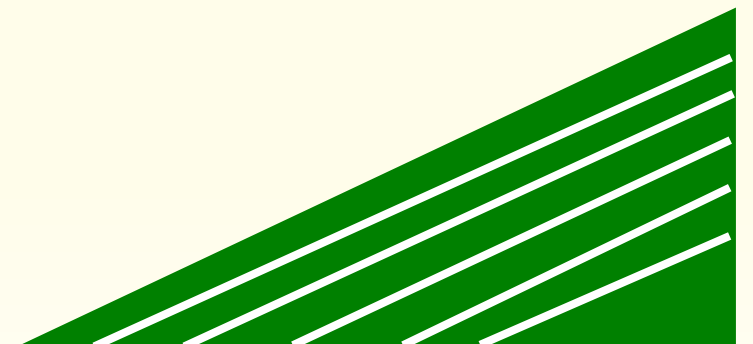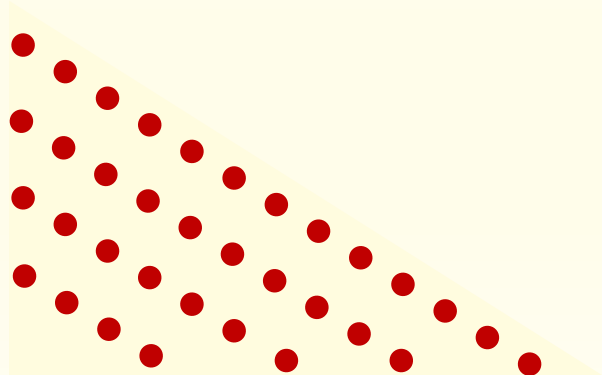# Creative Work

Pink as Metonym

Palmy Marinel Pe Tudtud

College of Communication Art and Design
University of the Philippines Cebu,
Cebu City 6000, Philippines

Creative Work Portfolio of Professor Dennis Montera Leading to his Ph. D. in Creative Industries Design

College of Communication Art and Design
University of the Philippines Cebu,

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Dennis E. Montera also known by his artist name as 'SIO' was born in 1972 in the island province of Cebu, 570 kilometers south of the capital Manila in the Philippines. He obtained both his Bachelor of Fine Arts major in Painting and Master in Fine Arts from the University of the Philippines. His works are known for an employment of a method called 'addition by subtraction', that ultimately become multi-layered color field paintings. The symbolism of his work's content are appropriated from real life experiences and reflections on his surrounding environment. The artist's body of work is a testament to the non-figurative idiom that was popularized by the abstract expressionist movement in New York of the 1950's. The artist has been juror selected to international exhibitions such as the Asian International Art Exhibition in Seoul, East Java Fine Art Biennale in Surabaya, Trevisan International Art exhibition in Bolgna, and the Beijing International Art Biennale of China. SIO has also participated in numerous international art fairs including Art Tainan, Art Kaohsiung, Tokyo International Art Fair, Asia Contemporary Art Fair-Hong Kong, Art Apart Fair-Singapore, and ManilArt. He won first prize in the Philippines' prestigious GSIS Art Competition in 2010 and was awarded the University of the Philippines' Chancellor's Award for Creative Work in 2008 and 2010. He was awarded an artist residency grant by Le Cent Etablissement Culturel Solidaire in Paris, France in 2013 and was among the first recipients of the Dekana Award of the University of the Philippines Cebu in 2014. He is currently a professor of the Fine Arts at the University of the Philippines' constituent unit in his hometwon of Cebu. His research on art and artists in the southern region of the Philippines have been presented in international conferences and published in prestigious academic journals. At the time of this particular exhibition collection, the artist was a Ph.D candidate as a recipient of an NCKU distinguished international scholarship and a U.P. research fellowship award to pursue a doctoral degree at the Institute of Creative Industries Design of the National Cheng Kung University in Tainan City, Taiwan.

