

Many Hands International

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Many Hands International

culture based community development

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News of MHI's activities in and through culture

Dear friends and supporters of Many Hands International

In this edition we share information about a number of events we are excited to lead: an exhibition about traditional culture, a special music project and training for health professionals. We also publish our 2014–15 Annual Report that was presented at our recent AGM in Melbourne (pictured opposite). This documents the developments through our sixth year of operation in Timor–Leste. Read the report [here](#)

Best wishes

Kim Dunphy, Holly Schauble and Vincent Ashcroft (Directors)

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Exhibition: Connecting ancient rock art and contemporary cultural expression in Tutuala, November–December, Lospalos

Many Hands International, in partnership with the Secretary of State for Tourism, Arts and Culture (Government of Timor–Leste) and UNESCO Jakarta, are pleased to be presenting an exhibition *Connecting ancient rock art and contemporary cultural expression in Tutuala* at the Lautem Cultural Centre in Lospalos.

The exhibition shares findings of a research project about the relationship between ancient drawings in the caves in the Tutuala area, and cultural practices that are still ongoing. During their research, evidence of influence from the rock art was found by MHI researchers in stories, songs and weavings. Our [report](#) offers more detailed information.



The opening ceremony took place on Wednesday November 11 officiated by Sra Isabel Ximenes, Secretary of State, Arts and Culture, and followed by performances from Tutuala community members.

Exhibition opening hours:

November 16 – December 11, weekdays 9 –12 and 2–5pm.

Declaration of Independence weekend 28–29 November, 9– 2 pm. Other times by arrangement.

More information: *Nelinha Pereira at MHI (670) 7857 2589*

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MHI hosts visiting musician Lina Andonovska as Asialink resident, November–February

MHI is delighted to be hosting talented international performer Lina Andonovska in Timor–Leste from 16 November until early 2016, as part of a prestigious **Asialink residency**, connecting Australian artists with communities in Asia.

Lina comes to MHI directly from a highly acclaimed tour of the UK and Europe, where she has been playing flute as a member of the **Crash Ensemble**. Lina has worked with MHI in Timor–Leste twice before, first in 2011 as a student of the Australian National Academy of Music, when she supported our first Asialink resident **Gillian Howell**, and then in 2013 when she accompanied MHI Director Kim Dunphy on a **workshop and performing tour** of Ainaro district.



Lina's plans for the residency include collaboration with local contemporary musicians, cultural exchange with traditional flute players in the Lautem district, and presentation of contemporary flute works in a variety of performance situations. She plans to create a new performance piece reflecting her experience in Timor. She is also open to new opportunities that present themselves during her visit. Interesting and beautiful music is sure to emerge from this sharing of musical ideas and influences. Find out more about **Lina** or contact her at linaandonovska@hotmail.com.

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Training and supervision in social and emotional wellbeing, 18–20 November, Dili

Also coming up this month is MHI's fourth annual event supporting human service professionals, particularly psychologists and those in training, to be effective in addressing important issues for their clients in Timor–Leste. A training workshop followed by two days of supervision and support will be offered on **Developing Social and Emotional Skills: How to reduce stress and conflict and increase happiness**.

These workshop and supervision sessions are designed for professionals who seek to develop social and emotional skills in children and adults to improve family and personal life. Techniques from psychology will assist strategies for managing the impacts of stressful situations and reducing conflict.



Presenters: Professor John Toumbourou, Chair in Health Psychology, School of Psychology, Deakin University, Australia and Drs. Ruth and John Rudge, Southern Cross Psychology, Darwin and Melbourne, Australia.

These events are presented by the Timor–Leste Association for the Profession of Psychology in collaboration with Deakin University, Southern Cross Psychology, Australia and MHI.

Registration: admin@manyhands.org.au, Nelinha on (670) 7857 2589. More **information**

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Supporting our work

We welcome your support for all of our activities promoting peace and prosperity in Timor-Leste through culture.

We continue to seek donations to our project to make two safe spaces for creative play for young children in Lospalos township. We have the places ready, the **plans** drawn up and the people keen, but we need \$30,000 to make it happen. Donation options [here](#).

We thank supporters over the last months including Julian Mattay, the Rotary Club of Mt Gambier, Kim Dunphy, John Toumbourou, Holly Schauble, Vin Ashcroft, Lex Toumbourou, Lucia Pichler, Amy Stevenson, Di McEwen and Gallery 54 of Penola, South Australia.

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