



SILVERLENS

THE EDGE
WHERE THE
SHADOW
SOFTENS

Ayka Go

Paolo Icasas

SILVERLENS

**THE EDGE
WHERE THE
SHADOW
SOFTENS**

13 July - 12 August 2023

website *email* *whatsapp*

Ayka Go

Paolo Icasas



Silverlens Manila presents *The Edge Where the Shadow Softens* a duo exhibition mixing large paintings and sculptures by Ayka Go and Paolo Icasas. This is the first time they are exhibiting together with each showing new work.

The two connect through their shared expression of the abstract with Ayka finding freedom in order and Paolo rooting the same freedom in spontaneity. Ayka begins each work through minutely arranged studies of paper collages. Each iteration is recorded and numbered until the final compositional form is achieved which she rarely deviates from. She then paints from it as if it were still life. On the other hand, Paolo starts his paintings with a sketch as a take-off point then proceeds to paint from intuition and experience unrestrained. The result is a work that is unexpected and thickly layered because he does not stop until the eventual painting is revealed.

Both artists find the source for their forms in their environment with Paolo citing landscapes taken from home and memory as part of the images he destroys on canvas. Ayka finds the materials for her collages from refuse around her studio, a practice prompted by the pandemic when she was made to slow down and reflect. Ayka and Paolo talk about trying to capture a sense of time, of temporal existence in the way they paint. But in their hands, whatever that moment was ceases to matter but it is their revision of the moment that matters more.

In Ayka's large monochromatic paintings of bold color, discarded and cut-out paper takes on the quality of geography as if it were monolithic and immovable with the shadows and sharp crevices of a canyon eroded by the years. The same thread of physicality carries over in her sculptures which seem to be composed of irregular shaped layers deformed, bent, and crumpled together on a mound. Paolo's massive dark paintings offer a counter to the control with chaos in its emphasis on mark-making that splatters, slices, and swirls on the surface. He likes to use atypical tools when painting like a wider palette knife used for building houses. There are glimpses of yellow and white peeking out of the canvas and the coatings as if to hint at something solid amid the fluidity.

Ayka and Paolo trace their early careers in referential art before exploring their language for the abstract. At the path of their artistic journeys is a shared desire to understand the inner coherence which drives a painting to its completeness and convinces the viewer there was no other way to do it.

-Joyce Roque



THE EDGE
WHERE THE
SHADOW
SOFTENS

John Go
Pencil on paper







PAOLO ICASAS

Always, always about love, 2023

oil on canvas

72h x 96w in

182.88h x 243.84w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)



THE EDGE
WHERE THE
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SOFTENS

Ayka Go
Paolo Kasas



AYKA GO
black, 2023

oil on canvas

82h x 82w in
208.28h x 208.28w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)









PAOLO ICASAS

Echoes from the land of love, 2023

oil on canvas

96h x 168w in

243.84h x 426.72w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)







AYKA GO
blue, 2023

oil on canvas

72h x 48w in
182.88h x 121.92w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)



PAOLO ICASAS
Reckless woman, 2023

oil on canvas

96h x 56w in
243.84h x 142.24w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)







PAOLO ICASAS

Dancing with a stranger, 2023

oil on canvas

96h x 56w in

243.84h x 142.24w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)





AYKA GO
yellow, 2023

oil on canvas

72h x 48w in
182.88h x 121.92w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)







AYKA GO
white, 2023

oil on canvas

96h x 84w in
243.84h x 213.36w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)





PAOLO ICASAS

The silence of a falling star, 2023

oil on canvas

72h x 96w in
182.88h x 243.84w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)







AYKA GO
red, 2023

oil on canvas

72h x 48w in
182.88h x 121.92w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)



PAOLO ICASAS
Into the calm, 2023

oil on canvas

72h x 96w in
182.88h x 243.84w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)







AYKA GO
Mound, 2023

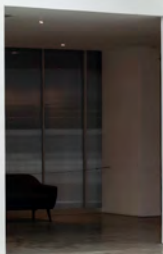
aluminum

36h x 47 diameter in
91.44h x 119.38 diameter cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)





Other Available Works

PAOLO ICASAS
Land Bound, 2023

oil on canvas

28h x 36w in
71.12h x 91.44w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)





PAOLO ICASAS

A faint scent of longing, 2023

oil on canvas

72h x 96w in

182.88h x 243.84w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)

PAOLO ICASAS

Our paths may never cross again, 2023

oil on canvas

28h x 36w in
71.12h x 91.44w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)





PAOLO ICASAS

Halfway to heaven, 2023

oil on canvas

72h x 96w in

182.88h x 243.84w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)

PAOLO ICASAS

Warmth of a thousand suns, 2023

oil on canvas

42h x 48w in
106.68h x 121.92w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)





PAOLO ICASAS

Icarus, 2023

oil on canvas

72h x 96w in
182.88h x 243.84w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)

