

Mark Salvatus

Mark Salvatus (b. 1980, Lucban, the Philippines) practices revolve around the themes of public engagement and site-specificity, often manifested through multimedia settings including installations, videos, collages, and interventions. His works often present diverse outcomes of energies, meanings, and experiences. Through his observations of everyday mundane objects, popular culture, and mass behavior, Salvatus extracts minute yet vital connections from the debris of everyday politics in the city, informed by the history of the Philippines. His reflections on popular culture and mass behavior often blur the nation's history and its complex narratives, creating platforms that invite audience participation and foster social discussion.

Salvatus represented the Philippines at the 60th Venice Biennale this year. His solo exhibitions were held at the University of the Philippines Vargas Museum (Manila, 2015 and 2011), Art Center Ongoing (Tokyo, 2015), Cultural Center of the Philippines (Manila, 2014), Museum Barengasse (Zurich, 2014), and La Trobe University Visual Arts Centre (Victoria, 2011), among others. His recent participation in group exhibitions were shown at University of the Philippines Vargas Museum (Manila, 2024, 2021, 2018, 2015, 2014, 2012, 2010), MAC Panamá | Museum of Contemporary Art (Panama, 2024), Hong-gah Museum (Taipei, 2023, 2022, 2020), National Taiwan University of Arts Our Museum (Taipei, 2023), Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art (New York, 2023), Metropolitan Museum of Manila (Manila, 2023, 2020, 2013, 2012), University of Nevada Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art (Las Vegas, 2022), National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts (Taichung, 2021), National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art (Seoul, 2021, 2018), Museum of Contemporary Art and Design (Manila, 2021), Pera Museum (Istanbul, 2021), Sifang Art Museum (Nanjing, 2021), Contemporary Calgary (Alberta, 2021), University of London SOAS Brunei Gallery (London, 2019), Center for Heritage, Arts and Textile (Hong Kong, 2019) among others.

Salvatus currently lives and works between Manila, the Philippines, and Osaka, Japan.

Education

2003 BFA, major in Advertising Arts (Cum Laude), University of Santo Tomas College of Fine Arts & Design, Manila, Philippines

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2024 Solo presentation at the Philippine Pavilion, Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy
"Relaxation is a State of Mind", Drawingroom, Manila, the Philippines
- 2022 "Active Shadows", Mo Space, Taguig, Metro Manila, the Philippines
"Crackling for the Piece of the Moon", The Drawing Room Contemporary Art, Makati, the Philippines
- 2018 "Salvage Projects", 1335 Mabini, Makati, the Philippines
- 2016 "Meet Me Halfway", 1335 Mabini, Manila, the Philippines
- 2015 "Notes from the New World", Vargas Museum, Manila, the Philippines
"Gates", Art Center Ongoing, Tokyo, Japan
"Follow Your Eyes", 1335 Mabini, Manila, the Philippines
- 2014 "World Cup", Artery Art Space, Manila, the Philippines
"Latitudes", Cultural Center of the Philippines, Manila, the Philippines
"Maybe in Another Universe", Museum Barengasse, Zurich, Switzerland

- “Several Souvenirs”, 1335 MABINI, Manila, the Philippines
- 2012 “Territories”, Ateneo Art Gallery, Quezon City, the Philippines
- 2011 “Other View”, The Drawing Room Contemporary Art, Manila, the Philippines
 “C_RAFTS”, Vargas Museum, Manila, the Philippines
 “Secret Garden”, La Trobe University Visual Arts Centre | VAC, Bendigo, Victoria, Australia
- 2010 “Attached”, The Drawing Room Contemporary Art, Manila, the Philippines
- 2009 “Court Yard”, Pablo Gallery, Fort, Taguig, the Philippines
- 2008 “Good Morning Sickness”, Nospace Gallery, Bangkok, Thailand
- 2007 “Embolocat”, Ajuntament del Bruc Regidoria de Cultura, Barcelona, Spain
 “Wrapped”, Goyang Art Studio Gallery, Goyang, Seoul, South Korea
- 2006 “Jumbled Sequence Connection”, Cubicle Gallery, Pasig City, the Philippines
 “Eyes Wide Open”, Pablo Gallery, Cubao Xpo, Quezon City, the Philippines

