

ART DUBAI

SILVERLENS



GREGORY HALILI
VANISHING

ART DUBAI

SILVERLENS

GREGORY HALILI VANISHING

Bawwaba Section

Curated by Vipash Purichanont

1 to 5 March 2023

Booth G1, Bawwaba Section, Madinat Jumeirah

[website](#)

[email](#)


[whatsapp](#)





For the 16th edition of Art Dubai, Silverlens will be presenting *Vanishing* by Gregory Halili, a collection of new miniature paintings on *capiz* shells, at the fair's Bawwaba section. Miniatures are a type of secular art with a long-standing history in the Middle East as an important element of decoration often used in medieval manuscripts.

In the Philippines, the popularity of *capiz* shells can be traced back to the 1860 edition of *Vocabulario de la lengua tagala*, the first dictionary of the Tagalog language. Within it, the entry for *capiz* reads *la ventana* or window as the shells are cut and processed until light is able to filter through. In this series of miniature oil paintings, Halili pushes the material to its most fragile state, almost to the point of breaking. These *capiz* shells are thinned down until they are glass-like, which allows for the paintings of the butterflies and moths on the reverse to be seen on the other side. On the front, delicate white veils are etched and painted with utmost precision. Some veils are painted slightly parted to symbolize the slow and inevitable disappearance of the species.



Halili began this body of oil-on-capiz works with his memories of the *Mariposa*, a butterfly species endemic to the Philippines that he had frequently seen before migrating to the US. Upon the artist's return home, he had learned that the species had become endangered.

"I've always been interested in nature and its relationship with humanity. These miniature paintings for Art Dubai tackle such issues. What at first may look like simple, beautiful works of butterflies and moths are actually a commentary on the complex, fragile state of the environment and the unpredictable future," says Halili.

