

# CSEAS PANORAMA 2008



**A (Balinese) Tempest**  
Ian Falconer (MA, Asian Studies) starred as Prospero in the Department of Theatre and Dance's version of the Bard's lauded comedy, a performance infused with Balinese *wayang* and *gamelan* and Larry Reed's famed shadowcasting.



CENTER FOR  
SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

## Center for Southeast Asian Studies University of Hawai'i

By Director Barbara Watson Andaya

### *Dear friends and colleagues...*

In late July 2008, when I returned from twelve months' sabbatical leave, I began to ask myself if my presence as director was really necessary. So much had been accomplished in my absence that I really felt quite dispensable! I would like to express my deep gratitude to Acting Director **Kirstin Pauka** (Professor, Asian Theatre), Associate Director **Paul Rausch**, and our graduate assistants **Hoa Le**, **Leon Potter**, and **Christian Razukas** for their efficiency in overseeing the completion of various projects,

including the highlight of the year, the Balinese shadow-play version of **Shakespeare's** *The Tempest*. Under the auspices of the Department of Theatre and Dance, Kirstin invited **Larry Reed**, founder and artistic director of Shadowlight Productions and one of the few Americans trained in *wayang kulit*, or shadow puppetry, to spend a semester in Hawai'i. Larry and Kirstin worked with students in Theatre and Dance to produce a memorable and innovative performance that completely engaged local audiences. Shakespeare's dramatic verse and the complex relationship between

Prospero, Miranda, Ariel and Caliban were given a new life as the shadows of human "puppets" wearing specially made masks were projected onto a large screen. And the "Southeast Asian" content was not merely visual, for an important feature of the production was the music provided by the University of Hawai'i Balinese Gamelan Ensemble directed by a second artist-in-residence, Balinese puppet master, **I Nyoman Sumandhi**. Although I was not able to be present at the final performances, I was in Honolulu briefly in January and had the opportunity to see a dress

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For more information about the program, please visit the Center's website at [www.hawaii.edu/cseas](http://www.hawaii.edu/cseas)

**Director**  
Barbara Watson Andaya  
**Editor**  
Paul Rausch  
**Production**  
Christian Razukas

rehearsal. I was amazed at the dexterity with which the cast coordinated their words and movements with the music and other audio effects, and the skill with which they handled their elaborate masks so that the shadows were projected to full effect. I was not at all surprised to hear that the production played to full houses, or that the reception was overwhelmingly enthusiastic. The week-long performance run garnered mainstream press coverage with previews and reviews in both major Honolulu papers, plus coverage and reviews from two local TV news stations. The outreach component of this project included school performances at the Maui Arts and Culture Center for approximately 600 K-12 children. You can see a performance of *A (Balinese) Tempest* streamed on our website.

#### **Aceh Conference**

In collaboration with the East-West Center, the Hawai'i chapter of the Indonesian Students Association (PERMIAS), the Indonesian Club at the University of Hawai'i, the Southeast Asia Program at Cornell University, the Provincial Government of Aceh, the Indonesian Embassy and Consulate in the United States, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Aceh Relief Fund, joined the Center and a

host of other UH departments in supporting the international conference *Beyond Tsunami: The Aceh Experience and International Applications* in October. The two-day conference organized by **Ari Palawi** (MA, Asian Studies) highlighted the research of younger scholars and activists from Hawai'i, the mainland United States, Europe, Australia and Indonesia. Paper topics covered such issues as disaster management, peace building and conflict resolution, Islam and democracy, ethnic identity and culture, and Aceh's post-tsunami recovery and development. The province of Aceh was presented by Mr. **Muhammad Nazar**, the vice governor. It is hoped that the connections developed during this period as well as a Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Chancellor, **Virginia Hinshaw**, will provide the basis for a connectionstiniuing relationship with our Acehnese colleagues.

#### **Brown Bags**

Our efforts to provide a regular forum where UH colleagues and visitors can share their current research with interested academic audiences has flourished via our Brown Bag Lunch Series. The typically well attended presentations have covered topics ranging from Burmese films to conservation issues along the Mekong River. The School of Pacific and Asian

Studies encourages cooperation where possible, and we were therefore pleased that two of these meetings (on migrant Southeast Asian workers in Japan, and on ancient Japan-Java connections) were co-sponsored by the Center for Japanese Studies. Our effort to strengthen our campus connections was also evident in our collaboration with Public Administration in sponsoring a visit by five Thai academics from Khon Kaen University and five local leaders – a mayor, a school principal, the head of a woman's group, a doctor, and the director of an environmental NGO. The goal of the visit was to meet local government officials in Honolulu, and to develop the framework for future collaboration with local leaders in Cambodia and Laos. However, the Thai visit also coincided with the political turmoil in Bangkok, and it was not surprising that a talk on Thai politics attracted an overflow audience.

#### **Publications**

As always, the goal of the Center for Southeast Asian Studies is to operate as a truly National Resource Center, despite Hawai'i's geographical separation from the United States mainland. An important initiative in this direction has been the digitization of more than 10,000 pages of educational materials produced by the previous Associate



Anne Kumar, Professor of Asian Studies and Director of the International Centre of Excellence for Asia at the Australian National University, chats with Professor Barbara Watson Andaya, Director of UH's Center for Southeast Asian Studies. Kumar's provocative brown bag lecture on *Java and Japan: A New View of the Yayoi Revolution* commanded an overflow crowd of students and scholars alike.

Director, **Florence K. Lamoureux**, during her 26 years with the Center. To this collection we have added all issues of *Cakalele*, the journal focused on Maluku that was published by the Center from 1990 to 2004. *Cakalele* can now be accessed in its entirety via the UH Hamilton Library's ScholarSpace on-line resource collection. The *Florence K. Lamoureux Archive* will be available on ScholarSpace sometime in the Spring 2009 semester. The most recent addition to our publication list is the *Chronicles of Chiang Khaeng: A Tai Lü Principality of the Upper Mekong*. **Volker Grabowsky** and **Renoo Wichasin** have produced an annotated translation and description of five texts that is a testimony to their scholarship and their dedication to the field. The translations are accompanied by Thai inscriptions, an essay that provides a detailed historical background, and maps and other illustrations. Providing unprecedented access to local

voices, *Chronicles of Chiang Khaeng* is an important new resource for our understanding of the history of this little-known region. We thank our publications chair, **Kennon Breazeale**, for his untiring dedication to editing and preparing the manuscript for publication.

