



Finding Subud's Role in the World

Lynnelle Stewart , from the USA, writes about the Gathering in Poland...

In July, people from 30 countries arrived in Poland - between 300 and 400 I think - and Ibu Rahayu sent a long welcome message. I hope it is published somewhere soon. This gathering is evidence that Subud is still alive and active.

The setting was a peaceful nature resort on a lake in northern Poland - 2 hours or so from Warsaw. There were actually two resorts - one housed the "family" camp, where there were many creative and other adventure activities for kids and families, including animation and art workshops that we all saw the results of later.

I stayed at the other resort. I loved swimming in the peaceful warm waters of the lake, along with the ducks, surrounded by forests of fir and other trees at my resort.

Testing and Kejiwaan

The "business" meetings - SDIA, SESI, SIHA, SICA, Zonal and so on - were held at "my" resort. I didn't attend any of them, as I needed every second of latihan and kejiwaan time.

Testing and kejiwaan activities went on daily, and I was acting as a helper part of the time, which was very interesting, as I was working with Hassanah Wilson of England, who I know.

She is a former international helper with wide experience and great heart. She knew some of the people from Ukraine and Turkey whom we were working with. It is astonishing to meet



People talked...



People took risks...

“ People from many countries shared the importance of the latihan. Miraculous! ”



people from such countries and share the truth that the latihan is also the most important thing to all of them - that alone is so miraculous.

I found myself called upon to act as helper, so did what I could and learned I had something real to offer by sheer Grace..

Also, I really needed help myself. Every second of latihan, plus personal testing about my future.

The Role of Subud in the World at this Time

The large group kejiwaan testing flowed on, day after day, and much of it was focused on the BIG changes that seem to be coming to the world and how we are guided to be in the face of them. Countries have serious problems everywhere - and people need to know how best to respond to what is disturbing and happening in the world around them.

For example, there was an airport evacuation (fear of terrorist attack) when a suitcase was left behind at Warsaw Chopin airport, as I was leaving Poland.

Interestingly, Pope Francis visited Poland at the same time as our Congress, only south in Krakow. There were youth groups who travelled far to see him and give service - both Catholic and evangelical Christian groups were present in Poland.

Questions about the role of SUBUD in the world at the current time, and our individual roles within that far greater purpose seemed important and some had powerful receivings.

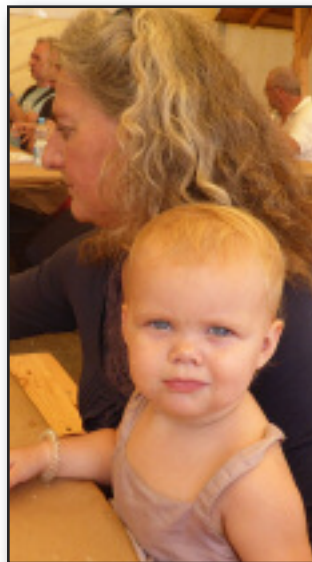
My receiving went from the small weary and solitary latihan I have done at home recently to very large receivings about the world, end of life, etc. I filled a journal with them.

Old Friends

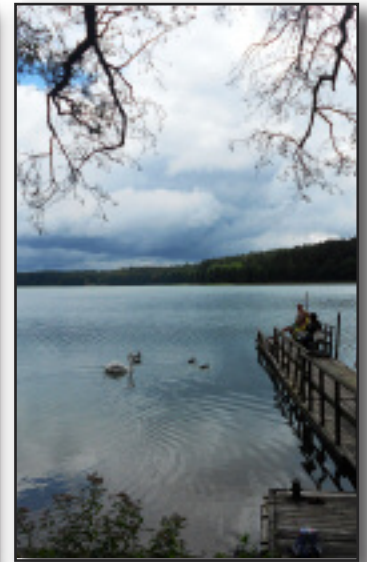
It was also wonderful to meet old friends from around the world, and two of them tested with me how to be concerning my job. Two other new acquaintances helped to determine and confirm my own receiving about my next important step - which is the upcoming celebration in Indonesia about Bapak's opening of



There was coffee...



at least one baby...



and there were lakes...



and youth...



the first person.

There will be a tour of significant places in Bapak's life and it seems that I MUST go... well, that is a pretty powerful message that I hope will give me courage and strength to carry on.

There were many cultural events...including a brilliant pilot TV film called "Finding the Warrior Within", a film created by Guillaume Sanchez, Pierce Vaughn and Björn Vaughn; and a documentary film called "The Coffee Man", produced by Roland Fraval, which recently won best documentary at Melbourne, Australia documentary film festival.

I personally participated in a writer's workshop and came up with the kernel of a possible children's picture book. I'll work to develop and improve it.

The SICA "Cultural Compass" has been developed by SICA chair Sebastian Flynn arising out of his work with refugees and displaced persons. But the program deals with issues of identity and direction in life that can be relevant to us all. It is a very therapeutic program.

I also liked the project from South Africa called "I Protect Me", developed by Monica Clarke, which involves the whole community in teaching children and women to protect themselves against violence, South Africa being 'the rape capital of the world'.

It is an excellent project in good hands that is earning recognition for successfully doing such important work.

[Back to Work](#)

I start back to work tomorrow. On August 18th I'll be 70 years old - never dreamed I'd live so long.

Finally, after many years of living in an area where local latihan is not available, I have realized that I shall ultimately need to live where there is latihan nearby.

The situation of feeling alone, in an overwhelming world, without latihan and family support, will become untenable, as I grow too old to hold a job.

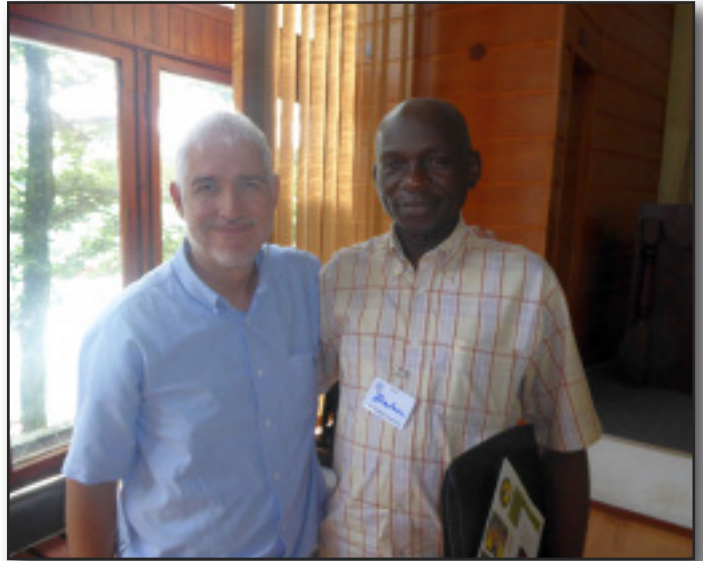
For now, I head back to work feeling appreciated for my "incredible capacity and talent" (supportive comment from a Subud sister), which should help me deal with co-workers here. Hope so anyway.