Email: dennismontera@gmail.com

Cebu City 6000, Philippines

Exhibition Poster | Qube Gallery |

Link to the compiled PDF Copy of the Solo Exhibition

http://cvsc.upcebu.edu.ph/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Prof.-Montera-Solo-Exhibition-2015-1-12-1.pdf

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http://cvsc.upcebu.edu.ph/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Prof.-Montera-Solo-Exhibition-2017_-11-20.pdf

http://cvsc.upcebu.edu.ph/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Prof.-Montera-Solo-Exhibition-2017_-21-28.pdf

IN IT'S ORIGINAL PLACE BY DENEB R. BATUCAN
Published in SunStar Daily Cebu in August 25, 2015.
(Obtained thru https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/27471/)

Dennis "Sio" Montera comes back to his original place with his latest collection of abstract works in In Situ: Abstracting Identity and Migration at the Qube Gallery. Currently in the midst of a new adventure, as he goes from brilliant educator to being a student again, Sio recounts his daily struggles as an immigrant in a foreign land. Sio is now based in Tainan, Taiwan where he is attending to his doctorate studies in the National Cheng Kung University Institute of Creative Industries Design. He aims to finish his research dissertation in five years. In Situ is a Latin phrase meaning "in its original place"—a fitting title since Sio is now back home, showcasing a series that depicts a new chapter in his life. The exhibit tells of his battle with homesickness and his adjustment to being a student again and learning in a new and distant environment. Each piece holds a particular memory of his experiences in Tainan. The 40-piece exhibit is influenced by Sio's new niche. The acrylic-based works have a lot of Chinese inspiration. His pieces have a lot of structures and shapes—intersecting circles, set and subsets—which he describes as part of the Chinese ideology. "It's how they structure things, even their language. Their lifestyle is set in place, by the hour. It's something I picked up there. It is part of the environment around me and the way they do designs," he said.

Sio explained how he never goes into a series of works if he doesn't have a "treasure chest of experiences" to back him up. "I have to build on experience to come up with a quality show that would somehow depict that chapter in my life. Every piece, naa gyu'y connection nako," (Each work has a direct connection to me) he said. Living in Tainan, Taiwan has been challenging for Sio. "Most of my classmates are half my age. It's frustrating but also good. It makes you think younger. Part of the living experience there is learning to become a student again. I'm there to learn, to absorb," he confided. But all these endeavors have a reason. Sio is convinced that by going back to the basics and by learning and growing in another culture, he could eventually understand how the creative culture in Cebu works. Sio's mission is to come back after he receives his doctorate degree and see how he can contribute to Cebu's growing creative economy.

In Situ is a collection of abstracts that are deeply rooted in Sio Montera's life experiences of late. It tells a story of a man's journey to unknown waters, in search of deeper understanding and growth. In Situ: Abstracting Identity and Migration will run until Sept. 7, 2015 at the Qube Gallery in Crossroads, Banilad, Cebu City.

PRESS REVIEW

International Collective Exhibitions and Art Fairs 2014– 2018

Link to the compiled PDF Copy of the Solo Exhibition

http://cvsc.upcebu.edu.ph/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Prof.-Montera-Solo-Exhibition-2018-1-10.pdf

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http://cvsc.upcebu.edu.ph/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Prof.-Montera-Solo-Exhibition-2018-21-32.pdf

TAIWAN: CROSS-CULTURAL IMPRESSIONS

The exhibition 'Cross Cultural Impressions' featured artists who came from different parts of the world and were once gathered at the College of Planning and Design of National Cheng Kung University (NCKU). While exploring the city of Tainan, the Anping district never fails to impart its unique cultural experience and memories; its peaceful, sincere, and harmonious ways towards life have inspired the foreign artists to transform their impressions into various art forms of expression. The exhibit aimed to joyfully share the co-creating journey and spirit with Anping and the anticipation of the new lunar year.

The participating international artists included Krisaya Luenganantakul, and Komrij Thnaapet from Thailand, Alex Van Egmond from the Netherlands, Dennis Montera from the Philippines, and Peter Strejcek, and Stepan Janu from the Czech Republic. The exhibition was sponsored by C-Hub, a new co-creating space based in NCKU, the Institute of Creative Industries Design, International Talent Hub, and in cooperation with the Tainan Anping District Office and Jiu Hong Lu Cafe. The exhibition ran from Nov.11, 2014 to January 28, 2015 at the Anping Local Cultural Center.

