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The fourth Ubud Food Festival welcomes over 100 speakers from across the Asia Pacific and beyond for Indonesia's leading culinary event

Ubud, INDONESIA -

In just two days over 100 chefs, farmers, restaurateurs, foodpreneurs, social enterprise founders and outstanding innovators from 17 countries will descend on the Ubud Food Festival 2018 Presented by ABC (UFF) this 13-15 April. From long-table lunches and degustation dinners served by Michelin-starred chefs and Indonesia's best, to food forums ranging from Indonesia's rice crisis to the impact of food apps on the dining industry, UFF is packed with 100+ events at the Festival Hub and across Ubud, each of them celebrating innovative food and food for thought.

After Bangkok's **Gaggan** was announced as number one for the fourth consecutive year at Asia's 50 Best Restaurants, the Festival is thrilled to welcome its Indonesian Head Chef **Rydo Anton**, who will collaborate with Ubud's **Locavore**. The fine dining Ubud restaurant with a focus on local produce, this year Locavore edged up one place to number 21, and remains Indonesia's only entrant on the list.

Among the Festival's other international headliners are Singapore-based Michelinstarred chefs **Rishi Naleendra** of **Cheek by Jowl**, and **Sun Kim** of **Meta** and **Kimme**. They'll be joined by **Jun Lee** of **Soigné** in Seoul, which was awarded one Michelin star in 2016 and 2017. Award-winning chefs **Petrina Loh** of **Morsels** and **Daniel Chavez** of **OLA Cocina del Mar** and **TONO Cevicheria** will also be flying the flag for Singapore's top venues. These acclaimed chefs will be commandeering the kitchens of the coveted **Room4Dessert**, **Kubu at Mandapa**, **A Ritz-Carlton Reserve**, **Hujan Locale** and **Uma Cucina** for the Festival's stellar special events.

It's no secret that Bali is now one of the world's top foodie hotspots. Bringing together the culinary masterminds behind five of the island's most sought-after dining destinations is the special event **Best of Bali at Mozaic**, featuring **Chris Salans** (**Mozaic**), **Daniele Taddeo (GROW Bali)**, **Kevin Cherkas (Cuca)**, **Kieran Morland (Merah Putih**), and **Mandif Warokka (BLANCO par Mandif**).





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Following his twin successes of being named **Chef of the Year** at the inaugural **FoodieS and Aqua Reflections Jakarta's Best Eats Awards and Guide**, and **Asian Cuisine Chef of the Year (Regional)** at the **World Gourmet Summit of Excellence**, the Festival welcomes the return of **Ragil Imam Wibowo** of **NUSA Indonesian Gastronomy** for a collaborative dinner with **Nusantara by Locavore**.

Also representing the capital's world class culinary scene are **Kim Pangestu**, Head of Pastry at **NOMZ Kitchen**, **Gloria Susindra**, Chef-Owner of **Mother Monster**, **Hans Christian**, Chef de Cuisine of **View Restaurant**, culinary TV personality **Rinrin Marinka**, and **Andrian Ishak** of **Namaaz Dining**, Indonesia's first molecular gastronomy restaurant. They'll be joined by culinary storyteller **Ade Putri Paramadita**, and eminent food writer and *FoodieS* publisher, **Jed Doble**.

The Festival's theme 'Generasi Inovasi' will be brought to life by speakers such as **David Christian** of **Evoware** and **Kevin Kumala** of **Avani**, Indonesia's foremost companies producing eco-friendly packaging; **Thor Yumna** of **TaniHub**, an agricultural app connecting farmers with buyers; Balinese permaculture specialist **Made Chakra** and proud Balinese farmer **Kadek Suardika**; **Steven Kim** of popular food app **Qraved**; and **Helianti Hilman** of **JAVARA Indonesia**, the nation's top social enterprise helping farmers to become 'farmerpreneurs'.

"Through dynamic collaborations and in-depth discussions, the UFF connects Indonesian industry professionals with their international counterparts, to foster networking and knowledge exchange," commented UFF Founder & Director Janet DeNeefe. "I truly feel that our free Food for Thought panel series is what sets us apart from other food festivals, providing a platform for the region's industry leaders, farmers and producers to educate and inspire our audiences."

At the center of it all is the star of UFF, Indonesian food, which is celebrated in all its diversity at the free Teater Kuliner stage. Audiences can sample one of Bali's most important ceremonial dishes from local culinary expert **Gusti Nyoman Darta**, and discover little-known Balinese ingredients with **I Putu Dodik Sumarjana** of **Nusantara by Locavore**, and **Pengalaman Rasa**'s **Gede** and **Ayu Gayatri Kresna**.

Presenting Partner ABC will be spicing things up with much-loved TV Chef **Bara Pattiradjawane**, pioneering food writer **Petty Elliott**, and Manadonese celebrity chef





Billy Kalangi. They'll be demonstrating fiery food pairings with popular ABC products Saos Sambal and Kecap Manis, while delving into Indonesia's rich culinary cultures and the brand's innovative methods for popularizing Indonesian home cooking.

One of Southeast Asia's leading charcuterie and cheese specialists, **Tri Sutrisna**, will share his innovative delicacies; the Queen of Indonesian cuisine **Ibu Sisca Soewitomo** will delight her fans with two specialties from her home city Surabaya; food activist **Dicky Senda** will prepare Timorese smoked pork; and **Charles Toto**, the Jungle Chef will return to cook traditional Papuan snacks. For those longing for more, Ibu Sisca will prepare a Rijtafel lunch at **Plataran Ubud**, and **Janet DeNeefe** will collaborate with chefs Charles and Dicky for a long table lunch at her iconic restaurant **Casa Luna**.

The annual UFF Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to the family of the late **Pak Bondan Winarno**, one of Indonesia's foremost culinary experts, for his outstanding contribution to Indonesian culinary culture.

"The international status of Indonesian produce and cuisine is rising, and innovation has a big part to play in this," commented DeNeefe. "Over the past couple of years we've seen a huge increase in artisan products produced for the domestic and export markets by talented young Indonesians and hard-working social enterprises, many of whom I am proud to welcome to this year's Festival," she continued.

"For international visitors, I hope you leave the Festival with a new-found fascination for the incredibly diverse cuisines of the archipelago, and that you share our excitement for the exciting future of Indonesia's culinary industry. I hope Indonesians leave with boosted pride in their extraordinary culinary heritage and remarkable aptitude for innovation.

"Finally, I'd like to say a sincere thank you to our new Presenting Partner ABC, for sharing our vision for innovative Indonesian cuisine, and shining the spotlight on the nation's best culinary talent and the people who produce what they plate up. We can't wait to welcome you all!"



More Information

- The three-day program from 13–15 April, 2018, spans a range of ticketed and free events, from cooking demonstrations, special events, workshops and food tours, to markets, film screenings, live music and in-depth forum discussions.
- Special events will take at various locations across Ubud.
- A not-for-profit initiative, the Ubud Food Festival is underpinned by a mission of supporting Indonesia's vibrant and sustainable culinary and tourism industries.
- The full program, line-up and tickets are available on the Festival website.
- Visit <u>www.ubudfoodfestival.com</u> for all information on programming, ticketing, scheduling, location, FAQs and more.

Media Contact

For more information about the UFF and for interview requests, please contact our International Media Consultant, Julia Winterflood, at julia@yayasansaraswati.org or on +62 812 9942 7591.

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