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2024 “Fever” Dream, Vargas Museum, Quezon City, the Philippines and MAC Panama, Panama
- 2023 “Living Togetherness”, Taiwan International Video Art Exhibition, Hong-gah Museum, Taipei, Taiwan
 “The Oceans and the Interpreters”, Britto Art Trust, Dhaka, Bangladesh
 “Crossing Ecotones - Mountains Seen; No Mountain Being”, Our Museum, National Taiwan University of Arts (NTUA), Taipei, Taiwan
 “Notes for Tomorrow”, Independent Curators International (ICI) traveling exhibition, Humber Galleries, Humber College, Toronto, Canada; Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, SUNY New Paltz, New York, USA
- 2022 “Off-Grid”, Manila Bang, Manila, the Philippines
 “Phantasmapolis X Manila Select Works from the 2021 Asian Art Biennale”, MET Museum Manila, the Philippines
 “The Oceans and the Interpreters”, Honggah Museum, Taipei, Taiwan
 “Notes for Tomorrow”, Independent Curators International (ICI) traveling exhibition, Te Uru Waitākere Contemporary Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand; The Cube Project Space, Taipei, Taiwan; The Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, USA
 “68th International Short Film Festival”, Oberhausen, Denmark
 “Genealogy of Ghosts and How to Live with Them”, Kaliuarang, Jogjakarta, Indonesia
 “Projector X”, S.E.A. Focus 2022, a project of STPI with Drawing Room Contemporary Art, Singapore
- 2021 “Phantasmapolis”, National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, TaiChung, Taiwan
 “Whose Stories?”, Kamloops Art Gallery, British Columbia, Canada
 “Watch and Chill”, National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Seoul, South Korea; Museum of Contemporary Art and Design, Manila, the Philippines
 “Notes for Tomorrow”, Independent Curators International (ICI) traveling exhibition, Pera Museum, Istanbul, Turkey; Sifang Art Museum, Nanjing, China; Contemporary Calgary, Alberta, Canada; Cantor Fitzgerald Gallery at Haverford College, Pennsylvania, USA;
 “A Life Beyond Boundaries (the geography of belonging)”, JWD ART SPACE, Bangkok, Thailand
 “Errant Life, Promiscuous Form”, Gravity Art Space, Quezon City, the Philippines
 “We are going to have to live outside”, Vargas Museum and Filipina Research Center, the Philippines