Link to the compiled PDF Copy of the Solo Exhibition

http://cvsc.upcebu.edu.ph/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Prof.-Montera-Group-Exhibitions-2014-2018-1-10.pdf

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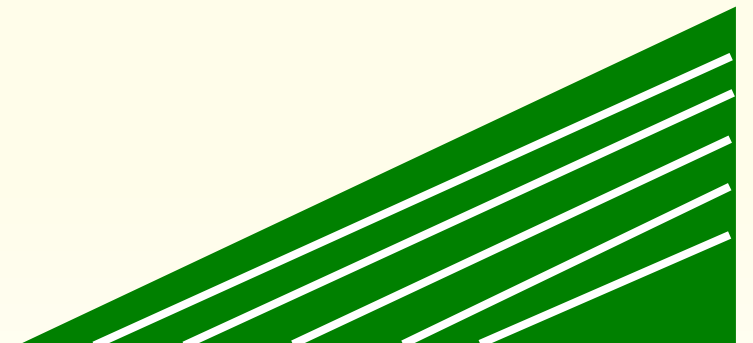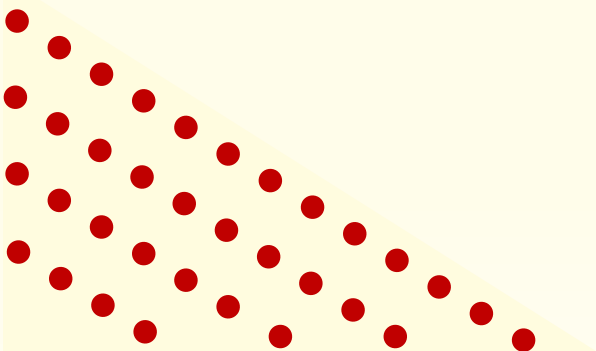http://cvsc.upcebu.edu.ph/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Prof.-Montera-Group-Exhibitions-2014-2018-21-25.pdf

http://cvsc.upcebu.edu.ph/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Prof.-Montera-Group-Exhibitions-2014-2018-26-32.pdf

CURATORIAL NOTES

The subject of his works often talks about the inner emotions an introspections of an artist and how he perceives a specific c general experience impacting his life and the society he revolve in. Again, he articulates that in this collection, he wanted to portra that art is created upon a system of processes and interaction leading to the final output. It is not just a product of impulse like toddler making doodles on paper but borne out as a result combined influences, biases, training, and other pertinen knowledge.

Certain actions committed in the present are a result of the large context of nature and human society. Sio has strong convictions this. With his most recent award from Taiwan's National Chen Kung University as a member of the Scholastic Honor Society the Republic of China, an Academic Excellence award upon hi doctorate graduation, and while generously sharing his art to th community, Sio honestly and humbly confides that he is at th crossroads in his artist's journey. The struggle is real betwee pursuit and alteration. But perhaps, it is aptly destined tha Un/painting is homed at Qube Gallery, at Crossroads Banilad fro July 14 – August 12, 2018. The painterly striations will definite pose ponder on the gritty process and the contemporar experience of crossing road to continue or change… one's styl system or oneself. – *Vicente R. Tan*

Prof. Vicente R. Tan is a former faculty member of the UP Visayas and forme curator of UPV Art Gallery. He is now the Director of the Culture, Arts an International Relations Office of the Sacred Heart School – Ateneo de Ceb and the curatorial consultant of Qube gallery in Cebu.

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Exhibition Invitation | Qube Gallery | 2018

Other Scholarly Work

Paper Presentations and Discussion Paper

Internet Activism in the Filipinos' Fight for Human Rights and Dignity: Analyzing Idefend.ph's Facebook and Website Posts

Belinda F. Espiritu

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University of the Philippines Cebu,
Cebu City 6000, Philippines*

