Portfolio

Krismarlianti
Donaldson

Artist Biography

Krismarlianti Donaldson was born in Indonesia and has been based in South Taranaki, New Zealand, since 2021. Growing up in a multicultural environment provided her with a unique perspective on human life and the human condition. The raw life experiences she encountered during her time in Indonesia have profoundly influenced her artistic process.

Krismarlianti is an artist with a cross-disciplinary education in non-art fields. She studied English literature, educational technology, and professional coaching in Indonesia and New Zealand. Her research on the meaning of life and emotional intelligence has enriched her creative process; however, she believes it ultimately guided her towards the path of visual art.

Krismarlianti actively exhibits her paintings in both Indonesia and New Zealand. She was recognised as the first-place winner of the Taranaki National Art Award 2022 and was a finalist for NZPPA 2024 in Waikato, as well as the 2025 Pittalo Art Review at The Sarjeant Gallery in Whanganui. Her work is included in several private collections in both Indonesia and New Zealand.

Artist Statement

Krismarlianti Donaldson creates work that provokes what is often unspoken. Her paintings are emotionally charged and invite viewers into a silent space of vulnerability and reflection. They articulate the unspoken truth, questioning the implicit realities and the essence of being. Her work is deeply rooted in emotional, spiritual, and lived experiences.

Growing up in a multicultural environment in Indonesia and now based in New Zealand has given her a consciousness of the essential meaning of being human. She rejects superficial harmony in favour of emotional truth and justice. Her paintings explore themes of grief, resilience, uncertainty, and spiritual inquiry through bold gestures, layered surfaces, vivid colours, and spontaneous mark-making.

She works intuitively and contemplatively. She employs oil and oil bars to create spontaneous free lines, utilising a finger-painting approach and applying oil directly from the tube. Her surfaces often reveal what has been covered, scraped back, or rebuilt. These methods express the psychological process of remembering, reminding, and embracing the unspoken truth of emotional experiences.

Krismarlianti Donaldson's work is a statement of raw emotions, silent pain, implicit contemplation, and unapologetic honesty. She challenges viewers to engage not just with what they see, but with what they feel. In her words, her practice is "emotional architecture"—a visual record of becoming, and an offering to those who seek meaning beneath the surface.

I truly Love You
Oil on canvas
90 x 90 cm
2024

Give me five minutes
Oil on canvas
90 x 120 cm
2024

Untold Stories
Oil on canvas
115 x 145 cm
2025

Tantrum
Art Studio

Email: krismarliantiart@gmail.com
Instagram: @krismarlianti
Website: www.tantrum-artstudio.com