Words by Jess Alba



Detail from *Vanishing IX*, 2022-2023



VANISHING IX

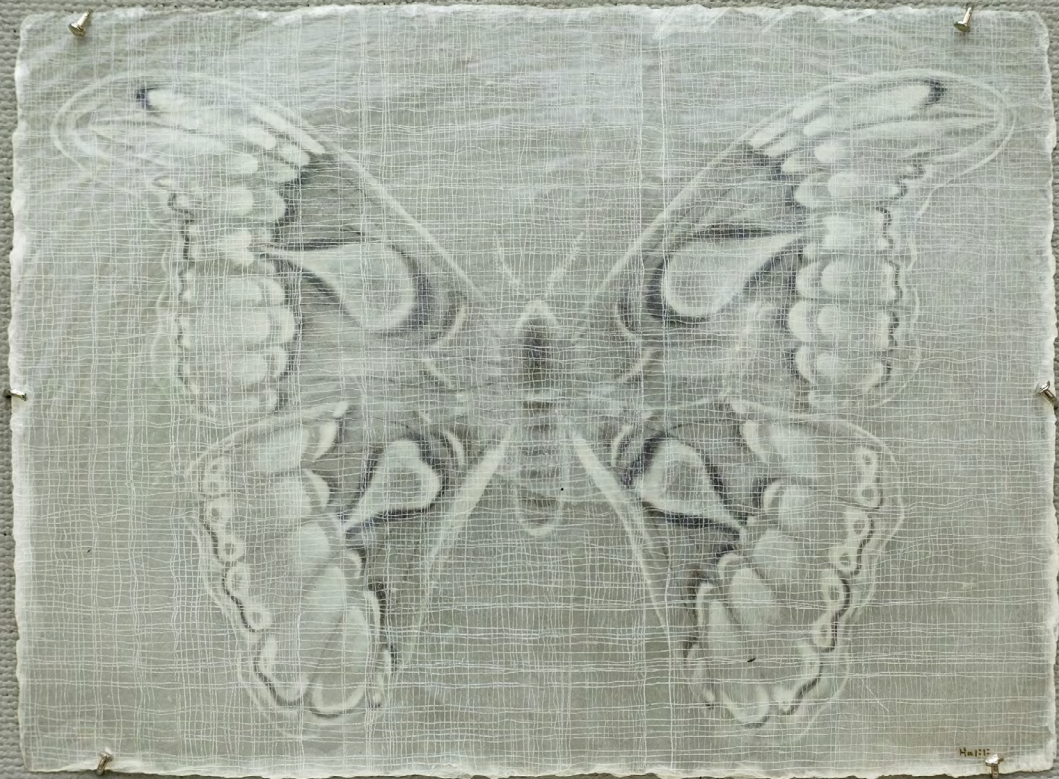
2022 - 2023

oil on capiz shell

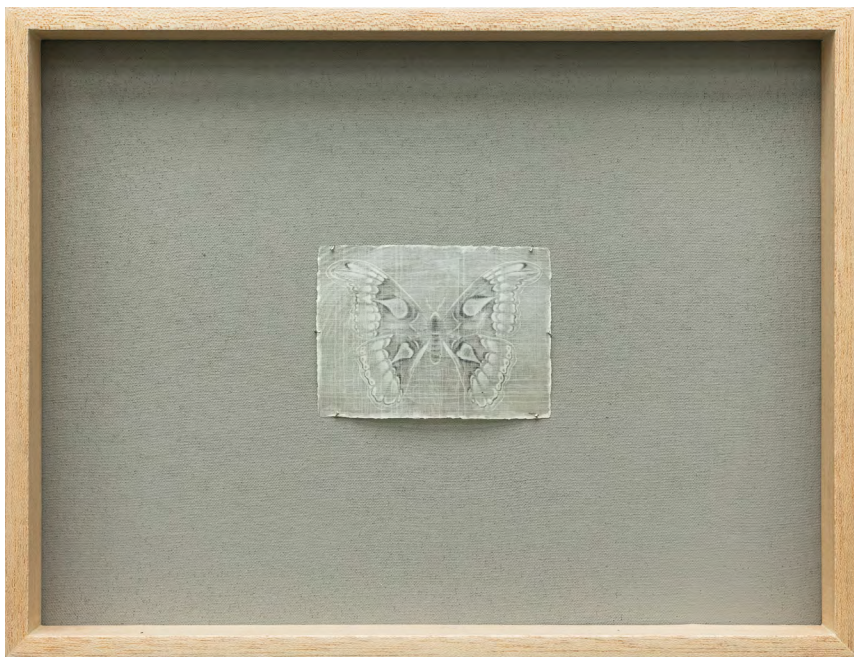
2.52h x 2.95w in · 6.40h x 7.50w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)



Detail from *Vanishing I*, 2022 - 2023



VANISHING I

2022 - 2023

oil on capiz shell

2.68h x 3.62w in · 6.80h x 9.20w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)





Detail from *Vanishing V*, 2022 - 2023



VANISHING V

2022 - 2023

oil on capiz shell

2.44h x 3.54w in · 6.20h x 9w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)





