

 **TERRANOVA**  
presents

# INDONESIA

## The Invisible Giant

A 2x52 min project

Directed by Frédéric Compain



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# INDONESIA



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The fourth most populous country in the world, with 240 million inhabitants and more than 13,000 islands; the largest Muslim nation on earth; annual growth of over 6% and a dominant position in Southeast Asia: Indonesia is also the third-largest democracy on the planet, right behind India and the U.S.A...

But above all, since 2009, Indonesia has gone from being the world's fifteenth largest economy to the tenth today – an impressive leap in just six years. Considering the evolution of global economics, it's surely only a matter of time before the country enters the Top 5, along with Brazil, Russia, India and China.

Although Indonesia has already entered the elite G20 group, it still has many challenges to face. It clearly has the potential to become a huge, modern power: a large population, an abundance of natural resources and sprawling tracts of both land and sea that can be developed outside of the Island of Java. Most importantly, the economy has diversified well beyond oil and gas, and the political situation has stabilized recently. Those two factors form the foundation of the Indonesian success story. Indonesia benefits greatly from its position in the world's most dynamic economic zone. A maritime crossroads on the shipping lanes between India and the Far East, the "spice islands" have been a favored stopover for merchant vessels for over five centuries. Those vessels have brought the country everything from Islam, to colonization, to connection to the rest of the world.

Less overrun than China and less complicated than India, Indonesia has become a coveted target for the world's multi-national corporations. New consumers' appetites and the woeful lack of infrastructure make it a promised land for western powerhouses looking for new growth markets.

But more than just economic growth, in these difficult geo-political times, Indonesia is sending a powerful message to the Muslim world: Islam and democracy are not incompatible. The archipelago is set to become an Asian giant of tomorrow – but at what price and on what terms?

Understanding today's Indonesia means first learning its history. The first part of our film will describe the turbulent path, begun in 1905, that led the country from colonization to independence; then, from 1945, the hard lessons of freedom and democracy. The second will explore what's at stake for the future of this young nation, whose growth (and tolerance?) could change the face of the world of the future.

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