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I S L O R E N Z A N A L U

saturation imbalance

Z A N A L U I S L O R E N

LUIS LORENZANA

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LUIS LORENZANA

saturation imbalance





In *Saturation Imbalance*, Luis Lorenzana continues to develop new ways of thinking about and working with texture, pattern, and color. Whereas previous exhibits hinted at an artist consciously operating within a tradition while subverting it, this latest series finds him grappling primarily with his own instinct to correct and to make harmonious.





Snow White (Blue), 2019
oil on canvas
30h x 30w in
76.20h x 76.20w cm



Snow White (Red), 2019
oil on canvas
30h x 30w in
76.20h x 76.20w cm



Snow White (Green), 2019
oil on canvas
30h x 30w in
76.20h x 76.20w cm

The surreal humanoid forms that feature in each piece are traces of his earlier work; in this sense Lorenzana is continuing an old artistic project, evolving and making strange traditional styles. This time, however, pattern is as important as figure, and collision is as crucial as harmony. Lorenzana has deliberately suspended what he describes as the "problem solving process" he usually applies to color and composition. This experiment is perhaps most aptly staged in the Snow White paintings in which this new, "imbalanced" method is used to rework a fairy tale that famously defines, or dictates, feminine beauty in terms of pure color. The emphasis on texture and material is encapsulated in the artist's transformation of his own palettes. In these converted forms, a few added features – eyes, teeth, cheeks – give raw matter sudden human semblance. Elsewhere, imbalance allows for moments of individual reckoning. In "Yesterboy," these formal or technical recalibrations make possible a more intimate process of self-examination. Time and memory become bound up in these changes of color, but pattern is constant, counterintuitively blurring the distinction between surface and interior.



Flamekeepers. 2019
oil on canvas
72h x 96w in
182.88h x 243.84w cm



He-Man She-Man, 2019
oil on canvas
24h x 36w in
60.96h x 91.44w cm





Yesterboy, 2019
oil on canvas
36h x 48w in
91.44h x 121.92w cm



Two Nudes, Four Donuts, One Ramen, 2019
oil on canvas
48h x 60w in
121.92h x 152.40w cm



Land of the Free, 2019
oil on canvas
48h x 60w in
121.92h x 152.40w cm



Ultimo Guerrero, 2019
oil on canvas
36h x 48w in
91.44h x 121.92w cm

With its surprising juxtapositions, its doubled subjects, and its use of language as a framing device, *Saturation Imbalance* assumes an engaged, incisive viewer. Each work is an invitation to not simply look but to think, and rethink. In "Two Nudes, Four Donuts, One Ramen," female forms recline in a new tradition, shaped by commercial comforts. In "Ultimo Guerrero," the twin images of Andres Bonifacio and the Ultimate Warrior create a striking, hopeful picture of heroism. Lorenzana's exploration of new techniques has also fueled an expansion of scope. The exhibit draws together personal history, a shared national history, and a disturbing contemporary moment that is still unfolding. The element of play persists in this exhibit – masks, flowers, a few vivid hues – but these exist alongside elements of violence both overt and implicit. Desaturation can, remarkably, be playful, but it is also sobering. The outline, the fissure, the word and, most importantly, the body itself – all signify differently within a wider and potentially brutal context, in which viewers must come to terms with their participation in an entirely different sort of spectacle. "Land of the Free," for instance, rearranges familiar symbols into a disconcerting picture. It toys with scale, subordinating a simplistic understanding of country to a more complicated cartography that takes into account uglier truths. One cannot view the map without coming to terms with the action (or inaction) of its citizens. "Flamekeepers" addresses these darker realities but manages to keep hope alive. Gen X pop culture images are not merely nostalgic traces of childhood. Framed by a provocative headline, they continue to function as expressions of an optimism that prevails in spite of the state of the nation.

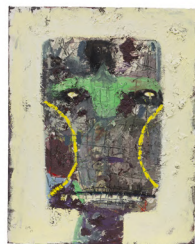
- Michaela Atienza



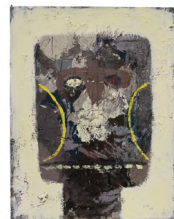




Ultimate Warrior Square Head Portrait 1, 2019
oil on canvas
24.02h x 12.20w in
61h x 31w cm



Ultimate Warrior Square Head Portrait 4, 2019
oil on canvas
19.88h x 15.94w in
50.50h x 40.50w cm



Ultimate Warrior Square Head Portrait 7, 2019
oil on canvas
17.91h x 13.78w in
45.50h x 35w cm



Ultimate Warrior Square Head Portrait 10, 2019
oil on canvas
16.14h x 12.20w in
41h x 31w cm