PAOLO ICASAS
Barrio Blues, 2023

oil on canvas

56h x 63w in
142.24h x 160.02w cm

[email](#)

[whatsapp](#)





AYKA GO

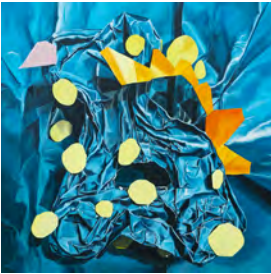
Bio

Ayka Go (b. 1993, Philippines) is a painter whose practice explores her steadfast relationship with the material of paper and its myriad of potential forms from sheets, tears, to folds. Go reinterprets her personal histories, long-forgotten memories and secret inscriptions of childhood diaries, onto her delicate and origami-like trompe l'oeil paintings.



AYKA GO CV

b. 1993, Manila



*Wooden Dinosaur on
Wheels*, 2023

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *shape and form*, West Gallery, Philippines
Of Shadows and Collected Time, Yavuz Gallery, Singapore
- 2021 *some things we call home*, Finale Art File, Philippines
Play, Cut, Stick, Paint, West Gallery, Philippines
- 2020 *Longings*, Underground, Gallery 1, Philippines
A Visual Diary of Sorts/ One Day; Day One, Underground, Gallery 2, Philippines
- 2019 *Ephemeral Landscapes*, Finale Art File, Philippines
- 2018 *Memory Palaces*, Finale Art File Booth, Asia Now Paris, Paris, France
That Play House, Kaida Contemporary Gallery, Philippines
- 2017 *Home: A Never - Never Land*, Finale Art File, Philippines
A Drawing A Day, West Gallery, Philippines

DUO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *The Edge Where the Shadow Softens*: Two Man Show with Paolo Icasas, Silverlens, Manila, Philippines
- 2016 *Temporal Places*: Two Man Show with Pope Bacay, West Gallery Philippines

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *Sydney Contemporary*, Yavuz Gallery, Sydney, Australia
A Dream Within a Dream, Tang Contemporary Art, Bangkok, Thailand
This is 2022, Yavuz Gallery, Singapore
- 2021 *Christmas Show*, Finale Art File, Philippines
FALLING, Tang Contemporary Art, Beijing, China
Times Long Past, Blanc Gallery, Philippines
Vestiges of Meaning, Yavuz Gallery
Art Fair Philippines, Philippines
- 2020 *ALT (The Art Show Reframed)*, Finale Art File, Philippines
- 2019 *An Artinformal Christmas Group Show*, Aphro, Philippines
Anyway Anyhow Anywhere, Underground Gallery, Philippines

AYKA GO CV

b. 1993, Manila

- Christmas Show*, Finale Art File, Philippines
- Wordless Storytelling*, Canvas Gallery and Gardens, Philippines
- Fear No More, Says the Heart*, Nunu Fine Art, Taipei City, Taiwan
- WXXX*, West Gallery, Quezon City, Philippines
- PAGMULAT Rights of The Child*, U.P. College of Fine Arts, U.P. Diliman, Philippines
- Things We Make*, Underground Gallery, Makati City, Philippines 2018 *Christmas Show*, Finale Art File Gallery, Philippines
- Death Cleaners curated by Ling Quisimbing*, Artinformal Gallery, *Philippines Between A Puddle and The Ocean curated by Lena Cobangbang*, Philippines
- Women In Art, Art Anton*, Maison at Conrad Hotel, Philippines
- Tongues curated by JC Jacinto*, J Studio Gallery, Philippines
- 2017 *Under the Broad Umbrella*, Kaida Contemporary Gallery, Philippines
- Drop Off Point*, Gallery Orange Gallery, Bacolod City, Philippines
- Mona Lisa Project*, West Gallery Gallery, Philippines
- thing/object/stuff curated by Lena Cobangbang*, Galerie Roberto, Philippines
- Things My Body Tells Me*, Kaida Contemporary Gallery, Philippines
- 2016 *Ghosting curated by Ling Quisumbing*, West Gallery, Philippines
- Time Lapse Beta*, Tin-Aw Art Gallery, Philippines
- Paperview 15: rapid Cycling*, Project Space Pilipinas, Lucban, Quezon, Philippines Tagaytay Art Beat, Museo Orlina, Tagaytay City, Philippines
- Finder's Keepers*, Finale Art File Gallery, Makati City, Philippines
- Undergraduate Thesis Exhibit*, Amorsolo Hall, U.P. Diliman, Philippines

PAOLO ICASAS

Bio

Often painting scenes inspired from the locales where he resides and works, Paolo Icasas (b. 1981) has veered away from the traditional rural landscapes, usually with accompanying representation of Filipino peasant life, but kept similar sentiments. His paintings are inspired by work, often manual labor, by the daily struggles of the common man, by the uncertainties that always go with living, and by man's universal longing for rest.