#### Film Programs

Our goal of providing resources on Southeast Asia is most visible in our Southeast Asia Film Project, which continues under the able leadership of Paul Rausch. The weekly screening of Southeast films drew more than 1,000 film aficionados and newcomers alike to the UH campus over the course of the year. The Center again sponsored a collection of Southeast Asian films and hosted a number of filmmakers and industry people from Southeast Asia in a series of post-screening Q&A at the 2008 Hawaii International Film Festival in October. In April 2009, Paul will travel to a number of mainland universities and colleges to screen selected Southeast Asian films in conjunction with the University of Hawai'i's Asian Studies Program Freeman Foundation Grant for resource sharing with Minority Serving Institutions.

#### Muslim Societies in Asia

An important development for Spring 2009 concerns the strengthening of our Muslim Societies in Asia initiative. With the support of the State of Hawai'i Legislature and some of our own funds, we have been able to appoint two coordinators, **Azti Nezia Suriyanti binti Azmi** (MA student, Asian Studies) and **Mohamed Effendy bin Abdul Hamid** (PhD student, History) who will develop a new educational website. This website will provide resource access points for topics primarily related to Muslim societies in Southeast Asia, but will also explore topics

related to Muslim societies in South Asia and in China as well.

#### New Director

While we have all been energized by the possibilities of developing and expanding our Southeast Asia program, we also face challenges. Like the rest of the nation, Hawai'i has been hard hit by the current recession and the financial situation for the immediate future is bleak. As a state institution, the University of Hawai'i will inevitably be affected by the economic downturn. The major concern for the Center is the protection of our unique Southeast Asia program, especially in regard to the maintenance of language instruction for our FLAS students. Thus far we have been heartened by the cooperation between the Center, the School of Pacific and Asian Studies, the Department of Indo-Pacific Languages and the College of Languages, Linguistics and Literatures here on our campus, but we must also prepare for a worsening situation. The election of **Stephen O'Harrow** (Professor, Vietnamese) as incoming Director (from July 31, 2010) is therefore fortunate. He will be responsible for developing the academic content of the 2009 NRC proposal, and as a former director and a key member of the Department of Indo-Pacific Languages, has a special knowledge of the creative strategies that will be necessary to help us through these difficult times. I have no doubt, however, that our long history as a major Center for Southeast Asian Studies and the collegial cooperation I see all around me will ensure that the Center will emerge more united and committed than ever before.

With my best wishes, I extend a warm Aloha to everyone in our community.

Barbara Watson Andaya  
Director, Center for Southeast Asian Studies  
University of Hawai'i



**Filipino Film at UH**  
Director Ellen Ongkeko-Marfil from the Philippines, seen here introducing her film *Boses* at the Dole Cannery Theatres during the 2008 Hawaii International Film Festival.

Ongkeko-Marfil was one of eight Southeast Asian filmmakers – including directors from Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, Viet Nam and the Philippines – brought to Hawai'i for the film festival by the Center for Southeast Asian Studies.



“Becoming a *dalang* involves a mastery of traditional Balinese music, dance, and choreography, as well as the *repertoire* and theatrical techniques associated with the *wayang kulit* or shadow puppet theater, which is regarded as the pinnacle of the arts in Bali.”

Renowned *dalang* | Nyoman Sumandhi



## A (Balinese) Tempest Shakespeare, shadowcasting and wayang

With support from the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, the UH Department of Theatre & Dance presented *A (Balinese) Tempest* at Kennedy Theatre from January 25 - February 3, 2008. In preparation for this production, 52 students participated in six months of intensive training in Balinese music (*gamelan*), dance, and shadow theatre during the Fall of 2007. The training and rehearsal period culminated in six public performances that drew an audience totaling 2,376 people.

The production combined shadow theatre with live dancers to create a cross-cultural staging of Shakespeare's *Tempest*, using a style pioneered by visiting artist **Larry Reed**. This innovative adaptation of Shakespeare's most musical and magical play is about a sorcerer and dethroned Milanese duke (Prospero), who has been banished with his daughter Miranda to an enchanted island. Reed fused Balinese and Elizabethan elements with his hallmark shadow-casting method, which

utilized a giant screen and live performers to create a magical shadow theatre performance. The production also featured live musical accompaniment by the UH Balinese Gamelan ensemble under the direction of visiting artist and musical director **I Nyoman Sumandhi**, an internationally known *dalang* (a Balinese puppet master) and master of traditional Balinese music, dance and choreography.

The week-long performance run garnered mainstream press coverage with previews and reviews in both major Honolulu papers, plus coverage and reviews from two local TV news stations. The outreach component of this project included school performances at the Maui Arts and Culture Center for approximately 600 K-12 school children. The project was organized and produced by **Kirstin Pauka** (Professor, Asian Theatre) and Acting Director of CSEAS during the period of the course and performance.

# Faculty Updates

## Faculty updates

In July 2008, Director **Barbara Watson Andaya** returned from a year's sabbatical leave. In Fall 2007, Watson Andaya was invited to the National University of Singapore as Raffles Professor in the History Department, where she taught a graduate seminar focused on *A Social History of the Sea in Pre-twentieth Century Southeast Asia*. She gave a Departmental Seminar entitled, *Thinking about "The Theatre of Death" in the Southeast Asian Context* and a public Raffles Lecture, *In the Shadow of Olivia and Sophia: "Temporary Wives" in Premodern Southeast Asia*.

Watson Andaya continued her sabbatical leave in the spring semester of 2008 in eastern Indonesia, where she was carrying out research for her current project on the localization of Christianity in pre-20th century Southeast Asia. During the summer she held an affiliate fellowship at the International Institute of Asian Studies, Leiden, The Netherlands, where she gave a public lecture entitled *Bunda Maria, Queen of Larantuka: A Case Study in the Role of Religion in Identity Formation*.