Matt

Detail from *Vanishing V*, 2022 - 2023



VANISHING II

2022 - 2023

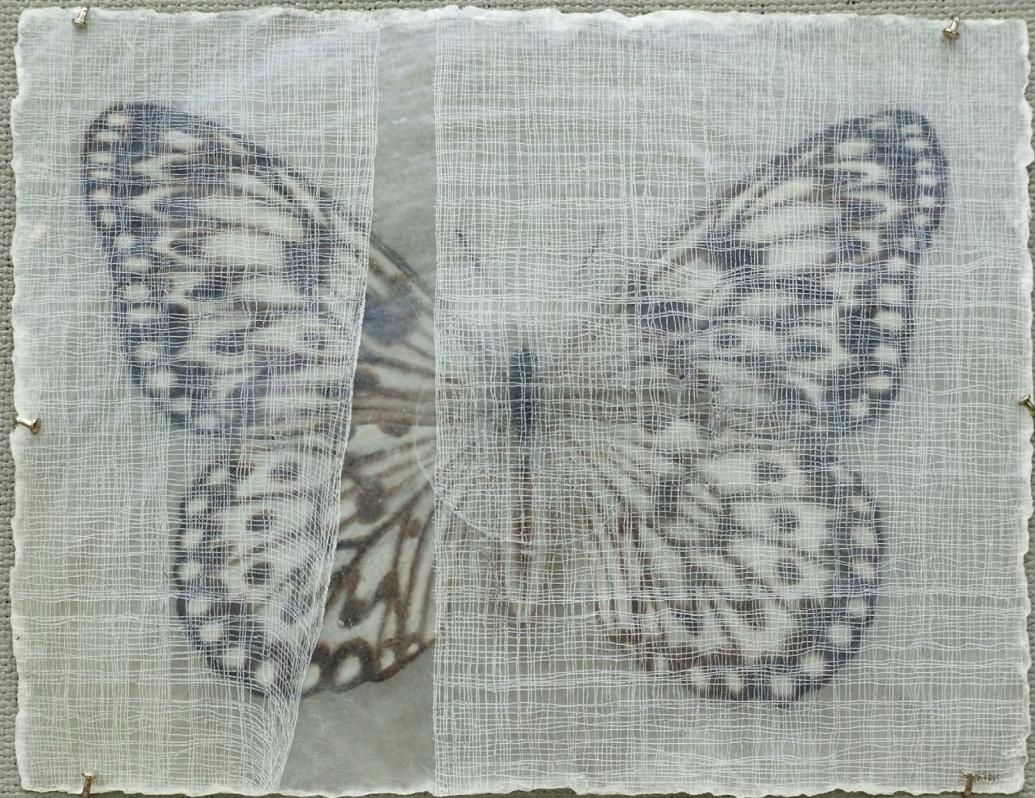
oil on capiz shell

2.36h x 3.35w in · 6h x 8.50w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)





Detail from *Vanishing III*, 2022 - 2023



VANISHING III

2022 - 2023

oil on capiz shell

2.76h x 3.54w in · 7h x 9w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)



