

Bandung Design Biennale 2021**EXCAVATE: Mapping The Commons Across The Spectrum**

1st – 30th of November 2021

Bandung Design Biennale [BDB] 2021 proposes *Excavate: Mapping The Commons Across The Spectrum* as its central theme. Held between the 1st of November and the 30th of November, BDB'21 intends to complement and regenerate the domestic panorama of the design context by mapping various actors through an excavation of thoughts, objects, and actions as a form of value diversification.

In an excavation process, each finding will certainly be an indication of the involvement and connection of each element: discipline, actors, and the knowledge contained in it. Thus in the process, BDB'21 will undergo the stages of identification, interaction, and participation which are expected to jointly be able to bring up alternative thoughts and practices, as well as enrich the potentials and solutions for the community. Curated by Prananda L. Malasan [Design Science Researcher], Krishnamurti Suparka [Interdisciplinary Practitioner], and Herry Sutresna [Designer], BDB will respond to various ideas, objects, and practice findings into several programs in the format of showcases, discourses, and public archives.

BDB'21 invites all actors and the public to convey all forms of thoughts, objects, and actions, as responses to the general themes. The submissions will be processed in the format of showcases (exhibitions, installations, etc.) and discourse (seminars, discussions, etc.), or as contributions in the process of mapping via public-archive submission (artifact/documentation of text and photos, etc.) that are reflective to the kinds of thoughts, objects, and actions of the Bandung creative ecosystem.

Bandung Design Biennale 2021 aims to dig more into how creative explorations can be shifted outside the conventional exhibition format. How might open-ended experiments and critical questions that touch economy, environment, society, and culture can be the first step for all of us to re-answer?

Online Public Presentation

31st of July 2021 at 15.30 pm

Main Event

1st – 30th of November 2021

Open Call Submission

1st of August 2021 – 27th of August 2021

Bandung Design Biennale 2021 Program Announcement

7th of September 2021

Curatorial Proposal**EXCAVATE: Mapping The Commons Across The Spectrum**

Prananda L. Malasan, Krishnamurti Suparka, Herry Sutresna

Substantially, design is a method of solving problems, but it is important to understand that it necessarily create problems at the same time. It is not only an endeavor to set conditions but can also make them more complex. The design also includes material and immaterial aspects. Design not only seeks to change the 'status quo' but also reconstructs various alternatives.

Today, when we are facing a multi-crisis that is off-centered, we are challenged with a tendency to answer the existing problems through the commodification of life point-of-view, at its core on uniformity: solely economics. When the essence of design and creativity are the efforts to improve the quality of life, shouldn't design also be able to map out various alternatives from the totality of 'economical' motifs that dominate design thinking nowadays?

The design has a huge opportunity to find the antithesis of the totality of this uniformity. By realizing, mapping the "commons" of the design landscape—products of social interaction, such as code, language, information, and existing forms of knowledge—as capital to operate a decentralized immaterial work, co-operate, network, and collaborate.

By all means, these new alternatives may be born if, in the process, we acknowledge the diversity of values that are continually produced by various actors. In this case, design should be able to increase the opportunity to involve the work of transdisciplinary and solve the community problems on improving their quality of life.

BDB 2021 does not seek to formulate practical solutions, but it wants to be a vehicle in initiating the mapping process of something that was previously hidden or "under the radar" to become visible. So that alternative thinking and action will be born as a result of incorporation between various actors within the spectrum. If collaboration, cooperation, and sharing are some of the other options, mapping the diversity of potentials, methods, and resources should be the place to start.