

SPAA Newsletter

2008 Spring / April

10 Waterside Plaza 31F, New York, NY

Join and Volunteer for the Philippine Independence Exhibit in DC !

SPAA Catalogue

The "SPAA book" which went off the press with advanced copies last Christmas is undergoing minor revisions before final running. Being a soft cover publication, it is more appropriate to call it a catalogue. Watch out for the final copies to come out soon!

Elections will be held on 20 April 2008

General meeting and elections will be held on April 20, 2008 at 2-5 p.m. at the residence of **Melvyn and Athena Lopez** :

99 John Street,
Morris Plains, NJ
07450.

As part of the year long commemoration of the 110th anniversary of Philippine Independence, SPAA will hold an art exhibition on June 16-20, 23-27, 2008 at the Philippine Embassy in Washington DC. Everyone is encouraged to participate. For details see the Call for Artists on page 5. Opening reception is set for Monday, June 16 at 6:30 –8:30 p.m. Special thanks go to **Dr. Mars Custodio** for arranging this project well in advance.

Athena "Tenni" Santos Magcase Lopez and **Julian Oteyza** are the coordinators for this exhibition. If there are tasks you can share such as: receiving, installation, invitation, publicity, promotion, marketing, reception, take-down, transport, and hosting during the opening, please contact **Tenni** at tenni1952@yahoo.com, 973-734-1955.

Let's join hands in making this project an outstanding success!

Message from the president

Lenore RS Lim

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for a very productive 2007. It was a remarkable year for the SPAA as an organization which sought to meet challenges of today's competitive art world. We successfully held our 14th Annual Art Exhibit, produced an art catalogue, held a juried art exhibit at the Ayala Museum, and capped the year with a full house Annual Benefit Dinner. We accomplished this and much more while being active members of our own respective communities.

The year 2008 promises to be an exciting year for SPAA. Rapid changes in the art landscape, driven by technology and world events, provide us with the opportunities to capitalize on our collective expertise. To achieve this, we must develop and grow our membership base, be responsive to the needs of our fellow artists and maintain focus on our shared vision. (cont'd. on p. 6)

Let's Get to know our National Artists

The Order of National Artists is the highest national recognition given to Filipino individuals who have made significant contributions to the development of Philippine arts; namely, Music, Dance, Theater, Visual Arts, Literature, Film, Broadcast Arts, and Architecture and Allied Arts. The order is jointly administered by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) and the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) and conferred by the President of the Philippines upon recommendation by both institutions.

The award recognizes Filipino artists who have made significant contributions to the cultural heritage of the country. It awards Filipino artistic accomplishment at its highest level and to promote creative expression as significant to the development of a national cultural identity. It is given to Filipino artists who have dedicated their lives

... know our National Artists (from p. 1)

to their works to forge new paths and directions for future generations of Filipino artists. National Artist Awardees are Filipino citizen- artists who through the content and form of their works have contributed in building a Filipino sense of nationhood; who have pioneered in a mode of creative expression or style, thus, earning distinction and making an impact on succeeding generations of artists; and who have created a substantial and significant body of works and/or consistently displayed excellence in the practice of their art form thus enriching artistic expression or style.

Since **Ferdinand Marcos'** Proclamation No. 1001 in 1972, the National Artist Awards (NAA) have been conferred at an average pace of 3 years. Of the 57 National Artists who have been honored, 15 are visual artists, the first was conferred on painter **Fernando Amorsolo**. He was followed by **Guillermo Tolentino, Victorio**

Edades, Carlos "Botong" Francisco, Vicente Manansala, Cesar Legaspi, Arturo Luz, J. Elizalde Navarro, Jose T. Joya, Vicente Manansala, H.R. Ocampo, Napoleon Abueva, and Ang Kiukok. The most recent awardees **Benedicto "Bencab" Cabrera** and **Abdulmari Asia Imao** were conferred National Artists in 2006.

ABDULMARI ASIA IMAO



National Artist for Sculpture, (2006)

A native of Sulu, **Abdulmari Asia Imao** is a sculptor, painter, photographer, ceramist, documentary film maker, cultural researcher, writer, and articulator of Philippine Muslim art and culture.

Through his works, the indigenous *ukkil, sarimanok* and *naga* motifs have been popularized and instilled in the consciousness of the Filipino nation and other peoples as original Filipino creations. His large-scale sculptures and monuments of Muslim and regional heroes and leaders grace selected sites from Batanes to Tawi-tawi, Imao has helped develop among cultural groups trust and confidence necessary for the building of a more just and humane society.

Benedicto Cabrera

National Artist for Painting , 2006

Benedicto R. Cabrera, who signs his paintings "**Bencab**," upheld the primacy of drawing over the decorative color. **Bencab** started his career in the mid-sixties as a lyrical expressionist. His solitary figures of scavengers emerging from a dark landscape were piercing stabs at the social conscience of a people long injured to poverty and dereliction.



