

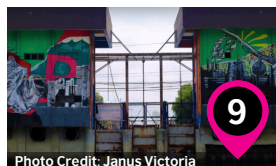


Makati Pumping Station
Artist : Malarko Hernandez and Cristina Lina
Title : "The Horse that Had a Flat Tyre"

There's not a single narrative of this is what the mural means. It kind of combines lots of different influences and ideas. That's why there's a certain chaos perhaps to our mural. Its intention is to invite lots of different perspectives and ideas. But one of our inspirations is a poem called 'The Horse that had a Flat Tire' by Richard Brautigan. We didn't know so much about Manila before so we did some research. One of the things we came across was a documentary about the jeepney, which kind of blew our minds. It seems such an incredible and highly visual culture.

We want the mural to come across as energetic and fun. For us if you translate exactly what you have on paper to the wall, then you lose some of that energy.

Cristina Lina (b. 1986) and Malarko Hernandez (b. 1984) have collaborated since 2012. Murals have been a constant part of their shared practice, and they have painted walls together in London, Belfast, Peru, New York and New Zealand. Often making up part of the work as they go along, their murals feature an array of ridiculous characters, made up slogans, and an onslaught of colours, patterns and cultural references. They have also collaborated together for KAW-ICHIPOP! (Stoke-On-Trent 2016) an interactive sculpture garden made entirely of rubbish, and BRICK POTATO POTATO BRICK (London 2016), an exhibition that paid homage to these two everyday items.



San Francisco Pumping Station
Artist : Luigi Almuena
Title : "Real Product"

The Pasig River shows the real image of product projected by the billboards and commercials. It unveils the spectacle of the product to show what it really is. Some people who live in Pasig can't buy such things but Pasig River makes it accessible for them. They can get it free but not free from disease, it might be used but it's the true face of the product. They might be unclean but they are not dirty as the consumers.

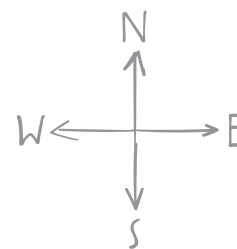
The main theme of my work revolves around the socio-political influence of mass media, as seen from the eyes of the artist. Majoring in Visual Communication, focusing on Advertising and Marketing, I learned of these creative strategies of how people were fooled and taught to be fooled. Advertisement and promotion create an illusory commodity which consumers consume. Consumers' minds have been 'branded' to continually succumb to producers selling the unnecessary and disguising them as necessities. Mainstream media has blinded us to conform to a materialistic lifestyle in order to fit in to society, to continually spend and consume, programming our brains to purchase expensive things just because of their spectacular value or what we call brand status.

Luigi Almuena is founding member of The Very Good Gang Artists' Collective, a former illustration of The Philippine Collegian, a member of UP Artists' Circle Fraternity, spokesperson of UGAT-Lahi Artists' Collective and he is from up diliman major in visual communication (2011 - 2015) and studio arts- painting. His work revolves around the socio-political influence of Mass media, as seen from the eyes of the artist. His artworks show the struggles of the masses and how capitalism and advertising works on creating spectacles that makes consumers consume. He is also the one of the painters of the large poles Manobo mural on Nagtahan River.

The works are on 9 pumping stations along the river, which are visible to ferry commuters and riverbank inhabitants. Pasig River is historically an important transportation route and water source in Metro Manila but has since been declared overly polluted by ecologists. Pumping stations, although often overlooked, are vital in the city's flood management as they regulate the water levels of the river and sewers.

Through Pasig River Art for Urban Change, the river can once again be Metro Manila's primary corridor for transportation and cultural activities.

For more information, contact Ms. Ava de Castro, +63 917 704 27 02. (Office of the Assistant General Manager for Operations, MMDA) or British Council at britishcouncil@britishcouncil.org.ph.



STA. CRUZ

SAMPALOC

Manila

STA. MESA

INTRAMUROS

SAN MIGUEL

PANDACAN

PACO

STA. ANA

Mandaluyong

MALATE

Makati

PASIG RIVER ART FOR URBAN CHANGE

Pasig River Art for Urban Change is a platform for artistic creation and collaboration around the regeneration of the river. It aims to create more liveable and inclusive cities by inviting artists to use the façade of pumping stations as blank canvases for creative expression. It enables the access of public spaces for creative use while raising awareness on the importance of rivers among city dwellers.



