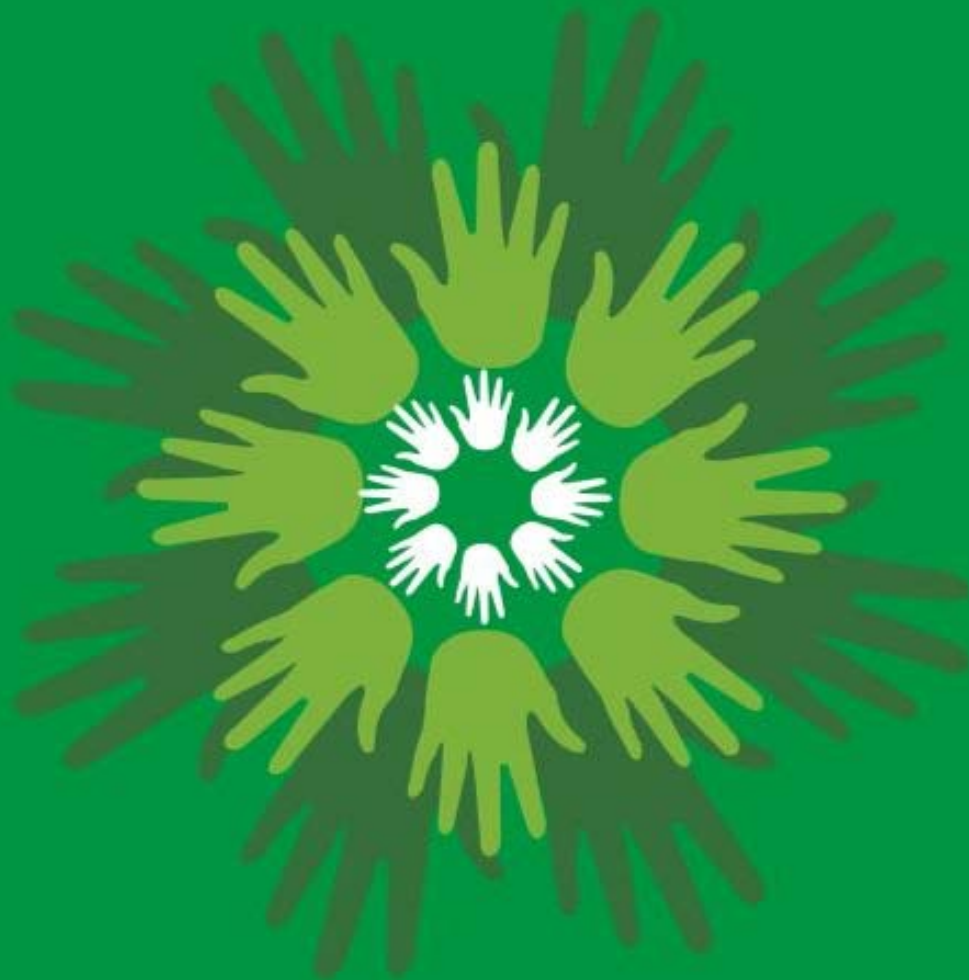


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KOMUNITAS

International Journal of Indonesian Society and Culture

Volume 9. Number 2. September 2017

Table of Contents

- 170-183 **Moment of Citizenship: Association and Aspiration of Minahasan, North Sulawesi**
Basri Amin
- 184-190 **The Role of Timorese Women in Food Management**
Dhanang Puspita
- 191-202 **Causes and Effects of Online Video Game Playing among Junior-Senior High School Students in Malang East Java**
I Dewa Putu Eskasasnanda
- 203-215 **Economic Rationality of Residents Living in the Area Prone to Merapi Volcanic Disaster**
Napsiah
- 216-224 **Strengthening the Role of Local Institutions in Protecting the Environment of Mount Lawu Areas for Tourism Purposes**
Suzanna Ratih Sari, Tunjung Wahadi Sutirto, Rara Sugiarti
- 225-236 **Young Jazz Musicians and Negotiation of Public Space in Yogyakarta Indonesia**
Oki Rahadianto Sutopo
- 237-245 **Strategy of Ethnic Identity Negotiations of Javanese Migrants Adolescents in Family Interaction**
Nina Yudha Aryanti
- 246-254 **Commodification of Tri Datu Bracelets Talisman in Balinese Community**
Anantawikrama T. Atmadja, Luh Putu Sri Ariyani, Nengah Bawa Atmadja
- 255-266 **Aesthetic Adaptation as a Culture Strategy in Preserving the Local Creative Potentials**
Triyanto, Mujiyono, Eko Sugiarto
- 267-282 **Investigating the Political Base of Indonesian Middle Class: A Comparative Study**
Wasisto Raharjo Jati
- 283-291 **Rally for Normative Demands and Solidarity of Workers**
Ari Pradhanawati
- 292-301 **'Morning Sen': Interaction, Habitus and the Importance of Uniform as Identity in Aviation College**
Nanik Rianandita Sari
- 302-309 **Interethnic Interaction Pattern in Karimunjawa Island**
Titiek Suliyati, Yety Rochwulaningsih, Mahendra Pudji Utama

AIMS AND SCOPE

Komunitas: International Journal of Indonesian Society and Culture welcomes original articles on issues arising at the intersection of nations, states, civil societies, and global institutions and processes. The editors are particularly interested in manuscripts dealing with changing patterns in the analysis of ethnic groups, social classes, religions, personal networks, changes in mass culture, propaganda, technologies of communication and their social effects, and the impact of social transformations on the changing order of public and private life. The journal is interdisciplinary in orientation and international in scope, and is not tethered to particular theoretical or research traditions. The journal presents material of varying length, from research notes to article-length monographs. Published twice a year, **Komunitas** is a peer review journal. **KOMUNITAS** is formerly known as **JURNAL KOMUNITAS** (P-ISSN 2086-5465)

