

RYAN VILLAMAEL

Bio

Ryan Villamael (b. 1987, Laguna Philippines; lives and works in Los Baños, Philippines) is a renowned artist working with paper as a sculptural medium. With works ranging from stand-alone soft sculptures to large-scale pieces to immense installations, he has been exploring the themes, tensions, and trajectories of his chosen material for over a decade. Employing a rigorous dedication to technique and precision, Villameal uses the traditional Phillipinne art form of paper-cutting as a way to mediate and meditate upon history, collective memory, and the interpenetrating layers that constitute a locality. In recent works, he has expanded to explore how paper can become a locus of multiple and overlapping meanings, through which ideas on the natural world, domestic sphere, and urban landscape may be negotiated.

Villameal holds a BFA with a major in painting from the University of the Philippines. In 2015, His exhibition *Isles* received the Ateneo Art Award, which allowed him to participate in studio residency grants at La Trobe University Visual Arts Center in Bendigo, Australia, Artesan Gallery in Singapore, and Liverpool Hope University in Liverpool, United Kingdom. The following year, Villamael participated in the Singapore Biennale and, in 2018, in the Biwako Biennale in Japan. He has exhibited at the Palais de Tokyo in Paris, MAIIAM Contemporary Art Museum in Chiang Mai, Para Site in Hong Kong, Mizuma Gallery and the Arts House in Singapore, ROH Projects in Jakarta, and the Metropolitan Museum in Manila.



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Pulô series XIII, 2021

AWARDS

- 2021 *Cultural Center of the Philippines Thirteen Artists Award*
- 2015 *Ateneo Art Awards*, Winner
- 2013 *Ateneo Art Awards*, Shortlisted

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 *Return, My Gracious Hour*, Silverlens, Manila
Locus Amoenus, Esplanade, Singapore
- 2021 *Homecoming / Eventually*, UP Vargas Museum, Manila
Viewing Room: Vista, Silverlens, Manila
- 2019 *Viewing Room: Ryan Villamael*, Silverlens, Manila
Behold A City, Art Fair Philippines, Manila
A Paradise Lost, Silverlens, Manila
- 2018 *Locus Amoenus*, Ateneo Art Gallery, Manila
- 2017 *Epilogue*, Silverlens, Manila
- 2016 *Unknown Land*, La Trobe University, Victoria
- 2015 *Behold A City*, Silverlens, Manila
- 2014 *Isles*, Silverlens, Manila
- 2013 *Territory*, Silverlens, Manila
Kosmik, West Gallery, Manila
- 2012 *Flatland*, Silverlens, Manila
Richard Koh Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2011 *New Specimens*, West Gallery, Manila
Cut Felt, Silverlens, Manila

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 *Art Fair Philippines*, Silverlens, Manila
S.E.A. Focus, Silverlens, Singapore
- 2023 *There Are Always Flowers For Those Who Want To See Them*, West Gallery, Manila
Essence Distilled: Homage to Arturo Luz, Silverlens, Manila
Shrines, Silverlens, New York
Art Fair Philippines, Silverlens, Manila
S.E.A. Focus, Silverlens, Singapore
- 2022 *Art Fair Philippines*, Silverlens, Manila