PASIG RIVER ART FOR URBAN CHANGE



Binondo Pumping Station

Artist : Archie Oculos
Title : "Suong, Sulong"

A representation of Filipinos moving forward for survival during hard times. The water as a symbol of typhoons and calamities like Ondoy and Yolanda where people unite to help each other to live a life. Red horns portraying the action and aggressiveness, the brushstrokes and movements of water suggest emotions. May this mural along the river be a great inspiration to everyone.

Archie Oculos is a Senior Concept Artist in a Gaming Company, a street artist, and a painter. With multiple awards in national art competitions, Archie has held his own solo exhibitions and participated in many group exhibits over the last few years. Archie Oculos graduated from the University of the Philippines with a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts in Painting.



Escolta Pumping Station

Artist : LABNEW:
Leeroy New x Janno Abenoja
Title : "Symbiotes"

As the first group to utilize and problematize the pumping station as a surface for painting, the artists initially concerned themselves with highlighting the already dynamic and sculptural qualities of the existing structure as an attempt to foreground it from the grim urban decay of its location. The stations are not mere flat and easy surfaces but are complex forms composed of different elements; e.g. water tank, pillars, office compartments, etc. Both artists are partial to using bright and 'festive' colors often manifesting in biomorphic monstrosities that stand out from the austere and desaturated geometric background.

Leeroy New (b. 1986, General Santos City) is a cross-media creative whose practice overlaps and intersects with film, theater, product design, and fashion. New decided early into his art student days to actively respond to the problematic positioning and representation of 'Philippine art' by attempting to cultivate an alternative art practice in the public and urban realms.

Janno Abenoja is currently working as an associate designer for LAB NEW, where he's had a chance to collaborate in different projects from production design, installation, to sculpture. For most of his time he attempts to capture in paintings the psychedelic and bizarre worlds that reside in his overly active imagination.



Quiapo Pumping Station

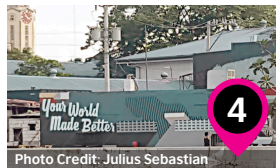
Artist : Ged Alanguai
Title : "Pasig River, Estuary-Sanctuary"

In tribute to this river's alluring and remarkable past, I have chosen the image of the Philippine estuary crocodile. Watchful crocodilian eyes rapport not only with the community that resides by the river but with all the people whose lives are connected to the Pasig River. While on the job, the pumping station's open yard was full of garbage of all sorts, organic and residual. Of course it comes with a revolting stench that tortures anyone within a hundred feet. I have realized that these pumping stations not only relieve the city of flooding but they also serve as material recovery facilities or MRFs. This is the predicament of the Pasig river and the pumping stations serve as modern day crocodiles gobbling up the undisciplined urban filth.

Crocodiles may never come back to live in this estuary but we can be reminded of the river's glorious past and pristine beauty and at present, perhaps we can watch over the river even more closely and care for it and hope for its recovery to become a sanctuary once again.

"The status of a river is the reflection of the civilization that formed around it."

Ged Alanguai is a self-taught Baguio born and raised visual artist. He started his art career with the Baguio Arts Guild (B.A.G.) in 1990. It is in this art group where he was exposed to different art media, being around senior and established artists. From mixed media, printmaking and installation art, he was active in regular art events with this group. In 1997, he joined the Tam-awan Village Artists, doing local and international art exhibits and facilitating several art workshops from drawing, watercolor and linocut printmaking. Alanguai now works independently since 2016 and continues to create with acrylic, graphite, watercolor and ink on both paper and canvas.



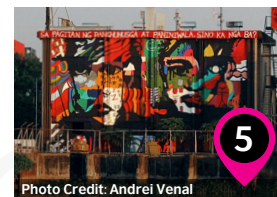
Arroceros Pumping Station

Artist : Julius Sebastian
Title : "Your World Made Better"

Here is a child, sailing his paper boat, perhaps after the rain has fallen, never minding where his frail vessel will go. He is captured in the moment of watching his boat float freely moving away, not realising that it is a fleeting moment, unpolluted by adult notions of time, or consequence.

When not living through art, Julius Sebastian reverts to the real world – a corporate jungle that features him telling creative stories and visual experiences for a digital marketing company as an Art Director. He received his BFA in 2007 from University of Santo Tomas (UST) - College of Fine Arts & Design.

As a visual artist, Julius has had the unique, good fortune of working with some of the best and creative local brands working on commissioned street art and murals, among other visual art forms for the past 10 years.



