

# SILVERLENS

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## RENATO ORARA

Bio

**Renato Orara (b. Bicol, PH) is a Philippine-born and New York-based artist whose focus over the last 25 years has been an ongoing series of ballpoint works on paper called *Ten Thousand Things That Breathe*. His work has been exhibited in Asia, Europe, the United States, and has found its way into private, as well as museum collections like The Museum of Modern Art, The Museum of Fine Arts Houston, and Singapore Art Museum.**

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#### b. Bicol, PH



*Ten Thousand Things That Breathe (Cubebot), 2014.*

#### COLLECTIONS

The Cartin Collection, Hartford, CT  
The Daled Collection, Brussels, Belgium  
The Echavarria Collection, Colombia  
Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Houston, TX  
Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY  
RxArt, New York, NY  
Singapore Art Museum  
Various private and corporate collections

#### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 **Renato Orara**, Silverlens, Helutrans, Singapore  
2015 **Renato Orara**, Silverlens, Manila, Philippines  
2013 **Renato Orara: Ten Thousand Things That Breathe**, Project space, Josée Bienvenu Gallery, New York, NY  
2009 **Marked Bills**, Project space, Josée Bienvenu Gallery, New York, NY  
**Library Bookworks: Exhibition/Hidden Installation**, Silverlens, Manila, Philippines  
2008 **An Iraq Memorial and Other Works**, Leo Fortuna Gallery, Hudson, NY  
2006 **Ten Thousand Things That Breathe**, Dominique Fiat Gallery, Paris, France  
1999 **Renato Orara**, Hosfelt Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
1998 **Renato Orara: Ten Thousand Things That Breathe**, Palo Alto Cultural Center, Palo Alto, CA  
1996 **Asian Tour: Ten Thousand Things That Breathe**, Nielsen Hayes Library, Bangkok, Thailand; St. Luke's Gallery, Tokyo, Japan; and the Cultural Center of the Philippines, Manila, Philippines

#### TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2005 **Drawings**, With Jacob El Hanani, OSP Gallery, Boston, MA  
2004 **Dedication/Association**, With Aric Obrosey, Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York, NY

#### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 **Translación**, Inaugural Exhibition, Curated by Gary-Ross Pastrana, Silverlens, Manila  
2016 **Art Basel**, Silverlens, Hong Kong  
**Art Fair Philippines**, Silverlens, Manila  
**Master Drawings New York**, Kraushaar Galleries, New York  
2015 **Art Basel**, Silverlens, Hong Kong  
**Art Fair Philippines**, Silverlens, Manila  
2014 **Contemporary Art for Southeast Asia: Breaking and Reconstructing The Circle**, Asian Art in London, One East Asia Gallery 8, London, UK  
**Medium At Large**, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore  
2009 **Thrice Upon a Time**, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore

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- 2008 *Trends in Paper Works*, Gallery I, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX  
*Microwave Six*, Josée Bienvenu Gallery, New York, NY  
*Oeuvres en Papier*, Dominique Fiat Gallery, Paris, France
- 2007 *From a Drawing Standpoint*, Leo Fortuna Gallery, Hudson, NY  
*FIAC*, Dominique Fiat Gallery, Paris, France  
*Aqua Art Fair*, OSP Gallery, Miami, FL  
*Art Brussels*, Dominique Fiat Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- 2006 *Moment by Moment*, North Dakota Museum of Art, Grand Forks, ND  
*Starting at the Edge*, Mushroom Arts, New York, NY
- 2005 *September 11, 1973*, Orchard Gallery, New York, NY  
Amelie A. Wallace Gallery, SUNY The College of Old Westbury, Old Westbury, NY  
*Art Basel 2005*, Andrea Rosen Gallery, Basel, Switzerland
- 2004 *Small Works*, Gallery Joe, Philadelphia, PA  
*L'intime, Behind Closed Doors*, La Maison Rouge, Fondation Antoine de Galbert, Paris, France  
*Initial Encounters*, curated by The Drawing Center, Arts Center of the Capital Region, Troy, NY  
*Intensive Care*, Alon Segev Gallery, Tel-Aviv, Israel  
*On Paper*, Nicole Klagsbrun Gallery, New York, NY
- 2003 *Meditation of the Hand*, The Buddhism Project, Salena Gallery, LIU Brooklyn Campus, NY
- 2002 *Taking Form*, Gallery Joe, Philadelphia, PA  
*The Drawing Room*, Travelling Gallery Autumn 2002 Tour, Scotland, UK  
*Realistic Means*, Winter Selections, Drawing Center, New York, NY
- 1999 *Chicago Art Fair*, Hosfelt Gallery, Chicago, IL

