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*Engaging with Literature  
Creatively*



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## **Proceedings**

The 8<sup>th</sup> International Seminar

The Faculty of Language and Literature

Satya Wacana Christian University

Engaging with Literature Creatively

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## PREFACE

The theme of this year's seminar: "Engaging with Literature Creatively" highlights the crucial role of literature in the language discipline and society because of the many benefits it offers.

The purpose of the seminar is to enhance literary awareness, as awareness of literature still obtains a small segment in English teaching, especially in Indonesia. We all know that Literature can be a powerful tool for teaching, building and transforming individuals and communities, yet little has been done to improve the experience for readers and maximize the impacts of texts by exploring innovative approaches and the way they are implemented.

We would like to offer our appreciation to all invited speakers (Prof. Alan Maley, Prof. Jayakaran Mukundan, and Prof. Kirk Branch), paper and workshop presenters, and participants who are taking part in this seminar. We are grateful to have financial supports from our generous sponsors which have made this seminar possible. Finally, the seminar would not have been running without the support of hard-working and dedicated committee members and students of the Faculty of Language and Literature. It is their commitment that made the preparation of this event a very rewarding and humbling learning experience for me.

This publication presents some of the unedited full papers of the 8<sup>th</sup> International Seminar's participants. We do hope that these papers will enrich our understanding and deepen our insights on issues surrounding literature awareness.

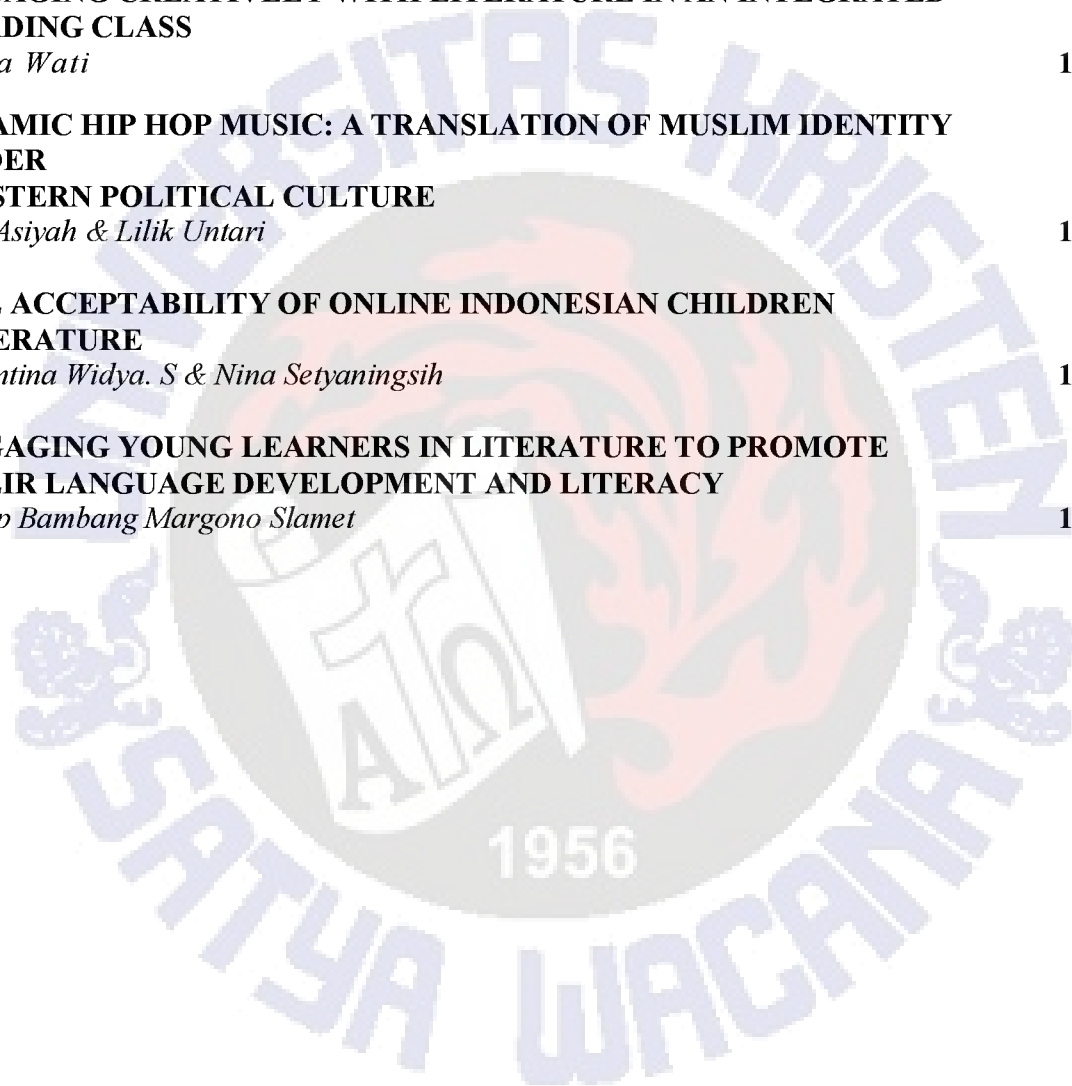
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## THE DYNAMICS OF THE BALINESE LITERATURE IN THE PRESENT DAY BALI

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### Abstract

Balinese literature has a significant role in the context of how the Balinese have preserved their own cultural tradition up to now. Even though the Majapahit Kingdom in the fourteenth century strongly influenced the Balinese tradition in the past, but it seems that the Balinese recently also look back at their cultural tradition prior to the period of the Majapahit influence. There are some crucial issues in relation to the above explanation: firstly, there have been widely debated on the issue around the origin of the Balinese tradition. On the one hand scholars argue that the origin of Balinese tradition is not started from the East Java period, but it was earlier than that it had been started prior to the period of the Majapahit such as the Middle Java period in the 8th to 9th century or, even, in the West Java Hindu tradition that also played a major role. However, others have not convinced with this argument; Secondly; due to globalization process, the Balinese perceive that the only way to anticipate the impacts of globalization is just to revitalize the local Balinese cultures by seeking at the Balinese literatures as the local sources like the babad, paswara, and awig-awig; Thirdly; to counter the negative impacts of globalization, the Balinese use their local cultural heritage so that they can maintain their cultural tradition that not based on Balinese tradition, but also the Javanese tradition. It is important to discuss such issue since the influences of pre and post Majapahit cultural traditions have indeed influenced the cultural identity of the Balinese. On top of this, to understand the concept of multiculturalism in the present day Bali, one needs to trace back the dynamic of interplay amongst arrays of cultural traditions that have affected the origin of multicultural society there.

Keywords: Balinese literature, babad, paswara, awig-awig and cultural heritage.

### I. Introduction