Information source on NAA:
National Commission for
Culture and the Arts (NCCA)
Manila, Philippines

Bencab

Homage to Sabel #20
2001, acrylic on canvas

Bencab, who was born in Malabon, has christened the emblematic scavenger figure "**Sabel**." For **Bencab**, **Sabel** is a melancholic symbol of dislocation, despair and isolation--the personification of human dignity threatened by life's vicissitudes, and the vast inequities of Philippine society. **Bencab's** exploration of form, finding his way out of the late neo-realism and high abstraction of the sixties to be able to reconsider the potency of figurative expression had held out vital options for Philippine art in the Martial Law years in the seventies through the contemporary era.



Bencab

Tryphtich on Sabel 1
1993 , acrylic on canvas

Bencab image source:
www.homegrownart.net
with artist's permission

Datebook

Until April 4: **Athena Santos Magcase Lopez's** One-Woman Exhibition "A Journey To A Nation's Past" is presented by the United Nations Philippine Cultural Society at the UN Secretariat Lobby. Ribbon cutting ceremony was led by **His Excellency Philippine Ambassador to the UN and Mrs. Hilario Davide** last March 24.

Until April 25: **Toots Magsino's** work is part of the exhibition "Never Routine: Women in the Course of Their Daily Lives," at the Grace Institute Gallery, NYC,

April 1: The opening reception of the American Watercolor Society's Exhibit at the Salmagundi Club will be held on April 1 at 6:00-8:00 p.m. On Friday, April 25, 2008, **Oscar Dizon** will formally receive his Bronze Medal, check, and certificate during the awarding program which be held at the Salmagundi on 47 Fifth Ave. (between 11th and 12th Streets), New York, NY.

April 23 – 27: **Angelito "Lito" David** will hold his watercolor workshop. For enquiries: njlitodavid@yahoo.com

April 21: **Julian Oteyza's** "Dyslexart 2008 Magic Circles" show opens 7-:30-8:30 at the Arts Barn Gallery, 311 Kent Square Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20878 (301) 258-6394. Exhibit runs until June 1, 2008. For further information, please visit :

<http://julianoteyzaart.blogspot.com/>,

<http://Magiccircles.blogspot.com>,

or call (703) 969-5469, or email :

artsbarn@gaithersburgmd.gov

May 3: **Dr. Reynaldo Reyes**, current president of Hofstra Alumni School of Education and Allied Human Services, who originated the school's Annual Alumni Spring Brunch and Art Exhibits in 2001, announces that this year's event will be held May 3rd, 2008 at the Hagedorn Hall at Hofstra. These annuals have been well attended mostly by alumni and their relatives. For enquiries: reyreyesmd@verizon.net .

Recent Awards

Lenore RS Lim was given the Women Achievers Award by the Pan American Concerned Citizens Action League Inc. during the Women's History Month Gala Honoring Outstanding Filipino Women Achievers held on March 30, 2008 at the Holiday Inn in New Jersey.

Oscar R. Dizon 's painting entitled "Late Summer At Zhouzhuang (2006) recently won the American Watercolor Society Bronze Medal of Honor.

Imelda Cajipe Endaya was honored by the Ateneo De Manila with the ALIWW 7th Natividad Galang Fajardo Foundation Annual Honor for Women in the Arts last February 2008, with an event that featured an exhibition of her work and lectures by the academe.

Pictures at the SPAA Benefit Dinner



Photos show the invocation, opening of the program, the officers, members and guests, taken during the successful benefit and Christmas party held last November 30, 2007 at the H2O Bar and Grille at the Waterside Plaza, NYC . (Courtesy of **Angelito David** .)

Do you want to be an ICOM Member?

ICOM (International Council of Museums) membership forms are available to anyone interested in acquiring ICOM card, to be completed and returned with \$40 fee to the Metropolitan Museum National Committee in Manila. If accepted, membership will entitle you to free entry to any museum all over the world. Memberships are renewable each year. Contact Athena S. M. Lopez at: tenni1952@yahoo.com

Featured Artist: Nelfa Querubin Tompkins

Born 1941 in Iloilo, Philippines, lives and works in Golden, Colorado

"The mystery in the materials and processes of clay, its endless color, textures, forms and shapes, drive my creativity with boundless joy."

Nelfa, after becoming one of the well-known printmakers in the Philippines, pioneered studio pottery at a time when clay was not accepted as a fine art medium. More importantly, she formulated her own clay bodies and glazes, used found materials, fashioned her own tools, and constructed her own wood-firing kiln sourced on site from the earth of her native Miag-ao in Iloilo, where she

built her ceramic studio. For these and her excellent artistic output, she was one of the recipients of the 1980 Cultural Center of the Philippines Thirteen Artists Award, in recognition for her contribution to the indigenous movement in Philippine contemporary art.