In September 2008, she attended the conference on *Empires and Emporia: The Orient in World-Historical Space and Time*, held to celebrate the 45th anniversary of the *Journal of the Social and Economic History of the Orient*, held at Leiden University. The paper she gave was *Between Empires and Emporia: The Economics of Christianization in Early Modern Southeast Asia*.

**Asian Theatre to Urban Planning to Law to Marketing to Women's Studies to Ethnomusicology to Peace Studies to Geography to History to Anthropology**

**Over 70 faculty in 21 departments are affiliated with the Center for Southeast Asian Studies**

Watson Andaya continues to be active in the Association for Asian Studies, is a member of the Kahin Prize Committee, and is on the board of several specialist journals as well as the University of Hawai'i Press.

Watson Andaya also published chapters in 2008 *Women and the Performance of Power in Early Modern Southeast Asia in Servants of the Dynasty: Palace Women in World History*, ed. Anne Walthall. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2008, *Challenging World Area Divisions: The Asia-Pacific Community in Sustaining a Resilient Asia Pacific Community*, eds. Wilmar Salim and Kiran Sagoo. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2008. Watson Andaya's *The Flaming Womb: Repositioning Women in Southeast Asian History*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press (2006) was reprinted in 2008 as a paperback.

For the academic year 2008-2009, **Michael Aung-Thwin** (Professor, Asian Studies) will be on

### Faculty Updates

Aya Kimura (Assistant Professor, Women's Studies) spoke on the *Problematization of Healthy Body and Good Food: Nutritionalization in Indonesia*.

Leonard Andaya (Professor, History) and Barbara Watson Andaya (Professor, Asian Studies) both lectured at the Department of History of Vietnam National University in Hanoi.



sabbatical and completing two manuscripts. The first work, a sequel of sorts to Aung-Thwin's *Pagan: The Origins of Modern Burma* (1985), is entitled *Ava and Pegu: A Tale of Two Kingdoms*, about the politics which followed Pagan and were the product of its legacy. It is, according to Aung-Thwin, a history of Burma in the 15th century. Aung-Thwin will teach a seminar on Burma during Spring 2009 term as a visiting scholar in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences in the Department of Southeast Asian Studies at the National University of Singapore and hopes to complete a second book, a modern history of Burma targeted at the general reading public, with his son, Maitrii, an assistant professor of Southeast Asian History at NUS to be published by Reaktion Press in the United Kingdom. Aung-Thwin recently published *Myanma Pran: When Context Encounters Notion* in the *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies* and a review of *Exploring Ethnic Diversity in Burma* in *Pacific Affairs*.

Aung-Thwin also attended a workshop/conference at the University of Alberta, where he served as a member of the Board of Editors for Oxford University Press' planned five volume work tentatively titled *Globalizing the History of Historical Writing*

**Liam Kelley** (Associate Professor, History) has received a Translation Grant under the Henry Luce Foundation/ACLS Grants to Individuals in East and Southeast Asian Archaeology. Kelley is translating the opening chapters of two important premodern Vietnamese chronicles: the 15th century *Dai Viet su ky toan thu* and the 19th century *Kham dinh Viet su thong giam cuong muc*. The initial chapters of these two texts cover a period of history from the third millennium BCE to the 10th century CE. This period witnessed the emergence of polities in the

area of what is today northern Viet Nam, which was then followed by 1,000 years of Chinese rule. These translated texts will be of particular benefit to historians and archaeologists interested in the early histories of Viet Nam, China, or the world which existed in the region of what is today southern China and northern Viet Nam.

In September 2008, **Kirstin Pauka** (Professor, Asian Theater) was invited by Victoria University in Wellington and the New Zealand School of Music to conduct *randai* workshops for graduate students in their ethnomusicology program. Pauka gave a ten-day intensive workshop and master's classes on *randai* movement and dance in collaboration with ethnomusicology professor **Megan Collins**. The project culminated in a public performance of a short *randai* play, presented in the Adams Concert Hall at Victoria University, featuring 12 of the participating student performers.

Several of the specifically developed dance segments were also incorporated into a modern pan-Indonesian dance-drama entitled *The 7 Ages of Man* featuring Balinese master artist **I Nyoman Sukerta**, directed by **Lilicherie McGregor** and produced by **Jack Body**. In addition to the *randai* workshops, Pauka also gave a public lecture on her current research on *randai* theatre and a graduate seminar on field research methods.

**Teresita Ramos** (Professor Emeritus, Filipino Language and Literature) led a Southeast Asian Language Teachers' Workshop on proficiency-oriented speaking and writing skills at the University of Hawai'i in March 2008 with 35 faculty participants representing 28 universities and two community colleges. Ramos also presented

**Randai Down Under**

Kirstin Pauka (Professor, Asian Theatre and fourth from right) was invited by Victoria University in Wellington and the New Zealand School of Music to conduct *randai* workshops for graduate students in their ethnomusicology program.



*Integrating Culture with Language* at the International Conference on Filipino as a Global Language at the University of Hawai'i and was invited as a keynote speaker at the University of the Philippines' centennial celebration, speaking on *A Pathway to Filipino as a Global Language*. This speech was part of the University of the Philippines' centennial celebration. About 250 alumni members attended. Ramos was also conferred the "Outstanding Award in Academic Leadership" from the University of the Philippines.

While on sabbatical, **Leonard Andaya** (Professor, History) gave lectures on early modern Southeast Asia at the University of Malaya (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia) and on *Aceh's Role in Promoting Islam as an Integral Part of Malay Identity* at the Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris in Telok Anson, Perak, Malaysia. Andaya also gave the Bukit Timah Lecture at the National University of Singapore and spoke at the Asia Research Centre, National University of Singapore on *Interlocking Regional and Local Socio-Economic Networks in Eastern Indonesia, c. 1400-1800*.

Andaya also worked as a visiting professor at the University of Malaya and as Senior Visiting Fellow, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. He was one of four international academics appointed to review the Southeast Asia Program and the Malay Studies Department at the National University of Singapore. Andaya received a Fulbright-Hays Senior Scholar Fellowship to undertake research in Indonesia and The Netherlands, and was an Affiliated Fellow at the International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden, The Netherlands. Andaya's latest book, *Leaves of the Same Tree: Trade and Ethnicity in the Straits of Melaka*,

was published by the University of Hawai'i Press in February 2008.