We were first introduced to Paolo Icasas' darkly lit landscapes in *Life Jacket Under Your Seat* (2016), an exhibition with *Surrounded By Water* in Jogjakarta, Indonesia, which was re-exhibited in Blanc Gallery shortly after.

His landscapes were of vacant lots, which he sees as a parallel to manual laborers and the humility of their nature of work, one that does not demand any applause. Having taken over the responsibilities of his late father, particularly being the one in charge of his family's small construction business, taking his father's workers under his care, he does not remain an observer but participates in his paintings' narrative.

His recent works, which revolve around themes of rest and uncertainty, have less urban elements than those that came before. This is influenced by the shift of his place of work from the city to a provincial setting. Still, his landscapes remain strange yet familiar, a place that perhaps one has gone before in life or in a dream, invoking a feeling, a memory, evoking a yearning for home or what used to be such.

Notable are his large-sized paintings, immersive in scale and lushly tactile in texture, with thick strokes and heavy smears of oil paint, sometimes infused with ground charcoal, rough, relief-like. These, he has previously shown in solo exhibitions in The Cultural Center Of The Philippines and Blanc Gallery respectively.



His recent works, however, have evolved into a different iteration of themselves, not shy to the use of colors, also not shy in its absence. He once achieves the depth in his paintings by continuously adding paint, creating different layers. His recent works achieve this depth predominantly by scraping and scratching in different intensities, and by employing different painting gestures that could be described as similar to lathering, which makes his works characteristically softer and more fluid. Icasas says his process has become more free. Welcoming every accident and loosening his grips for control has made him more forgiving to mistakes, seeing the beauty in them and their contribution to a painting. By letting go of his previous notions of what's a mistake and what looks beautiful during his painting process, with strokes driven by honesty and truth, he creates the most unadulterated image he is capable of.

PAOLO ICASAS CV

b. 1981, Manila



Her story about time and fear. ink on paper, 2020

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *The Jealous Mistress*, West Gallery, Manila
- 2022 *Excerpts from a Monotony Journal*, Silverlens, Online Viewing Room
Warmth of the Old And Ugly, Blanc Gallery, Manila
Where Do We Go From Here, Art Informal, Makati
- 2021 *Current Landscape*, Blanc Gallery, Manila
- 2020 *Something To Believe In*, Blanc Gallery, Manila
- 2019 *Aninag*, Art Cube Gallery, Manila
- 2018 *Rest for the Weary One*, Blanc Gallery, Manila
- 2017 *The Ordinary Man*, Pasilyo Vicente Manansala, CCP Main Theater, Cultural Center of the Philippines, Manila
- 2011 *Happily Never After*, Arts in the City, Manila

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *The Edge Where the Shadow Softens*, Silverlens, Manila
- 2022 *Art Fair Philippines*, Silverlens, Manila
- 2021 *Isang Daan Taon, Isang Araw*, ArtInformal, Manila
ALT Philippines, Manila
Ikalawang Dating, ArtInformal, Greenhills, Manila
Phosphenes, White Walls Gallery, Manila
To Ride A Jetski And Plant A Flag, Project Space Pilipinas, Quezon
A History of Struggle: Philippine Art Remembers 121, Pinto Art Museum, Rizal
End Of The Spectrum, West Gallery, Manila
Sapience, Modeka Art Space, Manila
- 2020 *Searching Sanctuary*, Silverlens, Manila
ALT Philippines, Manila
13x13, Modeka Art Space, Manila
Lingua France, Galerie Roberto, Manila
Images Of The Divine, Two-person exhibition with Mike Munoz, Giant Dwarf Art Space, Rizal

PAOLO ICASAS CV

b. 1981, Manila

- 2019 *ManilART 2019*, Blanc Gallery, Manila
Xavier Art Fair, San Juan
Art Fair Philippines, Manila
Same Spot, Blanc Gallery, Manila
- 2018 *Art Fair Philippines*, Manila
Between A Puddle And An Ocean, Galerie Roberto, Manila
- 2016 *Life Jacket Under Your Seat*, Langgeng Art Foundation, Jogjakarta
PERYA, UP Vargas Museum, Manila
- 2015 *Reliquaries*, Galerie Anna, Manila
- 2014 *Disturbing Tales*, 1 Square Open Studio, Manila
Alvaro, University of Asia and the Pacific, Manila
Paperviews 14: On Immanence, Project Space Pilipinas, Quezon
- 2013 *Die By The Drop, Two-person exhibition with Marianne Contreras*, Pocket Universe Gallery, Manila
Quo Vadis, Blanc Gallery, Manila
- 2010 *Studio*, Group Show at Nineveh, Laguna

EDUCATION

- 2003 University of Santo Tomas
Bachelor of Fine Arts

AYKA GO

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JOYCE ROQUE

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