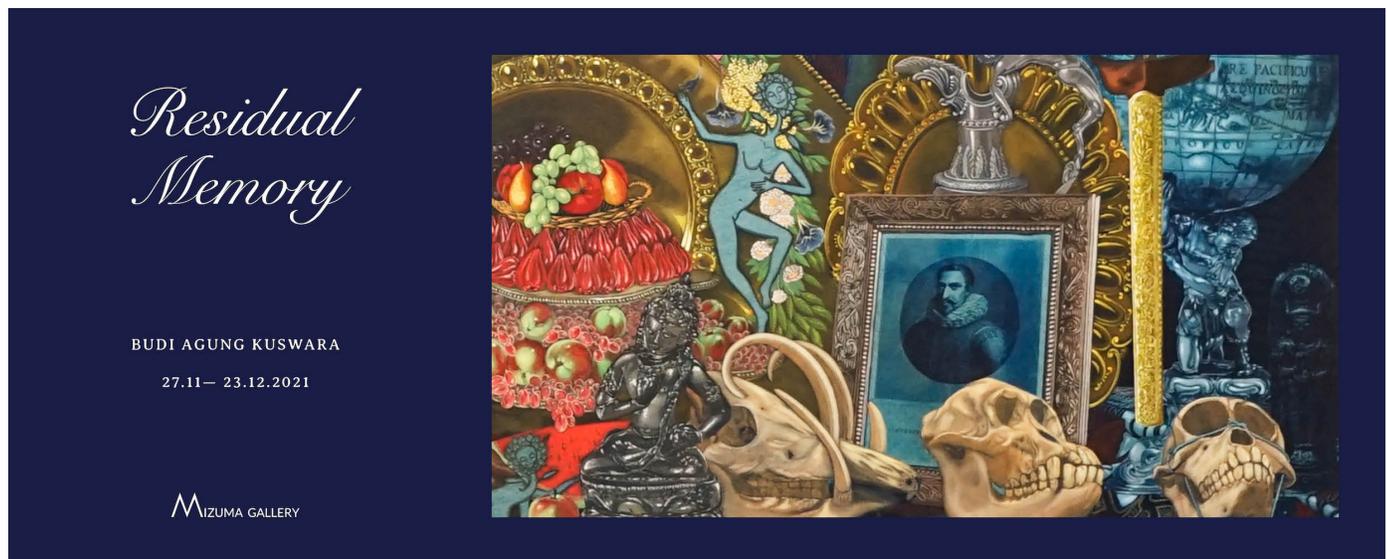


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## *Residual Memory*

Budi Agung Kuswara

27 November – 23 December 2021



Mizuma Gallery is pleased to present *Residual Memory*, a solo exhibition by Indonesian artist Budi Agung Kuswara.

Budi Agung Kuswara's paintings celebrate the treasury of aesthetic and cultural influences on the Indonesian archipelago. Trained in *kamasan* painting, Budi retains the intricacy and delicate linework of this traditional art form in his contemporary works, marrying these baroque sensibilities with observations on social tensions and dynamics.

His new body of work continues his interest in archival images, in particular, images related to Indonesia's history and culture. These documents of the past are retrieved from the public domain, and reworked into lavish still life paintings, bringing together vestiges from different eras into an assemblage that explores the varied facets of 'Indonesian' culture and identity, while simultaneously recalling the European tradition of *memento mori* or *vanitas* paintings.

Central to the spirit of Budi's work is the use of cyanotype to create his images. This process, which relies on sunlight to bring images into being, is the artist's way of connecting his work and his time, with the past eras of the images he works with, from the premodern kingdoms of the Singhasari and Majapahit, to more recent colonial histories. Through the sun -- the same sun that has presided over thousands of years of human history -- these older, ancient histories and past eras are all present in Budi's contemporary re-telling: one of many arcs in a larger cosmic cycle.

*Residual Memory*, the first solo exhibition by Indonesian artist Budi Agung Kuswara in Mizuma Gallery, will run from 27 November to 23 December 2021. In conjunction with the exhibition, Mizuma Gallery will publish an e-catalogue with images of artworks by Budi Agung Kuswara and an exhibition text written by Tan Siuli.



Budi Agung Kuswara, *Defragmentation #2*, 2021, cyanotype, acrylic on *kamasan* canvas, 200 × 145 cm  
© Budi Agung Kuswara, courtesy of the artist and Mizuma Gallery.

## About the Artist



**Budi Agung Kuswara (b. 1982, Bali, Indonesia)** graduated with a Bachelor in Fine Arts from the Indonesia Institute of Arts (ISI), Yogyakarta, Indonesia in 2009. His major exhibitions include *Arus Berlabuh Kita* at the Asian Civilization Museum, Singapore (2018); *Love Me in My Batik* at ILHAM Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (2016); *Floating Desires* at TAKSU Gallery, Singapore (solo, 2012); *The Wax on Our Fingers*, a collaboration with Singaporean artist Samantha Tio (Mintio), at the Indonesian Contemporary Arts Network, Yogyakarta, Indonesia (2012); and held his first solo exhibition, *i.self* at Komaneka Fine Art Gallery, Bali, Indonesia (2009). He has also undertaken residencies at Bamboo Curtain Studio, Taipei, Taiwan (2016), Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, Fukuoka, Japan (2012), and TAKSU Kuala Lumpur, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (2012). Budi Agung Kuswara lives and works in Singapore and in Bali, Indonesia, where he co-founded Ketemu Project Space, a visual collective and social enterprise hybrid with focus on social engagement.

## About Mizuma Gallery

Executive Director Suelo Mizuma established Mizuma Art Gallery in Tokyo in 1994. Since its opening in Gillman Barracks, Singapore in 2012, the gallery aims for the promotion of East Asian artists in the region as well as the introduction of Southeast Asian artists to the international art scene. From 2014 to 2019, the artist residency space “Rumah Kijang Mizuma” opened in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, to create a new platform for dialogue by supporting exchanges between East Asia and Southeast Asia. Later in 2018, “Mizuma & Kips” in New York, USA, as a shared collaboration between Mizuma Gallery from Tokyo and Singapore and Kips Gallery from New York.

## About Gillman Barracks

Set in a former military barracks dating back to 1936 and surrounded by lush tropical greenery, the Gillman Barracks visual arts cluster was launched in September 2012. Gillman Barracks’ vision is to be Asia’s destination for the presentation and discussion of international and Southeast Asian art. Today, Gillman Barracks is a place for art lovers, art collectors, and those curious about art. The cluster is a focal point of Singapore’s arts landscape, and anchors the development of visual art in the region and beyond. For more information: [www.gillmanbarracks.com](http://www.gillmanbarracks.com)

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### Mizuma Gallery

22 Lock Road #01-34  
Gillman Barracks  
Singapore 108939

Gallery hours:  
Tue–Sat: 11am–7pm  
Sun: 11am–6pm  
Closed on Mondays &  
Public Holidays

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COVID-19 update: In accordance with the current advisory from the Singapore Government, we require all visitors to check-in using TraceTogether and to wear their masks during the duration of their visit. For more information, please visit: [www.mizuma.sg/news/notice-to-visitor](http://www.mizuma.sg/news/notice-to-visitor)