**Miriam Stark** (Professor, Anthropology) is currently working on her Lower Mekong Archaeological project with help from a NASA Space Archaeology grant received in July 2008, and will return to southern Cambodia for fieldwork during summer 2009 with some of her students. The first year of the Luce Asian Archaeology Program also began in July 2008 with one Cambodian participant. Funded by the Luce Initiative in East and Southeast Asian Archaeology and Early History, this training program is structured to help working archaeologists from East and Southeast Asia gain valuable professional skills during a one-year non-degree program based at the University of Hawai'i. With help from the East-West Center, training participants live on campus and enroll in 10 months of intensive English-language and archaeological training, including research design; the on-campus training is followed by a 4-6 week field training program in Asia.

Stark has also been actively publishing. In 2007, she co-authored a *Quaternary Geochronology* article on her Cambodian research with colleagues and published an edited volume on archaeological method and theory that also includes a co-authored paper on the history of the Kalinga Ethnoarchaeological Project entitled *Archaeological Anthropology: Perspectives on Method and Theory* (University of Arizona Press, Tucson). A second edited volume through the University of Arizona Press is scheduled to appear in late 2008, entitled *Cultural Transmission and Material Culture: Breaking Down Boundaries*.



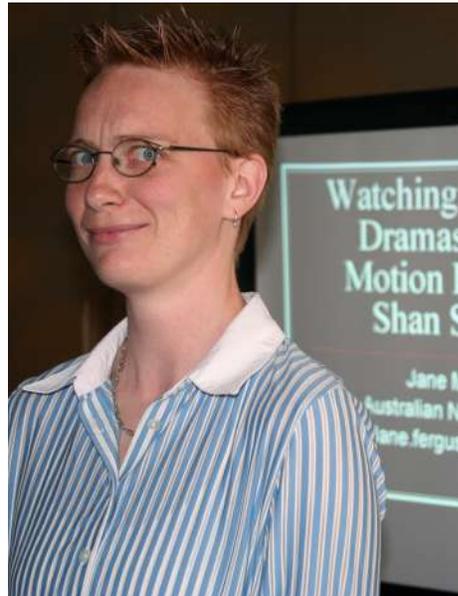
**Aceh in Hawai'i**  
The Aceh Experience and International Applications Conference invited a troupe of eighteen dancers from Aceh to Hawai'i to present traditional dances from the area of Sumatra devastated by the earthquake and tsunami of 2004.

## Brown Bag Lectures Fifteen talks spanning the region

The lushly-appointed Tokioka Room high atop Moore Hall hosts the Center's Southeast Asian Brown Bag Series Friday afternoons each spring and fall. In its 2008 iteration, academics, professionals, ambassadors and graduate students alike spoke on topics ranging from cinema in Burma to the ecology of the Mekong River. **Aya Kimura** (Associate Professor, Women's Studies) gave a lecture on the politics of food production in Indonesia which ran on the front page of *Kaleo*, UH's student newspaper. **Anne Kumar's** (Australian National University) provocative brown bag on a potential Javanese origins for Japanese culture was standing room only, with a host of scholars in attendance.

### Fall 2008 Series

*Java, Japan and the Yayoi Revolution*, **Ann Kumar** (Australian National University) – *Burmese Film Industry*, **Jane Ferguson** (Australian National University) – *Thai Public Administration Conference* (Khon Kaen University) – *Pre-Angkorian Sculpture*, **Paul Lavy** (Hawaii'i) – *Mekong Ethnobotany and Conservation*, **Han Lau** (Hawaii'i) – *Business in the New Viet Nam*, **David Day, Esq.** – *Politics and Movie Making in Southeast Asia*, filmmakers **Pampika Towria**, **Wee Li Lin**, **Ellen Ongkeko-Marfil** and **Nguyen Thanh**



From the media practices of gun-toting revolutionary soldiers in the mountainous Thai-Burma border to love triangles in Burmese cinema.

...all detailed in the brown bag on the Burmese film industry, delivered by Jane M. Ferguson, Ph.D., Lecturer, Australian National University

**Van** – *Southeast Asian Digital Library Collections*, **Tillinghast**, et. al. (Hawaii'i).

### Spring 2008 Series

*Nutritionalization in Indonesia*, **Aya Kimura** (Hawaii'i) – *Murder, Bigamy, Pedophilia and Betrayal in Nias*, **Jerome Feldman** (Hawaii Pacific University) – *Performing Arts in Thailand*, **Surapone Virulrak** (Chulalongkorn University) – *Hanoi's Revolutionary Strategy*, **Pierre Asselin** (Chaminade University) – *Biodiversity in a Hotspot*, **Will McClatchey** (University of Hawaii'i) – *Convergence in the Global Philippines*, **Deirdre de la Cruz** (University of Michigan) – *U.S./Vietnam Relations*, Ambassador **Raymond Burghardt**.

### Brown Bags Online

The Center has partnered with the University of Hawaii'i Library System to host, in perpetuity, audio recordings from the lectures on ScholarSpace, the Library's digital repository. Downloads are free and available to a global audience. Visit the CSEAS website for info on how you can download the brownbags as .mp3 audio files playable on computers and iPods.

Brown bags will return in early 2009 with a dozen lectures scheduled on topics ranging from a panel discussion on Southeast Asian politics to the art of film subtitling to an examination of the Vietnamese Museum of Ethnology.



#### Explorations, Volume 8 (2008)

Featuring articles on Buddhism in Singapore, and the social complexities of Thai mural painting.

## Explorations Graduate student journal

*Explorations*, a Graduate Journal of Southeast Asian Studies, for the last decade has been the only student-edited journal on Southeast Asian Studies in the United States – and one of the few peer-reviewed, freely-accessible journals on the region published today.

In 2008, outgoing editors **Margaret Bodemer** (PhD candidate, Anthropology) and **Kelli Swazey** (PhD candidate, Anthropology) championed the transition of dozens of *Explorations* articles from ink-and-paper to an online format on ScholarSpace. No simple

website, ScholarSpace, the institutional repository of the University of Hawaii'i's Library System, affords *Explorations* a permanent digital home, complete with free downloads and permanent URLs to make easier citations. All twelve volumes are now available from the link on the CSEAS website.