- 2020 "Between the Sun and the Moon", 2nd Lahore Biennale, Lahore, Pakistan
 "Tracks", Blanc Gallery, Manila, the Philippines
 "Transient Museum of a Thousand Conversations", ISCP, New York, USA
 "Ubon Agenda", Ubon, Thailand
 "Site-Specific Art in Post LCC Era", Kyoto Art Center, Kyoto, Japan
 "Cue from Life Itself", Metropolitan Museum of Manila, Manila, the Philippines
 "Mask-Faced Media", Rubicon Cinema, Akron, Ohio, USA
 "Entry into a Creature. From Social Sculpture to Platform Capitalism", Kunstraum Kreuzberg/Bethanien, Berlin, Germany
 "The Oceans and the Interpreters: The Deep City", Hong-gah Museum, Taipei, Taiwan
- 2019 "HANTU-HANTU SERIBU PERCAKAPAN (Ghosts of a Thousand Conversations) 900mdpl", Kaliurang, Jogjakarta, Indonesia
 "Leaving the Echo Chamber", Sharjah Biennial 14, Sharjah, UAE
 "Motions of This Kind", Brunei Gallery, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, London, UK
 "Unfolding Fabric of Our Life", Centre for Heritage, Arts, and Textile (CHAT), Hong Kong
 "Balloon Days", UENOYES, Tokyo, Japan
 "Empasse", Tin-Aw Art Gallery, Makati, the Philippines
 "City of Bawal", 1335 Mabini Gallery, Manila, the Philippines
- 2018 "Transpersonal, Instructions", Vargas Museum, Manila, the Philippines
 "Island Hopping project – Body of Asia", Vargas Museum, Manila, the Philippines
 "Now Here Once Again", Yeosu International Art Festival, Yeosu, South Korea
 "Hothouse", Philippine Contemporary Art Network Pavilion, Gwangju Biennale, Gwangju, South Korea
 "A Tripoli Agreement", Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah, UAE
 "One Extended Present - Strangely Split", De Appel, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
 "How Little You Know About Me", Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Seoul, South Korea
 "The sun teaches us that history is not everything", Osage Art Foundation, Hong Kong
 "Open City, Manila Biennale", Con Cabrera et al, Intramuros, Manila, the Philippines
- 2017 "SUNSHOWER: Contemporary Art from Southeast Asia from 1980s to Now", Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan
 "Imagined Homes", 6th Thessaloniki Biennale of Contemporary Art, Thessaloniki, Greece
 "Turbulence", 5th Odessa Biennale of Contemporary Art, Odessa, Ukraine
 "Silver Sehnsucht", Silver Building, London, UK
 "Kamias Triennale", Quezon City, the Philippines
 "Move on Asia 2017", Mobilized Representation, Alternative Space LOOP, Seoul, South Korea
 "Mutable Truths- Perspectives on Philippine Contemporary Art Practice", La Trobe Art Institute, Bendigo, Victoria, Australia
 "Field Trip", Gallery Edwin, Jakarta, Indonesia
- 2016 "Rencontres Internationales", Paris, France ; Berlin, Germany
 "Muhon", Philippine Pavilion, Venice Architecture Biennale, Venice, Italy
 "TRANSAction, Sonsbeek 2016", Arnhem, the Netherlands
 "Will Nature Make a Man of Me Yet", Pi Artworks, London, UK
 "Blue Bird in the Labyrinth: A Walk from Japanese Modern Art to Asian contemporary Art Scene", Gallery Nichido, Taipei, Taiwan
 "Venture: Capital", 1335 Mabini, Manila, the Philippines
 "MIkke! Konohana!", Konohana, Osaka, Japan
- 2015 "Jakarta Biennale", Jakarta, Indonesia
 "Video Spotlight: Philippines", Asia Society, New York, USA
 "Field Trip", Vargas Museum, Manila (PH)

