drawing and it influenced my own artistic practice.“

„As an artist, I have the freedom to create art today. Most people will feel the same after the demise of the Suharto capitalistic and militaristic régime. As for me, I got nothing from my early schooling. We were fed nothing but lies, history was hidden from us, and we were afraid to express our critical thoughts. I had to be a nice, good boy, who never made any trouble. But after the régime’s fall, everyone was freer to speak their mind openly without fear of being killed or going to jail.“

Bayak has developed a large social network, introducing him to many opportunities to participate in community outreach events. These events combine various modes of creative expression and are aimed at drawing the attention of young people, not just of Indonesian origin, but also from Bali’s international community, to the social and environmental issues that are relevant today. If you are a writer, you do this with the power of your words, if you are a musician you do it with your songs and your music, as an artist you can do it by the messages in your work.“

„My wife, Kartika Tri Dewi, who comes from Guwang Sukawati village, has an increasingly evident artistic pedigree. In her family, artistic activities such as traditional wood carving have been passed down from generation to generation on her father’s side, while on her mother’s side there are a number of traditional dance artists.“

„After we married, she gave birth to our son, whom we named Damar Langit Timur. Like children in general in Bali’s cultural environment, at first he really liked scribbling on the walls of his room and imitating Balinese dance. Then he was interested in the many forms that exist in Balinese stories and mythology, such as Barong, Rangda, Topeng Jauk, Naga, Gajah Mina and others.“

„All that pleasure can then be expressed in the form of visuals/ scribbles / pen sketches on paper. I remember him spending almost every hour with a drawing book and using so much paper. We have also held several family exhibitions. Apart from making individual paintings, I, my wife and my son have also done several collaborative works on large canvases measuring 3 × 2 meters.“