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ALAMAK! PROJECT - ISLANDS IN THE STREAM

EXHIBITION, ARSENAL DOCKS, VENICE, ITALY



(<http://www.egecarpets.com>).

Candy lamps by Gabriel Lichauco

From May 13, 2017 until September 24, 2017

A multimedia exhibition of young Asian artists who have decided to live nomadically, working in different countries and matching their skills with different economic/social/cultural situations. Concentrating on topics of representation/discussion of major global issues lends their work a new point of reference.

Islands in the Stream

The exhibition at the Magazzini dell'Arsenale, in Venice, presents Asian artists who have, like others of their generation, decided to live on a “nomadic” base. #BiennaleArte2017

Kawita Vatanajyankur investigates the condition and obligations of women in contemporary society, by videos with strong performances of female bodies engaged in difficult balancing acts. Anon Pairot looks deeper into the meaning of everyday objects, with the parody full size model Changrai Ferrari car, made out of rattan by skilled Thai craftsmen, or with the iconic rendering of rice sacks from his family memories. Invisible Designs Lab. plays with matter and sound creating an extraordinary living sculpture, Kwangho Lee matches materials and forms in unusual puzzling objects, and Gabriel Lichauco creates an outdoor *Magazines Lounge* taking inspiration from street markets culture.



"Islands in the Stream", veduta della mostra, Magazzini dell'Arsenale, Venezia, 2017

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NT\$150 RMB\$60 雙月刊

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中華郵政台北總字第198號執照登記為雜誌文



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SPECIAL

PHILIPPINES



牡蠣殼的有機變身 Pescador

菲律賓是多民族國家，也是許多製造業設置工廠之處，Gabriel Lichauco 這組讓人很難離開視線的燈，使用了原產於東南亞的海洋軟體動物的殼，這種材質因為透明、耐用，在東南亞數千年以來，被作為玻璃的取代物。Gabriel 在馬尼拉完成工業設計學業後，在視覺、動畫、建築公司任職後，再到米蘭繼續攻讀工業設計，如今自立門戶，整合了過去在不同設計領域的經驗。



GABRIEL LICHAUCO

The windowpane oyster (*Placuna placenta*) is a bivalve marine mollusk. Its shells have been used for thousands of years as a glass substitute because of their durability and translucence. The intention of the design is to show that traditional craft mixed with contemporary form and mechanical devices can create curiosity and add another dimension in everyday consumer products. Gabriel Lichauco took Industrial Design as an undergraduate course in Manila. After his studies, he opened my own design studio, one that is capable of integrating different design disciplines.

他們是誰，代表了甚麼模樣的亞洲？

1. 東西方的眼界歷練出 21 世紀的前衛思考

「歐美留學或生活經驗」是亞洲設計常態，此次 12 組參展設計師中，如中國的 Naihuan Li，有德國、英國的經驗。菲律賓的 Gabriel Lichauco，留學義大利。來自台灣的 Henry，從小在加拿大。亞洲年輕設計師，因旅行和求學而有在外地生活的經驗，身份認同的反思，再回顧自身所繼承的文化與歷史，這一代亞洲新銳帶來的不是純西方的觀點、也不全然東方的傳統，東西混合式的本質正是 21 世紀的前衛基因。

2. 傳承自上一代亞洲的強大技術

與此同時，年輕的亞洲設計師，傳承自父執輩、祖父母

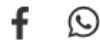
輩的生產製程技術運用，結果讓擁有資源的大型廠商，開始與當地且重視技術原創性的年輕設計師合作，若加上彼此對於品牌打造的意識，便共同形成了新型態的策略聯盟，面對同樣崛起的亞洲市場，這樣的情景可預示下一個階段亞洲內或與西方連結的設計發展。

