

ARTIPELAGO II

WHERE VISUAL ART
INTERSECTS FUNCTIONAL ART



JANVIER 16- 20, 2025
MAISON&OBJET
PARIS, FRANCE



+



CITEM



WHERE VISUAL ART
INTERSECTS FUNCTIONAL ART

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FOREWORD

It is with great pride that I extend my warmest congratulations to the organizers, artists and artisans behind **Artipelago II**, a celebration of the *Philippines'* unparalleled creativity and rich cultural heritage.

This remarkable exhibit showcases the beauty and diversity of our 7,641 islands through furniture that tells a story -- not just of design, but of identity, resilience and connection. Each piece reflects the spirit of our people, the vibrancy of our traditions and the enduring relationship we share with the world.

As *Filipinos*, we carry with us the artistry of generations, inspired by the islands that bind us as one nation. This exhibit is a testament to the boundless talent and ingenuity of our people, who continue to make their mark on the global stage.

To our friends in Paris and beyond, **Artipelago II** is an invitation to experience the soul of the Philippines. It is a glimpse into a culture as diverse and colorful as the islands that shape it, and it fills me with pride to see our story being shared with the world.

To **Galerie D'Antoine, DF Art Agency, the Center for International Trade Expositions and Missions (CITEM), Maison&Objet Paris** and to everyone who made this vision a reality, thank you for reminding us of the beauty of our country.

Mabuhay ang sining at kultura ng Pilipinas!



FIRST LADY LOUISE ARANETA - MARCOS





EXHIBITION NOTES

Art is an expression that is boundless.

Despite coming from different islands as an archipelago, speaking different dialects, and being influenced by the different countries that conquered the Philippines, one thing that always prevails is the human creative skill and imagination of the artist.

Like the pearl of the Orient, Filipino talent is ready to take center stage and be appreciated by the world.

Resembling our national dessert halo-halo, our talented artists from different parts of the archipelago represent the diverse ingredients combining different styles influenced by various cultures that have influenced the country for hundreds of years, which has created a special world-class talent with a common soul that is truly Filipino.

The art that is defined and interpreted by a special connection with the one who views it and how it touches one's soul.

- ANTONIO R MENDOZA



MESSAGE FROM DF ART AGENCY

Maison et Objet is an exceptional platform to showcase Filipino artistry at its finest. As one of the largest and most prestigious artistic expos in the world, it offers unparalleled opportunities for international exposure. The primary objective is not merely to sell but to present the immense talent of our visual artists to a global audience.

Paris, being a renowned art capital of Europe, provides the ideal setting for this endeavor. Galerie D'Antoine and DF Art Agency firmly believe in the remarkable capabilities of Filipino artists. With the right exposure and timing, we are confident that their talents will gain the recognition they deserve on the international stage.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to CITEM, their dedicated team, and the Office of the First Lady for spearheading this initiative to revive the Philippines' participation in a reputable event such as Maison et Objet. This effort underscores our commitment to elevating Filipino art on the global stage.

Merci beaucoup!

- DEREK FLORES

ARTISTS

Anna Bautista

Briccio Santos

Chino Yulo

Daniel dela Cruz

Demetrio dela Cruz

Demi Padua

Dino Gabito

Ezekiel Fajardo

Isko Andrade

Jana Benitez

Joshua Torres

Lilianna Manahan

Marrie Saplad

Pongbayog

Tita Halaman

THE ARTIST



ANNA BAUTISTA

Anna Bautista (b. 1997) work is marked by painterly brushstrokes, and she describes her art style as the application of patches of color that build up to a bigger picture, similar to her view of life as an amalgamation of incremental moments and experiences that make up time. She also uses vibrant objects, often relating them to representations of the Filipiniana. Interpreting the human environment, especially in the time of social and environmental changes remains a focal point for artists.

ANNA BAUTISTA

WORK



Entanglements and
Entrapments of Modern Love

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
121.92 x 91.44 cm
2024

THE ARTIST



BRICCIO SANTOS

Briccio Santos (b. 1949) The 1960s were a transformative decade, deeply influencing art, culture, and society worldwide. Marked by the tensions of the Cold War and the division of Europe, this era sparked movements in civil rights, feminism, and youth activism, challenging norms around gender, race, education, and morality.

Artistically, the decade saw the rise of significant movements like Pop Art and Minimalism. In New York, Pop Art, led by figures like Andy Warhol, celebrated and critiqued mass consumer culture through vibrant imagery from advertising and media. Meanwhile, Minimalism, prominent on the West Coast, emphasized art's own reality, breaking away from traditional forms and focusing on purity and abstraction, with artists like Donald Judd and Frank Stella leading the way.