Thank you so much for your kindnesses and interest...

Love and blessings to all... Lynnelle

Editor's Note: Thank you for photos posted by Maya Korzybska.

“ *We need to know how to respond to the disturbing happenings in the world...* ”



We are multi-national, multi-cultural...



And if music be the food of love, play on!

Subud Britain Congress

Sebastian Paemen writes...

The Subud Britain National Congress was held from 7-14 August. We've been in Great Malvern in Worcestershire for the last four years and this was the first time we used the premises of Culford School near Bury St Edmunds in Suffolk, 30 minutes from Cambridge.

The school sits in 480 acres of parkland with grazing, formal gardens, lake, and the 16th-18th Century Culford Hall. Most of us immediately liked the vast amounts of space which surrounded the buildings and which gives the place a lovely peaceful and harmonious atmosphere.

The children in particular looked very happy with plenty of space to roam around. Around 260 members attended Congress, including 50 children. This was less than previous years and might have to do with the Zonal meeting in Poland which finished a week earlier.

Full Program

As usual we had a full program with the focus of the first four days on social and family activities. From Thursday till Sunday the Congress proper was held and that's when many of the delegates arrived. Kejiwaan activities took place throughout the week.

The regional helpers manned the helpers desk for personal testing and also organised the kejiwaan workshops. Talks by Bapak and Ibu Rahayu were played daily. Several people particularly liked listening to a talk just before latihan.

All sorts of workshops were held during the entire week and on Saturday evening we watched the traditional creative explosion of the 'Subud Britain's got Talent' performances. On Friday evening a meeting was held between members of National Council and those who were involved in the St Anne's Project in Lewes.

Many of the members who were part of this project are feeling very disappointed by the decision of National Council earlier this year not to support the project. This gathering was an important first step to reconcile with each other. It was felt that our brothers and sisters in Lewes very much need the love and support of the rest of Subud Britain to help with the healing process.

The Congress team, headed by Donald Rust, did a truly fantastic job in organising this 57th Subud Britain National Congress.

Ilaina Lennard adds...

Special for me – now that I have to use a stick, were all the people who helped me get around. I was very touched by their awareness of my needs. So many of them offered me an arm, gave me a lift, or fetched me coffee and food.



The British Congress was held in August at Culford School in Suffolk.



Inside the main building.

“ *The children were very happy with plenty of space to roam in...* ”

“ *The place has a peaceful and harmonious atmosphere...* ”

A very noticeable Congress feature for me was also its extraordinary synchronicity. No doubt many others experienced that during the time together. Synchronicities were the usual kind, when you suddenly meet just the person you are looking for. On one occasion the person I was really wanting to talk with, just at that precise moment appeared in front of me.

For me the most moving and significant event was the talk about Calais and the efforts that Lewes are making to raise money. We saw slides of this appalling, desolate place known as the Jungle. Plus photos of young lads holding up notices saying things like "I want to become a doctor". "I am looking for my family" "I want to go to University and study science" or just "I am on my own here, please help me." Two young Lewes members had been to Calais 25 times, bringing food and clothing.

I thought, this is the kind of thing - making soup to raise money for these suffering people - that Subud should be doing all over the country. Perhaps Lewes has given us a project we can work with.

When I saw those poor young lads and their notices, I was moved to tears.

Next month there may also be news about some of the workshops that took place. For now, I will just add that we have a very competent new National Chairman in Pollard Blakeley, of Subud Exeter. Tested as the most suitable of three promising candidates.

Contact Pollard on +44 (0)1392 882442, or email: pollardblakeley@gmail.com ●

Islam in Oxford

Sebastian Paemen is strongly involved in the Muslim community in Oxford, UK...

People usually associate Oxford with one of the most prestigious universities in the world. What most people don't know is that it is also one of the most multi-cultural cities in the UK. About a third of the population of 152,000 were born abroad.

One of the ways in which Oxford's cultural diversity is expressed is by the many different religions which are represented in this ancient city and who all have their places of worship here.

Since 2003 the annual Oxford Interfaith Friendship Walk has been a popular event for those who like to befriend followers of other religions. The walk starts at the beautiful Oxford Jewish Centre and synagogue and from there on meanders through the streets of Oxford, stopping at other places of worship, and ends with a meal at the Central Mosque.

Joint religious services between Jews, Christians and Muslims are sometimes held and during Ramadan people of different communities are invited to break the fast together at a Big Iftar meal.

Oxford has got a lively and diverse Muslim community. About 10,000 Muslims live in Oxford, the majority of whom are of Pakistani origin, but you'll find Muslims from virtually any Islamic country in the world studying or working here.

Earlier this year the media paid a lot of attention to the election of Sadiq Khan, the first Muslim mayor of London. Over the years there have been several other Muslim mayors before him in smaller towns in the UK too. In May Oxford elected it's second Muslim lord mayor in the last 5 years. (In recent years Oxford also had Jewish and Christian lord mayors).

Oxford's two universities both have thriving Muslim student organisations who engage in a great variety of activities like talks by guest readers, charity fundraising events, prayers, meals, etc.

The Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies (OCIS) a Recognised Independent Centre of the University of Ox-



Interfaith walk...

“Oxford has a lively and diverse Muslim community...”

ford is housed in a spectacular new building which blends the architecture of traditional Oxford colleges with classical Islamic styles. It includes a mosque with a dome and minaret, a new addition to the famous Oxford skyline.

Eid Celebration

Last month the Oxford Eid al-Fitr Extravaganza was held for the second year. Over 3000 people from different backgrounds attended to celebrate the end of Ramadan and help raise money for the Oxford Homeless Project, a local charity run by a group of Muslim women who provide curry meals for the homeless and needy.

The OHP is a growing organisation which now also helps homeless people in other ways. Recently a homeless man was 'discovered' by the OHP and supported to audition for The Voice. His life has completely changed as a result of this as he now has made an album, does regular gigs and will appear on TV.

Against a backdrop of terrorist attacks, growing Islamic puritanism - spreading a corrupted version of Islam - and widespread Islamophobia spurred on by the biased Western media, people sometimes seem to forget that most Muslims are ordinary peace-loving people who go about their business and contribute to society like anyone else.



