

HOHOL (Hang Out Hang Out Lang)

June 15-August 17, 2024

Christopher Baliwas, Trisha Baga, Patrick Cruz, Ella Gonzales, Ramolen Laruan, Lani Maestro, Manuel Ocampo, Christian Vistan, Thea Yabut with Patrick Flores, Atras Abante, IHA, Miguel Maravilla, Kiel Torres, dj Zygoté, Miko Revereza, and Kidlat Tahimik

HOHOL (Hang Out Hang Out Lang) is a project curated by Patrick Cruz and Christian Vistan with grunt gallery. At grunt, HOHOL, brings together and features artworks by Filipino contemporary artists from across the diaspora—Christopher Baliwas, Trisha Baga, Patrick Cruz, Ella Gonzales, Ramolen Laruan, Lani Maestro, Manuel Ocampo, Christian Vistan, Thea Yabut—along with a commissioned text by Patrick Flores. *HOHOL* echoes the 1996 exhibition at Plug In, ICA in Winnipeg, *Memories of Overdevelopment: Philippine Diaspora in Contemporary Art*, an unprecedented project in Canada during its time, that brought together Filipino contemporary artists from across the diaspora to reflect on their shared and individual contexts and personal histories. Twenty-six years later, we are gathering another group of artists to revisit and continue to think about themes and questions of diasporic and postcolonial Filipino identities and practices. Here in BC, home to the second largest Filipino population nationally and the province where, Ben Flores, the first documented Filipino immigrant to Canada settled, *HOHOL* engages with these existing communities and histories while building upon *Memories of Overdevelopment's* lineage and proposition to create a platform and forum for the work of contemporary Filipino artists and their stories, inquiries, jokes,

and discussions. Borrowing a piece of Filipino slang, HOHOL, which means to hang out, chill, and other friendly intimacies, our project considers gathering and spending time together as vital and productive acts of community and solidarity in our diasporic context.

Thinking through the historical and cultural dislocation and the temporal disorientation of diaspora and colonization, *HOHOL* engages in strange familiarities, and the imagined and constructed collectivities and kinships forged through these specific positionalities and ways of being in relation to one another. The artists in this exhibition and project at large offer a variety of questions and approaches to think about this shared context. Histories, objects, and activities, individual and cultural, are abstracted and take up new hybrid forms. Resisting the ways that racialized bodies and people are legible and then instrumentalized and tokenized under colonial frameworks, we emphasize the specificity of each artist's artwork, practice and experience. In placing our diverse practices next to one another's, we hope to complicate, problematize and counter cultural performativity and easy categorization while creating multiple points of contact and connection for these artists and practices to be in dialogue with each other and in turn the Filipino diasporic community at large.

HOHOL comprises a group exhibition at grunt and a series of site-specific artworks and programs in other cultural and gathering spaces for the Filipino community throughout Vancouver. See program details below.

June 15

Artist Panel

4 pm

Reliance Theatre, Emily Carr University of Art + Design

Presented in partnership with Libby Leshgold Gallery.

Free

Christopher Baliwas, Patrick Cruz, Ella Gonzales, Ramolen Laruan, Christian Vistan and Thea Yabut will discuss *HOHOL* and share their ongoing conversations about abstraction and identity in relation to their practices.

June 21

Hele ng Simbang Gabi (Lullaby of the Night Mass)

DJ Zygoté, IHA, Miguel Maravilla, Atras Abante, Patrick Cruz, Kiel Torres & Christian Vistan, Christopher Baliwas.

Doors: 7:00pm

Performances: 7:30pm

Close: 12:00am

Redgate Art Society

Presented in partnership with Redgate Art Society.

An evening of readings, sound performances and music that brings together 7 artists, writers, musicians and DJs to give sound and voice to diasporic affects and archives.

July 25

Pagbalik sa Takipsilim (Return to Twilight)

Miko Revereza and Kidlat Tahimik

6:30 pm

The Cinematheque

Presented in partnership with The Cinematheque.

Four Short Films (2014-2023) by Miko Revereza and Kidlat Tahimik's *Balikbayan #1 Memories of Overdevelopment Redux III* (2015) will be screened in this double bill that explores personal, fictional and historical stories of Filipino migrants, expatriates and balikbayans.

May 13-July 14

STILL

Lani Maestro

Emily Carr Urban Screen, Wilson Arts Plaza

Presented in partnership with Libby Leshgold Gallery.

Lani Maestro's *STILL* brings the work – originally commissioned for a poster billboard in Toronto in 2002 – into a new, digital context. Maestro's work has often taken the form of images that become embodied in the process of reading or utterance and *STILL* exemplifies the artist's inquiries into language, the body and subjectivity.

Lani Maestro would like to thank Christopher Lorenz for his assistance in the production of this work.