European artists were also influenced by existentialism, exploring themes of human emotion and existential angst, as seen in the works of Francis Bacon and Alberto Giacometti.

This dynamic period not only reshaped artistic practices but also reflected broader societal changes, making it a crucial time for both creativity and critical thought.

BRICCIO SANTOS

WORK

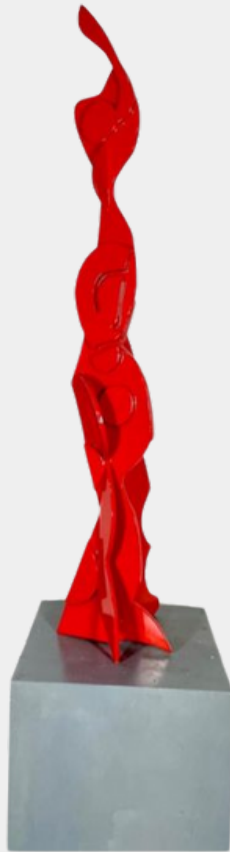


SENTINEL # 21

METAL AND COLOR
Height : 5ft 4 inches
Width : 18 inches
2024

BRICCIO SANTOS

WORK



SENTINEL # 22

METAL AND COLOR
Height : 5ft 6inches
Width : 16 inches
2024

THE ARTIST



CHINO YULO

Chino Yulo has etched his name among the eminent sculptors of contemporary Philippine visual arts, testifying to an unwavering commitment to and continued exploration of his craft.

His diverse body of work, spanning various materials including wood, metal, resin, acrylic, and glass, serves as a profound exploration of the natural world's forms, embodying its shapes, silhouettes, and implied movements and rhythms. Orchestrating a visual symphony with his notable materials, Yulo's works resonate with the wonders of nature and as well as some of the most moving abstract expressions of thought and feeling.

At the core of Yulo's visual philosophy lies the fundamental principles of flow and balance. This philosophy is masterfully reflected in his works, whether they be intricate tabletop pieces or expansive large-scale installations. Each creation is a manifestation of the artist's keen sense of equilibrium, a dance between materials and forms that captivates the viewer and evokes a profound connection with the natural world.

Before establishing himself as a sculptor, Yulo embarked on a diverse array of professional endeavors—from furniture maker to insurance consultant, scuba diver, surfer, mixed martial arts organizer, and even a music website founder and developer.



COURAGE

THERMOFORMED ACRYLIC
48 X 48 INCHES
2024



LIBERTE

THERMOFORMED ACRYLIC
48 X 48 INCHES
2024

CHINO YULO

WORK



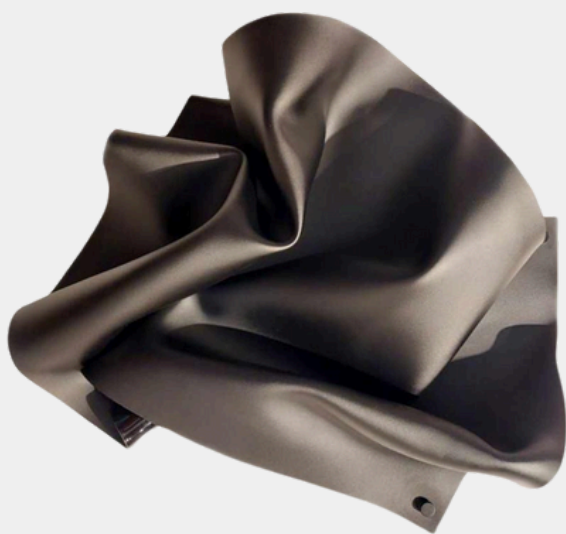
LA NUIT

ACRYLIC
91 X 46 INCHES
2023



LA MER

Aluminum 2023
4 ft diameter



NOIR

ACRYLIC
41 x 45 inches
2023



RENARD ARGENTE
(SILVER FOX)

ACRYLIC
45 x 45 inches
2023

THE ARTIST



DANIEL DELA CRUZ

Daniel Dela Cruz (b. 1966) Metro Manila, Daniel de la Cruz had been expected to take up and practice medicine or law. Reluctant to pursue such expectations wholeheartedly, he worked in a gift and décor export company as a product designer creating small gifts and Christmas décor designs. His journey to becoming an artist and sculptor seemed fated.

His job proved life changing as he soon found freedom of expression in this new setting. Pursuing his childhood hobby of sculpting, Daniel, due to his creativity, coupled with discipline and perseverance in his work, became the leading product designer in the same company, and ultimately a full partner and its president.