3. 歐洲大廠進入亞洲市場的全新管道

事實上，許多人都意識到亞洲是下一波世界設計發展重點，「alamak!」進一步的以展覽的形式，探索亞洲的前瞻性設計的製程運作可能，也在米蘭這個世界級的設計對話平台上，預告了歐洲大廠想進入亞洲市場的另一個全新可能—即透過這些具原創、彈性十足、雙聲帶的亞洲年輕設計師。

design no.189 | 104

Singapore Tatler x The Artling Collectible Design Showcase at Art Stage Singapore 2018

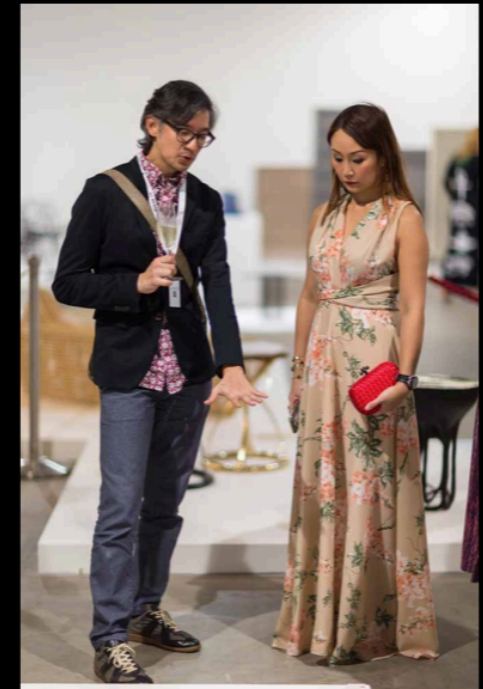


By Hashirin Nurin Hashimi

January 26, 2018

The art and design lovers among our *Singapore Tatler* friends were invited to explore Southeast Asia's diverse and unique design scene at The Artling Collectible Design Showcase. The inaugural design showcase at this year's edition of Art Stage Singapore offered an intimate look at the creativity of some of the region's most exciting and emerging designers and studios through functional items such as furniture, lighting, textiles and design products. After a warm welcome by *Singapore Tatler* editor-in-chief Kissa Castañeda and Art Stage founder Lorenzo Rudolf, guests had the opportunity to see the pieces up-close, with designers such as Stanley Ruiz, Lilianna Manahan and Gabriel Lichauco from the Philippines on hand to offer insights into their works. The event truly highlights the fair's theme of "Interactions" this year, and reiterated its role as a catalyst to exploring art in different ways.

START GALLERY



Gabriel Lichauco, Serene Chua

Next generation of Filipino designers takes a bow at Paris' Maison et Objet

From fine bone china to 'abaca' weaves and solid wood, they work with both artisan's hand, innovative technology, and keen design eye

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Just how the next generation of Philippine designers and manufacturers is stepping up to the plate will be showcased starting today in Paris, France, at the Maison et Objet international trade fair.

Design Philippines is presenting Kindred, a design collective of 13 Filipino designers and manufacturers, in the prestigious annual trade fair from Sept. 6-10.

Maison et Objet is one of the biggest events and lifestyle shows that gathers a complete product offering of décor, design, furniture, home accessories, tableware and even fragrances.

Presented to the European market is the theme "Kindred: A Design Collective," curated by creative directors Rita Nazareno and Gabby Lichauco who were appointed by the Center for Interna-

tional Trade Expositions and Missions (Citem) under executive director Pauline Suaco-Juan.

Nazareno, an accomplished designer and filmmaker herself, explains the thrust of Kindred at Maison, "Kindred is a design collective of like-minded designers and manufacturers. This year, we wanted to focus on objects and contemporary design with a specialist, simple,



Gabby Lichauco and Rita Nazareno: Specialist, straightforward approach

They range from fine bone china décor, abaca woven rugs, to wire mesh lighting fixtures, solid-wood accessories and even recycled plastic—on display in the one-stop booth at Maison.

For deeper insights into the Citem endeavor, Lifestyle interviews Suaco-Juan and

Filipino designer featured in Milan international exhibit

By: Marge C. Enriquez (Contributor) Philippine Daily Inquirer / 01:00 AM March 30, 2016



Pescador acoustic and pendant lamps, made of "capiz," will be shown in Milan.

