

JONATHAN CHING

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THEY MIGHT BE GIANTS





Jonathan Ching unveils They Might Be Giants and other works at Silverlens

The elements seen in the streets of Manila where painter Jonathan Ching grew up are the inspiration of his six latest works with *They Might Be Giants* as centerpiece to be exhibited at Silverlens Gallery, 2263 Don Chino Roces Avenue, Makati, from July 13 — August 10.

Ching, whose works provoke and evoke a myriad of sentiments, unveils a collection that elevates the messy and blighted street scenes into larger-than-life art pieces. His massive works breathe life to urban myths and legends. Done in his distinctive panel works, this time in almost life-size dimensions, his master strokes capture Manila street scenes after dark or before dusk with all of its hurried and lurid details easing into throbs with diatribes to reinforce the theory that one's junk is another man's treasure.





They Might Be Giants is a tetraptych, a four-paneled work measuring 8 feet x 12 feet that shows three auto part surplus wrapped in tarpaulin. "It was a random shot that I took during a bike ride around my neighborhood some years back. I didn't know what to do with it," says Ching. The image is like a Schoenberg piece, piercing in its cacophony, yet leaving one bothered, by the lines, the blurs, the dark and stark tones, the confusion and the melding and clashing of hues and shades, that what palpably is the only missing sensation is smell. Yet, even this one can create in one's ethos.

They Might Be Giants, 2019 oil on canvas 96h x 144w in 243.84h x 365.76w cm





Not My Father's Moustache is not a paean to a famous watering hole but a piece that shows a heap of garish whatnots topped with a blue and while discarded tarpaulin. The whimsy comes in details with people walking pass it. The creases and the play of shadow, lend a deep mystery to what lies beneath the heap.

Not My Father's Mustache, 2019 oil on canvas 60h x 72w in 152.40h x 182.88w cm





One piece, titled *Living in Between Spaces*, is an allegory to the way society treats its own, whether foe or man's best friend, stuck between two structures covered by tarpaulins. The contrast of cared for and discarded hits as the white covered shape asserts its value versus the brown- blue pile, when both are covered in grime and sending off thoughts, grim and grumbling. The harsher commentary is that dog wedged between rubbish and redemption, as many lives are indeed.

Living In Between Space, 2019 oil on canvas 60h x 72w in 152.40h x 182.88w cm



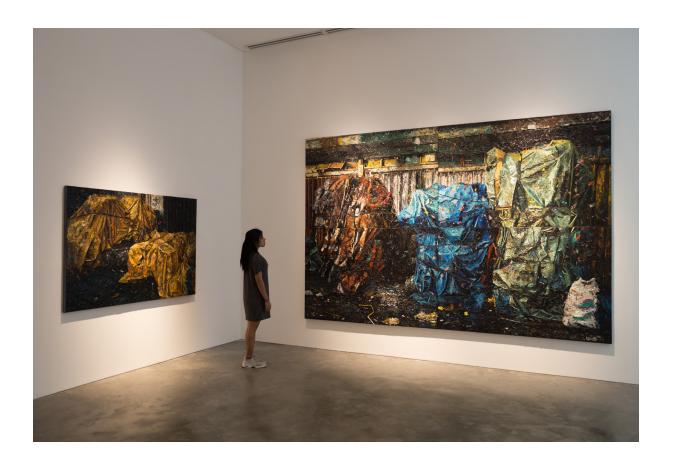


But why Ching's fixation with tarpaulin? He muses if the rural scene is Amorsolo's fertile ground, he finds tarpaulins akin to it, and in the concrete jungle where he spends much of his life, objects covered, shrouded, hidden or simply safe-kept from the elements by tarpaulin offer a visage of mystery, mystic, and mistakes that can heal as much as bring hell whatever one's viewpoint is.

Other works featured in the exhibit are A Certain Something, The King and The Pawn and Silent Shrouds.

A Certain Something, 2019 oil on canvas 60h x 72w in 152.40h x 182.88w cm







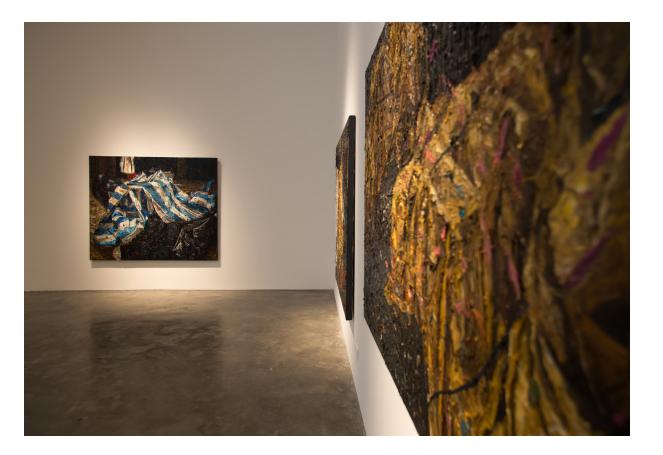
The King and The Pawn, 2019 oil on canvas 60h x 72w in 152.40h x 182.88w cm



Silent Shrouds, 2019 oil on canvas 48h x 72w in 121.92h x 182.88w cm







JONATHAN CHING

Jonathan Ching (b. 1969, Dagupan, Philippines) obtained his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in 1991 before becoming a visual artist. He pursued his artistic interests in 1993 and took up University of the Philippines' College of Fine Arts - Visual Communication program. He is one of the founding members of the arts collective Surrounded By Water, which successfully established an artist-run space from 1998 to 2004.