He became well known for his designs and his expert use of diverse materials, with his products distributed under the trademark Daniel de la Cruz © in the United States, as well as in Canada and in Europe. He is also the first Filipino designer to develop ceramic collections for the prestigious Villeroy and Boch in Germany.

DANIEL DELA CRUZ

WORK



LAKAPATI
"GODDESS OF FERTILITY AND
AGRICULTURE"

18 x 15.5 x 55 cm
2022

THE ARTIST



DEMETRIO DELA CRUZ

Demetrio Dela Cruz (b.1971), Demet, known to many, earned his bachelor of Fine Arts major in Advertising from the Far Eastern University, Manila. Worked as visualizer, graphic designer and photographer in respected Ad firm and Design Studio in Makati, now a full-time contemporary artist.

His years of experience in the Commercial Industry is very much evident in his constantly evolving style, in terms of themes and subject as well as technique and figuration. A contemporary artist, works in a vast range of media, drawing, painting, mixed media, 3D works, sculpture and digital photography.

DEMETRIO DELA CRUZ

WORK



GAZE

OIL ON CANVAS
122 X 122 CM
2024

THE ARTIST



DEMI PADUA

Demi Padua (b. 1977) He has always found himself hiding beneath masks. Quandaries of daily living have forced him to hiding the true artist that he was.

Longing to express his immense creative impulse on 2D and 3D, he pursued painting and sculpting in full time. This enabled him to freely create imageries in Trompe L'oeil style - fusing his unique exposure to theatrical production and design with visual arts. The effect is a series of collage-like images, that conceal and reveal subject underneath layers of photo-realistic materials.

DEMI PADUA

WORK



WINTER IS COMING

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
ON CUSTOMIZED FRAME
182.88 X 152.4 CM
2024



REMAIN SILENT

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
ON CUSTOMIZED FRAME
182.88 X 152.4 CM
2024

THE ARTIST



DINO GABITO

Dino Gabito's artistic hallmark is his captivating portrayal of drapes on canvas, a style in which he excels with remarkable flair. His fascination with fabrics and drapery is evident in his work, where each piece is painted with a blend of precision and fluidity, as if the fabrics themselves are performing a graceful dance upon the canvas. Gabito's journey to this unique style was born out of a challenge; he found his traditional figurative painting of real human figures to be a weakness. However, this led him to discover his true passion and strength in the artistic representation of drapery and fabrics.

Embracing this newfound direction, Gabito has honed his skills to a level of excellence, demonstrating a deep understanding and appreciation of the way fabric moves, folds, and interacts with light.

His works are a testament to his ability to transform a traditional subject like fabric into something extraordinary and mesmerizing.

Gabito's formal training in the arts was completed at the University of Santo Tomas, where he graduated from the Fine Arts Painting program. His education there not only provided him with technical skills but also allowed him to explore and eventually find his unique voice in the art world. Today, his works stand as a unique blend of technical mastery and creative innovation, making him a distinctive and celebrated artist in the field.

DINO GABITO

WORK



"MASKED REALITIES"

60 INCHES X 48 INCHES
OIL ON CANVAS
2025

DINO GABITO

WORK



WEIGHT OF DREAMS 1

OIL ON CANVAS
60" X 48"
2024

THE ARTIST



EZEKIEL FAJARDO

Ezekiel Fajardo (b. 1998) Fajardo's imagination has created a world that mirrors reality but feels simpler, deeply symbolic, and almost dreamlike. In this world, open spaces stretch endlessly, and balloons float with purpose, each carrying a life story. His work is grounded in the belief that as children, we're without balloons-stuck in a world we're just starting to understand.

But as we grow, people come into our lives and give us balloons, representing life, opportunities, or even wealth. Some are earned, others are gifts or unexpected finds. These balloons lift us, helping us rise. Fajardo's art is filled with a deep sentimentality. The objects he paints may seem simple, but they carry great meaning for him and those who connect with his work.

As a child, he imagined tying balloons to himself and called himself "Super Balloon," dreaming that each balloon would lift him into the sky. This blend of childhood whimsy and adult understanding of sacrifice and connection brings rare emotion to his paintings.

He hopes viewers will appreciate the simplicity and worth of small things, like the world he's created where every balloon, object, and message floats with meaning.

EZEKIEL FAJARDO

WORK



VEILED INTENTIONS

OIL ON CANVAS
152.4 X 121.92 CM
2024

THE ARTIST



ISKO ANDRADE

Isko Andrade (b.1996) is a young artist based in Bulacan. He is a graduate of fine arts Major in Visual Communication in Bulacan State University.