Ultimate Warrior Square Head Portrait 2, 2019
oil on canvas
22.05h x 14.17w in
56h x 36w cm



Ultimate Warrior Square Head Portrait 5, 2019
oil on canvas
17.91h x 17.81w in
45.50h x 45.25w cm



Ultimate Warrior Square Head Portrait 8, 2019
oil on canvas
17.91h x 13.78w in
45.50h x 35w cm



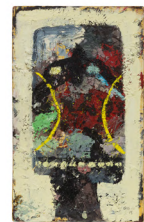
Ultimate Warrior Square Head Portrait 11, 2019
oil on canvas
15.94h x 12.01w in
40.50h x 30.50w cm



Ultimate Warrior Square Head Portrait 3, 2019
oil on canvas
21.56h x 13.29w in
54.75h x 33.75w cm



Ultimate Warrior Square Head Portrait 6, 2019
oil on canvas
17.91h x 13.78w in
45.50h x 35w cm



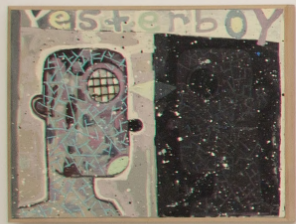
Ultimate Warrior Square Head Portrait 9, 2019
oil on canvas
18.11h x 11.02w in
46h x 28w cm



Ultimate Warrior Square Head Portrait 12, 2019
oil on canvas
13.98h x 8.07w in
35.50h x 20.50w cm



Ultimate Warrior Square Head Portrait 13, 2019
oil on canvas
9.94h x 7.97w in
25.25h x 20.25w cm



LUIS LORENZANA

Having originally graduated with a degree in Public Administration, Luis Lorenzana (b. 1979, Manila, Philippines) is a self-taught artist and illustrator who creates his own unique brand of pop surrealist works. He has participated in over 20 group and solo shows in Hong Kong, Germany, and the United States. The artist has also been a finalist for the Philip Morris Philippine Art Awards, the International Book Illustration Competitions and the Metrobank Art and Excellence Awards.

AWARDS

- 2006 **Top 30 Artists**, Philip Morris Philippine Art Awards 2006, Philippine National Museum
Top 5 Finalists, International Book Illustration Competition for the Booker's Prize Awardee, "Life of Pi," sponsored by The Times UK and Canongate Publishing, London, England. Featured in The Times London, 2006
- 2005 **Finalist**, 2005 Epson EPIX National Photography Competition, Shangrila Plaza Mall, Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila
Finalist, 2005 Metrobank Art and Design Excellence, Metrobank Foundation Oil Painting Category

- 2004 **3rd Place**, National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) National Arts Month, Web Gising National Digital Art Competition
Finalist, National Commission for Culture and the Arts, National Arts Month Painting Competition
- 2003 **Finalist**, Painting Category, Art Association of the Philippines Annual Competition 2004, GSIS Museo ng Sining
Grand Prize Winner, Spanish Festival For Culture and the Arts Painting Competition, sponsored by Instituto Cervantes, Manila
Finalist, Oil Category, 2004 Young Painters' Annual, Metrobank Foundation
- 2002 **Finalist**, Oil Category, 2003 Young Painters' Annual, Metrobank Foundation
- 2002 **Semifinalist**, Oil Category, 2002 Young Painters' Annual, Metrobank Foundation
- 2001 **Semifinalist**, Oil Category, 2001 Young Painters' Annual, Metrobank Foundation
- 2000 **Top 50 Artists**, Philip Morris Philippine Art Awards 2000, Metropolitan Museum of Manila

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 **Saturation Imbalance**, Silverlens, Makati City
- 2018 **Lines, Compositions, Patterns, Repetitions**, West Gallery, Quezon City
NEW WORKS, Art Fair Philippines, Secret Fresh Gallery
ARCHIVAL COLLECTION (2005-2008 Artworks) Exhibition and Book Launch, Leon Gallery, Makati City
 (Following Exhibition at American University Museum at The Katzen Arts Center, Washington DC, Jan- March 2020)
- 2017 **QUICKSTRIKE**, Secretfresh Gallery, San Juan City
- 2016 **INSTANITY**, Silverlens Gillman Barracks, Singapore
- 2014 **MONA LISA OVERDOSE**, Secretfresh Gallery, San Juan City
LEAGUE OF LUMINOUS LUNATICS, Silverlens, Makati City
- 2013 **El Romantico Show and Toy Launch**, Secretfresh Gallery, San Juan
- 2012 **BEAUTIFUL PAIN**, Silverlens, Gillman Barracks, Singapore
BEAUTIFUL PAIN, Silverlens, Makati City
- 2010 **THE TALES OF THE BEER FAIRIES**, Silverlens, Makati City
- 2009 **THE MIDNIGHT LULLABY**, Silverlens, Makati City
CHASING FANTASIES, Distinction Gallery, Escondido, California
- 2008 **MANILA FOLDER**, Distinction Gallery and Studios, Escondido, California