Singled out for his experimentation and innovation with indigenous materials and for his craftsmanship, industrial designer Gabby Lichauco will represent the Philippines in the Triennale International Exhibition in Milan.

Spring Stool combines hand-carved and machine-produced components.

Then there are the lamps inspired by Luzon and its simple wicker bags that are shaped like mountains, done in metal finish.

Lichauco created the Espresso chair as homage to the Moka Pot, the 83-year-old stovetop coffeemaker designed by the Italian company Bialetti. This chair was knocked off but done in a different finish and is used in a popular bar.

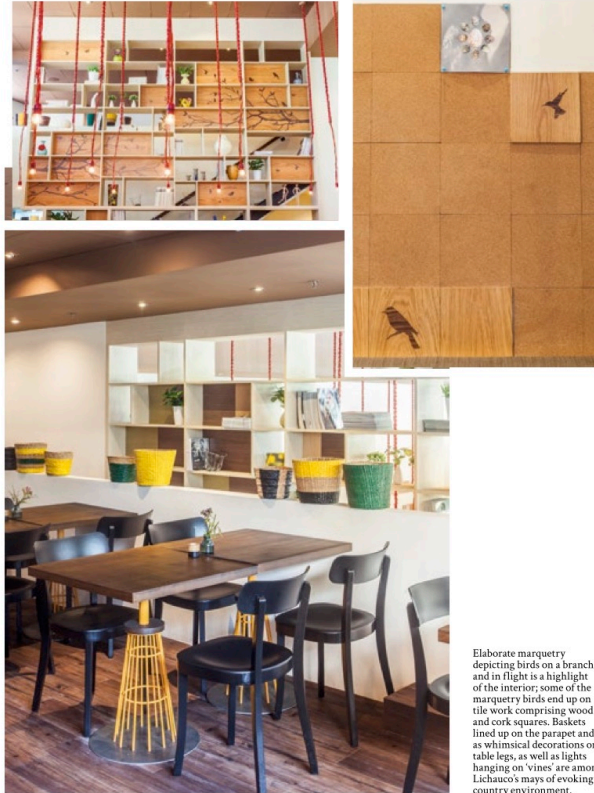
Lichauco is not afraid to explore possibilities. Emi, a furniture collection for children, showcases experimentation with artisanal crafts.

"I wanted to see if the local market was ready for conceptual designs," he says.

The Storyteller Rocking Chair was his take on the swing, but with a wide platform to give the child greater security. The seat had a playful design in hand-cut marquetry instead of a plain wood platform.



Gabby Lichauco: "We are flooded with so many options. The direction is specialization."



Elaborate marquetry depicting birds on a branch and in flight is a highlight of the interior; some of the marquetry birds end up on tile work comprising wood and cork squares. Baskets lined up on the parapet and as whimsical decorations on table legs, as well as lights hanging on 'vines' are among Lichauco's mays of evoking country environment.

A WHIFF OF THE COUNTRY

"We wanted to narrate a space that would remind visitors of a childhood experience," says Gabriel Lichauco, principal and head designer at openstudio (www.openstudioml.com), designer of Kafé Batwan in Metro Manila. The café is filled with warm colours, local materials and handmade pieces that help evoke summers spent in the country where one is enveloped by nature. The client wanted a contemporary Filipino café with a strong local identity that is on par with the best around the world, and where fun, modern local café food can be enjoyed in a stylish and relaxed environment.

With a ceiling that soars to a full height of five metres, building a mezzanine for additional space became an attractive option. The total area of 172 square metres easily accommodates thirty-four tables for a full capacity of 68 to 70 diners. Besides dining areas on both ground and mezzanine levels, the unit also houses a kitchen, customised coffee prep area, and central retail kiosk.

Lichauco enlisted the skills of local craftsmen to work such details as traditional marquetry on decorative tiles and panels. Rattan strips were woven around the cord of droplights to simulate vines, and cork tiles were applied on walls for acoustics and texture.