#### OTHER PRESENTATIONS

- 2013 *On the Table*, a do-it yourself program created in collaboration with The Drawing Center, New York, NY  
*Embodied Reasonableness and the Aesthetic Dimension of Experience*, paper presented by Mara Buenaseda, Minding the Body Conference, CUNY Graduate Center, New York, NY
- 2009 *Library Bookworks*, a hidden installation, 13 libraries all over the Philippines  
*20x20x5*, Pecha Kucha series, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY  
*Bookworks*, Lecture and installation, McNally Robinson Bookstore, New York, NY
- 2001 *Flat Files*, Pierogi Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

#### PUBLICATIONS

- Ballpointists*, Morse, Trent. Laurence King Publishing Ltd. London, UK. 2016  
*Ballpoint Art*, Laurence King Publishing. 2016  
*100 New York Calligraphers*, Dantzig, Cynthia. Schiffer Publishing Ltd. USA. 2015

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*The Art of Ordinary Things*. Cruz, Jasmine Agnes. Business World. 2015

*Southeast Asia and Diaspora: Breaking and Reconstructing the Circle*. One East Asia. Singapore. 2014

*Tomorrow, Today: Contemporary Art from the Singapore Art Museum*, 2009-2011 Catalogue, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore. 2011

*Thrice Upon A Time*. Singapore Arts Museum Exhibition Catalogue. Singapore. 2009

*The Judith Rothschild Foundation Contemporary Drawings Collection Catalogue Raisonné*. Rattemeyer, Christian. Exhibition catalogue. Museum of Modern Art, New York. 2009

*Initial Encounters*. The Arts Center of the Capital Region. Troy, New York. March.

*Realistic Means*. The Drawing Center's Drawing Papers. Vol. 28. New York. March 2002

*Ten Thousand Things That Breathe: The Ballpoint Pen Drawings of Renato Ortega*. (aka. Renato Orara). Korinsha Press & Co. Ltd., Kyoto, Japan. 1996

#### SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Pam Barrett-Fender, "Crossing the Line." MetroLand, NY, April, 2004, p. 31

Timothy Cahill, "Exhibits Show Lines that Divide Drawing and Art." Times Union, NY, May, 2004

Frank Cebulski, "Renato at the Palo Alto Cultural Center." Artweek, December, 1998, p. 14

Naomi Coke, "With a Ballpoint Pen and Paper Bag..." The Daily Yomiuri, Japan, June 2, 1994, p. 7

Holland Cotter, "Meditation for the Hand." The New York Times, 19 September 2003, p. E39

Lecomte, Stéphane. "Renato Orara: Ten Thousand Things that Breathe." Paris Art. Paris, France

Lourd Ernst de Veyra, "Zen and the Art of Ballpoint Pen Meditation." Today, Philippines, April 14, 1996, p. 4

Merwyn de Mello and Patrice Van Hyle, "Ten Thousand Things That Breathe: Interview." Asia Focus, April 26, 1996, p. 8

Carina Evangelista, "Renato: Ten Thousand Things that Breathe (The Drawing Center: Winter Selections 2002)." Art

Manila, Vol. 3, No. 9, 2002

Jack Fisher, "Tunnel Visions an Inspiration." San Jose Mercury News, November 1, 1998, p. 2G

Alice Guillermo, "Art from a Ballpoint Pen." The Philippine Star, April 1, 1996, p. 18

Naomi Hosoda, "Life in Ordinary Things: Ten Thousand Things in Ballpoint Pen Drawings." The Daily Manila Shimbun,

April 17, 1996, p. 8

Reena Jana, "Renato at Hosfelt Gallery." Asian Art News, July/August, 1999, p. 77

William Marazzi, "Zen and the Art of Renato Ortega." Living in Thailand, April 1996, p. 54

Trent Morse, "Ballpoint is on a Roll." Art News, January 2014, p. 64

Jaime Biron Polo, "Shading Ortega's Ballpoint Pen Drawings." The Evening

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Paper, Philippines, April 21, 1996, p. 19

Edward Sozanski. "Ordinary Becomes Aesthetic." The Philadelphia Inquirer, October 11, 2002

Catherine Zoepf. "Realistic Means." Contemporary, May 2002, p. 102

"Briefly Noted: An Iraq Memorial by Renato Orara." Letter Arts Review. Spring 2008. Quarterly Publication, NC. 2008

"Belgique: Le rendez-vous des collectionneurs." Le Journal des Arts. May 2007

"Ten Thousand Things that Breathe." Sky Cable News Broadcast, Philippines, April 1996

#### **EDUCATION**

1987 BA Psychology, University Of The Philippines Diliman