

# 30 / JUMAADI

2017 MOSMAN ART PRIZE

Sydney-based artist, **Jumaadi** secured the \$50,000 Mosman Art Prize. Now in its 70th year, the prize moves Jumaadi, whose career was already soaring, into the next zone of success. The artist works between Sydney and Yogyakarta, and clearly combines much of his imagery and inspiration from his Indonesian roots and his resettlement in Australia. Mosman Art Gallery director, **John Cheeseman**, asserts that “Jumaadi is one of the most significant and thoughtful artists active in Australia today. His art is reflective of broad contemporary arts practices and influences while unmistakably drawing from the complex depths of Indonesian mythology and cultural forms.” His prize-winning artwork *Some kind of record*, consisting of 24 panels painted in acrylic, explores the histories and mythologies of Java, Cowra, Yogyakarta and his adopted home of Mosman, Sydney, where he settled over a decade ago. In 2013, he undertook a residency in Cowra and explored the history of Indonesian political prisoners taken to Cowra during World War II, which became the underlying basis for works such as *Some kind of record*. With its muted, ocher-ish palette and soft lines, his works from this period also suggest a poetic response to a harsh landscape and old stories. In the words of **Cheeseman**, the work “is a wonderful example of his ability to blend aesthetics, history, environmentalism and social commentary into a satisfying one-ness.”

Ashley Crawford

1. Jumaadi, *Some kind of record*, 2017.  
Acrylic on found card index dividers,  
119 x 99cm. PHOTO: BY TIM CONNOLLY.  
COURTESY: THE MOSMAN ART COLLECTION, SYDNEY

