



## PANEL DISCUSSION

# "LEARNING FROM HOLLYWOOD: Prospect for Foreign Films"

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**SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2008 AT 10.00 AM - 02.00 PM**  
**AT THE INDONESIAN CONSULATE GENERAL**  
**3457 WILSHIRE BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90010**

The international film industry is looking at Hollywood as the trend-setting. No movie-goers in the world that have not had an encounter with Hollywood films. While many appraise Hollywood, some others criticize it. Yet, Hollywood is still at the top, particularly in terms of profit-making and state of the arts of any world films.

The questions are: *how do we see Hollywood? Why is Hollywood strong? What needs to be learnt?*

With the Academy Award tradition a parameter for worldwide-distributed films, filmmakers have no choice but to learn from the success of American films. The Academy is indeed a prestigious American tradition.

Still, the so-called foreign language films displayed increasing interests in joining the Academy. During the February 2008 Oscar event, participating foreign films reached a historic record of 63 submissions. At this 80<sup>th</sup> Academy, Indonesia also joined the trumpet blast by submitting "*Denias: Dancing above the Cloud*". The prestige stays in Hollywood.

With globalization opening the world, there has been positive surges of global film-making, targeted for local or, hopefully, global viewers. Unfortunately, film industry in the developing countries, including Indonesia, is still lagging behind. That is the case why we all need to take lessons from Hollywood. This is about seeking the values of Hollywood that can help promote foreign film-making, including in Indonesia.

These are issues to be explored in the April 26 panel discussion. The panelists include **Fatimah Tobing Rony**, PhD (UC Irvine), **Dahlia Setiyawan** (UCLA), **Digvijay Singh** (Kundalini Pictures), **Carlos Blumberg DeMenezes** (Red Umbrella Productions) and representatives of the LA-based **Indonesian American Film Society** (INAFILMS).

Discussions will be moderated by **Agusti Anwar** (Consul for Information of the Indonesian Consulate - Los Angeles). This event will also be graced by The **Hon. Mr. Subijaksono Sujono**, Consul General of the Republic of Indonesia in Los Angeles.

Participation is open for the Indonesian community, students, professionals or anyone interested in sharing views on foreign film issues and promoting Indonesian films.

The event will be closed with buffet lunch serving Indonesian cuisine. Seats are limited and registration is required. For registration, RSVP (by April 24) or more information, please call (213) 383-5126 ext 26/24 or email to [pen@kjri-la.net](mailto:pen@kjri-la.net).

This event is jointly organized by the Indonesian Consulate General and Indonesian American Film Society (INAFILMS-[inafilms.org](http://inafilms.org)), Los Angeles.