In the retail area, a high shelf holds merchandise displays as it conceals the staircase. While the front is decorated with nature-inspired marquetry patterns, its back is made up of simple colour-block panels.

The mezzanine is designed to approximate the feeling of being in a treehouse. On the parapet are painted woven baskets for a bit of local colour and texture; the dark finishes, meanwhile, give it a more private feel. ■



Milan Design Week 2017: Best in Glass

The visual appeal of the material is clear...

By Ray Hu - April 17, 2017



Spektacularis at Matter and Muse

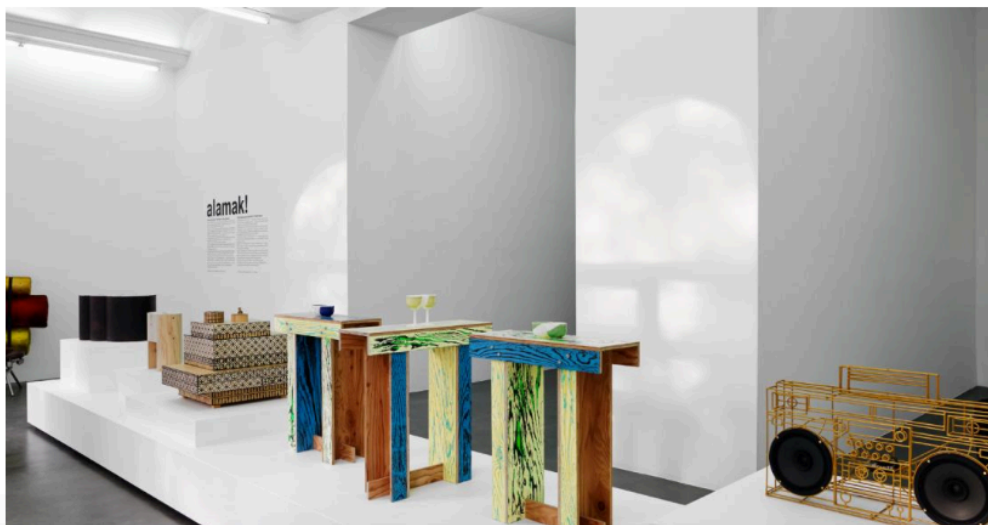
An entirely unexpected joint effort between Filipino industrial designers and Czech master glassblowers, [Spektacularis](#) was one of three exhibitors in *Matter and Muse*, which occupied a modest gallery at the Palazzo Litta. The mutual unfamiliarity yielded expected results, hybrid objets d'art that incorporate elements of both cultures.



Participating designers: Stanley Ruiz, Liliana Manahan, Gabriel Lichauco, Jiri Panicek

Focal point: Alamak brings Asia's design ambitions to the fore

f t p in ↗



context, but as Nakamuta reveals through the exhibition, each is invested in local materials and resources, and transforming them using modern technology to create ultra-contemporary, covetable designs that will make you look differently at the everyday. The exhibition is Alamak's second in Europe following on from their inaugural presentation at the Triennial in Milan in April.



'Pescador', by Gabriel Lichauco, 2016

Bringing together Philippines' most creative



By Stanley Lui

March 09, 2015

Filipino designers come together for an exciting new collective at Singapore Design Week 2015.

When Filipino designers come together for an innovative showcase, you know it is going to be exciting. The Newfolk collective, a group of creative Filipino designers, will present their debut collection at the International Furniture Fair Singapore as part of SingaPlural 2015, the main event of Singapore Design Week.

This showcase is unique for its original handmade designs with a focus on new, innovative techniques and the use of natural materials. Curated by Gabby Lichauco, founder and head designer at one of Manila's leading design company, Openstudio, the Newfolk collective features seven other design companies.

Kindred spirits

This month, the New Folk collective, designer-makers of objects for the home, shows their craft at the International Furniture Fair Singapore. Here's a preview.



