

# **OPEN HOUSE TROMARAMA FOR KIDS**

**Artwork labels and didactics**

# Open House: Tromarama for Kids

Contemporary artist group Tromarama (Febie Babyrose, Herbert Hans, Ruddy Hatumena) have built a house inside the Gallery, and everyone's invited to play. Inspired by ordinary places inside the home, this exhibition is a little bit extraordinary – familiar places, from kitchen to bathroom, are transformed into creative spaces filled with surprises.

Tromarama make videos through a process called 'stop-motion', which makes objects seem to come to life. *Ting\**, 2008, features cups and plates that abandon their dull lives in the kitchen cupboard and head outside in search of adventure and *Wattt?!*, 2010, sees a mischievous desk lamp holding a party.

Made especially for Open House, children can enjoy Tromaramix – an app designed to introduce the artists and the stop-motion process, enabling kids to make their own animation to share with friends and family.

The three young artists met when they were studying art in Bandung, Indonesia. They have since shown their films in many exhibitions, and discovered the world together. In Indonesia, when you arrive at someone's house it is customary to knock on the front door and say, 'Permisi?' ('May I come in?'). Now Tromarama invite you inside to have some fun!

# NGV Kids

*Open House: Tromarama for Kids* reflects the National Gallery of Victoria's commitment to providing exhibitions and artist projects especially for children and families. Through collaborating with contemporary artists, the NGV aims to engage children in art and with cultures from all over the world, enabling them to experience the diverse and creative ways artists approach their work.

**The NGV wishes to thank The Dewhurst Family for generously supporting *Open House: Tromarama for Kids*.**

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Tromarama filmed their local neighbourhood in Bandung, Indonesia, especially for *Open House*. The artists would like to thank their friends whose daily lives feature in the films.

Kitchen scene: Anna Atmaja and Heni Nuraeni

Guitar lesson: Aidan Omarr Andriansyah and  
Andri Priyasudarma

Girl playing with kittens: Harashta Jannis Andriansyah

Dinner time: Surasuci Sangkaranita Chairin Noer

# Unbelievable beliefs

2012

stop-motion animation with fabric,

2 min 57 sec

sound by Bintang Manira

Collection of the artist, Indonesia

This film is about the time we spent in Jogjakarta as artists in residence. We noticed that the people there are quite superstitious. For example, if somebody new moves into a street, their neighbours cook yellow rice to make sure nothing terrible happens.

We realised that we're all influenced by the stories our parents and families tell us, as well as by our everyday experiences. The stories become part of our lifestyle, but it is not easy to see or understand how. The floating green fabric is our attempt to make visible the atmosphere of living in Jogjakarta.

# Ting\*

2008

stop-motion animation with porcelain tableware,

2 min 47 sec

sound by Bagus Pandega

Collection of the artist, Indonesia

The idea for *Ting\** occurred to us while we were having a cup of tea. We thought the lives of cups kept in the cupboard and taken out when someone wants a drink were similar to the lives we were leading at the time – only leaving the house to go to work, then coming back home again at night. Perhaps the cups would like to play outside with their friends, just like we wanted to!

See if you can spot three cups that represent us in the film; the biggest cup is Febie, the middle-sized is Herbert and the small one is Ruddy.

# The lost one

2013

stop-motion animation with maneki neko,

04 min 36 sec

sound by Bagus Pandega, Hendra Budiman

Collection of the artist, Indonesia

The gold cats in this film are often on display in shops, restaurants and cafes, waving their paws at customers. The shopkeepers believe the statues bring luck and help them make lots of money. Do you think these statues could have such special powers?

We removed their arms and filmed them wandering about looking for their missing parts. Many of us are a bit like the shopkeepers and the lucky cats – we think to ourselves, wouldn't it be wonderful if I was lucky and had lots of money? My life would be complete!

Do you think money can buy happiness?

The young girl in this video is Surasuci Sangkaranita Chairin Noer – one of Tromarama’s friends. She is at home and talking to her mother while having lunch. If you are learning Indonesian at school, perhaps you can understand their conversation.



# Wattt?!

2010

stop-motion animation with various lamps,

5 min 48 sec

sound by Kulan

Collection of the artist, Indonesia

One day, out of the blue, we received a very expensive electricity bill. We were shocked and surprised!

We wondered if we had left the air conditioner on for a long time, or forgot to turn off an appliance? We did not want to think seriously about it, so we imagined that the lights and lamps had a party while we were asleep. Look for the desk lamp hosting the party and spot the neighbours' lights that turn up for the fun.

We've installed a dance floor so that you can join the party. Let's see your latest dance moves!

# Everyone is everybody

2012

stop-motion animation with various objects,

3 min 35 sec

vocals by Yori Papilaya, Lidyawati and Yasmina Yustiviani;

music by Hendra Budiman and Bagus Pandega;

mixing by Herman Wong; lyrics by Tromarama

Collection of the artist, Indonesia

In Indonesia many people have become quite rich in the past couple of years. To show their wealth they often wear expensive clothes and buy luxury brands. Some people are so impressed by expensive houses and fancy outfits that they pay less attention to the real person underneath.

We wondered what the clothes have to say about being a part of this human world, so we made this film and wrote the song to show their point of view.

# Zsa Zsa Zsu

2007

stop-motion animation with buttons and beads,

4 min 42 sec

music by RNRM

Collection of the artist, Indonesia

Indonesian pop band Rock N Roll Mafia saw one of our first stop-motion videos and asked if we would make one for their song 'Zsa Zsa Zsu'. The title comes from words used to describe the excitement and butterflies in your stomach when you meet someone you really like and want to be with.

Making stop-motion animation films is fun, but also hard work. It took us three months and twelve kilograms of buttons to make this video clip. We thought buttons would create an interesting effect – we use them a bit like paint to colour the scenes.

# Nothing is what it seems

2012

stop-motion animation with flowers and paper,

3 min 50 sec

sound by Bagus Pandega

Collection of the artist, Indonesia

Some of the flowers in this film are real, while others are artificial. Can you tell the difference? These days, a lot of images of nature seen in advertisements or on TV have been created on a computer. With a couple of clicks a grey sky turns blue, muddy waters become clear or marks on a face disappear. It is confusing. This film is a reminder to ask what is real and what isn't in an image when we look at it.

Hey kids!

Did you know it takes approximately twelve photos to create just one second of animation film? Tromarama have created Tromaramix, a stop-motion app to make your own film with.

To get started, choose a couple of toys from the bath, select a booth, follow the instructions and discover the magic of stop-motion animation. When you have finished, email your film to friends and family.

# Pilgrimage

2011

single channel video, sound,

4 min 18 sec

sound by Sandy Adriadi

Purchased NGV Foundation, 2012

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In making this film, we used lots of different toys and objects and filmed many homes and places. At the time, we were talking about our beliefs and the different religions and faiths all over the world.

We know there is no right answer and that everyone has a different point of view. The circle, which has no beginning or end, and many different rotating objects represent these thoughts.