Detail from *Vanishing VIII*, 2022 - 2023



VANISHING VIII

2022 - 2023

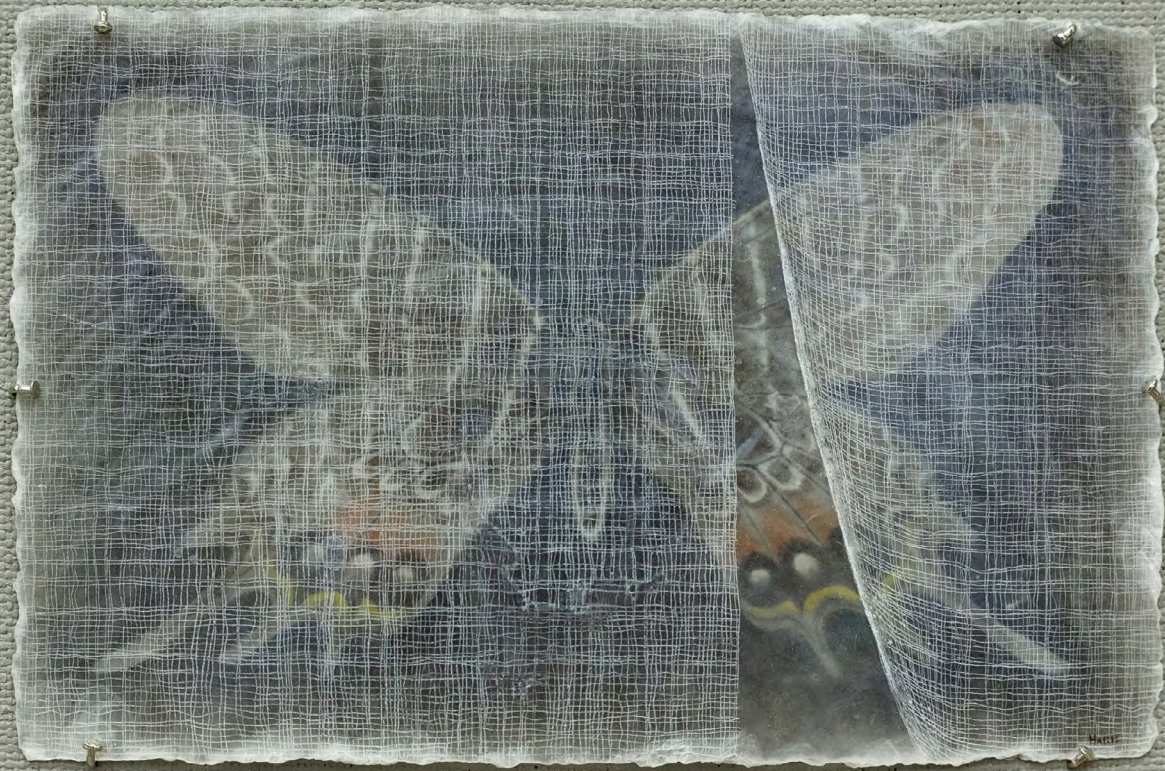
oil on capiz shell

2.44h x 3.19w in • 6.20h x 8.10w cm

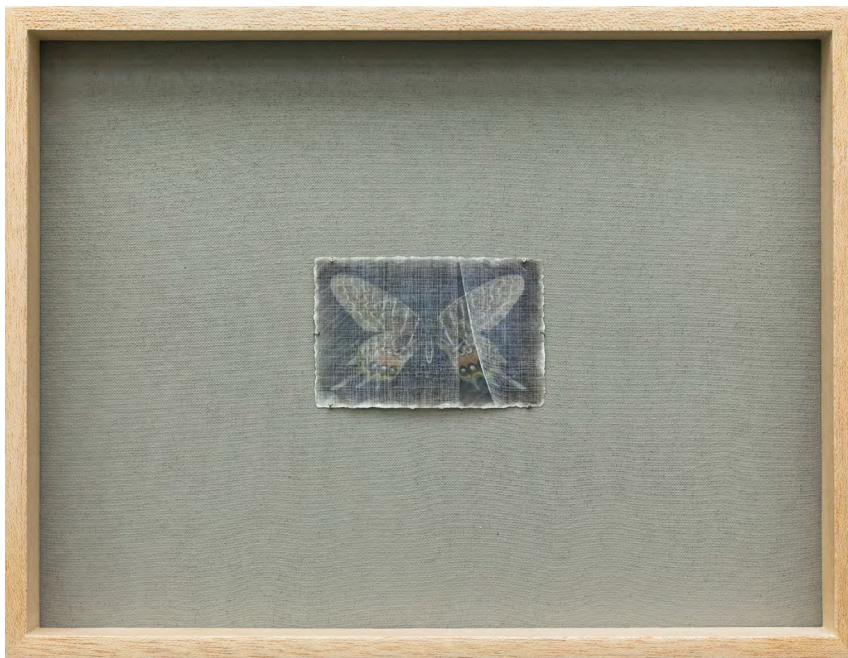
[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)





Detail from *Vanishing VI*, 2022 - 2023



VANISHING VI

2022 - 2023

oil on capiz shell

2.32h x 3.54w in · 5.90h x 9w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)





Detail from *Vanishing VII*, 2022 - 2023



VANISHING VII

2022 - 2023

oil on capiz shell

2.80h x 2.83w in · 7.10h x 7.20w cm

[email](#)

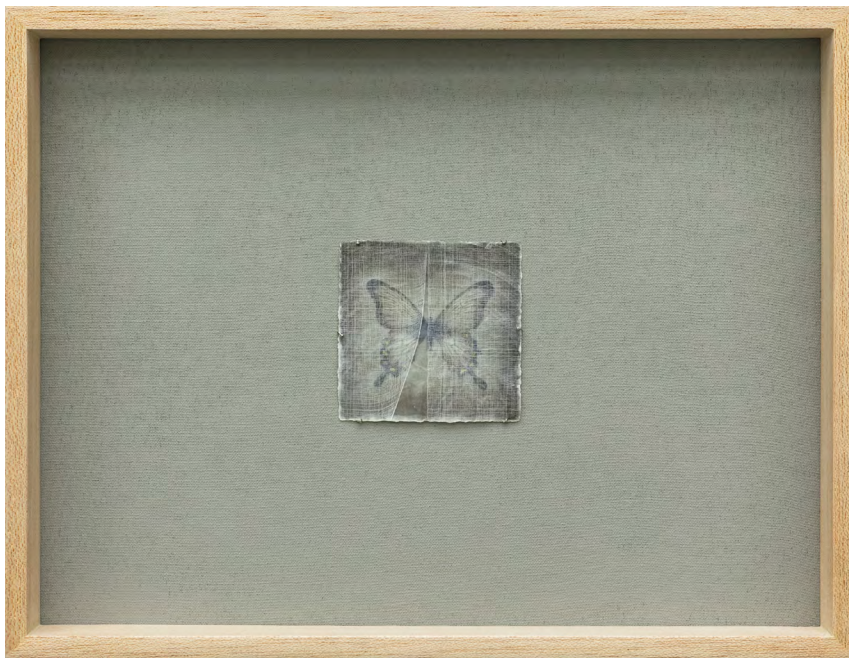
[whatsapp](#)

TAFELBERG-SCHMITZ & CO.
Kaufmann und
Waren & Naturalien-Geschäft
Erfurt, Thüringen
Königsplatz 10, 99084 Erfurt