Clockwise from left: Stanley Ruiz, Tisha de Borja, Schema CEO Jerry Jiao, Lilianna Manahan, Wataru Sakuma, Triboa Bay Living's Randy Viray, and Gabby Lichauco

After having been invited to its showcase of up-and-coming Asian designers last year, industrial designer Gabby Lichauco returns to the International Furniture Fair Singapore (IFFS) this year, this time with New Folk, a collective comprised of himself and seven Filipino designers and manufacturers whose work he has long admired. "They are all looking to push the boundaries in terms of manufacturing and Philippine design," he says. Gabby, along with some members of New Folk, speaks with *ELLE Decoration* about craft and collaboration.

Why "New Folk"?

Gabby Lichauco: It can mean a lot of things—new generation, handmade, folk craft. I came up with the words, and Rita Nazareno [who is part of New Folk, but was absent for the photo above] pointed out the multiple meanings. It just sounded right. I collaborated heavily with Rita on this show, and she was a big support in helping me put everything together.

What are the challenges in mounting a group exhibition like this?

GL: IFFS gave me a huge space to fill, 50 square meters. Last year, my participation was subsidized, but this year, I had to come up with most of the funds. So budget was the big challenge. The space also led me to the idea of a group show. I thought, why not showcase a diverse collection of different objects and highlight smaller home accessories. Some pieces are newly developed, some we are showing again because we feel it is the right context for them to be better appreciated.

Tell us a little bit about the thinking behind your creations.

Tisha de Borja: I conceptualized a set of cleaning tools with my sister-in-law, artist Patricia Perez Eustaquio. We chose solid bamboo because it is so sculptural. We were trying to come up with a line of home accessories that are scaled down for apartment living. You could hang these on your door.

Wataru Sakuma: I was inspired by crystal patterns and Japanese flower-shaped pressed sugar. To make it, I played with the flat shape and folded the paper to come out this shape. It's an origami technique.

Stanley Ruiz: These speakers are the

production version of a one-off art piece that I exhibited in New York. Originally, I carved a wood log and turned it into a speaker. I later had the idea of doing it in paper.

What would you say is the group's shared goal?

GL: Our common goal is to make our products unique by challenging the manufacturing process. For me, it is about innovation, about challenging the normal way of production. There is a focus on manufacturing things. That is why I invited both designers, like Stanley Ruiz and Lilianna Manahan, and manufacturers, like S.C. Vizcarra and Triboa Bay Living.

And the strength of the collective?

GL: Craft is our strength, especially when compared to other countries. We are surrounded by interesting materials [in the Philippines]. But it is not just about handcraft. It is about designers and artisans working together to bring craft to another level.

IFFS runs from March 13 to 16, 2015, at the Singapore Expo. (iff.com.sg)



1 "Monolith" lamp in wicker by Gabby Lichauco and Rita Nazareno
 2 "Cleaning Implements" set in rattan and skeletal bamboo by Tisha de Borja
 3 "Creatures" in resin and cast brass by Lilianna Manahan
 4 "Crystal Clock" in abaca paper by Wataru Sakuma
 5 "Hunter Bag" by Rita Nazareno for S.C. Vizcarra's "Zacarias" collection
 6 "Symbiosis Speaker" in abaca paper by Stanley Ruiz, in collaboration with Masaseco
 7 Table lamp in metal and wood by Randy Viray for Triboa Bay Living
 8 "Á Côté" floor lamp in metal wire with powder finish by Segolene Achi for Schema

PHOTOGRAPHY: AGUIE NACANG/NO PRODUCTION; LEAN NEAL/NOISE; TECTAN/INTERIORS; FRANKER/BLUM; JACQUARINO; HAIK; KAMRUP; VISA; KON/MAICAN; TISHA DE BORJA; AND; LEITE; GANUEAS; JIJUNNA; MANAHAN.

WIT AND WONDER

From lamps that take inspiration from nature to a line of hand-woven bags evoking the cinematic force that is *Star Wars* to astute updates of everyday household objects, the creations of the New Folk collective offer delight along with design.