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 **Art Fair Philippines**, Makati City
- 2018 **RE: VIEW 2018**, Bencab Museum, Baguio
No Safety Pins Required, Pundido Gallery, Makati City
PRIME MERIDIAN, Vinyl on Vinyl, Makati City
- 2016 **Art Fair Philippines**, Makati City
- 2015 **Art Fair Philippines**, Makati City
- 2014 **Art Fair Philippines**, Makati City
Extended Play, Vinyl on Vinyl, Makati City
Art Basel, Silverlens, Hong Kong
Ley Hunting 2, Silverlens, Makati City
Art Flood: Fundraising for Yolanda, Silverlens, Makati City
Art Fair Philippines, Makati City
Art Basel, Hong Kong
Art Taipei, Taiwan
- 2012 **Ley Hunting 1**, Silverlens, Gillman Barracks, Singapore
Art HK 12, Hong Kong
Art Stage Singapore, Singapore
Taetrunn Et. Dulce, MondoPOP, International Gallery, Rome, Italy
- 2011 **Manila Art 11**, Manila
Art HK 11, Hong Kong
Pulse New York 2011, New York
- 2010 **Manila Art 10**, Manila, Philippines
Pulse Miami 2010, Florida, USA
JEST in Time, Distinction Gallery and Studios, Escondido, California, USA
METAMORPHOSIS: BeinArt International Surreal Art Collective Group Exhibition, CoproGallery, Santa Monica, California
Art HK 10, Hong Kong
Pulse New York 2010, New York
- 2009 **Magistrates**, Strychnin Gallery, Berlin, Germany
Tabi Tabi Po, 1:AM Gallery, San Francisco, California, USA
Life Essential, Art Whino Gallery, Maryland, USA
Heavy Hitters-Maryland, Art Whino Gallery, Maryland, USA
The Quantum Exhibit, Daniel Fountain Contemporary, Maryland, USA
Inked Souls 2009, Art Whino Gallery, Maryland, USA
- 2008 **"2008 Toy Show"** Customized Artist's Toys Exhibit, MFGALLERY, Live Fast NYC, USA
- 2006 **PROJECT 5X7**, Distinction Gallery and Studios, California, USA
 Philippine Art Awards 2006 Exhibition, National Museum of the Philippines, Manila

- 2000 Philippine Art Awards 2000 Exhibition, Metropolitan Museum of Manila, Manila
Dos Por Dos, Boston Gallery, Boston Street, Quezon City, Metro Manila

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts major in Public Administration
 University of the Philippines, Diliman Quezon City, Year 2000

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Michelle Yun, **Lorenzana Archival Collection**, International Arts and Artists, Washington DC, 2017. ISBN: 978-0988-349-742
- Ambeth R. Ocampo, **Painting National Heroes In a New Light**, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Jan. 17, 2018
- Duffie Osental, **The Past, Present, and Future of Luis Lorenzana**, Art+ Magazine, Issue No. 49, p. 78-81
- Hannah Jo Uy, **The Indomitable Spirit of Luis Lorenzana**, Artist at Work Series, Manila Bulletin, March 13, 2017, p. D-3
- Pepper Teehankee, **Unearthing Lorenzana's Voice and Vision**, Philippine Star, March 7, 2017, p. C7
- Alex Pastor, **Luis Lorenzana: An Artist Ahead of His Time**, Business Mirror, Feb. 20, 2017
- Angelo Garcia, **Spotlight: Philippine Art**, Manila Bulletin, October 31, 2016, p. D1
- Pepper Teehankee, **Quickstrike**, Philippine Star, July 22, 2016, p. D10
- Pepper Teehankee, **Mona Lisa Overdose**, Philippine Star, Feb. 11, 2014, p. C8
- Hayley Evans, **Luis Lorenzana's Paintings and Sculptures Mock the Insanity of Excess in Contemporary Culture**, www.beautifuldecay.com, January 8, 2015
- Sonia Kolesnikov- Jessop, **From Pain, Painter Luis Lorenzana Creates Beauty**, Blouin Artinfo, September 23, 2012
- Ann Alvero, **The Clown Gets The Last Laugh**, Contemporary Art Philippines, Issue 18, p. 159-162
- Pam Casin, **Luis Lorenzana: The Man Makes Magic**, Manila Bulletin, Dec. 6, 2010, p. E3
- Clift Sawit, **16 Top Illustrators**, Rogue Magazine, November 2009, p. 90-91
- Drawn to the Power of Pi**, The Times London, Feb. 18, 2006, p. Books 12-13



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.