

Kurt D. Peterson was born in 1982 in Omaha, Nebraska USA. His first creative endeavors were through percussion and experimental music as a founding member of the trio Gamma Goat, which combined sound and recording experiments with American Folk music. In 2008, his 9 month internship at Art Farm Nebraska introduced him for the first time to professional working artists from around the world while embedding him in the history and culture of his home state.

After more than a decade as a self taught artist, Peterson left his home in Nebraska to study at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), entering with the Presidential Merit Scholarship. SAIC is a museum based school which is forward thinking and interdisciplinary, allowing for a broad exploration of materials and ideas. It also requires a strong independent spirit and offers rigorous critique in order to understand one's work and its purpose.

At SAIC, Peterson further investigated performance art, sculpture, ceramics, sound, art history, mythologies, cognition, art and the spiritual, and more. In highlight, he spent a year working with advisors in the Advanced Material Studies Studio producing performative and three dimensional works. Three



years were spent working with advisors on an independent research project investigating the spaces between performativity, prayer, materiality, and meaning making in the mind. This project, *Sound and the Sacred*, consisted of audio recordings of prayer and sacred spaces, writings, interviews, photographs, and drawings. Insights from this research have continued to expand and inform Peterson's work until this day.

Upon graduating in 2016, Peterson received the Roads Scholarship for Research and Travel through the Roger Brown Study Collection, a house museum and special collection affiliated

with the school. With this scholarship he traveled the Midwestern United States visiting the grottoes and folk art sites of the region to further his inspiration and research.

Other highlights of his time in Chicago were as an instructor in SAIC Youth Art Camps, performing at the Museum of Contemporary art with Collective Cleaners, and curating art shows in his apartment.

In Indonesia, Peterson's first work was through the Ministry of Art and Culture as audio documentarian for the 1001 Sandalwood Horses Parade in Sumba. Recordings from that trip later became a soundtrack for an Oerip Indonesia fashion show of Sumbese textiles at Keraton Solo. Since that time, he has sought connection with the various artist communities in Indonesia and Southeast Asia. He was a member of Expedition Camp 2018, held a solo performance at Sepersepuluh, and a dual performance at Chan + Hori, Singapore. Peterson is an English instructor at SMK Tarakanita here in Jakarta, and a guest instructor at Erudio School of Art.

Peterson currently works in performance, sound, sculpture, installation, and improvisational process based arts. Whatever the medium, his work remains connected by a practice of experiential inquiry and

lived answers. He considers his primary work to be that of a contemporary folk artist, extracting and reflecting upon the condition of communities in order to develop works that help create a holistic, purpose driven life for himself and others.

Peterson now lives and works on the outskirts of Jakarta in Depok, West Java. Along with his wife, he is co-founder of Rumah Tangga, a museum of living whose purpose is turning daily existence into a generative creative practice. Rumah Tangga hosts resident artists and creative workshops for the public, and is home to the Bridge Library, a resource for artists and curiosity seekers of all kinds. Under the umbrella of Rumah Tangga Peterson's art practice can take many forms - caretaker, curator, mentor, gardener, dishwasher, website maker, writer, librarian, or whatever the day may bring.