

artwork

ISSUE 45 DECEMBER 1999





Published by:

Community Arts Network of SA Inc (CAN)
1st Floor 197 Hindley St Adelaide SA 5000
Ph (08) 8231 0900 Fax (08) 8231 0977
SA country freecall 1800 245 678
Email: cansa@adelaide.on.net
Website: http://www.cansa.on.net

CAN is a non-profit, membership based organisation that promotes cultural development by supporting community arts.

CAN

- works towards a society in which cultural diversity, artistic expression and human dignity are valued and supported
- promotes and supports excellent processes and practices in community arts
- advocates for community cultural development and community arts
- supports artists, artworkers and communities in work which supports these aims.

COMMUNITY ARTS

Arts practice and creative expression are at the heart of a community's vitality. People have always come together to sing, tell stories, enact rituals, to celebrate, to mourn and to mark significant events in their lives. Besides being able to see great art, people need to actively participate in these activities. This is what is meant by the term community arts, it might be a new name but it is not a new idea.

LOCAL CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

It is through the things we do together as groups and communities that we gain a sense of collective identity, a sense of place and a sense of belonging. When we value these things a positive concern for our social well being follows and we begin to take charge of our present and shape the future to meet our aspirations.

Editor - Julia Tymukas
Sub Editor - Jane Russell
Design & Layout - Jayne Amble

Cover: 'The land is our life - give us back our land', 6 x 6m banner. Produced for land compensation case for farmers from West Java. Photo: Heidi Arbuckle.

CAN is assisted by the Commonwealth Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body and by the South Australian Government through Arts SA.

All material is copyright 1999. Permission must be sought to reprint articles and to reproduce graphics. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the publisher.

ISSN 1033 - 0216



c o n t e n t s

TARING PADI: INDONESIAN ARTISTS AND POLITICAL CHANGE

1 The past two turbulent years in Indonesia have created an opportunity for a group of artists to begin to forge a new way of cultural and political expression in a country where, for more than thirty years, the voice of the people has been suppressed. Heidi Arbuckle traces the rise of the Taring Padi artworkers.

THAILAND'S MAKHAMPOM THEATRE GROUP: THE SWEET AND THE SOUR

7 Community theatre worker and cultural activist, Richard Barber, describes the model of volunteerism practised by Makhampom, an experimental community theatre group in Thailand, and examines whether such a mode of operation could translate across the cultural boundaries to Australia.

THROUGH THE FLY'S EYE: A MYRIAD OF VIEWS, PERSPECTIVES AND ANGLES

13 In his address to a forum in October this year on 'Our diversity - our heritage: Partnerships for Migration Heritage', organised by the NSW Migration Heritage Centre, Frank Panucci assembled a range of arguments centering on the themes of 'community', 'multiculturalism' and social and cultural policy and posed some challenges to commonly-held beliefs.

HIP HOP: A WORLDWIDE CULTURE WITH A LOCAL RELEVANCE

17 Hip hop, the youth dance culture 'for people who don't fit in', has been celebrated in the musical *Bass Anger*, a Melbourne youth theatre project which helped put young women centre stage, as Jacqui Sundbery writes.

GETTING REAL ABOUT YOUNG PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO LIVE: A WESTERN AUSTRALIAN EXAMPLE

21 If artworkers and policy-makers are serious about involving and empowering young people in the arts then they will have to get real about handing over power to them, says Travis Beasley.