



art trek

art trek 15

10 - 20 November 2023

111 Somerset Road, #16-12A/13/14, Singapore 238164



Mark Padernal



Reyna Raymunda



Martin Maturan



AR Manalo



Emman Cardeño



Demi Padua



iSko Andrade



Ezekiel Fajardo



SHADES OF THE WIND

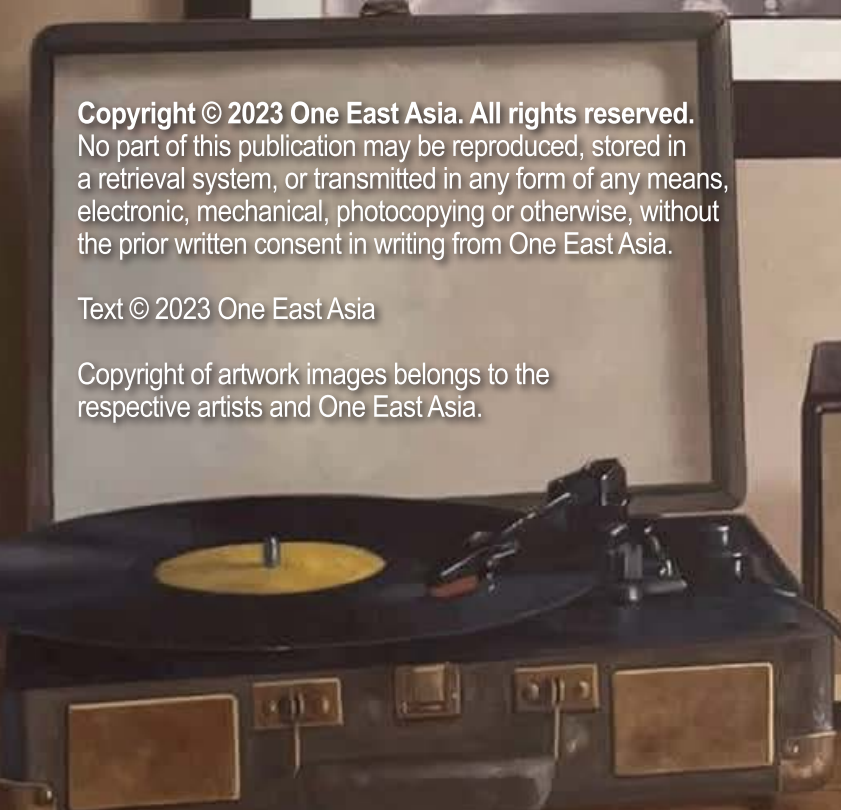
ONE: EAST ASIA
Art Advisory & Management



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111 Somerset Road, #16-12A/13/14, Singapore 238164

Guest of Honour:

Ambassador Medardo Antonio G. Macaraig



art trek



ONE:|EAST ASIA
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Participating Artists:

AR Manalo

Demi Padua

Emman Cardoña

Ezekiel Fajardo

iSko Andrade

Mark Padernal

Martin Maturan

Reyna Raymunda





Shades of the Wind: : Exploring the Boundaries of Color

Art Trek artists' reflections on self and identity through experimentations with hues

Colours are more than pigments on a canvas. They are storytellers of emotions and a means of reflecting upon the world and our place within it. In Renaissance art, using gold leaf in religious paintings symbolised divinity, transcendence, and the spiritual realm. In different cultures, black symbolised mourning, death, or rebirth. Some believe red is associated with celebration and good fortune, and others believe it is more closely connected to mourning or danger.

The captivating influence of colour, both its presence and absence, is the focal point of the upcoming exhibition, "Shades of the Wind", organised by One East Asia for Art Trek 2023. Spearheaded by the Philippine Embassy, Art Trek has carved a distinct space within Singapore's dynamic cultural landscape, celebrating both countries' deep-rooted artistic and cultural relations and serving as "a centrepiece of the Embassy's cultural diplomacy program".

For the 15th edition of Art Trek, One East Asia is set to present works of art that delve into the captivating world of colour as a critical tool for visual storytelling and evoking emotions. The collection, featuring sixteen pieces of work, represents fresh perspectives from a diverse line-up of Filipino artists, which include Emman Cardeño, Mark Rocha Padernal, Martin Matarun, A.R. Manalo, Ezekiel Fajardo, Reyna Raymunda, Demi Padua and iSko Andrade. By experimenting with different shades and techniques, the artists reflect on the idea of self, looking at how appearances, physical and through the vehicle of clothing, contribute to identity, whether our own, others or as a nation, offering a unique glimpse into the shifting cultural landscapes, not only in the Philippines but across the Pan-Asian community.