Incoming editors **Deanna Ramsay** (PhD student, History) and **Rachel Hoerman** (MA student, Archeology) are actively planning the 2009 issue, featuring special articles on **Muhammad Ali**, **Ferdinand Marcos** and the Thrilla in Manila, and also a history of space and identity in regards to the Sama seagypsies of Southwest Sulawesi.



## Aceh Conference *The Aceh Experience + International Application*

The Autonomous Territory of Aceh on the northern tip of Indonesia’s Sumatra Island is today considered a remarkable recovery story after coming through decades of political strife and the devastation of the 2004 earthquake and tsunami.

The rich history and contemporary challenges of this extraordinary region were the focus of an international conference and cultural event from October 21 to 23, 2008 at the Hawai’i Imin International Conference Center. The conference theme was *Beyond Tsunami: The Aceh Experience and International Applications*, with sessions covering such issues as disaster management, peace building and conflict resolution, Islam and democracy, ethnic identity and culture, and Aceh’s recovery and development.

Through these issues, the conference focused on Aceh as an international

“laboratory” for conflict resolution and disaster relief, highlighting the constructive value of scientific, technological and cultural perspectives on Aceh, as well as cultivated the potential and skills of people in Aceh in future development.

Opening remarks were delivered by, among others, **Nazar**, Vice Governor, Province of Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam, Indonesia. **Andri Hadi**, the General Director of Information and Public Diplomacy, Jakarta, Indonesia spoke on *Peace Building and Conflict Resolution* along with Professor **Ehito Kimura** (Associate Professor, Political Science) and **Yusni Saby** (President, Ar-Raniry Islamic State Institute, Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam, Indonesia).

The issue of *Recovery and Development* was explored in a seminar by **Craig Thorburn** (Senior Lecturer, International Development and Environmental Analysis, Monash University), along with **Livia Iskandar** (co-founder of PULIH, Centre for Trauma Recovery and Psychosocial

Intervention, Indonesia) and **Saiful Mahdi** (President, Aceh Relief Fund; PhD student in Regional Science, City and Regional Planning, Cornell University).

A seminar on *Islam and Democracy* featured **Saiful Umam** (PhD candidate, History), **Mai Dar** (Universal Historian/Encyclopedist, Russia), **Nevzat Soguk** (Professor, Political Science).

The conference was hosted by a collaboration of more than 10 international Acehnese student associations, in cooperation with the Hawai’i chapter of the Indonesian Students Association (PERMIAS), the East-West Center Arts and Education programs, the Southeast Asia Program at Cornell University, the Center for Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Hawai’i, the Provincial Government of Aceh and the Indonesian Embassy and Consulate in the United States.

## Acehnese Dancers *Visit Hawai’i’s schools*

An eighteen-strong dance troupe took a break from the academic setting of the Aceh Experience to visit a local elementary school in Hawai’i and performed as a gesture of thanks for help following the 2004 tsunami. As reported by local television station KHNL: “We did recycling drives and we donated cans and then the money that we got we donated to Sumatra Island,” 4th grader **Skylar Windnagle** said.

“The group is from Sumatra Island Indonesia and they did a couple of dances for our school. It was really fun to learn all of the different music,” 4th grader **Austin Horio** said. The dancers also taught the kids how to dance, Aceh-style.

“In their first dance we learned one of the moves that they did,” Windnagle said. “It was really fun to do the dance so I could learn some dance moves from different places,” said 4th grader **Zoe Sano**.



# The Southeast Asian Silver Screen

## The Center's film programs

October 2008 marked the third year that the Center was an active partner with the Hawaii International Film Festival (HIFF) in working to screen contemporary films from Southeast Asia. This year's screenings were held on the UH campus in an effort to make the films and the guest speakers more accessible to the greater university community. This new approach proved very successful as more than 600 people attended the campus screenings, panel discussion, and post-screening Q&A with guest directors, producers, and screenwriters from Southeast Asia.

The partnership with HIFF was developed in the belief that film provides an engaging form of communicating culture across borders. As the very nature of a film festival is to provide the venue for this type of educational activity, the partnership with HIFF has successfully helped position both the Center and HIFF as leaders in bringing new and engaging film and film industry leaders from Southeast Asia into focus in the United States.

This year's films included *Gone Shopping* (**Wee Li Lin**, Singapore), *A Little Heart* (**Nguyen Van Thanh**, Viet Nam), *Brutus* (**Tara Illenberger**, Philippines), *The Truth Be Told: The Case Against Supinya Klangnarong* (**Pimpaka Towira**, Thailand), *Kantata Takwa* (**Eros Djarot, Gotot Prakosa** and **Slamet Rahardjo Djarot**, Indonesia), *Chants of*

**SINGAPORE indonesia THAILAND the philippines VIET NAM five countries FIVE DAYS six directors SEVEN FILMS**

**The CSEAS-sponsored Hawaii International Film Festival at the University of Hawai'i**

*Lotus* (**Nia Di Nata, Upi, Lasja F. Susatyo**, and **Fatimah Tobing Rony**, Indonesia), *The Photograph* (**Nan T. Achnas**), and *Boses* (**Ellen Ongkeko-Marfil**, Philippines).

Over the course of the festival the Center hosted a panel discussion on the theme of censorship in Southeast Asian film with Thai director and producer Pimpaka Towira, Filipino director and writer Ellen Ongkeko-Marfil, Indonesian screenwriter Melissa Karim, and Singapore director and producer Wee Li Lin.

The panel was moderated by **Christian Razukas** (MA student, Asian Studies and former HIFF Film Programmer). Each of the visitors also appeared for Q&A following the screenings of their respective films. This provided the audience with the opportunity to engage in a lively discussion with creative and dynamic film industry people from across Southeast Asia.

Yuphaphann Hoonchamlong (Professor, Thai), filmmaker Pimpaka Towira, Matt Reeder (MA student, Asian Studies) and Noah Vierns (PhD student, Political Science) outside the School of Architecture.

CSEAS Associate Director Paul Rausch flanked by Filipino director Bobby Suarez and his lovely and talented wife Gene at the Southeast Asian Cinema Studies Conference in Manila.