Nheoh (left) and Sebastian Paeman. Formerly homeless, Nheoh has found a career as a singer thanks to the support of the Islamic charity, Oxford Homeless Project.

SPELL WINS BIG AWARD

Spell and the Gypsy Collective is a fashion business run by Elizabeth and Isabella, the daughters of the current Subud Australia Chairman, Hussein Briedis.

The business has just won Australia's most prestigious business awards, the 2016 Telstra NSW Business of the Year. (Telstra is Australia's biggest telcom.)

They first won Best Small Business in New South Wales and then went on to carry off the big prize, Best Business (of any kind) in NSW.

This Byron Bay fashion and lifestyle brand has a growing international presence, with vintage-inspired eclectic clothing, accessories and homewares, all with a modern-bohemian touch!

Proud father, Hussein, told me an interesting story. Apparently Elizabeth first got bitten by the enterprise bug many years ago when she worked serving coffee at a Subud Australia congress. That has led to this. "From little things big things grow." Spell employs 50 women in Byron Bay alone.



Spell sisters Isabella and Elizabeth.

THE WORLD IS THE WORLD

Harris Smart reflects on a video about enterprise from 1997...

Hadrian Fraval, SESI chair, gave me a video to watch and asked me to comment on it.

The video was made in 1997 by an SES team in Australia to be shown at the Spokane World Congress. It is a snapshot of how Subud enterprise activity was at that time. A time capsule, a postcard from the past.

There are some enterprises shown in the video which are still with us today. Hadrian's company, Rofin Australia, a world leader in forensic instruments. Isaac Goff's Dharma Trading in San Francisco.

But, of course, much shown here is no longer with us.

We still had S Widjojo then and Premier Hotels was looking very good. A lot of people thought Premier hotels was gonna pull us out of the hole. Through Premier hotels we were all going to recoup the money we had lost in Anugraha. It was the hopeful spearhead of an enterprise revival.

Because we'd been through a pretty rough time. We could have done with a little success, a little cheering up...

Two Duties

As we all know, from the very first when he appeared in the West, Bapak was urging people to set up enterprises and giving lots of explanations about why and how to do this.

He said there were two duties in life, the spiritual and the material. Make it back to heaven and do enterprise.

And some people did set up enterprises. But they tended to be boutique type enterprises. The sort of thing that people interested in spirituality like doing. Enterprises like bookshops and health food restaurants.

1971 World Congress

Then in 1971 at the World Congress in Cilandak, Bapak gave a whole new enterprise message. He made it clear that he was talking about big enterprises. He was not talking about bookshops and health food restaurants. He was talking about banks and office blocks and cement factories.

He initiated the chain of events that eventually led to the setting up of Bank Susila Bakti in Indonesia. And the idea of the bank was that it would be a financial institution which would fund the development of Subud enterprise.

And it did. Its first and major achievement was to provide the foundation funding for the building of S. Widjojo. By any standards it was an amazing achievement. A beautiful building, well-suited to the market, a success!

Bapak's words and Bapak's example then inspired a fever of "major" enterprise activity. We had Anugraha in England. We had Project Sunrise in Australia. Purnama in Japan and so on and so on and so on.

Bapak wanted to sell S. Widjojo and build a five-star hotel. Then he introduced us to Kalimantan. A whole complex of projects. A housing development, mining, agriculture.

And then it all went bust, pretty much. One by one, the dominos went down, or they didn't produce the big results that were expected of them. Mining in Kalimantan. Dragging on and on. Noble effort but never actually seeming to get there.

Premier hotels was going to save the day and make it all alright. And we watched as Premier hotels expanded. Hotel after hotel. Spinoff project after spinoff project. It was unbelievable. And then somehow that all went bust as well.

“Bapak was talking about banks, office blocks and cement factories...”



The S Widjojo Building..



Anugraha under construction.

Of course, there have also been many success stories. Connelly Temple in Australia was one such. Started off in a spare bedroom and finished off a significant financial institution. And, of course, at the World Congress in Puebla we heard many other success stories.

“ Don't give up!
Keep on trying! ”

Good Advice

This video I've been watching contains a great deal of good advice. There are video clips of Bapak talking about enterprise and many of the intrepid entrepreneurs are also interviewed.

I have called this article "The World is the World" because one thing that everyone agrees upon is that you've got to be practical. Don't mix the spiritual and the material. Trevor Dempsey, a member of an Australian enterprise called Dricom, alas no longer with us, summed it up very succinctly, I thought when he said, "the world is the world."

There is plenty of other wisdom in this video. There is plenty of talk about how necessary it is, and how challenging it is, to work together in a team. Others talk about the need for determination. Don't give up. Keep on trying.

Many of these messages can also be found in the series of Success talks from the Puebla Congress. So it seems we have the wisdom, but there still often seems to be a gap between knowledge and implementation.

Well, that's not so surprising. I mean Subud enterprise is pretty new in the world. We are still learning. Inevitably we made mistakes. We can look at these enterprises like Anugraha and Premier Hotels and we can recognize the mistakes that the people running these enterprises made. But of course it is easy to be wise in retrospect.

The way I see it, these were not individual mistakes, these were collective challenges. This was a collective learning. Some people, probably the best and most adventurous of us, had to stand up and take it on the chin for the rest of us. It was very easy to criticize those inside the kitchen, but it was quite a different thing to be in the heat of the kitchen.

I always thought that maybe all these enterprise failures were like manure or mulch in the soil. You have to build the soil. You have to enrich the soil. There are bound to be mistakes and you just have to dig them in and enrich the soil.

Where is the Hope Today?

But what about today? Where can we look for new hope? Is there any way out of the disillusion that many felt with the collapse of the "major projects".

One sign of hope is a group of young entrepreneurs in Jakarta who believe sincerely in Bapak's words and vision, for Kalimantan and for enterprise generally, and are already doing interesting and significant things.

See the article "Enterprise to be a key theme at Basara". For this article and other articles about enterprise go to www.subudenterprise.com

Hadrian Fraval comments... There is an important distinction Bapak made between "Normal Enterprise" and those carried out as "Subud Enterprises" which aim to have co-operative harmony (each person working in his/her strength without interfering with others contribution) with reduced self-interest and using profits for Subud projects.

There is no doubt that this is a hard concept to put into practice in this World at this time! ●

Enterprise to be a Key Theme at Basara

Tauhid Panji, Subud Youth Chair for Indonesia writes about four young Subud entrepreneurs and how enterprise will play an important role at Basara...