Emman Cardeño's oil painting, "*Rise or Die: 'Ameonna'*", captivates with the blood-splattered face of his chosen heroine. Utilising a limited colour palette, Cardeño manipulates grey tones to express Ameonna's profound sorrow and red to symbolise her determination. An artist dedicated to pulling audiences into his canvas, Cardeño's impeccable skill allows his visual protagonist's story to come alive while paying homage to ancient traditions and the value of courage.

Mark Rocha Padernal, who employed meticulous and spontaneous brushwork in his oil paintings "*Nandeshou*" and "*Futatabi*", also showcased a fascination with Japanese traditions. The artist marvels at how the smallest details can hold the most profound meanings, revealing a different narrative and subtly disrupting conventional representations. Through an aesthetic that revolves around gestural figurative expressionism combined with abstraction to create an illusion of space, depth, and movement in an otherwise two-dimensional static image, Padernal makes audiences feel as though they are witnessing the unravelling of long-forgotten memories. His enigmatic figures, veiled in mystery, reveal just enough to pique intrigue, showcasing the artist's dedication toward showcasing the essence of his subjects rather than their physical likeness.

In **Demi Padua's** "*Eyes of the Past*", the monochromatic tones elegantly frame an enigmatic lady from a bygone era. Though anonymous, her gaze draws viewers, inviting them to want to know more. The face has always fascinated Padua, who firmly believes that each feature, the eyes, nose, and lips, all have a story to tell. Known for reimagining portraits, Padua uses his well-known Trompe L'oeil style to peel away layers, revealing the multidimensional nature of identity across time and space.

Martin Matarun's oil on canvas works, "*Tranquility of Time*", "*I am Weary Let Me Rest*", and "*Point of View*" offer a slice of nostalgia. Opting to revert to his monochromatic, sepia approach, a style he had favoured when just starting as an artist, Matarun facilitates an emotional connection as he uses muted hues to transport viewers into the intimate scenes he presents within his canvas. His skill in creating a vintage

ambience facilitates a strong emotional connection with the viewer, triggering feelings of longing, happiness and melancholy.

iSkó Andrade's creation, *"Disconcerted"*, serves as a captivating embodiment of the artist's distinct creative vision, offering an enticing glimpse into what awaits visitors at his solo exhibition slated next year. Known for his artistry in conveying personal narratives through an earnest treatment of mundane objects, Andrade's oil work manifests his self-reflections, where intricately suspended ropes, lovingly encased in rustic twine, are punctuated by a striking crimson accent. Evocative of the inner turmoil and the relentless quest for resolution, Andrade's bold colour choices and craftsmanship demonstrate how even the minutest details can narrate captivating stories.

Ezekiel Fajardo's oil paintings *"Retention"* and *"The Curtsy"* showcase women's clothing with earnest detail against a stark white background, exploring garments' eerie and intimate narrative. Known for his fascination with fabric, Fajardo presents romantic ripples of cloth in all its elegance and mystery. Despite offering a solitary, inanimate object, his artful technique injects energy and movement into the piece, showcasing how clothes can serve as an extension of the wearer and how the item tells a story even in the owner's absence.

A.R. Manalo, a mixed media artist, makes his debut on the international art scene with One East Asia through his artworks *"Clara," "The Seeker,"* and *"Maria"*. To commemorate this milestone, Manalo also crafted the Singapore-exclusive sculpture, *"Everyday Journey Man"* as a personal testament to the arduous journey undertaken to reach international heights and a reminder to "persist, even when the path is tiring." The use of clothing in his collection serves as a metaphor for external identifiers, such as titles, roles, occupations, and achievements, or what the artist described as "everyday wearables". Through his work, Manalo laments the loss of identity and heritage within the Philippines, being increasingly influenced by Western society. For this reason, he features indigenous Filipinos using his masterful use of materials and monochromatic treatment of the subject matter to pierce the facade of "clothing" and celebrate the "lineage of hardworking, dream-building, goal-oriented everyday Filipino warriors".