Celebrity Auto/Biography and the Construction of Ageing Selves

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Abstract

This paper investigates the notion ageing femininity as it is performed within the frame of celebrity culture which privileges youthfulness in beauty and body image. It focuses on the issues of age, the process of ageing, the significance of ageing, the impact of ageing as part of the construction of celebrity identity and femininity. Age[ing] is an important context that female celebrities need to negotiate and embrace the ways in which cultural values need to be considered as well. Looking into the portrayal of the auto/biographical subjects and the visual images used, the paper argues that celebrities negotiate, transform and extend their forms of femininity as they age. Both auto/biographies present their auto/biographical subjects to show the construction of appealing ageing celebrity femininities that are closely linked to the characteristics of the Third Agers, being fit, fashionable, functional and flexible.

Keywords

ageing femininity; celebrity; beauty; body image; auto/biography

INTRODUCTION

In this article, I am looking at the auto/biographies of two Indonesian female celebrities, namely Titik Puspa and Lenny Marlina. Their auto/biographies, respectively entitled *Titiek Puspa: A Legendary Diva*, written by Alberthiene Endah and *Si Lenny dari Ciateul: Otobiografi Lenny Marlina*, written by a team of five writers, namely Titie Said, Lies Said, Muthiah Alhasany, Titien Sukmono, and Yuni.

The term “celebrities” here refers to glamour celebrities, namely those who work in the entertainment industry or show business, and who encompass various types of entertainment profession (D. P. Marshall, 2001). The term “auto/biography” is used

because it is a critical intersection of the overlapping practices of autobiography and biography. This paper is informed by the critical approaches both to biographies and autobiographies and argues that the term “auto/biography” is appropriately applied to the new forms of autobiographical practice being generated in Indonesian mass culture by specifically female celebrities.

Initially Lejeunne (1989, p.xvi) offered the conventional definition of autobiography as “retrospective prose narrative that someone writes concerning his [sic] own

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