Detail from *Vanishing VII*, 2022 - 2023



VANISHING IV

2022 - 2023

oil on capiz shell

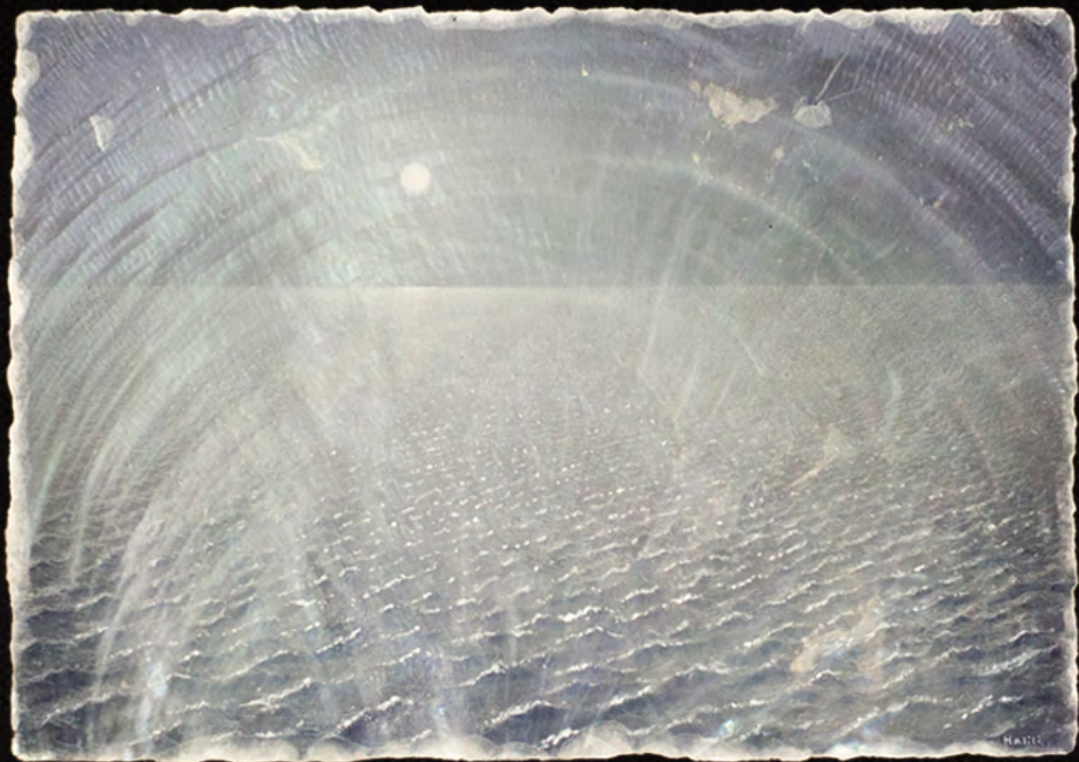
2.83h x 2.80w in · 7.20h x 7.10w cm

[email](#)

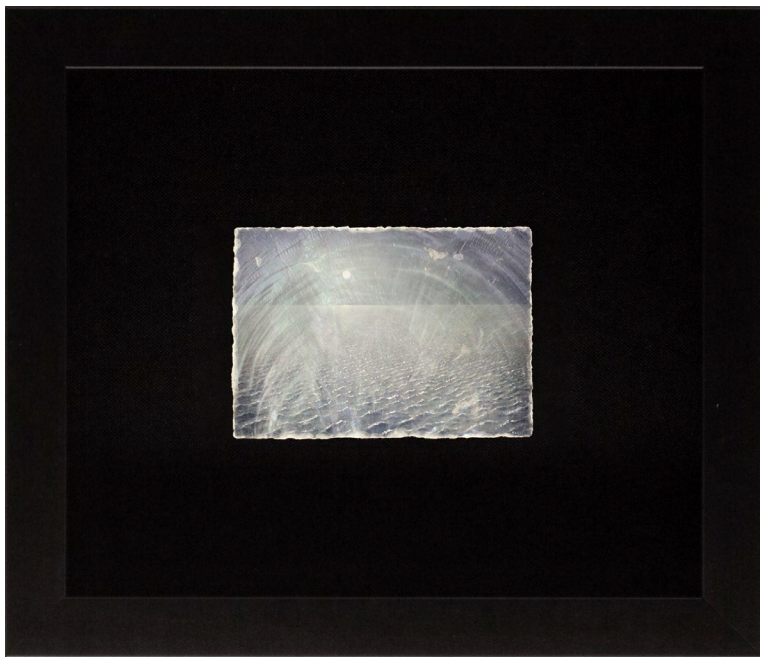
[whatsapp](#)



SELECTED WORKS



Detail from *Way Home (Over the Pacific)*, 2021



WAY HOME (*OVER THE PACIFIC*)