Basara Youth Camp is an international youth gathering that will be held from December 29, 2016 to January 7, 2017 in Rungan Sari, Central Kalimantan, Indonesia.

The world today is full of many success stories of emerging young entrepreneurs and start-ups, some of them running businesses that have had a life-changing impact to the world we once knew; some others creating products and services which, though not with impact as far-reaching as the first, continue to address and fulfil the needs of the changing landscape of day-to-day life of people and businesses.

The thing is, with all the learning opportunities available today, young people have gone a step forward to be more creative, to think of their own income in innovative ways. And for many young people, this means entrepreneurship. In the workplace things are also changing; we often hear about 'millennials' how they like to learn, crave more connectedness, disdain hierarchy, and care about making a positive impact on their community.

How is it with young people in Subud? How could being in Subud help one become a successful entrepreneur, or become a vital individual in the workplace? How could one seek the inner talent that one has, and apply it to enhance one's life quality? Basara, a seminal Subud Youth event which will take place this December in Kalimantan, will be a great chance for young people to explore these questions. Besides the various enterprise activities it's gonna have, Basara is also a great opportunity to connect with youths who have set an example by starting their own enterprises. These young people have also been involved in the making of Basara by contributing the skills they also use to support their business such as marketing, graphic design, management, etc.



Tauhid Panji, Subud Youth Chair for Indonesia



One of these youths Basara has been lucky to have is Anwar Lowther, who is currently running his own men's streetwear named Lowtherco in Jakarta, Indonesia after previously running a 3D architectural rendering company in Perth, Australia. He started Lowtherco just a year ago, learning from zero and in a comparatively short time had learnt everything he needed to know about starting a clothing business. Recently Lowtherco has just been endorsed by Soto store, a men's concept store originally from Berlin, Germany, which was an important step for the business. You can check Lowtherco's collection in www.instagram.com/lowtherco

Eka Juliana, a Youth from Jakarta is running Felinin, a women's clothing brand, while still finishing her degree in business management. Eka started Felinin in 2013 with her friends, one of whom de-



signed the clothing. Starting from last year, she took a different and bold turn by creating her own simple yet elegant designs for her brand which are loved by many. Find Felinin's collections in www.instagram.com/felinin



Mashudi Sumohadiwidjojo runs Halefine Shoes, a male shoe brand which he founded with his college friend. Mashudi is also still completing his degree in business management in the same campus as Eka. Earlier this year Halefine Shoes had also launched a shoe polish product to complete its main business. Check out the brand's collection in www.instagram.com/halefineshoes



Intan Hakim, a student of International Relations, is running Tsaibucha, a fermented tea beverage that offers a healthier choice and a lot of anti-oxidants. It is a brewed kombucha made by fermenting sweet tea with good probiotics. See more about Tsaibucha here: www.instagram.com/tsaibucha

Besides these youths, we are also sure that there are still a lot of you young people out there who have enterprises and projects that inspire and set a good example to others. Or maybe you always want to be like these people who already own and run enterprises at such a young age, but don't



yet know how to start. If you fit these descriptions, we look forward to meeting you in Basara this year so that we can share, connect and learn more together about enterprise.

Like what you see? Like to contribute?

Besides the enterprising youths whose stories are described above, many young people in Subud are also not earning. Some do freelance works that are not yet promising them a stable income; some are yet to have jobs and don't know how or where to find one; some have to use their earning to help their families; some are still in school or college; and the list goes on. Without any financial aid, it will be really difficult, if not impossible, for these young people to go to Basara.

“ At Basara we can connect and learn more about enterprise.. ”

This is why the Basara team has setup a fundraising goal of \$10,000 to help them participate particularly from Asian countries. Bapak has always emphasized the need for us to do enterprises. It is hoped that by going to Basara, they will have the opportunity to make a deep connection with themselves, awaken their dreams and talents as well as find inspiration from endeavours that other youths and older members have started in the field of enterprise, and take something back to their life after Basara which will help them work on their life goals. No matter how little, your help is very much appreciated. If you would like to donate to this fund, please go to www.basarayouthcamp.com/donate.

For other articles about enterprise go to www.subudenterprise.com ●

BASARA UPDATE

It's 4 months left to Basara, and the young people are starting to prepare their travel and book their tickets to Indonesia. Around 40 youths from 11 countries have registered. Please visit our Facebook page to see the participants' profile and some demographics information. This August is a perfect period to book your tickets to Jakarta and Kalimantan as the price is still low.

The Basara team can help you arrange the local flight. If you have already filled your form, please contact us for more details. The mid bird period is also running until end of September, so make sure you get it because the registration price will increase afterwards. See you in Basara this December! <https://www.facebook.com/basarayouthcamp> From the Basara Team ●

SICA SECTION

Our Subud Story

Isti Jenkins writes about her visit to Poland and her "Our Subud Story" project to collect the stories that make up "our living legacy"...

The trip to Poland was a smooth one until we reached Warsaw Airport. Our shuttle bus did not arrive but we joined up with six other Subud members so hanging out together was good opportunity to chat, especially to the younger ones!

I was pleasantly surprised and encouraged by the enthusiasm of the younger generation of Subud members who were keen to hear 'Subud Stories' from around the world.

“ Responding to the Youth to explore their Subud legacy.. ” >

Those interested were willing to interview and record stories of their parents and grandparents and were given interview questions along with a SICA consent form to do so.

Myrna Jelman, later in the Gathering, ran a Workshop called 'Sharing Subud Stories'. Although there was a good attendance unfortunately most of the youth had departed well before the end of the Gathering.

Myrna conducted the workshop at first by pairing us for 10 minutes so we could both listen or tell each other our stories.

After this exercise we divided into small groups to sit under the Topic of our choice such as : Experiences and memories of Bapak or How and why we joined Subud?

'Our Subud Story' is simply a response to the request from the Youth to help them explore the legacy left to them. Also an opportunity for them to make their contribution to the unfolding of Our Subud Story.

One of the stated aims of the Basara Youth Camp is for young Subud members to find out more about Bapak, Subud, the Latihan and Kalimantan. The initiative for Basara and its aims comes from Subud Youth.

They first started interviewing older members during the Mexican World Congress. I successfully created a follow up workshop during our Australian National in January 2016. Where four of our second generation members recorded 10 Subud stories, some are still being transcribed.

The Basara Youth Camp presents an ideal opportunity to launch this as a SICA Pilot Project before the World Congress 2018.

Rusyadah Ziesel, one of our SICA directors from Germany has offered to visit the venue at Freiberg to select suitable spaces for SICA activities.

