

Kiri Dalena

Artist Statement and Biography

Artist Statement

The title *Tungkung Langit* references the god in a Philippine creation myth whose tears become rain.

The short film opens with the two young children describing their drawings. Nine months earlier, a flood washed away their home in the dead of the night. The children swam in the darkness, in a river that was filled with debris, logs and uprooted trees. The young girl was rescued from the sea, 42 kilometres away. When found, her stomach and lungs were filled with mud, her entire body battered and bruised. She was clinging to a huge log that also sheltered a yellow snake. Their father, pregnant mother and two younger brothers were never found.

Filmed like a game of exercises and instructions, the children were given periods of time to film on their own, recording their interaction and discussions.

Tungkung Langit does not show the rain, and the devastation, it refuses to speak of the broken bodies, and the weeping. Instead it chooses to revel in the ordinary and pushes for the necessity of fiction as a means to survive storms.

Artist Biography

Kiri Dalena **Philippines**

Filipina, born in the, Philippines, 1975
Lives and works in the Philippines

Solo Exhibitions

- 2012 Washed Out, Finale Art File Tall Gallery, Makati City, Philippines
2011 Time and Place of Incident, UP Vargas Museum Basement, Quezon City, Philippines;
A Little Garden of Earthly Delights, NOW Gallery, Makati City, Philippines
2010 Watch History Repeat Itself, Ateneo Art Gallery, Quezon City, Philippines
The Present Disorder is the Order of the Future, Mo Space, Taguig, Philippines
2007 Found Figures, Mag: net Gallery ABS, Quezon City, Philippines

Group Exhibitions

- 2013 You Have Every Right, Ateneo Art Gallery;
The Philippine Contemporary: To Scale the Past and the Possible, Metropolitan Museum of Manila, Picture Imperfect, MO Space, Taguig City;
Safe Place In the Future (?) Dystopia Now, Utopia Never, Museum of Contemporary Art and Design, College of Saint Benilde, Manila: Common Ground Barrier, 1335Mabini, Manila;
Giving Form to the Impatience of Liberty, Wurttembergischer Kunstverein Stuttgart, Germany;
If the World Changed, Singapore Biennale, Singapore;
Into the Woods, Art Taipei, Taiwan
2012 Killing Time, The Negros Museum, Bacolod City, Philippines,
Washed Out, Finale Art File, Curved House, Blanc Gallery;
Thirteen Artists, Cultural Center of the Philippines
2011 Revolving Secret Garden, UP Vargas Museum; Placard Show, UP Vargas Museum;
absolutely-NO-liability, Luggage Store Gallery San Francisco, USA;
Over Rizal: Monuments to a Hero, UP Vargas Museum;
Complete and Unabridged, Part II, Institute of Contemporary Arts, Singapore
2010 The Only Risk is that of Openness, Green Papaya Art Projects, Quezon City, Home Works, Alliance Francaise de Manille;
Cube Show, Finale Art File. Makati City

- 2009 Thrice Upon A Century, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore;
Current: Daloy ng Dunong, Sungdu-an 5, National Museum, Manila;
PasyoNasyon, Cultural Center of the Philippines, Manila; Ang Bayan ni Nanding,
Manila Contemporary, Makati City
- 2008 Keeping the Faith. Acts of Mediation, Lopez Memorial Museum; Pure Hybrids and
Normal Aberrations, Whitebox Gallery, Cubao
- 2007 Shoot Me: Photographs Now, MO_Space, Taguig City
- 2006 Painting-in-Progress. Mag:net Gallery Katipunan, Quezon City
- 2003 Dayo, Sungdu-an 3, Lingayen and Cultural Center of the Philippines, Manila
- 2000 Four Women Souls, Surrounded by Water,