A technically dexterous experimentalist, she uses the slab technique and practices the traditional method of forming and shaping as well. Oftentimes she applies techniques in printmaking and painting with stains, glazes or leave parts of her work unglazed to show the natural color of the clay. Many of **Nelfa's** works are re-fired several times to meet her

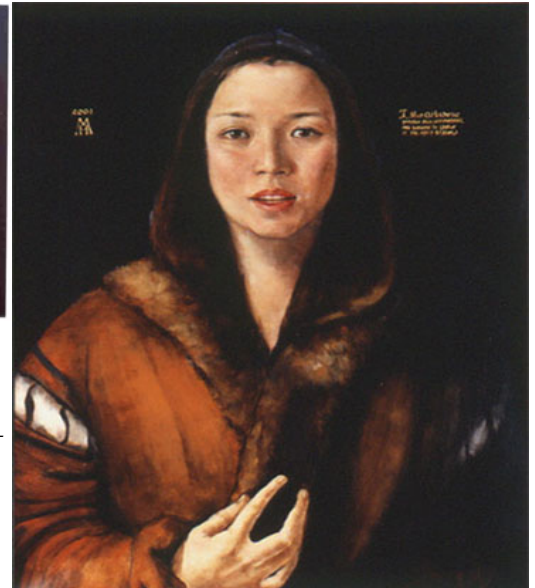
standard of beauty, bearing the abstract purity of form, line, and earthiness of texture. The noted Colorado art critic **Mary Voeltz Chandler** refers to **Nelfa's** work "as most unusual...objects that look as if someone used clay to create fiber or a non-representational painting."

Nelfa has had 17 solo exhibitions. Her works are in the permanent collection of the Central Bank of the Philippines, Cultural Center of the Philippines, University of the Philippines Visayas, Design Center of the Philippines, the Vance Kirkland Museum of Denver, Colorado. SPAA is happy to welcome **Nelfa** as a new member.



Nelfa Querubin-Tompkins, left: *Abstract Landscape*, 2001, white clay, stains, glazes, fired high in gas, 18x17x5 inches; above: *Fish vendor*, glazed clay (other data unavailable)

Right: **Mia O. Herbosa**, Self-portrait as Durer, oil on canvas, (data unavailable)



Featured Artist: Mia O. Herbosa

Born 1970, in Manila Philippines, lives and works in New York

"All my portraits depict people who are very still, very serene. I like calm. I try to capture that mood, the moment. I try to portray that stillness within."

Mia has gathered a close following for her remarkable painting in the classic style. Beginning her career in 1995 with a sold out show at the Ayala Museum, she has since garnered awards in

New York City such as the Dumond Memorial Award for painting, in March 2002; the Junius Allen Memorial Award for sculpture in March 2001; and Certificate of Merit for etching, Thumb Box Exhibition in 2000 at the Salmagundi Club.

At the Art Student's League of New York, she studied painting and printmaking with **Frank Mason, Ronald Sherr, Gregg Kreutz** and **Michael Pellettieri**, and Sculpture with **Barney Hodes, Leonid Lerman, Jonathan Shahn**. She took special studies at the Portrait workshop of **Raymond Everett**

Kinstler, among many other intensive courses. After receiving the prestigious Edward G. McDowell Grant from her alma mater, she travelled to the major art capitals in Europe, to study Old and New Masters alike.

When in Manila, **Mia** sketches and paints with the Saturday Group of Artists; exhibits at the Drawing Room art gallery in Makati, and strives to meet the demands of many of collectors who commission her paintings.

SPAA Philippine Independence Art Exhibition Call for Art

Philippine Embassy, Washington DC June 16-20, 23-27, 2008

Eligibility

SPAA members in good standing may participate.

Artwork Requirement: One artwork per artist.

For **wall works**: must be ready to hang; maximum size including frame must fit into the trunk of a regular car.

For **sculpture**: size must fit into the trunk of a regular car.

Created in **2006 or later**.

Participation Requirements

Detailed information in entry form (at right)

100 words Artist's statement and 100 words resume summary

1 image to be sent by any of ff : email in jpeg format, high resolution 300 dpi, 4"x 5"; or in CD, or 5 "x75 " minimum size photo of artwork

Self-stamped, self-addressed envelope if you want your image & material returned

Email completed entry requirements to
spaausa@gmail.com;

Send \$30 check (to cover costs of invitations, opening reception, simple brochure, and other exhibit expenses) payable to Society of Philippine American Artists to:

SPAA c/o **Athena S.M. Lopez** at 99 John St. ,
Morris Plains, NJ 07950

Artist's responsibilities

Delivery shipping, return shipping, and insurance of own artwork.