Reyna Raymunda offers her own social commentary through mixed media works on canvas, *"His Story Culminates"* and *"National Lodi"* feature bold crimson and navy shades of the Philippine flag juxtaposed against black and white illustrations that allude to historical figures and the country's past. The addition of Donald Duck, a recognisable pop culture figure brandishing a weapon, challenges the intersection of local politics, cultural colonialism, and the perception of such imagery, leaving viewers to further reflect on the impact of Western media on the Filipino consciousness.

Following One East Asia's legacy and commitment to delivering thought-provoking shows in Art Trek since first participating in 2013, *"Shades of the Wind"* is set to provide audiences with a mesmerising journey through the enchanting world of colour, offering a captivating experience that delves into the intricate interplay of self, identity, and culture.

Hannah Jo Uy





AR Manalo (b. 1985, Filipino)

Everyday Journeyman

2023

charcoal, graphite and watercolour on acid free paper,
printed on vintage book illustrations on acid free paper,
enclosed in a custom shape acrylic glass

22.86 x 10.16 x 30.48 cm



AR Manalo (b. 1985, Filipino)

Clara

2023

charcoal, graphite and watercolour on acid free paper,
printed on vintage book illustrations on acid free paper,
enclosed in a custom shape acrylic glass

81.28 x 76.2 cm



AR Manalo (b. 1985, Filipino)

Maria

2023

charcoal, graphite and watercolour on acid free paper,
printed on vintage book illustrations on acid free paper,
enclosed in a custom shape acrylic glass

81.28 x 76.2 cm



AR Manalo (b. 1985, Filipino)

The Seeker

2023

charcoal, graphite and watercolour on acid free paper,
printed on vintage book illustrations on acid free paper,
enclosed in a custom shape acrylic glass

81.28 x 76.2 cm



Emman Cardeño
(b. 1996, Filipino)

Rise or Die "Ameonna"

2023; Oil on canvas
60.96 x 60.96 cm

Have you ever been to a battlefield? Have you ever had to choose between life and death? Let me tell you a story in which everyone is striving to get the throne and its glory. It is a story where Ameonna was born— a girl who fought for her tribe with all of her might. She wielded her sword and shed blood just to save her race. Her

wit and intelligence saved her tribe from colonizer's dominance. They remained standing while everyone was falling down.

"Power is everything and the desire for power is a driving force; a strength to survive."

She's a living hero, indeed. The name Ameonna became famous and feared all across the nation, while some are aiming for her head but the more they want her dead, the more she wants to stay alive. Their thirst for her blood motivates her to fight and protect her tribe.

Will she remain standing? Let us witness her story in this battlefield, where everyone is vying for victory.



Martin Maturan (b. 1994, Filipino)

Tranquility of Time

2023; Oil on canvas
91.44 x 60.96 cm



Martin Maturan (b. 1994, Filipino)

I am Weary Let Me Rest

2023; Oil on canvas
121.92 x 91.44 cm



Martin Maturan (b. 1994, Filipino)