Paco Pumping Station

Artist : EYA
Title : "ANAK KA NG"

Regeneration cannot be solely defined by our urban landscape or structures, it is also defined by its people – by its community. In the middle of the Pasig river is an island named Isla de Convalecencia or Island of Convalecencia, an island of recovery. Isla de Convalecencia is the home of the first social welfare agency in the Philippines known as Hospicio de San Jose. True to its location's name, Hospicio functions as a shelter which provides foster care and recovery to a community of orphans, abandoned, and the elderly.

The mural project is a collaboration with the youth residents of Hospicio; the process and the output aims to encourage self-determination for the abandoned and the orphaned youth residing in the island. "ANAK KA NG" is an attempt of introspection; what makes us a person? What if you are abandoned? What if you don't know where you came from? How do you see yourself? How do you form yourself? How do you acknowledge that you are an individual who has a role to realize in society?

Ralph Eya is an interdisciplinary art practitioner concentrating on community-engaged art projects. He is based in Manila, Philippines and have actively pursued his local career in art since 2012 through artist-run exhibitions. His creative work thrusts mostly in public art through community involvement and collaboration. Comprising of partnerships with educational institutions and organizations, his practice integrates alternative education, visual arts for development, and social transformation.

Eya will be part of the Artists for a Better World of the Singapore International Foundation cultural exchange programme this coming November 2017 to February 2018.



Aviles Pumping Station

Artist : TeamManila Graphic Design Studio
Title : "San Miguel Through Time"

"Ahead of the rainy season last April 2015, Metro Manila Development authority (MMDA) held a cleanup drive for the rehabilitation of pumping stations in Manila to mitigate flood in the community. Along with Valencia and Pandacan, Aviles Pumping Station was repaired for floodwaters to subside quickly. Situated at Interior B. Nagtahan St. Sampaloc, Manila, this pump floodwaters from Estero de Aviles, Estero de Sampaloc, Estero de Uli-Uli and Estero de Calucub. It covers an area of 356 hectares from Sampaloc to the University Belt. Being in operation for over 40 years, this used to consume diesel to operate but is now upgraded and powered by electricity.

The elements are used in transforming a city by creating a mural that represents a certain area's history and culture for everyone to see. These symbolisms include the Philippine President's residence Malacañang Palace,

patron saint and national shrine Saint Michael, books for being a home to universities and colleges including the University Belt, diamonds for the area's millionaire's row, heritage patterned floors from Machuca tiles, fish and waves for the river's motion, and weaving pattern to represent the Filipino indigenous culture. Using contemporary colors, this creative medium aids for an overall contribution to the urban regeneration."

Founded in 2001, TeamManila Graphic Design Studio has been giving significance to the Filipino visual culture and has been representing the Philippines in the design community through its number of works ranging from branding, graphic design, packaging, and web design in collaboration with established clients. As of the moment, TeamManila con-



Valencia Pumping Station

Artist : Kris Abrigo
Title : "Alive!"

My first plan was to paint a "janitor fish" that signifies the river's death and decay. Everything changed when I started talking to the local fishermen along the river and the crew of the pumping station as part of my creative process. They all have their fun stories about their likelihood catching big edible fishes along the river. Their stories made me realize that this is not a dead river at all and a lot of people didn't even know this. This gave me hope for the river so I decided to paint a delicious huge fish commonly caught on the river itself.

I painted "dalag" (mudfish or snakehead), the most common edible fish in the Pasig River. By painting a colorful living fish happily swimming in the dark waters of the river, my goal is to let the people know that the river is still alive and thriving in spite of all the pollution that people cause. Filipino people are resilient to calamities and poverty as the river is resilient to pollution and infestation of invasive species. People should treat the river as themselves because they are in the same situation. Despite all the negative things that people 'throw' on the river, it is still trying to do its job as provider of food, drainage and transportation for its people.

I think we should start focusing more on the positive things about the river and show how it bonds communities and people. It's not too late to act and participate, after all, the Pasig River is still alive!

Kris Abrigo has been a full time visual artist since 2012 and doing commercial murals and streetart for almost eight years now. After finishing his course in the College of Fine Arts UP Diliman, he started doing gallery shows and painting commissioned murals for commercial and residential clients. In 2015, he was selected by the ArtBGC Mural Festival in Taguig to help three international muralists finish their massive murals on time. Last year, he was invited to paint a 6-storey high mural of his own for ArtBGC. He also did two murals for a street art collective during his stay in New York last summer and was also one of the invited street artists for HKWalls Mural Festival in Hong Kong in 2017.

Continued at the back.

