

**Press release, 13 March 2010**

## **Through the Eyes of Children Children's Art Expo in Bali March 21 – April 30, 2010 in Support of the East Bali Poverty Project.**

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(3/13/2010) The children assisted by the *East Bali Poverty Project's (EBPP)* will launch a second art exhibition on from March 21 – April 30, 2010 presenting 130 paintings in various mediums.

Following a successful inaugural exhibition held in June 2009, this year's exhibition will return to the *Three Monkeys Cuisine and Art Café* in Ubud. Last year's exhibition saw the art work of the talented mountain children snapped up by eager collectors, precipitating an early closure to the exhibition. Accordingly, the public is urged to visit this year event as soon as possible following its opening on March 21st.





Partially in response to the talent displayed at last year's show, a number of professional artists have visited the children over the past year to share their knowledge and skills. This has further emboldened the young child artists who now are experimenting with different styles and mediums across a broad spectrum of art. The subjects remain the same: Balinese temples, traditional ceremonies, finely detailed coconut palms, magnificent landscapes and the daily life in Bali's mountain villages.

The children, who live in one of Bali's most remote and impoverished communities, have discovered art as a means of expressing the dreams and aspirations for the future. The remarkable story of bottom up development implemented by the *East Bali Poverty Project* has been celebrated in a book "*Learning by Doing*" documenting the success of bringing water supplies, education and home gardens to the people of East Bali. That book, now distributed internationally, was illustrated with drawings made by the children of *EBPP*.

Despite the poverty of their region, the children have expressed strong sentiments to remain in their villages and develop a better future for themselves and their families. Relying on educational programs provided by *EBPP*, the children are busily developing skills, with creative art at the forefront, in the hope of establishing sustainable businesses as the vehicles for social and economic development.

The children of Cegi in East Bali recently established their own art cooperative "*Koperasi Sekolah Cegi Dewata Suka Maju*". Although still in school, many will graduate senior high school in 2010 and some, like Wayan Lias, with more than 50 paintings in the current exhibition, aspire to continue their art education and become professional artists.

The current exhibition has been made possible by *Bali Art Media* who have professionally framed 33 paintings and mounted 100 more, Balinese artist I Made Budhiana who has acted as a consultant, Don Jensen who has photographed much of the collection, and Sarita Newson of *Saritaksu Publications* who created invitations and catalogs. *Three Monkeys Cuisine and Art Café* have donated their premises for the exhibition.

### **Visions of Art Through the Eyes of Mountain Children – A Children's Art Exhibition**

**March 21 – April 30, 2010**

**Open Daily from 4:00 pm until 7:00 pm**

**Three Monkeys, Cuisine & Art Café - Jalan Monkey Forest, Ubud**

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