Point of View

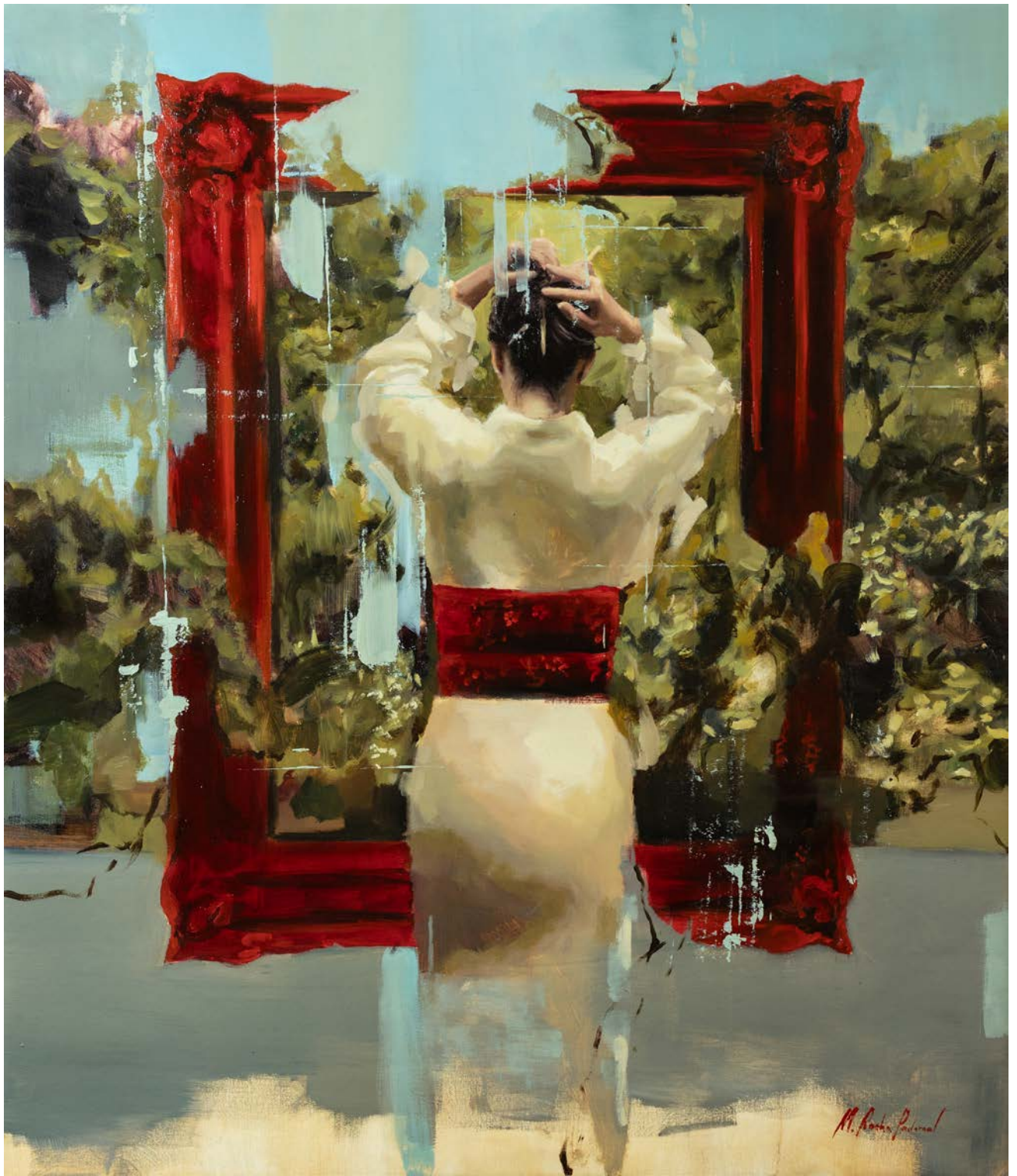
2023; Oil on canvas
60.96 x 121.92 cm



Mark Padernal (b. 1980, Filipino)

Futatabi

2023; Oil on canvas
106.68 x 91.44 cm



Mark Padernal (b. 1980, Filipino)

Nandeshou

2023; Oil on canvas
106.68 x 91.44 cm



iSko Andrade (b. 1996, Filipino)

Disconcerted

2023; Oil on canvas
125 x 125 cm



Demi Padua (b. 1977, Filipino)

Eyes of the Past

2023; Acrylic on canvas
60.96 x 45.72 cm



Ezekiel Fajardo (b. 1998, Filipino)

Retention

2023; Oil on canvas
76.2 x 60.96 cm



Ezekiel Fajardo (b. 1998, Filipino)

