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PRESS RELEASE – for immediate release –

THE “GERMAN SEASON” ARRIVES IN INDONESIA

2015 marks a special year for the relationship between Indonesia and Germany, two countries that have enjoyed a long-lasting friendship and close cooperation for many years.

In October, Indonesia will come to public attention in Germany as the Guest of Honour country at the Frankfurt Book Fair, the biggest fair of its kind worldwide.

At the same time, the German Season will be presented in several of Indonesia’s major cities from 5 September. Under the theme “Together Towards the Future”, the German Season is the biggest Indonesian-German festival to date in the region.

At the initiative of the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the German Season will be held for three months in cooperation with the Goethe-Institut Indonesien, the German Embassy in Jakarta and the German-Indonesian Chamber of Industry and Commerce (EKONID).

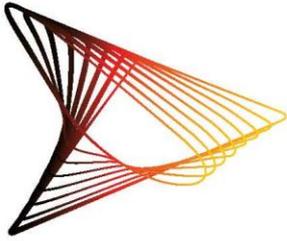
“Based on good and trustful bilateral relations, both Germany and Indonesia are leading nations in their respective regions and G20 member states. Both are willing and ready to shape the future by responding to the challenges that are lying in front of us,” says Dr. Georg Witschel, Ambassador of Germany to Indonesia.

“Because of its increasing importance, Indonesia will be the Guest of Honor country at the Frankfurt Book Fair in October. In this context, the Goethe-Institut Indonesien, the German Embassy Jakarta and the German-Indonesian Chamber of Industry & Commerce (EKONID) thought that there should be an event in Indonesia reflecting the above stated but not primarily focusing on culture but presenting a comprehensive overview of the bilateral relations. Therefore we started to elaborate the German Season in spring 2014.”

The German Season kicks off on September 5 with the screening of Fritz Lang’s silent movie masterpiece “Metropolis” at Teater Jakarta, accompanied live by 60 musicians of the renowned German Film Orchestra Babelsberg.

In addition to the event at Teater Jakarta, the first public screening in Indonesia of the original full length version of “Metropolis” will also be accompanied by an open air live broadcast screened in the public forecourt that can accommodate thousands of spectators.





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After the opening on September 5, many more high-quality events held in the spirit of partnership are coming your way over the course of three months.

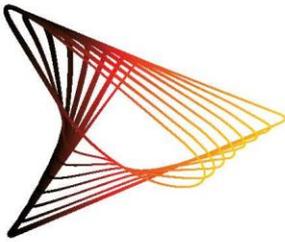
The varied program includes: choirs from Germany and Indonesia that combine their voices and perform as one group; Indonesian artists who have the opportunity to meet their German counterparts and create unique works together; children and young adults learning about scientific issues in an entertaining way; and exhibitions invite visitors to travel to experience different cultures of the world. Seminars and conferences on current political and economic issues are also part of the Jerman Fest. These are but a few details of the colorful program of the Jerman Fest which aims to present new and innovative formats.

“Cooperation and innovation’ is the motto for the cultural programs of the German Season. We want to facilitate direct working relationships between exceptional Indonesian and German artists and test new formats: be it the collaboration between young Indonesian musicians and composers with the world-renowned Ensemble Modern, or the cooperation between the puppet theater of Papermoon (Yogyakarta) and Retrofuturisten (Berlin); Teater Garasi and Rimini Protokoll collaborate for the project ‘100% Yogyakarta’ which reflects urban society and includes laymen during the stage performance,” explains Heinrich Blömeke, director of Goethe-Institut Indonesien.

“The invitation of four renowned German authors to Indonesia for a one-month residency is a bridge to Indonesia’s role as Guest of Honor country at the Frankfurt Book Fair 2015: the authors will give an account of their experience in Java, Sulawesi or Lombok during the book fair as well as in important German media. Some of the projects initiated by the German Season will also be presented as part of IndonesiaLAB, a performing arts festival,” he adds.

The German Season is designed to foster a creative exchange between Indonesia and Germany, to further strengthen the relationship between the two countries so that a solid foundation for a successful future can be laid.





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"Indonesia is in a transition process towards modernization and urbanization. Modern technology will be needed to develop a more value-added economy and to produce high-quality goods according to international standards, as well as a sophisticated and sustainable living environment. German companies can provide the necessary technologies for Indonesia's future transformation and development process," says Jan Roennfeld, Managing Director of the German-Indonesian Chamber of Industry & Commerce (EKONID).

We would like to thank everyone who helped us to make the „German Season“ possible, in particular our partners Bosch, Hotel Indonesia Kempinski, Allianz, BMW, DB Schenker, Bayer, Ferrostaal, Lufthansa, Nivea, SAP and Siemens.

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AT A GLANCE

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