This paper seeks to examine the Facebook group posts and the website of the Idefend.ph movement in the Philippines, a movement of grassroots Filipinos who struggle to defend human rights and dignity in the context of the autocratic rule of President Duterte. It analyzes the critical and oppositional discourses of netizens who are members of Idefend.ph movement using Christian Fuch's theory of alternative media as critical media which essentially questions domination, expresses the standpoints of the oppressed and dominated groups and individuals, and argues for the advancement of a co-operative society. It identifies the topics of the posts in the Facebook group named "In Defense of Human Rights and Dignity Movement", analyzes the themes and categories of the posts, and looks into the comments of the members to find out the liberative possibilities of the texts. The paper examines the ways by which the posts challenge the dominative mode of discourse, show antagonisms of reality, struggle to defend human rights, and manifest potentials for change in the context of an autocratic leadership. The research employs a discourse analysis of purposefully selected Facebook group posts in 2019 and the articles in the website of the movement Idefend.ph during the administration of Duterte. The study found out that the posts' liberative potential lies in their ability to expose and protest against the continuing human rights violations of the administration, and their ability to put into account the Duterte government on issues that involve human rights and dignity, democracy, and national sovereignty.

Clothing Classification using the Convolutional Neural Network Inception Model

Paula Esplanada-Mayol

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Convolutional neural network (CNN) is a type of artificial neural network commonly used in analyzing images. Images of clothes are great factors in driving the clothing industry today and trends found in the current fashion styles drive the online clothing economy. This study attempts to create a clothing classification tool with the use of convolutional neural networks. A method for creating an automated clothing classifier was presented, trained from 5600 clothing images in 7 classes using the Inception architecture. The trained model obtained an estimated accuracy of 95%. The model identified different clothing categories with an accuracy of 96.2% in coherence with the estimated accuracy result. It also had a recall of 0.981 and a precision of 1. Future works include improvement in recognition capability by enabling future classifiers to recognize and identify full apparel in a single image.
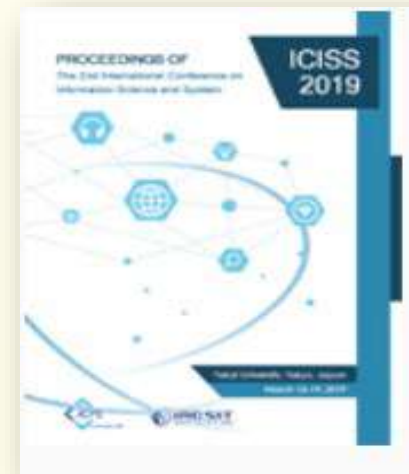
A Stochastic Edge-Based SEIR Dynamics

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Mathematics Program
College of Science, University of the Philippines Cebu,
Cebu City 6000, Philippines

Stochastic epidemic models naturally describe the spread of disease, defining the probability of disease transmission between individuals. In this study, we formulate a stochastic model describing the dynamics of the spread of a disease in an SEIR population of finite size through a network model. The population of each class is associated with a finite counting of point measure which keeps track of the number of nodes in each class. These finite measures of N define the degree of distributions used in the model, and these are measured Markov processes. The evolution of each degree distribution process is described by a measured-valued stochastic differential system is also a Markov process with an infinitesimal generator. We prove the solution by showing the boundedness of finiteness of the moments of each population size. These conditions are very useful in proving the convergence of the stochastic model to deterministic model as population size becomes large.

MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY OF THE PHILIPPINES

Cryptocurrency Price Forecasting Using Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) with Twitter and Historical Data

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Cebu City 6000, Philippines

The rise of cryptocurrency trading caused an increase in Twitter activity from field experts. Activities include sharing market predictions, opinions, and sentiments. As past studies have shown, Twitter data can be used to predict the market movement of financial instruments. Using these knowledge, we created a predictive model that predicts Bitcoin's t+1 closing price using Bitcoin twitter and historical data. Tweets and historical data worth 181 days were gathered. Tweets were assigned sentiment score using vaderSentiment. The dataset included the following features in daily format: sentiment score, number of retweets and favorites, opening/highest/lowest/closing prices, trading volume, and market cap. A long short-term memory (LSTM) recurrent neural network was iteratively ran with different parameters and train-test methods. The best performing model achieved an RMSE and R2 of $110.57 and 0.98, respectively. It utilized 7 out of 9 features and used a walk-forward train-test method. Significant performance improvement was observed when using selected features, and even more so when using walk-forward method. Results have shown that it is possible to forecast Bitcoin's t+1 closing price using twitter and historical data. The experimentation also has shown the importance of feature selection, and the benefit of walk-forward over a standard 70-30 train-test split method.