

DINA GADIA

Bio

Visually arresting with a style that exploits the familiar, in playing with signs and language culled from popular printed matter and other quotidian expression, the works of Dina Gadia (b.1986) are imaginative subversions of cultural codes, featuring collaged realities and altered bodies that bespeak of gender issues and sexuality, taste and identity, of the official and the outsider, fine art and lowbrow culture, authorship and subjectivity, all done with a touch of whimsy and a sense of wonder for everything strange and absurd. Gadia's approach to her practice involves a deft handling of cut-up elements disposed in unorthodox settings, which brings about the distortion and detournement of its content into areas of discomfiting subject matter, probing areas previously unrecognized yet perceptive of sociological and psychological matters that tread on the path of the political. Notably in most works, found text ambiguously loaded with significance are combined with appropriated images selected from pulp magazines of a certain milieu, resonating larger localized contexts and its people, which can yield unsettling relationships with regard to postcolonial attitudes, the view and treatment of women, and the contested boundaries of taste and class issues that unveil disparate economic realities. Most often these jarring juxtapositions are imbued with humor, surprisingly, like a Freudian slip that unleashes the unwanted in a witty but exact manner. Humor consequently in Gadia's work becomes a reliable weapon in discharging cultural anxieties. Not only are visual puns generated through physical or formal incongruences in a comedic cycle of errors - by way of pictorial proportion, composition, gesture and

expression, but also through a deadpan narration of the impossible yet true - all portrayed vividly in ironic manner. Gadia's paintings remarkably capture the tone of the cryptic angsts and uncertainties of her subject matter, the lost and inchoate expressions of an oblivious community, applying a touch that is removed from sentimentality or self-righteous judgment. Doing so, the artist employs tropes of illustration and design to remove the proverbial weight of the author's hand, a post-modern resolve that Gadia has mastered.

Dina Gadia is represented by Silverlens Galleries in Manila and has exhibited extensively since 2005 both locally and internationally. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts Major in Advertising and Design at Far Eastern University in 2006. Gadia was shortlisted for the Ateneo Art Awards in 2012 for her exhibit *Regal Discomforts*. Her work has been the subject of numerous publications, and her interest on the creative output and history of print design and illustration extends to her collaborative publishing project in Saturnino Basilla.

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b. 1986, Pangasinan, PH



*New Nadir: Ventures on
Unchallenged Imagination, 2013*

AWARDS

- 2018 *13 Artists Award*, awardee, Cultural Center of the Philippines
- 2012 *Ateneo Art Awards*, shortlist, Ateneo Art Gallery, Manila

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 *Malady of Association*, Owen James Gallery, New York
Situation Amongst the Furnishings, Silverlens, Manila
- 2016 *Never Landscape*, West Gallery, Manila
Vase, Floral and Other Substitute, Pon Ding, Taipei
- 2015 *Select The Right Bad Picture*, Clear Edition and Gallery, Tokyo
Non-Mint Copy, Owen James Gallery, Brooklyn, New York
At Odds With The Visual, Silverlens, Manila
- 2014 *Let's Talk About Feelings*, Blanc Gallery, Manila
- 2013 *Adaptable to New Redundancies*, Silverlens, Singapore
Convenient Culture Prop, Silverlens, Manila
- 2012 *Primal Salvo in Vibracolor*, Silverlens, Manila
- 2011 *Regal Discomforts*, Blanc, Manila
- 2010 *Contra-Affair*, Silverlens, Manila
How Does That Grab You Darling, Blanc, Manila
- 2009 *Ultra Plastic Style Now!*, Hiraya Gallery, Manila

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 *Art Fair Philippines*, Silverlens, Manila
- 2017 *UG 3: A Collage Show*, Underground Gallery, Manila
Withdrawal Syndrome, curated by Jigger Cruz, Project 20, Manila
Fresh Cut, New Blood, curated by Gary-Ross Pastrana, MO space, Manila
Rider, two-person show w/ Allan Balisi, Artery Art Space, Manila
Art On Paper 2017, Owen James Gallery, Pier 36, New York City, New York
Art Fair Philippines, Silverlens, Manila
Allan Balisi & Dina Gadia, Clear Edition & Gallery, Tokyo
The New Normal, Owen James Gallery, Brooklyn, New York
Allan Balisi & Dina Gadia, Clear Edition & Gallery, ArtStage, Singapore
Melted City IV, Blanc Gallery, Manila
Translación, Inaugural Exhibition, Curated by Gary-Ross Pastrana, Silverlens, Manila
- 2016 *AquaArt*, Owen James Gallery, Miami
Exchange Rates 2016, Owen James Gallery, New York
Masks, curated by Kult and ASHU, Diesel Gallery, Tokyo
Short Span: Works on Paper, Post Gallery, Manila
Binding, Blanc Gallery, Quezon City
Art on Paper, Owen James Gallery, Pier 36, New York