2021

oil on capiz shell

2.48h x 3.54w in • 6.30h x 9w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)



Detail from *Gaia*, 2020



GAIA

2020

oil on capiz shell

2.13h x 3.98w in • 5.40h x 10.10w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)



Detail from *Ghost*, 2022 - 2023



GHOST

2020

oil on capiz shell

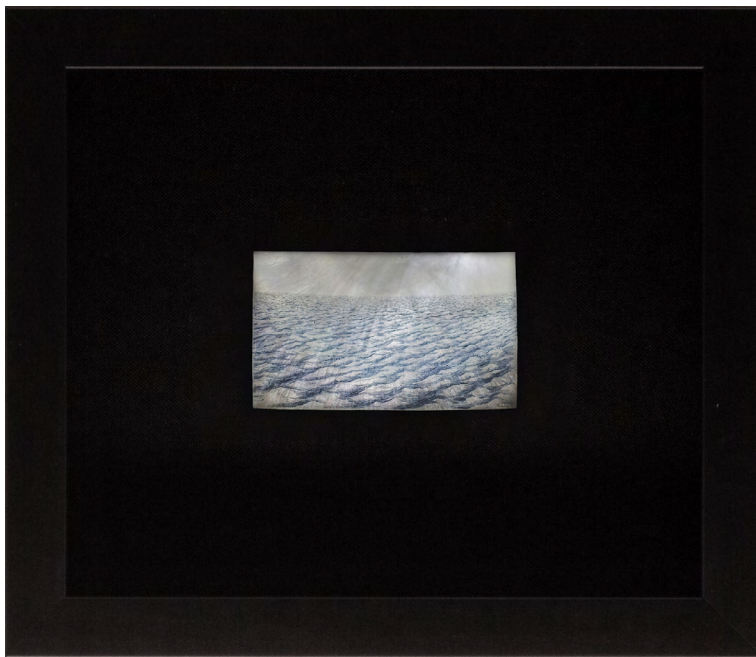
2.25h x 3w in • 5.72h x 7.62w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)



Detail from *The Sea III*, 2018



THE SEA III

2018

oil on black lip mother of pearl

1.69h x 3.11w in · 4.30h x 7.90w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)



GREGORY HALILI BIO

Gregory Halili (b. 1975, lives and works in Manila) carves and paints mother-of-pearl shells, creating *memento moris*. Halili received his B.F.A. from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. He returned to the Philippines in 2013 after 25 years in the United States. Halili's work focuses on the art of miniatures with interest in the notion and idea of memory, life, death, and cycle.

His work has appeared in numerous exhibitions and shows, including the John Michael Kohler Arts Center in Sheboygan, Wisconsin; The Butler Institute of American Art in Youngstown, Ohio; The Hammond Museum and Sculpture Garden in Salem, New York; Ayala Museum in Makati City; Jorge B. Vargas Museum at the University of the Philippines in Quezon City; West Gallery in Quezon City; Silverlens in Makati City, and; Nancy Hoffman Gallery in New York City. In 2016, Halili was one of the Filipino artists who presented in the Singapore Biennale.



GREGORY HALILI Bio

b. 1975, Manila, PH



A Moment's Afire, 2020

AWARDS

- 1998 Millennium of Philippine Art, Outstanding Young Filipino-American Artist
United Nations Postal Administration, design for 21-cent stamp
- 1994 Art Institute of New Jersey, Outstanding Visual Artist
"Trenton Times" (New Jersey), All Academic Team
- 1993 Governor's School of the Arts Scholar (New Jersey)
Who's Who Among American Students
- 1991 AAA Nationwide Poster Contest, First Place
- 1990 NASA Mars Settlement Contest, Honorable Mention
- 1989 Citibank Calendar Contest, First Place

