

FROM IDANNA PUCCI

Words for Dr. Djelantik

Inauguration of his Room at ARMA in Bali 9. Januar 2008



I write from Florence, my native city which Dr. Djelantik enjoyed immensely. Everything he saw here awoke his artistic perceptions. For me, it was such a privilege to see his joyful expression in front of art, and listen to his comments, always original and unexpected.

This room devoted to him is so important. We all now have a place to come when we want to be in his company. For those who did not have the chance to know him, here they will find inspiration.

I will never forget the time I first saw the 3 watercolors he had painted in Bandung at the encouragement of Bulantrisna. She knew this would be the best therapy to help him recover from his long coma. Enthusiastically, I told him that he must continue to paint... and if he did, I promised him we would make a book together.

Seven months later, when I returned to Bali, I found Dr. Djelantik in his home, and surprisingly he was surrounded by 35 watercolors! He smiled amused while he explained the story of each painting. He seemed as astonished as I was about his works. It was as if all those paintings had fallen miraculously from the sky.

Jonas Salk, the inventor of the polio vaccin, used to say that: „In life we must all try to be good ancestors.“

For me, Dr. Djelantik represents the one person I know who lived by this principle.

This room will serve as a place to meet him whenever we need to bring poetry and humanity back into our lives.