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PRESS RELEASE

Element Art Space

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Gallery Hours: Tuesday – Saturday: 11:00am – 7:00pm

Sunday: 11:00am – 6:00pm

(closed on Mondays and Public Holidays)

Erianto: Artificially in Order

Friday, 19 January – Sunday, 25 February 2018

Element Art Space is pleased to present Erianto's third solo exhibition in Singapore.

Known for his signature hyper-realistic paintings of cardboard packages and wooden crates, this art award-winning artist once again pushes the limits of painting in a phenomenal manner.

In the pursuit of hyperrealism, Erianto develops his practice by juxtaposing the wood fibre illusion with its unrelated or incompatible figures or objects visualisation in a surreal way. This incompatibility highlights the artificial sides of human relationships in modern civilisation.

The figures and objects in Erianto's paintings appear to be in order as a metaphor about human nature which is continuously driven to seek out people with common interests, organise social events and partake in a collective manner. In this new series, his works traverse the importance of holding a community together and draw inspiration from shoaling and schooling—a collective animal behaviour of many marine animals. This essential

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characteristic of marine life conveys a sense of purpose of living "for" others and beyond simply "coexisting" with others.

This particular ideology is evident in work titled 'Three Times a Day #2,' where the cardboard cut out of three fishes and a pair of fork and spoon are painted in his trademark style. This term 'Three Times a Day' signifies our bodies' need for physical sustenance but also how human beings need social contact and connection with each other, like our bodies need nourishment. Just as a school of fishes live in a colony, we live in a community and state with one another. Through these works, he emphasises on the sense of belonging and demonstrates the need for meaningful social connection.

ERIANTO b. 1983, West Sumatra, Indonesia

Yogyakarta based artist, Erianto, paints cardboard packages as well as wooden crates of various sizes on canvas creating the illusion that the packages and crates are real—a feat that could signify the end of painting itself. Through this series, this 34-year-old artist is portraying a studio of an artist after his or her unsold artworks are returned to him or her from an exhibition at a gallery. He pushes the limits of painting in an exceptional manner, evoking a sense of urgency to rethink painting as it used to be practised. His artworks blur the paintings with objects or two-dimensional artwork and three-dimensional artwork. Erianto has enjoyed international success having won awards such as the Bandung Contemporary Art Awards, Finalist of Tujuh Bintang Art Award, and exhibited in Hong Kong and USA.

Cover Image: **Erianto**, *Three Times a Day #2*, acrylic on canvas, ø 60 cm, 2017



Erianto, *Off The Table*, acrylic on canvas, 70 x 100 cm, 2017

PRESS ENQUIRIES

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