Andrade has been known for sharing his stories through his artworks, resulting in pieces that evoke a sense of nostalgia. He received several awards and citations such as Shell National Student Art Competition and Metrobank Art Design Excellence Competition.

Isko shared that last year there were a lot of things going on in his personal life and in his environment that made him stressed and exhausted.

He felt that he could no longer focus on the things that he really wanted to do. He believes that aside from him, a lot of people feel the same way and need a space to relax.

That is why he created "SoLace" as a form of help to anyone looking for that peaceful feeling. He hopes that when people see his work it will give them a sense of comfort, calmness and relaxation.

ISKO ANDRADE

WORK



DAMDAMIN VI

OIL ON CANVAS
121.92 X 91.44 CM
2024

THE ARTIST



photo credit : tatler asia

JANA BENITEZ

Jana Benitez approaches painting with a fresh, dynamic perspective, constantly reinventing how the medium can encapsulate human energy and joy. For her, the process of painting is not just about applying color to canvas; it's an immersive practice that engages her on multiple levels - physically, emotionally, psychologically, and spiritually. Benitez's artistic process is deeply anchored in somatic awareness, fueled by an internal curiosity and a commitment to deep listening and tapping into her innate wisdom.

She breathes new life into gestural painting, employing it as a means to delve into and connect with various philosophical and spiritual realms, including Buddhism, Daoism, Christianity, and Tantra. Her work brings a vibrant, personal touch to these ancient teachings, making them relevant and accessible in today's world.

Raised in New York City within a Filipino family, Jana Benitez has nurtured her roots while extending her artistic reach to Maine and Manila. She holds an MFA from Boston University and a BFA from Brown University, graduating Magna Cum Laude. Her vibrant and expressive paintings have attracted attention across Southeast Asia, Europe, and the United States, establishing her as a prominent figure in contemporary art.

Benitez's works are featured in notable collections worldwide, including the Crystal Bridges Museum in Arkansas, the Pataka Museum in New Zealand, and several institutions in the Philippines like the Ayala Museum and St. Luke's Hospital, reflecting her global artistic influence.

JANA BENITEZ

WORK



COUPLE

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
76X101CM
2003



MERLON

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
76X101CM
2002

JANA BENITEZ

WORK



NOISELESS PATIENT SPIDER 2

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
76 X 101 CM
2003

JANA BENITEZ

WORK



RF 526
UNTITLED

ACRYLIC ON CANVAS
182X122CM
2014

THE ARTIST



JOSHUA TORRES

Joshua "Owa" Torres (b. 1996) is an emerging contemporary artist from the Philippines. His artistic process revolves around using charcoal as a medium to create photorealistic drawings of human figures in surreal settings. Through his achromatic pictorial fields, Torres explores unconventional relationships between humans and objects of gastronomic desire.

By juxtaposing detailed depictions of the human body with magnified images of food, he constructs imaginary worlds that delve into themes of consumption, compulsion, and nourishment.

During the pandemic, Torres faced a scarcity of art materials, prompting him to produce his own charcoal sticks. This resourcefulness has become an integral part of his creative process.

Torres holds a degree in Fine Arts from Bulacan State University. He has showcased his works in two solo exhibitions at White Walls Gallery and has participated in several noteworthy art fairs in Metro Manila.

JOSHUA TORRES

WORK



CRESCENT

CHARCOAL ON ARCHES PAPER
114.3 X 152.3 CM
2024

THE ARTIST



LILIANNA MANAHAN

Lilianna Manahan (b. 1985) finished her Foundation Studies in Art and Design at Central Saint Martins School of Art and Design in 2004 and completed her BFA Industrial design degree at the University of the Philippines. She later on worked with Kenneth Cobonpue as part of his research and Design team. In 2012, Lilianna began her own design practice under her own name, Lilianna Manahan and in 2014 was awarded as one of the six Rising Asian Talents at the first Maison et Objets Asia.

Her work has been described as alternately whimsical or industrial, depending on the objects she designs, utilizing materials that range from natural materials to ceramics, resins and metals, sometimes doing finishes herself. The size of her works and installations run from the minuscule to large-scale.

Her work has been described as pieces that pay attention to details, whether in their functional or artistic elements.



