



The Timor Leste Project

*This is an Asialink Arts Residency Project supported by
the Department of Culture and The Arts, WA.*



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Culture and the Arts**

Artist Ange Leech and filmmaker Giovanni C. Lorusso are currently seeking to build a relationship with a number of Australian organisations in order to support a residency program between Australia and Timor Leste artists group Arte Moris.

The program has been initiated by us in collaboration with Arte Moris director Iliwatu Danabere and supported by Mount Eliza Rotary Club and Asialink with a \$12,000 grant for travel expenses and project costs.

It is our primary aim to establish an ongoing exchange program between Australian and Timor Leste artists creating new works to be showcased internationally with the involvement of established artists as well as younger generations, addressing the subjects that are relevant to the community and promoting the artwork and activity of Timorese artists to an Australian and international audience.

Our secondary aim is to gain a greater insight into the healing properties of community art.

We are interested in partnering with local community groups including health organisations, art centres and schools, as well as individual businesses keen to support the reciprocal residency program. We would graciously accept in-kind or financial support for the project acknowledging it throughout the media network.

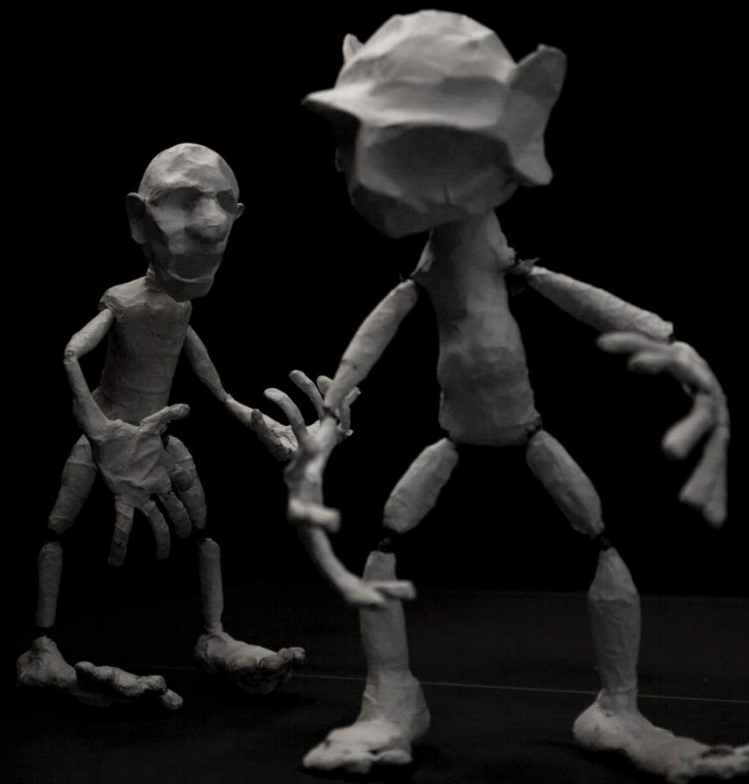
Below you will find informations about our work, the program and the supporting companies involved in the project.

Please feel free to visit our dedicated websites for updates on the project.

Giovanni's blog: gclorusso.com

Ange's blog: angeleech.com.au







PUPPET MAKING



PROGRAM DETAILS

The project is an artist in residence cultural exchange program involving artists from both Australia and Timor Leste.

The artists will spend 6 weeks combining skills including drawing, painting, music, puppetry and photography to deliver a series of stop motion film making workshops.

The final film will embrace local stories, traditional and contemporary art practices.

The artwork, props, story boards and scenes will be created using recycled and available material by artists and local community groups invited to participate in art workshops held throughout various districts.

Ange Leech
[angeleech.com]

Ange Leech is a visual artist who creates sculptures, animations, performance and installations. Her work has been exhibited widely throughout Australia and has received numerous accolades. Most recent projects include creating a short animation for a performance by international award winning author Neil Gaiman as part of the Mona MOFO Festival in Hobart Australia 2015.

Leech believes art is a valuable process within community development and currently facilitates projects in remote indigenous communities and at Eastern Goldfields Regional Prison in Western Australia, using artistic processes to address social concerns and support individuals to generate new skills and creative ways of thinking.



Giovanni C. Lorusso
[gclorusso.com]

Giovanni C. Lorusso is an awarded film maker and cinematographer that has been working in the past years on several experimental, commercial, feature and short form drama projects around Asia, Africa, Europe and Australia aiming at combining his research in philosophy of language with new forms of cinematographic expressions and collaborating with renown artists such as Mike Parr, Steve Kilbey and Amiel Courtin-Wilson with which he has recently worked as a 2nd unit director and cinematographer for the Australian and Cambodian feature film RUIN, winner of the Orizzonti Special Jury Price at the 70 Venice International Film Festival.



Kiki Ando - Guest Supporter
[kikiando.com]

Born in Shizuoka, Japan, Kiki moved to Australia in 2003 where she graduated at the Melbourne School of Fashion while working at the The Foundry Gallery and Studios and directing shows for the Melbourne Fringe Festival and several other fashion events. In 2006 Kiki moved to Berlin working as a musician, performer and designer. She has worked on collaborative projects as a costume designer for film / theatre and her own performance art projects.

From 2007 she has permanently moved to Australia initially operating for the RearView Gallery in Collingwood and collaborating within theatre, visual art and music, developing her unique hybrid practise.





Arte Moris
[artemoris.org]

Established in Timor Leste's capital Dili in February 2003, ARTE MORIS has become the first Fine Arts School, Cultural Centre and Artists' Association in the one of the world's youngest democracy. ARTE MORIS was born in the aftermath of 25 years of Indonesian military occupation and the extremely violent events following the August 1999 referendum leading to the country's independence restoration on May 20th 2002. Its primary aim was to use art as a building block in the psychological and social reconstruction of a country devastated by violence, with special emphasis on helping its young citizens.

The vision and day-to-day practice of ARTE MORIS is one of creativity, cooperation, and commitment to artistic endeavour. These priorities combine with an open door policy, to create an environment in which young Timorese people from all backgrounds can feel comfortable to participate in art making and express themselves freely through fine art. Part of the school's vision is to encourage students' personal growth, individual and communal self-esteem, and other life skills. While classroom settings primarily develop artistic skills and talents, just as important is the actual process of learning – with its associated successes and failures – in an atmosphere of guidance and encouragement which allows students to experiment, build self-confidence and expand upon their own vision of themselves and their new nation.

Asialink
[asialink.unimelb.edu.au]

This project has received funding and support from Asialink. Asialink works with business, government, philanthropic and cultural partners to initiate and strengthen Australia-Asia engagement on all levels and across all sectors. Asialink was founded in 1990 with the support of The Myer Foundation and The University of Melbourne .

Since 1991 Asialink's Arts Residency Program has provided professional development opportunities for arts professionals working in and across artforms, in exchange for the sharing of skills, knowledge and networks with local host communities. Asialink Arts Residencies are innovative, flexible and supportive, and are grounded in personal and enduring relationships.



all photographs © 2015 Giovanni C. Lorusso and Ange Leech

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