

Juramento

Solo exhibition by Winner Jumalon

Preview: Monday, 19 January 2015, 6-9pm

On view: 20 January to 1 March 2015

Yavuz Gallery is pleased to present **Winner Jumalon** in his first solo exhibition in Singapore. Comprised of new paintings, drawings and sculptures, *Juramento* draws from the language, stories, customs and landscapes from the artist's hometown of Zamboanga City, Philippines. The exhibition and artwork titles are rendered in Chabacano, a Filipino creole language derived from Spanish and widely used in Zamboanga.

When describing his works, Jumalon often talks about specific faces and spaces that inspire him. His body of work can be characterised by an ongoing exploration of personal, cultural and artistic identities, which are often fluid and interlinked. In *Juramento*, Filipino culture and history are explicitly linked with his own experiences and family history, in layered images populated by figures both real and mythical. In one painting, he associates an image of his mother tilling the soil with the origin myth of Zamboanga City's Pasonanca district. In his series of three *Juramentado* paintings, Jumalon depicts himself as the titular Juramentado, an oath-bound Moro warrior from Filipino history, relating this striking figure to his own journey and convictions as an artist. With his constant references to Zamboanga City, one senses yet another oath in Jumalon's works – one to his city of birth, to always remember and always return.

Other works are grounded in contemporary figures. The painting *Nuay Muerte* ("No Death") depicts a man who is known in Zamboanga City by the alias Mano'y Fusil ("hand of gun"). Jumalon explains, "According to rumours, Mano'y Fusil used to be a killer and is feared by everyone. He is a man of few words, and if anybody tried to quarrel with him or was plotting against him, he would immediately eliminate that person." Yet, the artist acknowledges that this fearsome reputation is based entirely on unsubstantiated stories and rumours. Floating on the canvas is a colourful gun (*fusil*) made out of Lego blocks, a suggestion that our public selves can be constructed, invented, taken apart. As is typical of Jumalon's works, seemingly random scribbles, sketches and broad strokes of paint interrupt the painted canvas like graffiti, further obscuring and throwing the man's identity into question.

By conflating history, myths and autobiography, Jumalon examines the Philippines' shared cultural legacy that shapes his own.

The opening reception in the presence of the artist will be held on **Monday, 19 January 2015** from 6-9pm at Yavuz Gallery, Singapore.

Winner Jumalon (b. 1983) is one of the Philippines' most prominent young artists. He studied at the Philippine High School for the Arts in Laguna, and received his Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of the Philippines. He has exhibited throughout Southeast Asia, as well as Taiwan, Hong

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Kong, China, Italy and USA. In 2009, he was awarded the Thirteen Artists Award, conferred by the Cultural Center of the Philippines. He currently lives and works in Manila.

For inquiries and more information, please contact Irene Fung at irene@yavuzgallery.com or Tel: +65 6734 3262.



Juramentado I, 2014, oil on canvas, 61 x 61cm

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9 Lock Road, #02-23, Singapore 108937 | Tel: +65 6734 3262 | info@yavuzgallery.com | www.yavuzgallery.com
Opening Hours: Tue - Sat: 11am - 7pm, Sun: 1pm - 5pm | Mon & public holidays: by appointment only



Nuay Muerte (No Death), 2014, charcoal, oil stick and oil on canvas, 137 x 152cm

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Donde Paso (Way), 2014, mixed media on paper, 76 x 56cm

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Espejo (Mirror), 2014, mixed media on paper, 76 x 56cm

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Note to Editors:

Our gallery has moved. Kindly update all listings to the following details:

Gallery Name: Yavuz Gallery
Address: 9 Lock Road, #02-23
Singapore 108937
Tel: +65 6734 3262
Opening Hours: 11am to 7pm (Tue - Sat); 1pm to 5pm (Sun)
Mondays and public holidays by appointment only
Details www.yavuzgallery.com
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