## Subtitled Films Premiere! Subtitled by students

Three feature films from Myanmar, Viet Nam and Malaysia – never before seen in the West – premiered on movie screens in America and Asia in 2008. The Hawai'i connection? The films were all subtitled by alumni of the Center's innovative Southeast Asian film subtitling course, designed to train advanced language students in the art of subtitling film from Southeast Asia.

The *Legend of Lady Hill* from Myanmar is a soap opera love story transfused with Buddhist ethics and Myanmar's rich religious culture. **Bryce Beemer** (PhD candidate, History) and **San Tun Aung** (PhD candidate, Sociology) subtitled *Legend*, which, says Beemer, "is the only subtitled feature film from Burma available in the West."

The film *Bong Sen* is a remarkable co-production between Algeria and Viet Nam. The film won Third Prize at the Seventh Festival of African Cinema in Morocco. The film also marks the first collaboration between the luminous Vietnamese actresses **Nguyen An Chinh** and **Le Khanh**, both of whom later appeared together in the 2000 film festival favorite, *Vertical Ray of the Sun*. *Bong Sen* was helmed by **Tran Duc** (director of *August Star*, winner of the Golden Lotus Prize) and Belgrade-trained Algerian filmmaker Amar Laskri (*Patrol in the East*).



## SEA Film Series 100 films in five years!

From blockbuster Indonesian comedies to Malaysian indie political thrillers to Filipino melodramas, nearly 1,000 people in Hawai'i watched thirty-four movies from Southeast Asia under the aegis of the Center's 2008 Southeast Asian Wednesday Night Movie Series.

The Wednesday Night Movie has been screening films for the last five years in the Korean Studies Building in the Manoa Valley on campus at the University of Hawai'i.



**"Have the spirits cursed this couple? Or are more terrestrial forces working to keep them apart?"**

**The Legend of Lady Hill**  
A Yee Myint Production  
Myanmar, 2005, 133 minutes  
Burmese with English Subtitles

This rarely seen film – one of the last made in Algeria before all film production ended during that nation's tumultuous "invisible war" in the 1990s – has been translated and subtitled by **Hoa Le** (MA student, Second Language Studies) and **Leon Potter** (PhD student, Education).

*Aloha*, a recently discovered classic Malaysian film from 1950, showcases the early artistic talents of a then 21 year-old **P. Ramlee**, who later became the titan of Malay cinema. Shot in Singapore, the film uses a Hawai'i theme to tell the story of a young woman named Aloha who falls into the clutches of a local gangster. The soundtrack features eight songs played by master Filipino, Indonesian and Malay musicians trained on ukulele,



"The audiences come from everywhere – from people who've travelled throughout the region to lonely expatriates to students to retirees to people who just have an interest in the region," notes **Paul Rausch**, the Center's Associate Director.

**Spring 2008** saw premiere screenings of *London Caregiver* (Philippines), *Saint Jack* (USA/Singapore), *One Night Husband* (Thailand), *Kubrador* (Philippines), *Opera Jawa* (Indonesia), *I-San Special* (Thailand), *Muro Ami* (Philippines), *Three Days Until Forever* (Indonesia), *Quickie Express* (Indonesia), *Talking Cock* (Singapore), *Kala* (Indonesia),

slack key guitar and stand-up bass – and opens a fantastic musical window to the transmission of Hawaiian music forms into Southeast Asia.

**Paul Rausch**, Associate Director of the Center, brought the subtitled version of *Aloha* to Manila for its Pacific premiere at the Southeast Asian Cinema Studies Conference before hundreds of excited cineastes, academics and students. Rausch and **Rohayati Paseng**, UH's Southeast Asia Librarian, subtitled the film.

The Center's other film projects are still under wraps, but Rausch offers *CSEAS Panorama* readers a tantalizing hint: "Look for a Vietnamese spy movie in 2009."



*Sayew* (Thailand), *Endo* (Philippines), and *Ayat Ayat Cinta* (Indonesia).

In the **Fall 2008** semester the **SEA Wednesday Night Movie** featured *Love Story* (Singapore), *Magdalena: The Unholy Saint* (Philippines), *The Owl and the Sparrow* (Viet Nam), *After This Our Exile* (Hong Kong/Malaysia), *Nagabonar Turns 2* (Indonesia), *Monday Morning Glory* (Malaysia), *Maskot* (Indonesia), *Mukhsin* (Malaysia), *Bikini Open* (Philippines), *Bong Sen* (Viet Nam), *The Legend of Lady Hill* (Myanmar), *One More Chance* (Singapore), and *Long Road to Heaven* (Indonesia).

# Muslim Societies in Asia

## ...and Islamic cultures in reflection

Ask an average American about “Muslim society” and you’ll get an answer which revolves around the Middle East – even though the world’s largest populations of Muslims reside in Asia, specifically Southeast Asia. UH’s newly-inaugurated **Muslim Societies in Asia Program (MSIA)** seeks to remedy that bias in understanding between regions and religions by building a national resource center to educate the American public on Islam and society throughout Asia.

The program’s coordinators, graduate students **Azti Nezia Suriyanti binti Azmi** (MA student, Asian Studies) and **Mohamed Effendy bin Abdul Hamid** are working with Professor **Barbara Andaya** and CSEAS Associate Director **Paul Rausch** to build MSIA into a resource center for both academics and the general public.

“A strong and more positive relationship between academics, policy makers and the general public in America and Southeast Asia must be fostered,” noted Effendy. “Our program therefore seeks to close the divide and establish and maintain a healthy conduit for information and knowledge sharing.”

Nezia and Effendy are developing a communication hub and forum for exchange between American and Southeast Asian individuals, communities and institutions; building knowledge bases on topics reflecting the diversity of Islam in

Southeast Asia and creating a one-stop website for announcements of programs, events and student/research exchange opportunities related to the study of Muslim societies in Southeast Asia. MSIA is an initiative of UH’s School of Pacific and Asian Studies and is funded in part by the State of Hawai’i Legislature.