Ching has exhibited extensively since his first solo exhibition in 2008 at West Gallery. His works were shown in several solo and group exhibition in the Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, and Indonesia.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS			& Friends), Langgeng Art Foundation, Yogyakarta,	2002	Multiple Portables, Plastique Kinetic Worms, Singapore
2019	They Might Be Giants, Sllverlens, Manila		Indonesia		Feast of Conversations, Atelier Frank & Lee, Singapore
2018	Seven Seas in a Puddle, West Gallery, Manila		Mrs. Sprout and the Gamekeeper (A Contemporary		Recent Works, Kulay Diwa Gallery, Manila
2017	The Shape of Hills, Tin Aw Gallery, Manila		coupling of Flora and Fauna) Tin-Aw Gallery, Manila		Conversation, Art Center, SM Megamall, Manila
	Cut, Paste, Repeat, Underground Gallery, Manila	2015	Regarding Views Views - A Contemporary Still		Mainstream, Surrounded by Water Gallery, Manila
	<i>La Strada</i> , Finale Art File, Makati		Landscape Show,	2001	Portable Landscape, Lunâ Gallery, Cebu
2015	elsewhere, Silverlens, Manila		Tin-Aw Gallery, Manila		Cool Pieties, SM Art Center, Manila
	<i>Flotsam and Jetsam</i> , West Gallery, Manila		The Last Dog Show, Finale Art File, Manila		Surrounded, Cultural Center of the Philippines, Main
2014	Tone and Tales, Blanc Gallery, Manila		Art Fair Philippines, Silverlens, Manila		Gallery, Manila
2013	Sputnik Dreams, Silverlens, Manila	2014	Picture Life - A Contemporary Still Life Group Show,		Grand Royale, Big Sky Mind, Manila
2012	The Space Between Raindrops, Finale Art File, Manila		Tin-Aw Gallery, Manila	1999	Daily Planet, Surrounded by Water Gallery, Manila
2011	And They Say The Stars Are Worlds, Richard Koh Fine		Art Fair Philippines, Silverlens, Manila		Dogshow II, Surrounded by Water Gallery, Manila
	Arts, Singapore	2013	Over the Water, Equator Art Projects, Singapore		Today Show, Cultural Center of the Philippines, Manila
	<i>Inside</i> , Blanc Compound, Manila	2012	The Great Outdoors, Blanc Gallery, Manila		Topology of Signs, Cultural Center of the Philippines,
2010	Where in the World is Botero's Leg, Video Room, Finale		Postlocal: As Is Where Is, Silverlens, Manila		Manila
	Art File, Manila	2011	A Flash and A Clap, West Gallery, Manila		Coordinates, Boston Gallery, Manila
	When the Saints Go Marching In, Blanc Compound,		Accidents Repeated in Geography and Time, Art In		Kitschy Kitschy Coo, Surrounded by Water Gallery, Rizal
	Manila		House, Picasso Boutique Serviced Residence, Manila	1998	Cross Roads (Terminal Baggage), Australia Centre,
2009	If It's White and In A Bottle, It Must Be Milk, West	2010	Road to Santiago, West Gallery, Manila		Manila
	Gallery, Manila		These Are Days, Blanc Gallery, Manila Peninsula, Manila	1996	Delatang Pinoy:Yes! The Filipino Can, Hiraya Gallery,
	Days of Thunder, Valentine Willie Fine Arts, Kuala	2009	Headlights 2009, Valentine Willie Fine Arts, Kuala		Manila
	Lumpur		Lumpur		
2008	Nothing is Required, Except Happiness, West Gallery,		In the Ocean Without a Boat or a Paddle, Blanc Gallery,	EDUCATION	
	Manila		Manila		
	Whale Songs for the Disenchanted, Blanc Gallery, Manila	2008	Young Contemporary Philippines, Richard Kho Fine Art,	1993 - 199	7 University of the Philippines
			Kuala Lumpur		Fine Arts Major in Visual Communication
	'ED GROUP EXHIBITIONS		Inaugural Show, Finale Art File, Manila	1992	Passed the Civil Engineering Board Exam
2019	Art Fair Philippines, Silverlens, Manila	2007	Dog Show 07, Green Papaya Project, Manila	1987 - 199	1 De La Salle University
2018	Art Fair Philippines, Silverlens, Manila		Shoot Me: Photographs Now, MO's Gallery, Manila		BS Civil Engineering
2016	Detour, with Elaine Navas, Blanc Gallery, Manila	2004	Closed for Inventory, Cubicle Art Gallery, Manila	1979 - 198	7 St. Jude Catholic School
	Art Fair Philippines, Silverlens, Manila	2003	Partly Cloudy, 80% Sunshine, Surrounded by Water,		Grade School and High School
	Life Jacket Under Your Seat (Surrounded by Water		Manila		



ABOUT SILVERLENS

Through its artist representation, institutional collaborations, art consultancy, and exhibition programming including art fairs and gallery partnerships, **SILVERLENS** aims to place its artists within the broader framework of the contemporary art dialogue. Its continuing efforts to transcend borders across art communities in Asia have earned it recognition from both artists and collectors as one of the leading contemporary art galleries in Southeast Asia. **SILVERLENS** was founded by Isa Lorenzo and Rachel Rillo in 2004.