- "Dress Me Featherless", Northern Center for Contemporary Art, Darwin, Australia
 "South by Southeast", Osage Foundation, Hong Kong
 "REROUTE: Resituating Site-Specific Works", Vargas Museum, Manila, the Philippines
 "The Other Home", Made in NY Media Center, New York, USA
 "The Way Out is Through", Arts Horizons LeRoy Neiman Art Center, New York, USA
- 2014 "Chain of Fire", Prologue Exhibition, Honolulu Biennial, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA
 "Survival Kit Festival", Umea, Sweden
 "Generator", 6th Cairo Video Festival, Cairo, Egypt
 "Cyberfest", International Cyberarts Festival, Luda Gallery, St. Petersburg, Russia
 "Community and Territory", 5th Yeosu International Art Festival, Chonnam Art Center, Chonnam, South Korea
 "TRANS(IE)T", Project Glocal, Manila, the Philippines
 "Drawn to Scale", Vargas Museum, Manila, the Philippines
 "Censorship", Move on Asia, Alternative Space Loop, Seoul, South Korea
 "Triumph of Philippine Art", Ayala Museum, Manila, the Philippines
 "Triumph of Philippine Art", c Fisher Museum, University of Southern California, California, USA
 "Powers that Be", Drawing Room, Gillman Barracks, Singapore
- 2013 "Remote CNTRL (Media/Art Kitchen Lab)", web and 98B space, Manila, the Philippines
 "Triumph of Philippine Art", George Segal Gallery, Montclair University, New Jersey, USA
 "A Futuristic City of the Past", Changwon Asian Art Festival, Sungsan Art Hall, Changwon, South Korea
 "TRIP", Roppongi Art Night, Roppongi Hills, Tokyo, Japan
 "The Philippine Contemporary: A Proposed History", Metropolitan Museum of Manila, the Philippines
 "Masterpieces", Ayala Museum, Makati, the Philippines
- 2012 "Dezipcoding", Singapore Art Museum 8Q, Singapore
 "Others", Picasso, Makati, the Philippines
 "Populus", The Drawing Room Contemporary Art, Gillman Barracks, Singapore
 "13 Artist Award exhibition", Cultural Center of the Philippines, the Philippines
 "Modes of Impact: Video Acquisitions from Ateneo Art Galley", Quezon City, the Philippines
 "Cityzening", Vargas Museum, Quezon City, the Philippines
 "Short Memory", The Drawing Room Contemporary Art, Gillman Barracks, Singapore
 "POST: Outlining Perspectives", Metropolitan Museum of Manila, Manila, the Philippines
 "Cosmopolitan Stranger", Hotel Inmigrantes, parallel event Manifesta 9, Hasselt, Belgium
 "Habit Forming", Art Informal, Manila, the Philippines
 "Bliss Market", Quezon City, the Philippines
- 2011 "Open House", 3rd Singapore Biennale, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore
 "Back to the Basics - The Museum Per Se", 4th Guangzhou Triennial, Guangdong Museum of Art, Guangzhou, China
 "Maximum City: Survive or Escape", Jakarta Biennale XIV, Jakarta, Indonesia
 "Koganecho Bazaar, Voices of the Town", Yokohama, Japan
 "Beyond Conventions", Ford Foundation, New York, USA
 "Stories of Dreams and Realities", Rossi & Rossi in collaboration with The Drawing Room Contemporary Art, London, UK
 "Vernacular Cultures & Contemporary Art in Australia, India and the Philippines", LUMA | La Trobe University Museum of Art, Melbourne, Australia
 "Nothing to Declare", Blanc Compound, Manila, the Philippines
- 2010 "Extensions: Zero-In", Lopez Museum, Manila, the Philippines
 "What is Gunsan to Tell?", Gunsan Art Studio, Gunsan, South Korea
 "Boat and Bridge_Net", Space Beam, Incheon, South Korea
 "Shattering States", Ateneo Art Awards, Ateneo Art Gallery & Shangri-la Plaza, Manila, Philippines

