

CELEBRATING BALINESE CULTURE AND MARTIAL ARTS:

Green School Hosts the 1st Open Mepantigan Bali Championship

Sibang Kaja, Bali, July 15 2008 – Green School and Bali Mepantigan Arts proudly present the 1st Open Mepantigan Bali Championship. This historic event will be held at Green School's Mepantigan Center, an innovative and spectacular bamboo coliseum in Sibang Kaja, Bali on Friday, August 15th, from 3 to 8 p.m., and Saturday, August 16th 2008 from 1 to 4 p.m.

Mepantigan is a form of Balinese martial arts that involve similar physical techniques to those found in self-defense traditions around the world. But Mepantigan extends the form by also drawing upon Balinese drama, contemporary dance, and gamelan music, fusing fighting with the performing arts to create an entirely new cultural phenomenon. Participants wear uniforms consisting of traditional Balinese clothing, and can compete on the beach, in the mud of rice fields, or in any open space.

Practitioners of Mepantigan gain physical fitness, release stress, and learn valuable lessons in camaraderie and sportsmanship. In addition to physical skills, strength, and agility, both emotional and spiritual intelligences are utilized.

According to Putu Witsen Widjaya, the founder and senior teacher of Bali Mepantigan Arts and a martial arts champion, students of Mepantigan evolve as human beings and avoid violence while cultivating compassion. As he observed, "Wherever proper martial arts develop, evil will diminish and a respect for others will grow. This is particularly true for those who practice Mepantigan, which is a celebration of the spirit".

The Championship will take place in Green School's purpose-built Mepantigan Center, an inspiring bamboo structure that pushes the limits of the material and seats close to 300 people. It is the first of its kind in the world. Participants will come from all over Bali to compete, and spectators are guaranteed an exciting and powerful feast for the senses.

To reserve your tickets, please contact:

Meliana Salim

Marketing and Public Relations Manager

+ 62 361 469 875 / 0816 1978 599

marketing@greenschool.org

www.greenschool.org

To participate, please contact:

Putu Witsen Widjaya

Founder of Bali Mepantigan Arts

+62 818 352 471

putuwitsen@gmail.com

www.balimepantiganarts.com

