

## **PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

### **CULTURAL EVENTS AT SANUR VILLAGE FESTIVAL 2007**

*11 July 2007 ...* The second Sanur Village Festival (SVF) has been set for 15 – 19 August 2007 at the Inna Grand Bali Beach and Segara Beach. Carrying a new theme “The new spirit of heritage”, a variety of cultural performance and arts, sporting and culinary events will be held during this five day fun-packed event. Local and international tourist as well as visitors from all ages can participate and enjoy this festival with its mixture of activities. Just to name a few are the musical and dance performances during the opening ceremony, painting and bonsai exhibition, performances, jazz festival and the official closing ceremony will be a colorful cultural parade.

Opening the festival on August 15 will be the sacred dance Rejang Dewa will be performed, as a manifest of the theme new spirit. This dance, Puja Buana, is specifically created for the opening of Sanur Village Festival 2007. Puja buana is inspired by this sacred dance usually performed in temples. Visitors can also watch the Balinese martial arts dance, Kembang Pencak.

Concluding the opening ceremony will be renowned Balinese Artist, Bona Alit. The special contemporary musical performance from his world music album is selected because it describes the relationship between the modern Bali nuance based on strong traditional elements. Gung Alit’s unique idea has taken Bali into another world through his musical work. His continuous effort captures the whole musical phenomenon, and with his imagination and creativity, his compositions are performed using a range of different instruments. In his soft musical melody, Gung Alit presents something new and contemporary not withholding Balinese traditional elements as basis.

Daily art related events consist of cartoon, painting, and bonsai exhibition. Cartoon with beach theme will exhibit caricatures of activities during the Sanur Village Festival event. This exhibition is aimed to restore the relationship between Indonesia and Australia.

Approximately 120 international and local artists will be invited to participate and exhibit their paintings after first selected by the SVF committee in consultation with DR. Jean Couteau. The Sanur Painter Association (Himpunan Pelukis Sanur) has registered 5 galleries as exhibition venues which include Santrian Gallery, Guet Gallery, Rare Angon Gallery, 10 Art Gallery dan Darga Gallery. On the afternoon of 17<sup>th</sup> a joint painting exhibition will be held by various Balinese artists.

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For bonsai and adenium exhibitions, more than 100 trees with various shapes and sizes will be on display alongside Bali beach grounds from collectors from all over Bali. These collections will be exhibited and some on sale, there will also be a one day demo on shaping and maintaining the bonsai. Bonsai lovers can also enter a competition. This year the bonsai exhibition marks a new chapter, where the exhibition will be in conjunction with preparation for Asia Pacific competition. Visitors can view the displayed work, communicate with the artist and collector and even purchase the exhibits. The bonsai exhibition will be held during the festival while the painting exhibition will be carried out for a month with the opening one week prior to the opening of SVF and ending 2 weeks after SVF.

Another public favorite is the classic jazz festival. From August 15 to 19, the festival starts from 2pm until 11 pm daily at the SVF main stage. This years festival will feature top Balinese jazz artists including Gde Kurniawan and friends (Funk), Tropical Transit (Jazz World), Tude and friends Trio akustik (all kind), Saharadja (world Jazz), Joni Agung and Double T (reggae), with Balawan & batuan etnik (Fusion). August 19 presents jazz festival highlights with performances by Jazz Junior, Yuri and Friends, Koko Harsoe and friends, Eric and friends, and Nyanyian Dharma featuring Budjana & Trie Utami (spiritual world music). While for those who want to enjoy the beach view, a special concert will be set up featuring Joni Agung and Doublet and Sanur Potential band (youngster).

Closing this five day event is the grand cultural parade consisting of a procession of carts, consisting of elements from the hotels, community, tourism industry, and government of Denpasar. Participants of this traditional parade will involve carts from hotels in Sanur complete with tourist passengers, pepayatan, payas agung, gayotan for children, baris cina, and wayang wong (puppets). The procession will take place along Sanur area.

*“Because the Sanur Village Festival takes root from the Sanur community and traditions, we want to involve all elements from Sanur i.e. the community, government, workshops (sanggar), hotel, tourism industry, and government of Denpasar. The purpose is to reflect Sanur’s culture specifically and Balinese culture generally,”* says IB Sidharta Putra, chairman of SVF committee.

***Editor’s Note :***

*Sanur Village Festival was established by the Yayasan Pembangunan Sanur. In its efforts to rehabilitate the image of Sanur as one of the first tourism destinations in Bali, various creative and fun-filled activities are combined into a five-day long event taking place within the Sanur area. Presenting arts, culture, sporting activities and many more, the Sanur Village Festival is expected to create a foundation for the local community.*

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