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Sociological Association

TITLE: Ways of 'not seeing': Youth arts practice in Yogyakarta Indonesia

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Favoured 'guerilla' artistic practices of youth are street art and graffiti across the urban landscapes of the world. Visual evidence of the creative practices of youth is seemingly everywhere in the Indonesian city of Yogyakarta, a hub of arts and culture in Central Java. The vibrancy and dynamism of their artwork stands in stark contrast to the grey concrete walls of the city. During fieldwork examining youth street art practices in Yogyakarta, I was struck by the negating responses of respected senior arts curators and practitioners to the lively and engaging visual depictions outside. Despite passing street art and graffiti daily as they traverse the city, all acknowledged that they just did not 'see' the work. They seemed to associate it with the grassroots practices of marginal young people rather than the art world. Using concepts developed by Deleuze and Guattari (1987), this paper profiles three senior practitioners in Yogyakarta to consider how they become territorialised in the striated space of the official art world, and how this culminated in them 'not seeing' the minor arts practices of young people as becoming artists.