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- Art Fair Philippines*, Silverlens, Manila
Art Fair Philippines, West Gallery, Manila
- 2015 *Bangkal Paintings*, curated by Nilo Ilarde, Underground Gallery, Manila
PaperViews15: Rapid Cycling, Project Space Pilipinas, Lucban
The In Image from Way Out, Underground, Manila
Dry Rub, Post Gallery, Manila
Art Fair Philippines, Manila
Just Mad6, Owen James Gallery, Madrid
Maphilindo, Balai Seni Lukis Sabah, Kota Kinabalu
Meltd City 2, Blanc Gallery, Manila
- 2014 *Bookends*, curated by Mariano Ching, Blanc Gallery, Manila
Brave New Worlds: My Utopia in your Dystopia, curated by Manuel Ocampo, Metropolitan Museum of Manila, Manila
The Shadow Factory, curated by Gary-Ross Pastrana, Silverlens, Singapore
Tabletop, organized by Mariano Ching, Altromondo, Manila
Hang 'em High, Blanc Gallery, Manila
Art Fair Philippines, Manila
Neo Folk Showcase, Ikkan Gallery, Singapore
- 2013 *Still*, Blanc, Manila
Tones of Home, Blanc Gallery, Manila
The Mona Lisa Project, Bulwagang Fernando Amorsolo, Cultural Center of the Philippines
Manila Vice, curated by Manuel Ocampo, Musée International des Arts Modestes (MIAM), Sète, France
Ley Hunting Pt. 2, curated by Gary-Ross Pastrana, Silverlens, Singapore
Art Fair Philippines, Manila
- 2012 *Bastards of Misrepresentation: NY Edition*, curated by Manuel Ocampo, New York
Other, curated by Lisa Chikiamco, Altromondo, Manila
Ley Hunting Pt. 1, curated by Gary-Ross Pastrana, Silverlens, Manila
Just Leave the Itch Alone, (two-person show w/ Allan Balisi), Pablo Gallery, Manila
From the Black Lagoon, D.A.G.C., Manila
Art HK 12, Hong Kong
Fishnet Strangling She-male Accupuncture Bitchfest or The Y2K Babes curated by Jeona Zoleta, Finale Art File, Manila
- 2011 *It Doesn't Snow in Manila*, Art Informal, Manila
Pulse Miami Art Fair, Miami
Recent Prints, D.A.G.C., Manila
Hats On, Bottoms Off, Blanc, Manila

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- On the Radar: Six New Symptoms*, curated by Gary-Ross Pastrana, Silverlens, Manila
- Touch Me: An Exhibit of Artist' Books*, curated by Angelo V. Suarez, Hiraya Gallery, Manila
- Flatfield*, West Gallery, Quezon City
- Survivalism*, Light and Space Contemporary, Quezon City
- Departure Area*, Republikha Gallery, Quezon City
- We Are Not Aimless*, Manila Contemporary, Manila
- 2010 *His and Hers*, Blanc, Manila
- Sirens Hall*, organized by Mariano Ching, Mo Space, Taguig
- Happily Unhappy*, curated by Louie Cordero and Jordin Isip, Blanc, Manila
- Paper Panic!*, (two-person show w/ Mark Salvatus), Silverlens, Manila
- 2009 *Saturday Fun Machine*, organized by Mariano Ching, Finale Art File, Manila
- Tears, Cuts and Ruptures: A Philippine Collage Review*, curated by Gary-Ross Pastrana, Silverlens, Manila
- Pottymouth*, Blanc, Manila
- If You Only Walk Long Enough*, Studio 83, Singapore
- Welcome to the Jungle*, Art Informal, Manila
- Kasibulan PasyonNasyon*, Cultural Center of the Philippines
- 2008 *Boxed 3*, The Cubicle, Pasig City
- Tutokkk*, Blanc, Manila
- Amor Solo*, Amores Muchos, Hiraya Gallery, Manila
- Outtwotowwot*, Big Sky Mind, Quezon City
- 2007 *December Show*, Blanc, Manila
- Four Corners*, Fashion + Art Gallery, Quezon City
- Boxed 2*, Cultural Center of the Philippines
- 2006 *Plugged V*, Big Sky Mind, Quezon City
- Strange Things and Other Life Forms*, Chunky Far Flung Gallery, Quezon City
- 2005 *Plugged IV*, Big Sky Mind, Quezon City
- Definition of Undefined Colors*, Pablo, Quezon City
- Wallpaper**, Big Sky Mind, Quezon City

EDUCATION

- 2002-2006 Far Eastern University - Manila
Bachelor of Fine Arts, Major in Advertising

PUBLICATIONS

Chen, Junni. "2 Young Filipino Artists to Watch: Pow Martinez and Dina Gadia." Art Radar Journal. Accessed 31 July, 2017. <http://artradarjournal.com/2017/07/312-young-filipino-artists-to-watch-pow-martinez-and-dina-gadia/>

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"Philippines: Intertropical Convergence Zone." Luciano Benetton, Project Space Pilipinas, Young Joo Ko. (2015)

"Dina Gadia." Art Republik: Japan Rising. November 2015. p. 164-166
Bastards of Misrepresentation. Re:Surgo!. 2012.

De La Paz, Christiane L. "Dina Gadia's Assembling Collage of Contemporary Art." Artes De Las Filipinas. Accessed July 2011. <http://www.artesdelasfilipinas.com/archives/110/dina-gadia-s>

"The Comics Timing of Dina Gadia." The Swank Style. 11 January 2010