We hope that 'Our Subud Story' at Freiberg will begin with an empty space into which dozens of contributions will arrive; perhaps where even performances such as 'Play-back-theatre' may happen or where old and new Subud members can share and record!

Love, Isti ●



Myrna Jelman (closest to camera) ran a Subud story workshop in Poland.

INSIGHT: AN EXPLORATION OF THE SPIRITUAL IN ART

is an exhibition organised by Alena Kennedy & Libby Bloxham in the Wollongong Subud Group which is located on the coast south of Sydney.

The exhibition opened in a celebration with other creative activities on the Wollongong property on the weekend of July 15-17 2016. Alena and Libby describe their aim as “celebrating diversity in spiritual expression thru visual; art, performance and workshops...”

Alena Kennedy writes... Libby and I are visual artists and good friends. She has been active in the Wollongong area over the years organising cultural fund raising events for charity and for Circus WOW, a women's circus group, of which she is a member.

She and I were co-founders (with other artists) of IAVA (Illawarra Association for the Visual Arts) in 2011 and since then it has grown to include 42 professional artists of the Illawarra region. Our aim is to cultivate and promote art and artists in our region in an environment of mutual friendship and support. Libby and I have for some time hoped to facilitate artists to express the

“ The arts are a valuable vehicle for communicating a spiritual or inner experience... ”

subtler, more personal and spiritual aspects of their work and to encourage appreciation in the community of the role of intuition and spiritual expression in our culture.

We believe, as Bapak suggested, that the arts are a valuable vehicle for communicating a spiritual or inner experience. We also wish to promote interactions, understanding and harmony in our multi-cultural community.

How It All Came Together

This project became possible because of the confluence of two factors:

Subud Wollongong decided to open up our beautiful premises to activities involving the community which are harmonious with our normal use of the place. An art gallery was decided upon and it was set up with a hanging system in readiness for an event.

Around the time Libby and I were still wondering what to do and how to do it, we became aware of the SICA grant, whose deadline for applications was looming. It caused us to focus our thinking in a hurry and to decide how we would run it. We are very grateful for its contribution to the event.

The event was to hold an exhibition of "Spiritual Art" on the Subud property Hillside Farm. Thirteen artists submitted their work, four of whom are Subud members. This is the perfect number for this space. Mitchell Reese, the Australian SICA chair person was our guest speaker.

We also had some interesting events through the weekend: sound baths with Alchemy Crystal singing bowls; an Argentine drumming performance and workshop; a laughter workshop; an inspirational walk and 'quiet time' on the hill, and an intuitive workshop in 3D construction or mandala making. The whole event had a lovely, inclusive and inspiring energy.

The Future

We now plan to create a series of exhibitions which focus on spirituality in art and artistic forms of expression. We wish to highlight the value of 'inner' and spiritual artistic expression by creating high quality exhibitions on this theme. We aim to:

Provide opportunities for artists from the local and wider community to meet, discuss and express meaningful and spiritual aspects of their lives through art and other forms of artistic expression.

Encourage participants: artists, viewers, workshop participants to engage in meaningful interactions around the broad experience of spirituality, regardless of spiritual/religious orientation; and to facilitate recognition of the similar experiences which may be had by people of different belief orientations.

Through the process of a shared human/spiritual/creative experience, to appreciate diversity of belief and expression and contribute towards harmonious relations between people from a wide variety of beliefs and ideals.

“ We opened our beautiful Subud premises to activities involving the community... ”



Argentinian drumming performance by Older Woman's Network.

Connect Wollongong's diverse community groups and facilitate harmonious, joyful and accepting interactions between groups and individuals in our community.

Provide artists with the opportunity to instigate and respond to a direction in art (spirituality) which may not be included in the current mainstream trends.

Combine the art exhibitions with performances and workshops on spiritual themes.

We are looking forward to a second exhibition to be called SYMPHONY: CELEBRATING DIVERSITY THROUGH SPIRITUAL ART to be held at Project Contemporary Artspace, Wollongong. March 2017 and incorporating Harmony Day.

Harmony day celebrates cultural diversity. Our exhibition focuses on the spiritual aspect of human experience, with an emphasis on unity in diversity. 'Unity in diversity' is a concept of "unity without uniformity and diversity without fragmentation". It focuses on the idea that diversity enriches human interactions.

SUBUD AND NON- SUBUD ARTISTS

The INSIGHT exhibition included thirteen artists including four who are in Subud: Libby, Mardijah Simpson, Lorraine Allen and myself.

The exhibition was attended by 104 visitors, some of whom enjoyed the performances and participated in the workshops, or relaxed in the cafe on the deck. All seemed to be happy to be there and many expressed their appreciation for the event and remarked on the beauty and peace of the surroundings.

The works and written statements by the artists were a wonderful reflection of the diversity of aspects of spirituality which may be experienced in people's lives. They ranged from simplicity of feeling to thought-provoking profound insights which might open one's awareness to how others interpret spiritual experience.

LIBBY BLOXHAM

I have always contemplated what lies beyond the physical boundaries that we know. Most of my work springs from this contemplation. My belief is that everything is interconnected and all part of one thing. I call it the 'oneness'...

I am moved by the idea of love being the only religion. I am moved to constantly try to come more in tune with the oneness and learn to be always motivated by love and live for the whole. I believe art can heal, inspire and teach and is part of the healing and growth process.

MARDIJAH SIMPSON

Our hands are crucial to living in this world - to hold, to wave, to sign, to caress, to create, to pray. From the earliest of hand prints on rock walls to the present - they have been very much present in visual imagery throughout all cultures.

I was very moved to discover that the small stained glass hand I was given in Cordoba at the Jewish Museum in the house of the 12th century Spanish philosopher Maimonides is also a symbol in Christianity and Islam. Known as The hand of Mariam - sister of Moses or The hand of Fatimah - the youngest daughter of Muhammad they are beautiful and powerful symbols of women, peace, protection, blessing and more.



*The Hand of Fatimah... the Hand of Mariam"
by Mardijah Simpson.*

ALENA KENNEDY

When my children were young they helped me to realise that an open heart has a huge capacity for awareness. My son at the age of four, said: "We can fit more inside us than outside us". My prayer now is for my heart to grow 'as wide as the ocean' (a prayer suggested by Muhammad Subuh, the founder of Subud). In my paintings I attempt to depict something of the mysterious life forms and landscapes of my 'space within'.



"Mandala" by Lorraine Allen.