Works must be received on or before June 9, 2008

Send to : **Julian Oteyza**

Guitaround Enterprises
6312 Seven Corners Center
Falls Church, VA 22044 (Tel. 703-969-5469),
julianoteyza@gmail.com

Time Line

May 10 -entry requirements & payments received

June 9 - Artworks received.

June 16 am-installation

June 16 pm- opening reception

Entry Form

(This form may be photocopied)

SPAA Philippine Independence Art Exhibition

Philippine Embassy, Washington DC
June 16-20, 23-27, 2008

(Please print legibly)

Artist's Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Title of artwork: _____

Year: _____ Medium: _____

Size: length _____ width _____

Height _____ (for 3 d work)

Price: _____

Enclosed are:

- () 1. 100 words statement about my work.
- () 2. 100 words artist's resume summary
- () 3. participation fee of \$30.

I understand that:

() I am responsible for shipping to be received June 9, 2008, insurance, and return of my work after **take down on June 27, 2008**.

() In case my work is sold, SPAA retains 20% of my selling price as quoted here.

() While SPAA will provide maximum care and security of my work, I will waive any liability claims against the SPAA, the Philippine Embassy and their organizing partners.

I agree with the above terms and conditions.

Member's Signature _____

Date: _____

SOCIETY OF PHILIPPINE AMERICAN ARTISTS

Manuel Rodriguez, Sr.
 Founder and President Emeritus

Officers

President Lenore RS Lim
Secretary Chato Morando
Treasurer Mars Custodio
PRO Christine Jeanjaquet

Directors

Lito Ballesteros, Angelito David, Oscar Dizon, Joe Dureza, Imelda Cajipe Endaya, Athena Santos Magcase Lopez, Emilia Monroy

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Aida Bartolome, Tessie Bobila, Gela Dolorico, Benny Jongco, Tere Martinez, Teresa Rodriguez, Angie Ricafrente, Dean Suba, Raul Sunico, Bella Velo

Email: spaausa@gmail.com
 Website: <http://www.spaa.netfirms.com>

This issue of the newsletter was edited and designed by **Imelda Cajipe Endaya**, artist, independent editor, & curator.

SPAA Active Members : Secretary **Chato Morando** has updated the List of Members to 34 as of March 13, 2008. In case your name has been inadvertently omitted below, please accept our apology, and let us know. We want to hear from you!

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Avila, Zeny | Halili, Gregory Ray |
| Ballesteros, Lito | Herbosa, Mia O. |
| Basa, Donna Eleinne | Jeanjaquet, Christine-Marie |
| Bordeos, Francis Allan | Lombardi, Mildred |
| Carreon, Eggay | Lim, Lenore RS |
| Cortez, Ronald | Lopez, Athena M. |
| Cranbourne,Cheryle | Magsino, Cristina (Toots) |
| Dr. Custodio, Mars | Mercado, Emi |
| David, Angelito | Monroy, Emilia |
| Dichupa, Teresita | Morando, Chato |
| Dizon, Oscar | Oteyza, Julian |
| De la Santa, Teodoro | Dr. Reyes, Rey |
| Dureza, Jose | Robas, Jessica |
| Eckstein, Trini | Rodriguez, Sr., Manuel |
| Endaya, Imelda Cajipe | Valdez, Tony |
| Gaela, Joel | Pamela Rosales |
| Gamboa, Manny | Nelfa Querubin-Tompkins |

Requests and reminders

1. Please mail your 2008 annual membership fees of \$50, with checks payable to SPAA, when you mail your entry forms and fees to Athena S.M. Lopez (please see p. 5).
2. Kindly update us with your bios, exhibition announcements and web site addresses, so we can easily feature you and your work in our newsletter. Send this to : spaausa@gmail.com.
3. Please share with us pictures you have taken or will be taking of SPAA events so we can build our documentation archives and use these in future publications. And please don't forget to identify the pictures! Send to : spaausa@gmail.com.

Message from the president Lenore RS Lim

(cont'd from p. 1)

I believe we have an exceptional organization with many talented artists. With our continued collaboration and focus, we will achieve not only great art results but also do so in an environment we can proudly work in.

We have made a significant contribution to the community by accomplishing our 2007 art plans and projects, thereby enhancing the society's positive image in the community. This could not have been achieved without your dedication and hard work, and I am therefore truly grateful to everyone. I wish everyone a wonderful spring!



Taken during Lenore Lim's exhibit opening at the Metropolitan Museum of Manila held Feb. 8- March 8, 2008, photo shows (l-r) Secretary Alberto Romulo, Jose Campos Jr., Lenore, Gloria Angara, & Lynn Sunico