ARCHIPELAGO

- transitions seas islands ships cultures collisions connections transpositions

- is a social sculpture which has been developed by invitation of Lex ter Braak, Van Eyck Academy, October 2012

- was started as pilot project for Via 2018 Maastricht Cultural Capital with Tout Maastricht and Musica Sacra as co-producers, start beginning January 2013

- is a co-operation with foundation Moetiara Maluku of the Moluccan Community in Maastricht, start 24 May 2013

- is a long-term project with the over-all title ‘Archipelago’, start 17 January 2014

Archipelago

- contains several components:
  ‘Kejutan’, a sculpture and a polyphonic sound performance, 4x performed during festival Musica Sacra, at the Emperor’s hall of the St Servaes Basilica, Maastricht, 21 and 22 September 2013
  ‘Ikatan’, a ‘silent sound’ performance and several sculptures, planned presentation 2015
  ‘Kepulauan’, a frame story and a multi-media installation, presentation?

‘Kejutan’, ‘Ikatan’ and ‘Kepulauan’ are Malay words for respectively ‘Wonder’, ‘Connection’ and ‘Archipelago’.
‘The Land’, ‘The Sea’, ‘The Soul’ and beauty and destruction as metaphor are starting-points as well as group-processes, individual and community.
Research in politics and ethics for grasping the positive and negative effects of a continuously changing society, furthermore emphasizing on the Moluccan drama with roots in centuries of colonization.
Either the over-sea connection and mutual responsibility for each other’s habitat and welfare is part of research and elaboration.

Art as interface

As a visual artist, I am interested in how art and culture can capture a meaningful place in our society. I am convinced that art can have a linking, reflecting, informing and evoking function. Therefore this is only possible when the development arises from a focussed and personal empathy for people and environment.
My work evolved from direct and indirect contact with individuals and groups. Sometimes I work in co-operation whereby I function as an artist-director. Another time, the ‘work’ and
or ideas/thoughts of other people become part in my work. To be an artist melts together with being a curator.
Art becomes a connection through linking commitment, the global and the personal, Art will be an interface between people and cultures.

A social sculpture and the Moluccan community

Solidarity.
Fear, violence, conflict and destruction across from love, solidarity and beauty.
Lasting question is; ‘what connects us and what divides us, which path are we choosing to walk’.

The sculptures and performances are the result of a group process. They show us a timeless story of a close-knit community.
A community that needed to leave her homeland and for all that, they maintained their own culture with love and at the same time they evolve in the new land. Collisions were unavoidable while naturalizing.
With great wisdom, the older generations passes on their knowledge, experience and religion to the younger generations.
Respectful behaviour and education in their own culture are intertwined with the culture of the new homeland. The best of both cultures are used for a social mode of live that we can call very special.
Transpositions and transitions are the key point of this social sculpture.

The voyage

In autumn 2014, I will travel for the Moluccas with my assistant. Some people of the Moluccan community from Maastricht will join us. We have planned visits to Moluccan families who are spread over the Moluccas as well as the Netherlands. Furthermore, we will visit a NGO that provides art lessons at a school for disabled children.
We will collect video- and audio- footage, materials and stories for the planned art-works.

the concept will find its way towards ideas about ‘man and living’, ‘space/time’, ‘science, philosophy and art, crafts and design’.

Juul Sadée, March 2014