### Photo Exhibition Odyssey

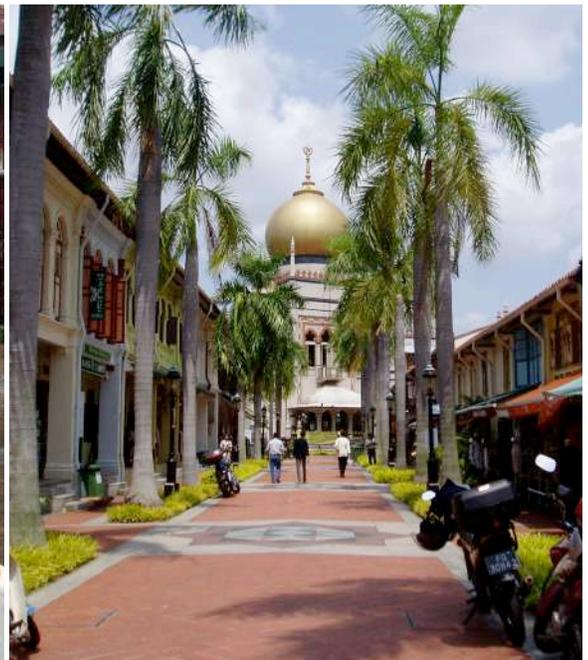
The “Southeast Asia Islamic Cultures in Reflection,” an exhibition of 75 photographs and accompanying text that originated as an outreach project in Hawai’i in 2007, continued its travels throughout the Southeastern United States in 2008 and 2009.

The exhibition – developed by **Anthony Medrano** (MA, Asian Studies) and **Sapril Akhmady** (PhD, Political Science) – left Hawai’i for Atlanta, Georgia for “Spiritual Awareness Week” in April 2008 at **Morehouse College** and then traveled to **Bethune-Cookman College** in July. The exhibition was so popular that the college requested the exhibition be held over until December of 2008. SEA:ICR is now at **Winston-Salem University** in North Carolina and will be on display from March through April 2009. Both **Philander Smith College** in Little Rock, Arkansas and **Central State University** in Ohio requested the exhibition for Fall 2009.

#### Photo Exhibit: Islamic Cultures in Reflection

“The people,” according to CSEAS Director Barbara Watson Andaya, “were able to contribute to a process that was to give Southeast Asian Islam a distinctive character which it has retained to the present day.”

It is this “distinctive character” that inspired the exhibition, and energized individuals to submit their photographs from places as distant as Aceh and Ithaca.



# Student Updates

## Notes from the field

Under the aegis of **Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowships (FLAS)**, funded in part by the United States Department of Education and intended to promote research in areas of great importance of the United States, the Center for Southeast Asian Studies provided funding for over two dozen students in 2008. The student fellowship recipients came from disciplines as diverse as English, Library Science, and Education to Asian Studies, History and Anthropology and study languages including Khmer, Thai, Filipino, Indonesian, Vietnamese and Javanese.

Full year **2008 FLAS Fellowships**, which cover tuition and provide a \$15,000 stipend, were awarded to **Andrea Bertoli**, MA student, Political Science, Indonesian – **Brett Bodemer**, MLISC student, Library and Information Science, Vietnamese – **Phillip Drake**, PhD student, English, Indonesian – **Bernard Ellorin**, MA student, Music, Filipino – **Shawn Fehrenbach**, MA student, Anthropology, Khmer – **Rachel Hoerman**, MA student, Anthropology, Khmer – **Deanna Ramsay**, PhD student, History, Indonesian – **Matthew Reeder**, MA student, Asian Studies, Thai – **Anna Reynolds**, MA student, Asian Studies, Indonesian – **Peyton Standefer**, MA student, Asian Studies, Khmer, and to **Martin Thiry**, PhD student, History, Indonesian.

The Center also provided **Summer FLAS Fellowships** in 2008 to **Geoffrey Ashton**, PhD student, Philosophy, Thai, Advanced Study of Thai Program – **Bryce Beemer**, PhD student, History, Thai, Chulalongkorn University – **Keith Bettinger**, PhD student, Geography, Indonesian, Wisma Bahasa, Jogjakarta – **Heidi Burkhardt**, MA student, Asian Studies, Khmer, Advanced Study of Khmer Program – **Phillip Drake**, PhD student, English, Javanese, Universitas Sebelas Maret, Surakarta – **Ryan Koo**, PhD student, History, Khmer, Khmer School of Language – **Jason Lobel**, PhD student, Linguistics, Indonesian, UNSRAT Manado – **Jesica McDonough**, MA student, Asian Studies, Thai, SEASSI – **Leon Potter**, PhD student, Education, Thai, Ubon Rajathanee University – **Deanna Ramsay**, PhD student, History, Javanese, Universitas Sebelas Maret, Surakarta – **Christian Razukas**, MA student, Asian Studies, Indonesian, Wisma Bahasa, Jogjakarta, and to **Matthew Reeder**, MA student, Asian Studies, Thai, Advanced Study of Thai Program.

**Deanna Ramsay** (PhD student, History) and **Phillip Drake** (PhD student, English) studied Javanese language at Universitas Sebelas Maret, Solo, and attended rehearsals for two female *dalang*, visited the Yayasan Sastra (an organization that is romanizing and digitizing Javanese texts from Solonese personal collections), saw a “few dozen”

**Deanna Ramsay** and **Phillip Drake** took time from their studies of Javanese language to meet with Mr. and Ms. Solo in Surakarta (Solo), Indonesia.

**Heidi Burkhardt** (far right) and her classmates from the Fulbright-Hayes Advanced Study of Khmer Program at the opening of Club Chao in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.



*wayang kulit* and *gamelan* performances, toured the Sidoarjo mud flow in East Java, visited Candi Suku on the slopes of Mount Lawu, and had a personalized tour of the manuscript library of the Solo Kraton.

**Christian Razukas** (MA student, Asian Studies) studied Indonesian at Wisma Bahasa in Jogjakarta and dined inside the Jogjakarta Kraton as a guest of **Sri Sultan Hamengkubuwono X** along with *autuer* Indonesian Film Director **Garin Nugroho** and Indonesian screen siren **Jajang C. Noer** as an invited guest of the Jogjakarta Asian NETPAC Film Festival.

