



AHMAD SADALI
from the estate of Mr. Hendra Hadiprana

LARASATI AUCTIONEERS
10 December 2024 | Evening Sale

Ahmad Sadali's 1980 acrylic on canvas with a working titled called **Abstract**, as stated in both books published by Galeri Hadiprana, was actually titled **Bidang Beige & Bongkah-Bongkah** by the artist, written on the back of the canvas. Measuring 90 x 80 cm, it stands as a compelling example of modern Indonesian abstract art. A pioneer of the modern art movement in Indonesia, Sadali drew upon a synthesis of Islamic spirituality, Indonesian cultural heritage, and contemporary abstract expressionism, culminating in works that resonate deeply with viewers.



Hendra Hadiprana

The painting is dominated by a bold and textured ochre field, contrasted with deep earthy beige colour at the bottom. The use of gold in Sadali's work often signifies divinity, spirituality, and transcendence, echoing his deep spiritual faith. The abstract geometric forms subtly present within the composition evoke the architectural essence of Islamic art, such as doorways or sacred spaces, drawing the viewer into contemplation. The rugged texture of the surface, created through the layering of paint, adds a tactile dimension, symbolizing the imperfection of the earthly world and the dynamic process of creation.

Sadali's hallmark approach—blending abstract visual language with spiritual depth—creates a meditative quality in **Abstract**. The muted palette, dominated by ochre tones, exudes warmth and radiance, which can be interpreted as a metaphor for divine light or enlightenment. This interplay between material texture and symbolic meaning reflects Sadali's background as a scholar and his understanding of art as a bridge between the physical and the metaphysical.

Through this painting, Sadali elevates abstraction beyond mere aesthetic exploration, making it a medium for spiritual dialogue. It embodies a universal message of introspection and reverence while remaining grounded in the artist's cultural and religious identity.

As such, **Abstract** is a testament to Ahmad Sadali's enduring legacy as a key figure in modern Southeast Asian art.



SADALI, AHMAD (1924 - 1987, Indonesian)

Working Title: Abstrak (Abstract)

Title by Artist: Bidang Beige & Bongkah-Bongkah

Painted in 1980; acrylic on canvas; 90 x 80 cm; signed and dated on lower left; artist's label on the reverse with artist's handwritten inscription "Bidang Beige & Bongkah-bongkah"

S\$ 38,000 - 55,000

Provenance: From the Estate of the late Hendra Hadiprana

Literature:

- Hendra Hadiprana, *Mengenang Lintas Seni*, Galeri Hadiprana, Jakarta, 2002. Illustrated in colour, p. 149
- Agus Dermawan T., *Titi Sani Hendra Hadiprana dan Koleksinya*, Galeri Hadiprana, Jakarta. Illustrated in colour, p. 200



The present lot at Hadiprana's residence in Jakarta



LARASATI AUCTIONEERS

Tuesday, 10th December 2024
8 pm Singapore / 7 pm Jakarta
Hadiprana Gallery

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