

## RYAN VILLAMAEL

### Bio

Ryan Villamael (b. 1987, Laguna; lives and works in Quezon City) is one of the few artists of his generation to have abstained from the more liberal modes of art expression to ultimately resort to the more deliberate handiwork found in cut paper. While his method follows the decorative nature innate to his medium of choice, from the intricately latticed constructions emerge images that defy the ornamental patchwork found in the tradition of paper cutting, and instead becomes a treatise of a unique vision that encompasses both the inner and outer conditions that occupy the psyche—which range from the oblique complexity of imagined organisms to the outright effects of living in a convoluted city.

Villamael was included in several group shows while still pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Painting from the University of the Philippines up to the time of his graduation in 2009. His works have been shown in Manila, Singapore, Hong Kong, the UK, Australia, and Paris. Although his persistence in sustaining a discipline more often subjected to handicraft has been evident from his works, Villamael maintains that his primary interest lies rather on the conceptual significance of craft in the process of creating contemporary art, and continues to recognize the possibility of how his works can still evolve under this light.

He is a recipient of the Ateneo Art Award in 2015 and the three international residency grants funded by the Ateneo Art Gallery and its partner institutions: La Trobe University Visual Arts Center in Bendigo, Australia; Artesan Gallery in Singapore and Liverpool Hope University in Liverpool, UK. He participated in the 2018 Biwako Biennale in Japan and 2016 Singapore Biennale.

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*Hoya*, 2019

#### AWARDS

- 2015 *Ateneo Art Awards*, Winner
- 2013 *Ateneo Art Awards*, Shortlisted

#### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 *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

- 2019 *(upcoming) ON/OUT OF PAPER*, Mizuma Gallery, Singapore
- 2018 *Biwako Biennale*, Omihachiman City, Shiga Prefecture  
*New Specimens*, West Gallery, Manila  
*Art Fair Philippines*, Silverlens, Manila  
*DIASPORA: Exit, Exile, Exodus in Southeast Asia*, MAIIAM 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

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- 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
- 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

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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 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