**Heidi Burkhardt** (MA student, Asian Studies) went to Phnom Penh for eight weeks this summer as part of the Advanced Study of Khmer Program administered by **Chhany Sak-Humphry** (Professor, Khmer). “It was,” says Burkhardt, “the experience of a lifetime! Not only was I able to learn from amazing language professors, but I had the opportunity to network with professionals in my field and visit with multiple NGOs to get a better grasp on what humanitarian efforts are being done in Cambodia. I was also able to experience Cambodian culture like I never had before. From riding bikes in the rice fields with local village kids during a home-stay experience to learning the art of traditional Khmer cooking, the ASK program enabled me to gain more than just a stronger language proficiency.”

**Sean Fehrenbach** (MA student, Anthropology), received a Graduate Student Organization grant to study the compositional analysis of ceramics and spent the summer of 2008 at the **University of**

**Missouri Research Reactor Archaeometry Lab**, on an internship conducting chemical compositional analysis of ceramics from Angkor Borei, Cambodia using neutron activation. Fehrenbach is also co-president of the Anthropology Graduate Student Association.

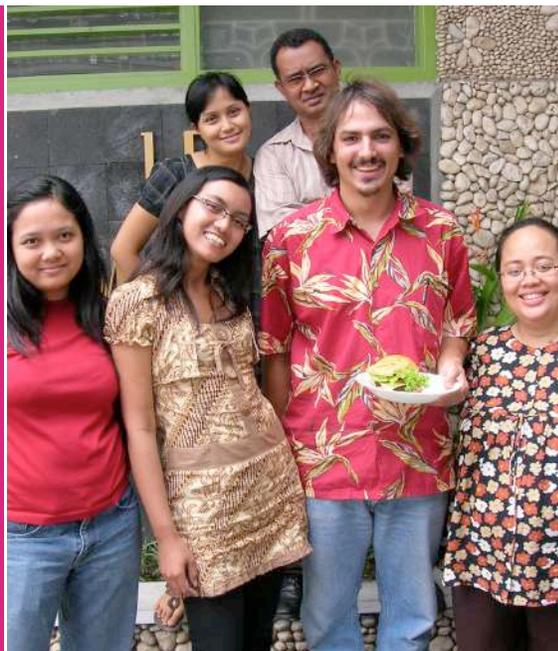
**Kelli Swazey** (PhD candidate, Anthropology), completed her MA and finished her thesis entitled *Carrying Culture and (Re)creating Nation Through Christianity: Minahasan Culture and Identity in Transnational Indonesian Churches in New England*. Swazey will soon return to Minahasa on a **Fulbright-Hays Fellowship** to further her research on how Christianity structures representation of Minahasan ethnic identity and influences the politics of representation in Muslim-Christian relations in the North Sulawesi region. Swazey hopes to be working with local government officials and *BKSAUA (Bekerja Sama Antar Umat Agama)*, founded by the Indonesian government in 1969 to foster inter-religious dialogue and cooperation.

**Jesica McDonough** (MA student, Asian Studies) went to SEASSI in Madison, Wisconsin to study Advanced Thai, saw the Dali Lama’s public lecture in Madison, led the Thai/Indonesian intramural volleyball team to victory and won SEASSI’s Usha Maha Jani Award for Thai language study!

**Lance Nolde** (MA student, History) presented a paper entitled *Exploring History, Memory, and Identity among Sama Fishers in Southeast Sulawesi* at the 2008 East-West Center Graduate Student Conference. Nolde also won the 2008 Taraknath Das Prize for Best Paper in Asian History at the University of Hawai’i for a paper entitled, *Fluidity of Gender Roles*

**Keith Bettinger**  
posing with hamburgers cooked for his instructors at the Wisma Bahasa Language School in Jogjakarta, Indonesia.

**Jesica McDonough**  
(lower row, first from left) led the Thai/Indonesian intramural volleyball team to victory in Madison, Wisconsin as part of the Southeast Asian Summer Studies Institute.



among the Sea-centered Sama of Southeast Sulawesi. Two further papers – a summary of Nolde’s research and a second paper entitled “Great is Our Relationship with the Sea”: *Charting the Maritime Realm of the Southeast Sulawesi Sama* are under review for publication by *Baruga: Sulawesi Research Bulletin* (KITLV, The Netherlands) and UH’s own *Explorations: A Graduate Student Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*.

**Bryce Beemer** (PhD candidate, History), winner of the **2008 Albert D. Moscotti Grant**, known informally as the “Scotty,” travelled to the Burma Studies Center at Northern Illinois University for the 8th International Burma Studies Conference in October 2008 for a premiere screening of *The Legend of Lady Hill*, the film he subtitled under the aegis of the Center’s SEA subtitling program. Beemer gave separate talks on the film, the Burmese film industry and using film translation as an educational tool for the study of Southeast Asia. Beemer also presented *Southeast Asian Slavery and Slave Gathering Warfare as a Vector for Cultural Transmission: The Case of Burma and Thailand*, which won the **2008 Sarah Bekker Burma Essay Prize** for original research on Burma.

Beemer, recipient of a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship, will spend 2009 in the field, shuttling between Thailand and Burma, investigating slavery and cultural development in pre-colonial Southeast Asia.

The **2008 Yuchengco Fellowship in Philippine Studies** – funded by a donation to the Center for Philippine Studies from Ambassador Alfonso Yuchengco, a prominent Filipino-Chinese industrialist, philanthropist and diplomat, was given this year to **Michael Gardner** (MA student, Asian Studies).

As a Yuchengco scholar, Gardner traveled to the Philippines in Summer 2008 to research international non-government organizations and community-based partner organizations in Mindanao, conducting several interviews with INGO and community organization members and visiting a number of community-based development projects. Gardner returned to Mindanao in January 2009 to study the networks at work among these community organizations.

**Martin Thiry** (PhD student, History) travelled deck class on a Pelni liner to one of the more remote areas of South Maluku in 2008, studying colonial policing in the Dutch East Indies on a year-long Boren Scholarship, funded by the National Security Education Program.



**Martin Thiry** posing with children in Maluku, Indonesia, where he spent one year researching under the aegis of a Boren Scholarship.

**Nezia Azmi** (MA student, Asian Studies) and Desiree Seguritan performed traditional Balinese dance at Hale Manoa as part of the East-West Center’s Cultural Evening.



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