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- 2021 *Bukang Liwayway*, Silverlens, Manila
Imagined Homecomings curated by Loredana Paracciani, Vargas Museum, Manila
Art Fair Philippines, Silverlens, Manila
- 2020 *Searching Sanctuary*, Silverlens, Manila
Art Fair Philippines, Silverlens, Manila
- 2019 *Christmas Group Show*, Finale Art File
Impasse, Tin-Aw Art Gallery, Manila
Art Jakarta, ROH Projects, Jakarta
WXXX, West Gallery, Manila
ON/OUT OF PAPER, Mizuma Gallery, Singapore
- 2018 *Biwako Biennale*, Omihachiman City, Shiga Prefecture
New Specimens, West Gallery, Manila
Art Fair Philippines, Silverlens, Manila
- 2018 *DIASPORA: Exit, Exile, Exodus in Southeast Asia*, MALLAM Contemporary Art Museum, Chiang Mai, Thailand
- 2017 *Curated by Federico de Vera*, Ayala Museum, Manila
Sydney Contemporary, Carriageworks, Australia
Seascapes: Tranquility and Agitation, Metropolitan Museum of Manila
Art Basel, Silverlens, Hong Kong
Shared Coordinates, in collaboration with Edouard Malingue Gallery & ROH Projects, The Arts House, Singapore
Translación, Inaugural Exhibition, Curated by Gary-Ross Pastrana, Silverlens, Manila
- 2016 *Singapore Biennale: An Atlas of Mirrors*, Singapore
Art Stage Jakarta, ROH Projects, Jakarta
Art Basel, Silverlens, Hong Kong
Art Fair Philippines, Silverlens, Manila
- 2015 *In Transit*, CCP, Manila
Secret Archipelago, Palais De Tokyo, France
Art Fair Philippines, Silverlens, Manila
Art Basel, Silverlens, Hong Kong
- 2014 *Bookends*, Blanc Gallery, Manila

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- Art Taipei 2014*, Silverlens, Taipei
Makiling X, Corredor Gallery, Manila
Tabletop, Altro Mondo Manila
Art Fair Philippines, Silverlens, Manila
- 2013 *Still*, Blanc, Manila
Art Taipei 2013, Silverlens, Taipei
Fundacion Broke, Art Informal, Manila
Ateneo Art Awards 2004 - 2013: A Restrospective, Ateneo Art Gallery, Manila
Relikt, Silverlens, Singapore
- 2012 *Ley Hunting*, Silverlens, Singapore
Silverlens Gallery, Art HK 12, Hong Kong
Incidental Pleasures, MO Space, Makati City
- 2011 *X-Mas Show*, Manila Contemporary, White Space, Manila
Working in Progress, curated by Adeline Ooi,
A Three-Man Show, Silverlens, Manila
On the Radar: 6 New Symptoms, Curated by Gary-Ross Pastrana, *Silverlens*, Manila
- 2010 *12 x 9*, West Gallery, Manila
- 2009 *Atat*, Tin-Aw Art Gallery, Manila
Degree Exhibition 2009, Corredor Gallery, College of Fine Arts, University of the Philippines, Manila
- 2008 *Pre Thesis Deliberation: Symposium Series 2008* Curated by Virginia B. Dandan, Corredor Gallery, College of Fine Arts, University of the Philippines, Diliman, Manila
- 2004 *Ingress / Egress (Philippine High School for the Arts Senior Exhibition)* GSIS Gallery, Manila

EDUCATION

- 2004-2009 University of the Philippines - Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines
Bachelor of Fine Arts, Major in Painting
- 2001-2004 Philippine High School for the Arts, Mt. Makiling, Los Baños, Laguna
Major in Visual Arts Program

PUBLICATIONS

- Daoana, Carlomar Arcangel, "Ryan Villamael's Paper City." *The Philippine Star*. 18 February 2019.
- Calasan, Pierre A., "The Everlasting Gaze." *Town and Country Magazine*. November 2016. p. 24.
- Jaucian, Don. "Filipino Artists Triumph at the Singapore Biennale." *CNN*

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Life Philippines. Accessed 4 November 2016. <http://cnnphilippines.com/life/culture/arts/2016/11/04/singapore-biennale-2016.html>

Jaucian, Don. "Studio Visit: Ryan Villamael." CNN Life Philippines. Accessed 2 November 2016. <http://cnnphilippines.com/life/culture/arts/2016/11/02/studio-visit-ryan-villamael.html>

Othman, Syahida. "Philippine Artists Draw Inspiration From Nature and Fishermen for the Singapore Biennale." Channel News Asia. Accessed 12 October 2016. <http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/philippines-artists-draw-inspiration-from-nature-and-fishermen/3201084.html>

Basa, Eva MCGovern. No Chaos No Party. 2016.

Ateneo Art Awards. Catalogue. 2015

Art Taipei Catalogue. Taiwan Art Gallery Association. 2013