- "Structural Integrity", Next Wave Festival, Arts House, Meat Market, Melbourne, Australia
 "The Vargas Collection", Vargas Museum, University of the Philippines, Quezon City, the Philippines
 "Signos", Art Center, Megamall, Mandaluyong, the Philippines
 "Faith and Reason", Manila Contemporary, the Philippines
 "Paper Panic", 20Square Slab, Makati, the Philippines
 "Smokescreen", Tin-aw Gallery, Makati, the Philippines
- 2009 Asia Panic, Gwangju Biennale Hall, Gwangju, South Korea
 Verso Manila, Verso Arte Contemporanea & The Drawing Room, Turin, Italy
 Spirit of Asia, Gallery Nine, Gwangju, South Korea
 Tutok: SoEna, Manila Contemporary Gallery, Manila, the Philippines
 Forever and Ever and Ever and Ever, Valentine Willie Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
 X-Change, Centre Culturel et de Coopération Linguistique, Surabaya, Indonesia
 Current, Sungdu-an 5, National Art Gallery, National Museum, Manila, the Philippines
 Daloy: 40 years, Cultural Center of the Philippines, Manila, the Philippines
 Open Day, different sites, Shatana, Jordan
 Connecting Urban Spaces, Green Papaya Art Projects, Quezon City, the Philippines
 Cartographical Lure, Valentine Willie Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
 EXCEPT, Sala Silentium" of Vicolo Bolognetti, Bologna, Italy
- 2008 "Domestico '08, El Papel Del Artista", Calatrava, Madrid, Spain
 "Road: Rode", At The Vanishing Point (ATVP) Contemporary Art, Sydney, Australia
 "In Transition Russia", National Centres of Contemporary Art, Ekaterinburg and Moscow, Russia
 "2nd Bagasbas Beach International Eco Arts Festival", Daet, Camarines Norte, Philippines
 "Action Parties # 2", See Scape Art Hub / Wunderspaze, Chiang Mai, Thailand
 "Boxed 3", Cubicle Art Gallery, Pasig City, the Philippines
 "Tutok KKK", Blanc art space, Makati and Mandaluyong, the Philippines
 "Tutok Kargado", Ateneo Art Gallery, the Philippines
 "Roll Up", Grigore Mora Art Gallery, Bucharest, Romania
 "Festival Air International", Sekolah Tinggi Seni Indonesia, Bandung, Indonesia
 "Urban Jealousy", 1st International Roaming Biennial of Tehran, Iran
 "Tutok", National Art Gallery, Manila, the Philippines
 "6th Uiwang International Placard Arts Festival", Uiwang, South Korea
- 2007 "4th Neo-Angono Public Arts Festival", Angono, Rizal, the Philippines
 "Kasaysayang", Alab Art Space, Manila, the Philippines
 "Chonbuk International Sculpture Exhibition", Chonbuk Art Gallery, Chonbuk, South Korea
 "Open Studio 3", Goyang Art Studio, Seoul, South Korea
 "Ansan International Art Expo", Dan Won Museum, Ansan, South Korea
 "Boxed 2", Cultural Center of the Philippines, Manila, the Philippines
 "Tutok Perspektiba", Beato Angelico Gallery University of Santo Tomas; Faculty Center, University of the Philippines, Quezon City & Arnheim Gallery, St. Scholastica College, Manila, the Philippines
 "Langib", Beato Angelico Gallery UST, Manila, the Philippines
- 2006 "Dos por Dos", Boston Gallery, Quezon City, the Philippines
 "Boxed", Big Sky Mind Gallery, New Manila, Quezon City, the Philippines
 "Pab Hauz", Pablo Gallery, Cubao X, the Philippines
- 2005 "Wallpaper*", works on paper, Big Sky Mind Gallery, Quezon City, the Philippines
 "Rebolusyon:Ilusyon", Cubicle Gallery, Pasig City, the Philippines
 "Salvation, Corridor Gallery", College of Fine Arts, University of the Philippines, Manila, the Philippines
 "Re-representation", Beato Angelico Gallery, UST, Manila, the Philippines
 "Brushes with Words and Chords II", UST Museum, Manila, the Philippines
 "Visions", GSIS Museum, Pasay City, the Philippines

Awards, Grants and Residencies

- 2017-2018 Asia Culture Center (ACC), Gwangju and Rijksakademie, Amsterdam Exchange Dialogue residency grant
- 2016 Asia Center Fellowship, Japan Foundation, Kyoto and Osaka
- 2014 IASPIS Residency Grant, Umea, Sweden
- 2012 Cultural Center of the Philippines 13 Artists Award
Bamboo Curtain Studio reciprocal residency grant, Taipei, Taiwan
- 2011 Ateneo Art Awards-Art OMI International Artist Project Grant, New York, USA
Ateneo Art Awards-La Trobe University Grant Visual Arts Centre emerging artist grant, Bendigo, Victoria, Australia
Storefront Artist Project with Ferin Gallery, Pittsfield, Massachusetts, USA
- 2010 Ateneo Art Awards-Common Room Networks Foundation Residency Grant, Bandung, Indonesia
Gunsan International Art Residency, Gunsan, South Korea, Artist Residency Fund, Arts and Culture Sector, Jeollabuk-do
Space Beam Public Studio Program, Incheon, South Korea, Incheon Foundation for Arts and Culture
- 2009 ACAR Asia Cultural Artist Residency, Gwangju, South Korea, Daedong Culture Foundation
Shatana International Residency, Shatana, Irbid, Jordan, Triangle Arts Trust
W.O.P. Residency at Green Papaya Art Projects, Quezon City, Philippines (Arts Network Asia)
- 2008 Arts Network Asia (ANA) Travel Grant, Bandung, Indonesia
- 2007 IASK Goyang Art Studio, Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) Seoul, South Korea, supported by National Commission for Culture and the Arts