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Art Dubai*, Silverlens, Dubai
- 2022 *Heavenly Bodies*, Silverlens, Manila
The Oceans That Separate Us, Fatima University, Valenzuela City
- 2020 *Glass Horizon*, Silverlens, Manila
- 2017 *SaLang #5: Phenomenon*, Project Space Pilipinas, Lucban, Quezon
Echo, Silverlens, Manila
- 2015 *Memento*, Silverlens, Singapore
- 2014 *Memento*, Silverlens, Manila
Memento, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
- 2013 *Reflections*, West Gallery, Manila
- 2012 *LOVE and LOSS*, Silverlens, Manila
- 2011 *In Search of Paradise*, West Gallery, Manila,
- 2010 *Still Life*, Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia
- 2007 *Orchids*, West Gallery, Manila
- 2006 *Moment of Sanctuary*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
Relicarios, Jorge B.Vargas Museum, University of the Philippines, Diliman, Manila
- 2005 *Relicarios*, Ayala Museum, Manila
Homage to the People of the Philippine Cordilleras - II, West Gallery, Manila
- 2004 *Orchids*, Project Space, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
Homage to the People of the Philippine Cordilleras, Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia
Homage to the People of the Philippine Cordilleras, West Gallery, Manila
The Butterfly Collection, John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, Wisconsin
- 2003 *After Amorsolo*, Jorge B.Vargas Museum, University of the Philippines, Manila
Butterfly Collection: Bamboo Series, West Gallery, Manila
Conversation in Contemplation, Project Space, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
Conversation in Contemplation, Jorge B. Vargas Museum, University of the Philippines, Diliman, Manila
Watercolors in Miniature, South Brunswick Public Library, Monmouth Junction, New Jersey
- 2002 *The Butterfly Collection*, The Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, Ohio

GREGORY HALILI Bio

- Nostalgia*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
Nostalgia II, West Gallery, Manila
Miniatures, Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia
2000 *Miniatures*, West Gallery, Manila
1999 *Butterfly Collection*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
Miniatures, Consulate General of the Philippines, New York
1998 West Gallery, Manila
Project Space, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Art Fair Philippines*, Silverlens, Manila
2022 *Phylogeny of Desire, curated by Ronald Achacoso*, MO_Space, Taguig
Fukuoka Art Fair, Tokyo Art Gallery + BTAP, Tokyo
Art Fair Tokyo, Tokyo Art Gallery + BTAP, Tokyo
2021 *The Circle*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
Hitherto IV: Lamentations, Project Space Pilipinas, Manila
S.E.A. Focus, Silverlens, Singapore
2020 *Placuna Placenta*, National Museum of the Philippines, Manila
Anticipating the Day, Silverlens, Manila
Searching Sanctuary, Silverlens, Manila
Art Fair Philippines, Silverlens, Manila
2019 *The Circle*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
WXXX, West Gallery, Manila
EXPO Chicago, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, Chicago
Art Fair Philippines, Silverlens, Manila
Taipei Dangdai, Silverlens, Taipei
2018 *Re:View 2018*, BenCab Museum, Baguio
Art Miami, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, Miami
16.52 SQM Open Sea, Galerie Ora-Ora, Hong Kong
SaLang, West Gallery, Manila
Countercurrents, Silverlens, Manila
Art Basel, Silverlens, Hong Kong
Art Fair Philippines, Silverlens, Manila
2017 *Curated by Federico de Vera*, Ayala Museum, Manila
DARK AND STORMY NIGHT: Gothic Influence in Contemporary Art, Lehman College Art Gallery, New York.
ArtStage Jakarta, Jakarta, Indonesia
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
Tiny Treasures, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
Art Fair Philippines, Silverlens, Manila
2015 *Bazaar Art Jakarta*, Silverlens, Indonesia

GREGORY HALILI Bio

- HEY! Modern Art & Pop Culture/Act III*, La Halle Saint Pierre, Paris
- Miniatures: Small Contemporary Works*, University of Wyoming Art Museum, Wyoming
- In the Pink*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
- Art Basel*, Silverlens, Hong Kong
- Art Fair Philippines*, Silverlens, Manila
- 2014 *Art Taipei 2014*, Silverlens, Taipei
- Triumph*, Ayala Museum, Manila
- Summer*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
- Art Fair Philippines*, Silverlens, Manila
- 2013 *Winter Blues*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
- Forty Years*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
- Triumph of Philippine Art*, Montclair State University, New Jersey
- Triumph of Philippine Art*, Fisher Museum of Art, University of Southern California
- Theory and Practice of the Small Painting*, Equator Art Projects, Singapore
- 2012 *Women: By, Of, About*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
- 2011 *Project Space: Black and White*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
- Celebration of Music*, Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia
- All That Glitters*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
- 2010 *REAL(ist)*, Selby Gallery, John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, Sarasota, Florida
- 2009 *Back to Cezanne*, Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia
- Art of the Still Life*, Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia
- 2008 Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia
- 2007 *Flying the Coop*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
- Through the Palette's Eye*, Cultural Center of the Philippines, Manila
- New York - Manila - New York*, Ayala Museum, Manila
- 2006 *Drawing the Line*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
- Visage*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
- Circles*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
- Small Works*, Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia
- 2005 *2005 Collector's Show*, Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock
- Small Scale*, West Gallery, Manila, Philippines
- 2004 *Celestial Boundaries*, Montclair State University, New Jersey
- Miniature Portraits*, Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia
- 2003 *Landscape: Unique Views*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
- Waterscape*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
- 2002 *Celebrating 30 Years*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
- Small Scale*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
- Summer*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
- Small Works Exhibit*, Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia
- The Miniature Show*, Graystone, San Francisco
- Collector's Show*, The Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock
- Winter Orchidarium*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York