MERCHICKEN #9

HAND PAINTED PORCELAIN, 2024
18K GOLD GLAZE
BEADED HEAD DRESS
35 X 23 CM



MERCHICKEN #22

HAND PAINTED PORCELAIN, 2024
18K GOLD GLAZE
BEADED HEAD DRESS
35 X 23 CM



MERCHICKEN #11

HAND PAINTED PORCELAIN, 2024
18K GOLD GLAZE
BEADED HEAD DRESS
35 X 23 CM

THE ARTIST



MARRIE SAPLAD

Marrie Saplad, born on October 27, 1984, has emerged as a significant self-taught force in the Philippine contemporary art scene. Her exceptional still-life themes, featuring everyday objects in monochrome, have marked her as an artist of unique vision and style. Beginning in 2017, her initial series skillfully portrayed transparent glass bottles against white backgrounds and linen, reflecting her profound interest in monochromatic themes.

A key aspect of Saplad's artistry is her masterful play with black and white, dark and light. This interplay creates a dramatic contrast in her works, drawing the viewer into a world where simplicity and complexity coexist harmoniously. Her adept use of shading and light not only adds depth and realism to her subjects but also invokes a sense of contemplation and introspection. The way light dances on and around her subjects, especially glass, brings a dynamic and almost ethereal quality to her paintings.

Marrie Saplad's artistic journey is marked by her meticulous attention to detail and mastery of technique. Her works, ranging from the delicate textures of handkerchiefs to the subtle details of tea bags and glass reflections, showcase her precision and minimalist, monochromatic style, earning her widespread acclaim. Her evolution as an artist is evident in her varied series, each highlighting her growing skill and unique ability to find mystique in the mundane.

Together with her partner, fellow artist Florante "Pongbayog" Paghari-on, Saplad contributes richly to the Philippine art scene. Her art stands as a testament to the transformative power of viewing the ordinary through the eyes of a gifted artist.

MARRIE SAPLAD

WORK



MY DAY WITH MY TEA

OIL ON CANVAS 2024
121.92 X 91.44 CM

THE ARTIST



P O N G B A Y O G

Florante Bayog Paghari-on, widely known as *Pongbayog*, is a master of figurative painting, renowned for his intricate and detailed works that often focus on the human anatomy. Among his signature themes, Pongbayog is particularly famous for his depictions of braided women figures or women with their hair in a bun, typically portrayed with their backs turned. These representations are not only a testament to his skill but also a symbol of his artistic identity. The choice to depict women from behind adds a layer of mystery and contemplation, inviting viewers to delve into the stories and emotions that these figures might embody.

Self-taught and hailing from South Cotabato, Mindanao, Pongbayog's art is characterized by precision, skill, and a deep understanding of his craft.

Working predominantly with monochromatic oil paints, he skillfully brings to life the human form and various other subjects, using them as a canvas to express his interpretations of truth and sensibility.

Pongbayog's creative process involves meticulous adjustments of balance, perspective, lighting, shadows, textures, and depth. This attention to detail results in captivating artworks that present alternate realities. His works, particularly the iconic braided women or those with buns, are more than visual representations; they are an exploration of the medium itself, elevating it to create a breathtaking and thought-provoking experience for the viewer.

PONGBAYOG

WORK



ONE WITH NATURE

OIL ON CANVAS 2024
121.92 X 91.44 CM

THE ARTIST



TITA HALAMAN

Tita Halaman (1997), is an emerging Filipino visual artist known for her unique fusion of painting and poetry and handcrafted frames. Each of her artworks is accompanied by a poem that she personally writes in the midst of her creative process, creating a deeply personal connection between text and image. Her subjects often feature human figures clothed in thick, vibrant colors, which convey complex emotional narratives.

Tita Halaman's work explores the theme of Emotional Intelligence, capturing the intricate interplay between pain and resilience. The facial expressions of her characters may convey suffering, yet they are adorned with splats of color reminiscent of party confetti.

This juxtaposition reflects a profound journey from anguish to courage, inviting viewers to engage with the nuanced stories behind each piece.

Through her art, Halaman offers a powerful commentary on the human experience, celebrating the strength found in vulnerability.

TITA HALAMAN

WORK



PAINS OF THE AMBITIOUS

121.92 x 91.44 cm
Acrylic on Canvas 2024
with handcrafted frame
personally sculpted by
the Artist (made out of
kiln-dry wood and clay)

Thank you for exploring our art exhibit catalogue,
where the lines between visual art and functional art
blur into a mesmerizing fusion of form and function.
If you have any inquiries, wish to acquire a piece that
combines aesthetics with practicality, or simply want
to share your thoughts about the exhibit, please
don't hesitate to reach out to us.

SCAN FOR CONTACT



ANTONIO R MENDOZA



DEREK FLORES

SCAN FOR CATALOGUE



ARTIPELAGO II

2025



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