The Curtsy

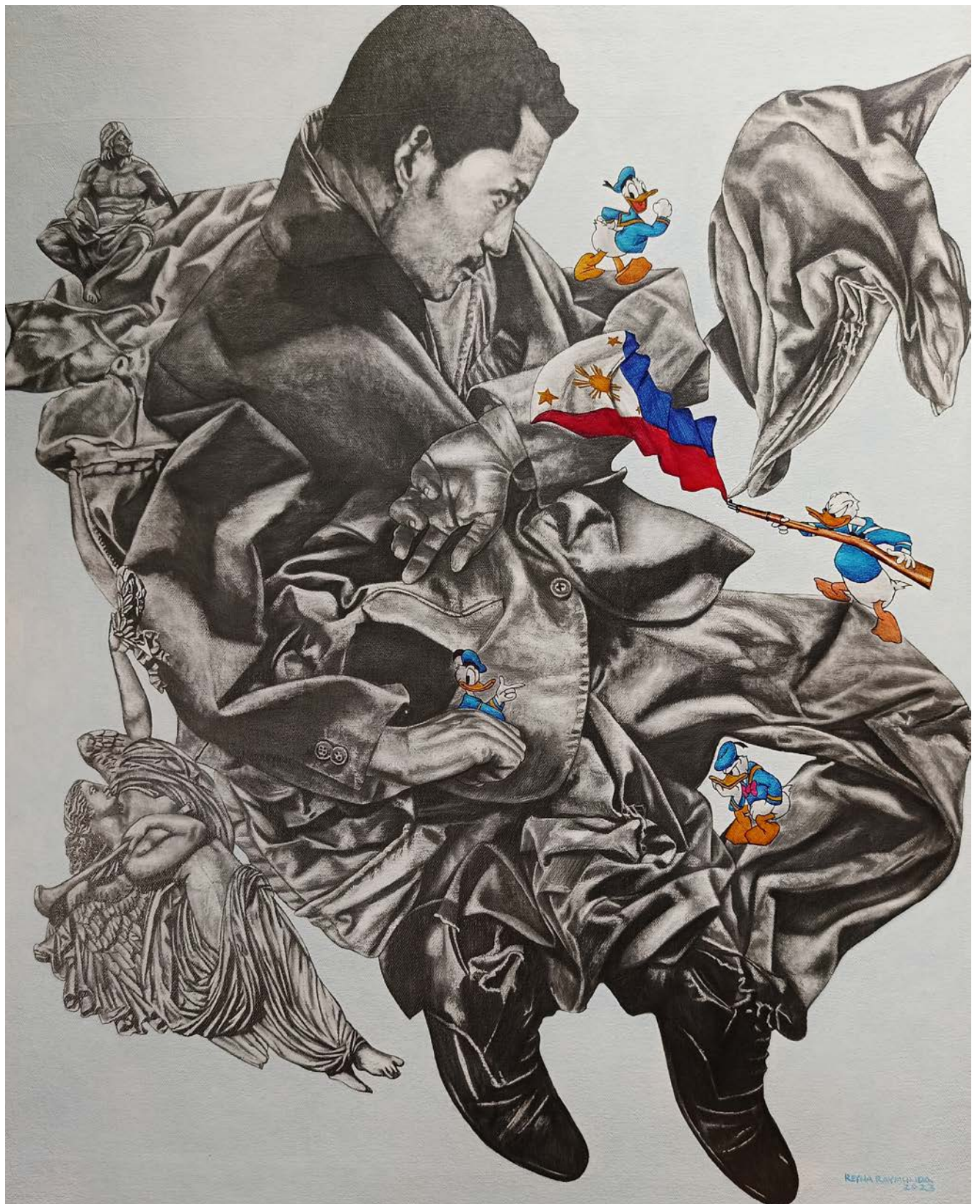
2023; Oil on canvas
76.2 x 60.96 cm



Reyna Raymunda (b. 1973, Filipino)

National Lodi

2023; Mixed media on canvas
76.2 x 60.96 cm



Reyna Raymunda (b. 1973, Filipino)

His Story Culminates

2023; Mixed media on canvas
76.2 x 60.96 cm





ZDENKA
2011

HANNAH JO UY

Hannah Jo Uy is an Editorial Consultant and Independent Journalist based in Dubai, UAE. She has been investigating and writing on topics such as art, energy, sustainability, policy, and business for over ten years, with works published in newspapers, magazines and journals across Asia, the Middle East, Europe and North America.

Currently she is a contributor to several magazines and publications, such as *The Ethicalist* and *Raemona*, among other publications. Hannah was also a recipient of the Outstanding Filipino Luminary Awards in 2021.

She formerly worked as a journalist covering art and culture for the *Manila Bulletin* in Manila, Philippines, with works appearing in Volumes 1 and 2 of "*Filipino Artists in their Studios*". She was also the Assistant Editor of *Climate Control Middle East* in Dubai, UAE.



ONE EAST ASIA is an international art advisory and management organization founded in April 2010. It is dedicated to enriching the appreciation of Southeast Asian Art globally through exhibitions and art fairs as well as non-profit educational events organized by its bases in Singapore, London, Bali and Jakarta.

ONE EAST ASIA is the sole, officially appointed representative of the Sudjojono Centre in Singapore, dedicated to preserving the legacy of the great Indonesian painter S. Sudjojono (1913-1986).

ONE EAST ASIA
Art Advisory & Management

111 North Bridge Road #15-03
Peninsula Plaza
Singapore 179098

Tel +65 6737 2130
Email info@oneeastasia.org
Website www.oneeastasia.org

TWITTER  FACEBOOK  INSTAGRAM  LINKEDIN 



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