LORRAINE ALLEN

As I was recovering from cancer and a divorce I was re-assessing my life and making choices to aid my healing physically and emotionally. I had a strong impulse to draw. My drawings started small at first, then got bigger and more intricate, always starting from the centre and working out in a circle. While I was drawing I became immersed to the point where nothing distracted me and I felt peaceful.

I realised that the mandalas were windows into my true self.

KATE STEHR

Kate is currently engaged in a Masters of Philosophy - Creative Arts (Research) on the translation of traditional narratives into sculptural form.

The current series of works, entitled 'The Reimagined Tale', are predominantly carved from timber, with the central assemblage offering further insight into the works conceptual basis. The individual characters chosen, such as the Minotaur in Ovid's Metamorphosis... are recognisable players in the tales.



"Minotaur" by Kate Stehr.

LATIFAH WINS AWARD

Latifah Taormina was the Recipient Hearts & Arts Award at the screening of the film "Normal People Scare Me Too" on Saturday August 13.

Latifah won the award for her "out-of-the box support and dedication to social justice, the arts, and world peace", via Poems for Peace, and more.

The Art of Autism, a California non profit organization, is a collaborative of over 500 autistic artists from around the world. They present Hearts & Arts Awards throughout the year to individuals who make a high vibrational difference in autism/disabilities, mental health, social justice, the environment, women's issues, and other concerns of humanity.



Award publicity image...

Other recipients include Lynn Crandall, Director of the USC Institute for Genetic Medicine Art Gallery, Elaine Hall, Founder Director of the Miracle Project and California Assemblyman Adrin Nazarian. This was a YES Salon International film/art event at Cinefamily. YES Salon is an associate member of SICA . WHAT IS NORMAL ANYWAY...expanding our capacity for Being Human.

EXPLORING CREATIVITY IN POLAND

SICA Chair Sebastian Flynn writes...

During the Zone 3/4 gathering in Poland, SICA Board member Rusyidah Ziesel and Subud Britain SICA Support Group Board member Raphaella Sapir created a wonderfully fertile environment for Subud members to explore the inner and outer aspects of their creativity.

The SICA workshop theme 'Keys to Creativity' was initiated by Rusyidah first in Hungary, with practical arts exercises geared towards exploring personal inner creativity. Along with the multi-arts approach, the workshops also encourage the exploration of culture and creativity via a series of tests:

How do I express this creativity in my daily life?

What is the obstacle to my fully expressing my creativity?

How do I overcome this obstacle?

How do I feel in my current occupation?

How is it when I carry out my work in a way which is in accordance with my true inner nature?

Feel and show the SICA content within you.

These tests, together with the following tests from Ibu Rahayu (below), are all part of the approach to becoming familiar with one's I - and how that can best be established for the benefit of ourselves and those around us.

One or two of the tests explore the recognition of the relationship between health and creativity - something which SIHA and SICA will be exploring together at workshops planned for 2017 in Belgium.

Rusyidah and Raphaella are really forging a strong direction in providing a creative space and much inspiration for those wishing to explore their creativity. Plans are underway to continue this process at Basara Youth Camp in Kalimantan in Dec/Jan and in the planning for the World Congress Cultural Program in 2018.

There was a growing sense in the initial World Congress planning meetings at the Poland gathering, that cooperation and collaboration between the wings will help to forge a new direction and incentive to individual and collective initiatives in the world. Questions for Testing from Ibu Rahayu:

Where is my I? *Feel your name - connection to God so you respond when called.* Pray for your parents. *Ask for forgiveness.* Receive the movement that will improve your health. *What is my true culture?* How can I feel it? *How do I express it in the world?* What blocks me? *What helps me?* What is inner/outer health? *How can I feel it?* How do I express it outwardly? *What blocks me?* What helps me? *What was Bapak's vision of... when he created it.* Where is SICA within myself?



Raphaella Sapir of Lewes group led workshops in lantern-making creating many beautiful lanterns especially those that adorned the concert and meeting spaces.

SEAN AXELROD: CONVERSATIONS

Melbourne sculptor and Jewellery-maker Sean Axelrod is having an exhibition in Sydney at the Stanley Street Gallery 10th August - 3rd September 2016.

"In his current exhibition Conversations, Axelrod creates layers of dialogues in his works – a dialogue between the body as a landscape and the artworks; and a dialogue within the works, between images, ideas, materials, colour and shapes. Axelrod's exhibition creates a stage where conversations are taking place to create the narrative of the artwork – a fragmented conversation, that unifies itself to create story."

Gallery Address Stanley Street Gallery 1/52-54 Stanley Street Darlinghurst, NSW 2010 Australia.



Art work by Sean from "Conversations".

CONCERNING CIRCUMCISION

Robiyan Easty writes...

“ *I became several hundred feet tall, with a feeling of nobility...* ”

Circumcision is one of the first things mentioned in the Bible, in Genesis, ‘as a sign of the covenant between you and God’. Those of you who have had it done as adults, in full consciousness, know very well the depth of surrender required. To those ‘anti’ guys, who are always with us, I have often pointed out that as a Jew, Jesus Christ would have been circumcised and also not have eaten pork. So circumcision is fundamental to two of the three monotheistic religions, being removed from Christianity by St Paul, I believe.

But circumcision in St Albans group had nothing to do with religion. One of the helpers had developed an embarrassing twitch in his face and tested about it at the UK congress. The helpers and he received that it was ancestral in origin. When they tested what could be done about it, one of them received a cutting sensation you know where. The answer was a resounding unanimous yes when they tested if circumcision was the solution. And so it proved to be. The twitch disappeared overnight.

Then several of us decided to test. Testing how it would be to be circumcised was much like tests about getting married: great movement and energy, many things coming in, some painful and difficult. It was fascinating that the significant test was how it would be not to get circumcised. The other active helper received that his latihan was keeping him in one place, just stopping him going backwards. Marcus received that it was like death.

For me? Everyone was rolling around the hall, doubled up. Sudarto used to say that men have two heads and that’s why they think too much (I’ll leave you to imagine what he said about women (-;-) Well my inner head was definitely lodged down there, to do with introspection and emotions, not just sex. But Bapak told us that most of men’s problems originate from there. So I determined to get it done as soon as possible.

Going to See Dr Naseem

Every summer holiday my former boss at Marconi Instruments gave me a job. I had a full grant for university, covering accommodation as well as tuition – it was in the period BT (guess!) – and so could save enough to go to Cilandak for 4 months from the congress to the end of Ramadan, ’71. This was a gift of immeasurable value, but that’s another story. I decided to get circumcised before going, feeling that I should go through the gates that much cleaner.

