Directed by Hanung Bramantyo, *Kartini* tells the story of Indonesia’s most famous heroine Kartini’s fight for change in the rules and traditions considered sacred in Java, so that women might lead more independent and meaningful lives. Kartini’s goal was education for Javanese girls, a radical thought at the time and at odds with her Moslem religion. But as envisioned by Kartini, education was the way to “set the rice upon the table for every Javanese.” The film portrays both her passionate hope and powerful aspiration to bring about change – in her own life, to the position of Javanese women, to colonised Java – as well as the deep disappointment she experienced and the compromises she had to make. Kartini’s life, retold in Bramantyo’s film, traces a path from personal aspiration to the liberation of all women, to a radical assessment of colonial politics. The film was released in Indonesia on 19 April 2017, two days before Kartini’s day.

**Lecture:** Mythologising Kartini in “Kartini” by Nan Triveni Achnas

Nan Triveni Achnas is an Indonesian film director. Born in Singapore, she grew up in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Achnas graduated from the Faculty of Film and Television at the Jakarta Institute of the Arts. She also completed a master’s degree in Film Studies at the University of East Anglia in 1996 where she was a Chevening Scholar. While graduating from the University of East Anglia, she directed a film entitled The Only Day (1988) as her diploma film. It won the Grand Prix at the Asian Young Cinema Film Festival in Tokyo. She has made numerous documentaries and feature films such as Kuldesak, The Flag, Whispering Sands and The Photograph, which won the Grand Prize at the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival in 2008. Achnas is in the final stages of completing her doctoral degree at the School of Art, Design and Media in Nanyang Technological University. When she is not directing films, Achnas teaches film at the Jakarta Institute of the Arts which is the main film school in Indonesia.