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## **MORE THAN A LEARNING EXPERIENCE**

*Ruma Maida (Maida's House)*, screening at Wesley College (St Kilda), Melbourne

The 5th Indonesian Film Festival, in cooperation with VILTA and Wesley College proudly presents our 2<sup>nd</sup> Educational Program. Following the success of the first screening of '*Laskar Pelangi*' (*The Rainbow Troops*) in 2009, this year we are offering you '*Ruma Maida*', a drama that will take you to an exciting journey into the heart of Indonesia. '*Ruma Maida*' is scheduled to screen on 23, 24, and 25 August 2010 at Wesley College's Senior Lecture Theatre.

The IFF Educational Program is especially designed for teachers and students of Bahasa Indonesia throughout Victoria. It is our highest aspiration that this program will not only give our participants an exciting way of learning Bahasa Indonesia, but also takes you to an amazing virtual journey to the heart of Indonesia.

'*Ruma Maida*' is perfect fit for this program, as it offers more than just a drama. In '*Ruma Maida*', numerous Indonesian issues and elements are raised to the surface. The film depicts a complicated love story between Maida and Sakera. It is complicated because Sakera is obliged to destroy a house, in which Maida's life, dreams and hopes are built on. On top of that, an important historical element is attached to Maida's house, as it has a strong connection to the past, where a half-Dutch-half-Indonesian composer was struggling with his song and his status, in times leading up to Indonesia's proclamation of independence in 1945. History, poverty, racial tension, violence, power and freedoms are some the issues that are touched.

Directed by Teddy Soeriaatmadja and written by Ayu Utami, '*Ruma Maida*' is a powerful fusion of the contemporary and the historical Indonesia. It will give you a deep understanding of the 'real' Indonesia: a beautiful multicultural country with its complexities. It is where the cultural diversity acts as a double-edged sword, as it simultaneously enriches the culture and destroys the unity of Indonesia, and it is also where the poverty seems to be a recurring problem.

All screenings will be provided with English subtitled, and bookings should be made through [education@indonesianfilmfestival.com.au](mailto:education@indonesianfilmfestival.com.au)

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