

## **Juan Alcazaren**

### **Artist Statement and Biography**

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#### **Artist Statement**

This work is an installation piece. It was made for a specific site – the large wall of the Tall Gallery of Finale Art File in Makati, Philippines. The wall measures 518 x 1829 cm (approx. 17 x 60 ft). It was the only work in the Tall Gallery for that show. The 3 other walls remained bare.

The work is made of found materials- an assortment of household and industrial wares, mostly plastic containers mounted directly on the wall. 166 individual pieces were lit by electric lamps from behind, creating 166 “sconces” that spelled out the word “sorry” in a square font, filling the entire wall from end to end. Some of the individual pieces were worked on to form small assemblages, others remained in their originally found form.

The title is a play on one of American artist Jenny Holzer’s truisms – Protect me from what I want. That title and the heavily loaded word “sorry” itself easily merits socio-political interpretations loosely applicable to most global issues of the moment.

My concept though was more to make a statement about my own art making process. If an artwork is patently the result of an idea fuelled by reason, emotion, experience or inspiration, then why not make available to the process, the perpetually up and running decision-making machine - conscience.

All my conscience tells me to do is apologize and prepare to be judged.

## **Artist Biography**

**Juan Alcazaren**  
**Philippines**

Visual Artist

## **Education**

- Bachelor of Landscape Architecture University of the Philippines College of Architecture 1983
- Foundation courses in Sculpture University of the Philippines College of Fine Arts 1985

## **Awards and Citations**

2000 Thirteen Artists Award Recipient, Cultural Center of the Philippines

## **Selected Solo Exhibits**

2012 Juan Alcazaren's Last Show, Finale Video Room, 2012

2011 Save me from what I want to save, Finale Tall Gallery Makati, Philippines, July 2011

2010 Mixed Signals, Utterly Art Singapore, June 2010

2008 Test, Magnet Gallery Katipunan, Quezon City, Philippines, October 2008

2007 Room for Error, West Gallery West Avenue, Quezon City Philippines, August 2007

2005 Bigger than a breadbox, West Gallery SM Artwalk Mandaluyong, Philippines, July 2005

2003 Familiarity Breeds, SM Artcenter Mandaluyong, Philippines, August 2003

## **Selected Group Exhibits**

2013 Abstraction is Homeless, Manila Contemporary, 2013

2011 Points of Ellipses, Osage Gallery, Kwun Tong, Hong Kong, May 2011

2011 Complete and Unabridged 1, ICA Singapore, February 2011

2011 I miss the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Manila Contemporary, 2011

- 2009 Juan Alcazaren & Bernardo Pacquing Recent Work, Finale Tall Gallery, Makati, Philippines, January 2009
- 2008 Etudes for more than two Hands, MO\_space, Bonifacio High Street, Taguig, Philippines, December 2008
- 2006 Filipiniana Centro Cultural Conde Duque Madrid, Spain, May-September 2006
- 2004 SENI Art and the Contemporary, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore October 2004
- 2004 The Sedimentation of the Mind is A Jumbled Museum, Vargas Museum University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City, August 2004
- 2001 9 Objects A Tribute to Marcel Duchamp, Big Sky Mind, Quezon City and Alliance Française deManille, July 2001
- 2000 CCP 13 Artists Awards Exhibit, Main Gallery Cultural Center of the Philippines Pasay, Philippines, September 2000
- 2000 Quotidian Gray, SM Art Center, Mandaluyong, Philippines, April 2000