

MELATI RIYANTO WIJSEN

24 year old full time changemaker and movement builder

<https://melatiwijsen.com/>
www.youthtopia.world



Images of Melati

[Library Footage](#) / [Headshots](#)

Founder of Bye Bye Plastic Bags & YOUTHTOPIA:

Melati is a 24 year old full time changemaker. She has founded Bye Bye Plastic Bags with her younger sister & has been leading the movement driven by youth since 2013 at the age of 12. She has also started the people movement One Island One Voice and the social enterprise, Mountain Mamas. Melati has given two global TED talks before she turned 21 and has spoken on world stages such as the UN & has also been selected as FORBES top ten most inspiring women in the country. She graduated from high school one year early & has since been honored by TIME as part of the annual list of most influential teens in the world along with CNN Heroes Young Wonders & FORBES 30 under 30. Recently, Melati has co-chaired the World Economic Forum GPAP committee, sat on the inaugural Expert Advisory Panel for the Earthshot Prize, & has had her film, Bigger Than Us, premiere at the 74th Cannes Film Festival 2021. Today, Melati has launched her new company, YOUTHTOPIA, which is all about youth empowerment through short & meaningful peer to peer programs & providing them the tools they need to be changemakers. Melati believes that young people can accelerate change & her vision is to make YOUTHTOPIA the go to platform for young people to learn about frontline skills.

Short BIO:

Melati is a 24 year old full time changemaker and movement builder. She founded Bye Bye Plastic Bags at the age of 12, since then, Melati has spoken on world stages such as TED and the UN, she co-chaired the World Economic Forum GPAP committee, sat on the inaugural Expert Advisory Panel for the Earthshot Prize, and has had her film, Bigger Than Us, premiere at the 74th Cannes Film Festival 2021. Recently she opened the stage for President Barack Obama at the Ziggo Dome in Amsterdam. Today, Melati launched her new company, YOUTHTOPIA, focusing on youth empowerment through short, meaningful peer to peer programs and providing them the tools they need to be changemakers. Her vision is to make YOUTHTOPIA the go to platform for young changemakers.

Latest for Melati

- Melati gave her second global TED talk which has over 2.2M views already: https://www.ted.com/talks/melati_wijsen_a_roadmap_for_young_changemakers
- Melati's documentary film, Bigger Than Us premiered at the Cannes Film Festival in 2021 ([watch trailer](#))
- Melati is a published Author with her new book: Change Starts Now, read more [here](#).

YOUTHTOPIA

The vision at YOUTHTOPIA is to be the global number one "go-to" HQ for young people. The mission at YOUTHTOPIA is to provide space that brings young people together, ignites their passions and grows their skills to become active changemakers. We will achieve this by creating short and meaningful peer to peer programs off and online. These programs are made by the frontline young changemakers in YOUTHTOPIA's unique network of Circle of Youth members (400 changemakers globally in 50 countries). YOUTHTOPIA already has a first phase learning platform up and running on our website (www.youthtopia.world) with 8000+ users.

Bigger Than Us The Film

Melati goes around the globe to meet her tribe, young proven change-makers in their field (climate emergency, refugee rescue or education, women's rights, freedom of speech, access to food) as their respective actions unfold (a mobilization campaign, a concert, the launch of a school, a media, an alternative farm etc...). Leaving plastic and environmental issues, she ventures out of her comfort zone, in dark spaces, blind spots, sometimes terrifying ones. Where the media or authorities do not go anymore. Where voices are no longer heard.

[Watch the official trailer](#)

MELATI RIYANTO WIJSEN

24 year old full time changemaker and movement builder

Recent Talks & Conferences

Delamar Theater Amsterdam, Tomorrow Film Festival 2024
National Geographic, Sustainability Expo, Bangkok 2023, 2024, 2025
Four Freedoms Award, Netherlands 2024
Sustainable Switzerland Forum Bern, September 2023
Summit for a New Global Financing Pact Paris, June 2023
World Circular Economy Forum Helsinki, May 2023
An Evening with President Barack Obama panel talk Amsterdam, May 2023
Paris Change NOW conference May 2022 ([Watch talk here](#))
United Nations General assembly
World Economic Forum, Davos – 1/2020
World Economic Forum Climate Summit, NYC (co-host) – 10/2019
National Geographic Explorers Festival, Washington DC 6/2019

Moderated for

National Geographic, Sustainability Week 2023, 2024, 2025
National Geographic, Launch of Planet Possible, April 2022
Global Citizens Global Town Hall session on Youth Empowerment, 2022

Awards

Business Youth - A List, 2023 **UN Women Rise** and Raise Others, 2022 **Prestige 40 under 40**, 2022
Gent T Blue Water Heroes awards 2022 **Kalla Awards** 2022 **Future Minds** 25 Under 25, 2022
World Youth Award, Global Citizen TRT, 2022 **Forbes Asia 30 Under 30** 2020
National Geographic Explorer 2019 **Seventeen Magazine** (US) I Voices of the Year 2019
Sindo.News (Indonesia) I 7 Millennial Heroes 2019 **OCBC NISP** (Indonesia) I Young Indonesian Heroes, 2019
Bali (Indonesia) I **Buta Anak Mudah** anti Kanton Plastik 2019 **BILD** (Germany) I Role Model of the Year 2019
Tatler (Asia) I Gen.T 2019 **CNN Heroes** I Young Wonders 2018 **Times** "25 Most Influential Teenagers" 2018
BAMBI I Our Earth Award 2017 **Forbes Indonesia** "Top 10 Most Inspiring Women in The Country" 2017

Social Media

[Instagram](#) [Facebook](#) [LinkedIn](#)

LOGOs of organisations

[Bye Bye Plastic Bags](#) [YOUTHTOPIA](#) [Mountain Mamas](#) [One Island One Voice](#)

What People Say About Melati's Speaking:

'Dynamic, engaging, concrete examples of involvement in projects, great visuals, good advice to budding activists.'

'Melati gave me a lot of insight into how to help as a young person. Her story was really interesting as well and I was able to use some of the information she talked about in a discussion we had in a lunch club that day.'

'I love her story of how she became a changemaker. I always followed her journey when I used to live in Jakarta and I finally got to see her presenting live to me! Melati is a very inspiring person and gave very precise feedback. She answered the majority of her questions with a lot of details. Her 5 tips for becoming a changemaker was one of my favorite parts of her presentation.'

'Her energy was infectious, her message inspiring'

'I did enjoy the other speakers but Melati was the only speaker that I could relate to because of when she started and her ideas.'

'Very articulate and interesting/enticing/motivational/inspiring presentation!'

For More Information on Melati's availability for engagements and opportunities, reach out to the team at info@youthtopia.world