

New from DOM publishers:

Imelda Akmal

Architectural Guide Indonesia

Indonesia is Guest of Honour at this year's Frankfurt Book Fair. Whereas there literature will be celebrated, the *Architectural Guide Indonesia* takes a look at the architecture of the archipelagic state and fourth largest country in the world. More than 17,000 islands are spread over a distance as far as London to New York. In the course of its long history, a diverse culture fashioned by local traditions has been established. Equally diverse and complex is the architecture itself, from which the author Imelda Akmal has selected the real gems for this book.

The Indonesian architect presents about 130 buildings in the 400-page publication with a focus on modern architectural history. Indonesia is a construct and has existed since gaining independence from Holland and Japan in 1945 – a nation which combines ethnic, cultural, religious, linguistic and of course architectural diversity under the motto "Unity in Diversity". Architecture is also linked to the search for national identity. The book follows this path between the traditional and the modern without neglecting to closely intertwine the past.

More than half of the Indonesian population lives in Java. The capital Jakarta is growing simultaneously with many other places into the urban agglomeration of Jabodetabek which is Indonesia's largest economic region with currently around thirty million inhabitants – with this figure set to increase in future. Therefore the largest chapter is devoted to Java and Jabodetabek. This is followed by the popular tourist destination of Bali and other individual projects in several islands. Worth mentioning is also the post-tsunami architecture in Sumatra, including for instance the Tsunami Museum in Banda Aceh. Finally, the last chapter examines vernacular architecture based on traditional construction methods.

Introductions containing illuminative details put individual projects into context. These provide an informative insight into the architecture of a country whose search for a unique architectural language – which integrates local traditions and at the same time finds answers to the current situation – has not yet been completed. Numerous photographs present a lively portrait of current life on the islands.

DOM publishers also channels its focus to the far east of Asia with architectural guides on Yangon, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Pyongyang, Japan, Tokyo and Delhi.



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The travel guides by DOM publishers are intended for those interested in building culture and are presented in a convenient format. A careful selection of projects and expert proofreading make these books a (lexical) reference work, while background information and a fresh design stimulate imaginary journeys. The series was awarded an Iconic Award 2014 by the German Design Council.

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