And so I decided to join the steady stream of young Subud guys making the trip to Dr Naseem in Birmingham and duly made an appointment. Robert Rayment agreed to accompany me. Came the appointed day, I stumbled out of bed, having not slept a wink to discover that my car had a punctured tyre.

When I went to put the spare on, that too was flat. No other car was available so that was the end of that. But the feeling to have it done before going to Indonesia was very strong, so Robert agreed to take me on the way up to the UK congress. Only years later did he tell me that in the car from Dr Naseem’s to the congress venue, he felt very ill, a common experience for those accompanying.

In Cilandak

So then came Cildandak ’71 and my great gift of 4 months there. During that period I had a significant experience of receiving the Islamic prayer movements, with a deep and joyful feeling. I later understood that for me these movements are healing, each one for a different level. It was an undeniable indication to embrace Islam (which, contrary to popular belief, does not mean repudiating the religion you already adhere to). I then understood that I had already done the basic preparation.

But one other experience stood out. Near the end of my stay, on a Ramadan ‘night of power’, I was standing in front of the big hall when in an flash I saw myself folded over, as in the test about circumcision. In that same moment I unfolded and became several hundred feet tall and straight, with a feeling of nobility. This lasted only an instant but the memory of it is etched into my consciousness. I understood that I could not have had that experience if I had not been circumcised.

Footnote: One of the helpers who tested with our brother with the twitch, the one who received the cutting sensation, declared loudly that he himself would never have it done. A few months later he was seen walking around Cilandak very gingerly in a sarong. Of course, we teased him mercilessly, while he begged us to stop with the classic line, 'it hurts when I laugh'(-):

There are many such circumcision stories, including those of ancestors coming to guys the night before and begging them not to have it done. I have a mind to collect them so if you have one please send it to robiyan@gmail.com

THE PASSING OF ROSHANI COORAY

Simone Melder writes...

On the 5th of August 2016, our dear sister Roshani Cooray passed away peacefully in Melbourne following a stroke.

I first met Roshani, Raymond and their family when I became a member of Subud Melbourne in May 1978. I was new to Subud, and Roshani was like a mother figure to me. I was lovingly accepted as a part of her family.

Our family and hers had many good times together. She was particularly fond of my mother-in-law Lucy and they shared many a laugh together. Whenever my Mum came over from England, we would organise musical evenings and get-togethers and have a lot of fun.

Mum enjoyed Roshani's talented daughters Mishani (cellist) and Laxmi, (pianist and violinist) and persuaded them to take part in a family concert which we organised during one of her visits.

Roshani and Raymond were married for 66 years, and had four children - Ralph, Mishani, Laxmi and Harith. They lost Laxmi in tragic circumstances in 1983.

They were both opened in Sri Lanka at the very inception of Subud in the early 60's. Roshani was a very spiritual woman and had lots to share about her spiritual experiences and the time spent with Bapak.

The many rapid changes in Roshani's life following the death of her husband Raymond in October 2015 had a deep impact on her. I pray her soul journeys on in peace and she has a joyous reunion with loved ones who went before her. God bless you dear Roshani. You will be missed.



Roshani Cooray (right) with Linda Pease on the Subud Melbourne property.

“ Roshani was like a mother figure to me... ”

IN MEMORY OF LATIF WEBB

The Editor writes... It is been a sad time lately with several people close to me suffering from strokes. And in several cases those strokes have led to the death of the person.

This morning (Sunday August 21) I went to visit Rohana Fraval who is in hospital in Melbourne following a stroke. Last Monday, Rohana set off to travel to England to be with her sister, Irmani. Irmani's husband, Latif Webb, had passed away as a result of a stroke.

Unfortunately, because of a problem which arose with passports, Rohana was turned back at the Melbourne airport and was not able to make the flight to England. Shortly after, Rohana herself suffered a stroke.

So I went to see Rohana in hospital. Her husband, Sachlan was also present during my visit. I was very happy to find that Rohana's condition was already much improved from when she was first affected by the stroke.

Rohana was very concerned that she should be able to say something about her brother-in-law, Latif, whose funeral was last Wednesday. Rohana dictated these words to me from her hospital bed, assisted by Sachlan...

I first met Latif in 1971 when he was one of a number of people who did latihan in a house called The Merrows. Many of these people went on to become members of the Loudwater group. In fact, Latif was one of the

18 bachelors who devoted themselves to renovating Loudwater Farm and turning it into a place suitable to be used by Subud.

I was always deeply touched by how kind Latif was. In 1973 Latif allowed Sachlan and myself to live in a house he owned in Watford. Sachlan and I and our young son were in the process of moving, but the house we were moving to was not ready for us when it should've been, and so Latif helped us out in a way for which I've always been grateful.

I remember how Latif used to bring his father to Loudwater Farm on his motorbike.. Latif's mother was already wheelchair-bound. I was always deeply moved by the great love between the three of them. When his father died, Latif's mother became very dependent on him.

Soon after, my sister Irmani arrived in England and it was destined that she and Latif should marry. Latif was one of the founders of the successful Subud enterprise Loudwater Litho. He helped provide the foundation which enabled other brothers to join him. Sachlan was the accountant for Loudwater Litho.

Irmani and Latif were very devoted to each other and endured many ups and downs in their long relationship. Their only son died in tragic circumstances in Portugal, and following Bapak's advice, Irmani and Latif adopted their grandson, Marcus.

Marcus' sister was brought to the UK and educated privately enabling her to stay. Latif did everything possible to facilitate this, thus keeping the family together. It showed their deep and devoted care to their family. May God give Irmani and her beloved son Marcus strength.

May God keep Latif in His embrace and bless his soul. Rest in peace, dear, Latif. ●

A LIFE WITHIN A LIFE

A Tribute to my wife, Rosalyn Bolt, 1937 – 2016

My wife died, quite unexpectedly, on the first of August this year. We had been so happily married for nearly 44 years and I am missing her very, very much. Despite my faith in the Great Life, and knowing that each of us have a destiny willed by Almighty God, my heart still aches for her and I can burst into tears arriving home to find she's not there, or suddenly realising I'll never see her in her earthly form again. But, having read that Bapak said that he lost 2 stone in weight when his youngest son died helps me see this inner contradiction is an inevitable part of the process while on this earth. And now, seeing on the news people who have lost loved ones to war grieving uncontrollably conjures the deepest empathy, no longer mere sympathy.