GREGORY HALILI Bio

- 2001 *Celebration of Art*, Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia
I Love New York, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
Living Minutiae, Selby Gallery, John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, Sarasota, Florida
Many Moons, Hammond Museum and Japanese Stroll Garden, Salem, New York
Object of Desire II, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
Re-Presenting Representation IV, Arnot Art Museum, Elmira, New York
- 2000 *Celebration of Music*, Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia
- 1999 *Gateways*, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
American Realism, M.A. Doran Gallery, Tulsa, Oklahoma
Magic of Venice, Qualita Fine Arts, Las Vegas Nevada
Object of Desire, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
Summer Light, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
- 1998 *Collector's Show*, Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock
64th Annual International Exhibition, Miniature Painters, Sculptors and Gravers Society of Washington, D.C., North Bethesda, Maryland
- 1997 *Small Works*, Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia
- 1996 *Collector's Show*, Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock
Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia
Small Scale, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York
Summer Pleasures, Summer Treasures, Nancy Hoffman Gallery, New York

CURATED SHOWS

- 2020 *Searching Sanctuary*, Silverlens, Manila

EDUCATION

- 1998 B.F.A., University of the Arts, Philadelphia

PUBLICATIONS

Halili, Gregory & Sioson, Carmencita. "Maker's Musings: Artist Gregory Halili on fatherhood and creativity." Philippine Daily Inquirer Lifestyle. Accessed 20 June 2020. <https://lifestyle.inquirer.net/364502/makers-musings-artist-gregory-halili-on-fatherhood-and-creativity/>

De Veyra, Devi. "Q&A with Greg Halili: Creation is a form of mental exercise that keeps me happy, sane" ANC-X. Accessed 13 June 2020. <https://news.abs-cbn.com/ancx/culture/art/06/13/20/qa-with-greg-halili-creation-is-a-form-of-mental-exercise-that-keeps-me-happy-sane>

Uy, Hanna Jo. "Echoes From Nature." Manila Bulletin: Lifestyle. 16 January 2017. p. D4

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>

Calasan, Pierre A. "The Everlasting Gaze." Town and Country Magazine. November 2016. p. 24.

"Karagatan (The Breadth of Oceans)." Exhibition Catalogue: An Atlas of Mirrors. 16 October 2016. p. 20.

Nollase, Renz. "Through the Looking Glass." Southern Living. August 2016. pp. 12-17

GREGORY HALILI

Bio

Lucenario, Danton & Quingco, Oliver II. "In the lowak's Embrace." Discover Philippines. Issue No. 1, Volume II. 2016. pp. 65-68

Anne & Julien. Hey! Magazine. December 2014. pp. 72-75

Sunderberg, K. "An Eerie Beauty: Gregory Halili's Trompe L'oeil Eyes and Excavated Skulls." Artsy. Accessed 29 November 2014. <http://artsy.net/post/editorial-an-erie-beauty-gregory-halili-trompe-loiel>

"Triumph of Philippine Art." Catalogue.

Strickley, Sarah A. "Window to the World." Watercolor Magic. December 2007. pp. 2, 46-53

GREGORY HALILI

Copyright © Silverlens Inc. 2023

All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or otherwise, without the prior written consent of the above mentioned copyright holders, with the exception of brief excerpts and quotations used in articles, critical essays or research.

JESS ALBA

Text © Silverlens Inc. 2023

All rights reserved.

No part of this essay may be reproduced, modified, or stored in a retrieval system or retransmission, in any form or by any means, for reasons other than personal use, without written permission from the author.

SILVERLENS

2263 Don Chino Roces Avenue Extension

Makati City, Philippines 1231

T +632.88160044

F +632.88160044

M +63917.5874011

www.silverlensgalleries.com

inquiry@silverlensgalleries.com