Apparently, it's well documented aspect of the grieving process to search for meaning, for understanding and answers, particularly when a loved one is taken so suddenly. After all, I had not only lost my wife, my helpmeet, my lover, soul mate, but our life together as well – underlined by a sharp change of status from 'married guy' to 'widower'.

And, thankfully, I seem to have been blessed with clarity in shed loads by four extraordinary things; the first a faith re-affirming latihan experience, the second a realisation of who Rosalyn really was, the third a shock of perception about her last painting and the fourth an almost unbelievable 'cosmic' coincidence. All of these happenings have led me to a re-evaluation of the power of the gift of the latihan and deep gratitude for being a



Rosalyn & Marcus at their wedding in Jordans, 1973.

member of the 'Subud Family'.

My daughter and I kept vigil around her bed for the 5 nights she was in a coma, initially doing latihan in turns, and then finally together. Sometime during this latihan, the atmosphere in the room suddenly lit up, like the sun shining through a break in the clouds. We sensed Rosalyn's presence and approval, somehow letting us know she was there, but half in this world, half in the next. Bapak said that, in a true marriage, a woman's soul is 'garwah' – half a man's soul until death. When Rosalyn actually died, I felt as though half my soul had been ripped away; and now I have to discover who I am all over again.

As I wrote in the eulogy I gave at her Memorial Service, I was astounded by the number of tributes paid to my wife through cards, emails, telephone calls, FaceBook posts and Subud members' sensitive and caring condolences, given with such love at the UK Congress. It made me realise there was a side to her I didn't fully know or perceive – the depth of her helper work (she was also a trained counsellor and had been a social worker for over 20 years) alongside her quiet networking carried out over her 50 years of membership. I recalled the old Beatles lines: "And, in the end, the love you take is equal to the love you make" – and judging by the mountain of love she is taking, she surely must have made an awful lot of love throughout her 78 years of life... and all done with such unassuming humility and a simple hand of non-judgemental friendship.



Rosalyn in 2015.



Rosalyn at her degree award ceremony in late July, 2016.



Rosalyn's last painting 'Fare Well'.

Rosalyn had just finished, a few weeks before her death, a three-year BA Honours degree course in Drawing and Applied Arts at the University of the West of England. It had been the happiest years of her life, and she so enjoyed the artistic and intellectual challenges as well as the interaction with lecturers and young colleagues.

She was thrilled when her last painting was shown on TV for a fleeting second in a programme that included a feature on Bristol's Arnolfini Gallery, where her course was based.

When I really studied her last painting, I had a shock of perception. It depicted a bridge going off into the distance (to a new land, a new realm?) and a group of figures surrounding an embracing, deeply emotional trio of two women and a man. I suddenly perceived that the figure with her back to us is Rosalyn herself, the man is me, and the younger woman our daughter, Amanda. The other



Rosalyn when I first met her in 1972.

it and agreed to officiate. My daughter and I got on very well with the Pastor finding common ground between Subud and the Church of England through the concept of the Holy Spirit.

Just before the ceremony started, the Pastor came over and asked me if my wife had ever lived in Oxford. I said she had for quite a few years, just before we met.

‘And did she study at the Ruskin College?’ he asked. I confirmed she had and the Pastor began to tell me that his wife’s mother had as well, and had died in her late thirties and... ‘Not Val,’ I said, and the Pastor was visibly shocked.

When I was first going out with Rosalyn, when we worked together at a Subud owned private school in 1972, I remember her going to her best friend and ex-college flatmate Val’s funeral and returning very sad; they were such good and close friends. She also died of a stroke in her late thirties, and Rosalyn spoke of her often. I also remembered that Rosalyn invited Val’s husband George and his three young children to our wedding, some months later. One of those children was the Pastor’s wife and she had recognised Rosalyn from sixties photos in the Order of Service booklet we’d prepared. He mentioned what had just happened in one of his link passages during the ceremony and was moved to tears by this remarkable coincidence, especially when he said that ever since he’d known his father-in-law, he’d always admired a tapestry that still hangs in George’s study – it was one of Rosalyn’s early pieces.

After the Memorial, I sent the Pastor scans of photos of his father-in-law and children at our wedding in 1973; he emailed back that this extraordinary coincidence had made a powerful impact on his family.

All of this makes me see that, as our eyes and ears and other worldly senses have a limited range, so too does our conscious awareness; and that it's only occasionally, through God's Grace, through the latihan, and sometimes through prescient receivings, dreams and coincidences that we get glimpses of this wider, greater reality. Bapak called this ‘a life within a life’; from this I infer a mode of higher, more real existence in which we are all connected as one, and which runs in parallel with our short time here on Earth, occluded by our ego, our sense of ‘self’ and day to day cares. Thank you for this gift of understanding, Rosalyn, and until we meet again, ‘Fare Well’.

Marcus Bolt ●

figures represent her family and friends – perhaps all those people who attended the Memorial? And the final resonating shock – she called the painting ‘Fare Well’. I am still reeling at her inner knowing, her prescience.

Woodlands Church, in Bristol, where we held Rosalyn’s Memorial Service, is a beautiful old church that has been gutted leaving the old architectural features and stained glass and enough space for up to 600 people (they have huge congregations), supported by the latest electronic technology for sound and visuals. On the side of the church is a large, mainly glass, atrium used for socialising. We were lucky because my sister-in-law is a member of the Church and the Pastor allowed us to use



Rosalyn with Amanda, c.1975. One of my favourite photos...

Neurotec

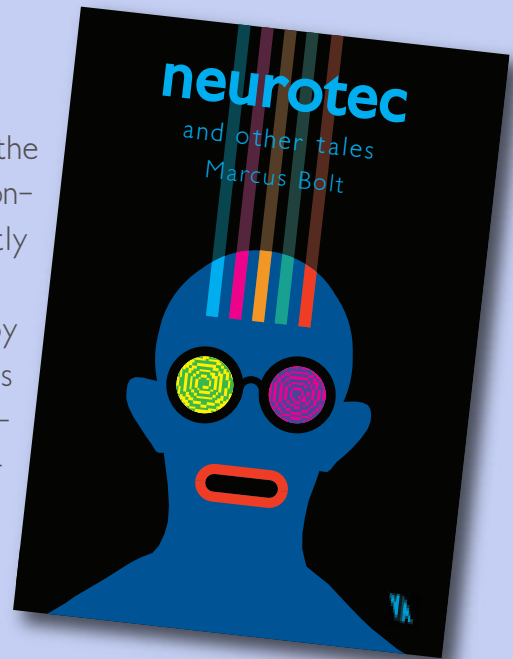
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On April 8, 2012, Ibu
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