

## MARTHA ATIENZA

### Bio

Born to a Dutch mother and Filipino father, Martha Atienza (b. 1981, Manila, Philippines; lives and works in Bantayan Island, Philippines) has moved between the Netherlands and the Philippines throughout her life. Constantly oscillating between these two cultures has had a profound influence on Atienza's focus as an artist.

Atienza's practice explores installation and video as a way of documenting and questioning issues around environment, community and development. Her work is mostly constructed in video, of an almost sociological nature, that studies her direct environment. Often utilizing technology in the form of mechanical systems, Atienza explores the immersive capacity of installation in generating critical discourse. Her work tends to be collaborative in nature, working with people from different backgrounds and expertise as well as residents of Bantayan Island, where her family is from, whose narratives are intricately woven into issues such as environmental change, displacement, cultural loss, governance and socio-economic disparities.

Since graduating with a Bachelor in Fine Arts from the Academy of Visual Arts and Design in the Netherlands, Atienza has exhibited internationally at various art spaces, galleries, and video festivals. In 2017, Atienza won the Baloise Art Prize in Art Basel (Switzerland) for her work, *Our Islands 11°16'58.4\_N123°45'07.0\_E*. In 2016, she was one of the five shortlisted artists for the Benesse Art Prize (Japan) in the Singapore Biennale. In 2015, Atienza was awarded the Thirteen Artists Awards by the Cultural Center of the Philippines. Martha Atienza has also had residencies all over the world: in 2005, she was a part of Kuvataideakatemia's art program in Finland. In 2016 and 2012, she won the prestigious Ateneo Art Award with studio residency grants in Liverpool, Melbourne, New York and Singapore. In 2016, she was the recipient of the first Mercedes Zobel/Outset Residency at



Gasworks in London. In 2018, Atienza was a part of the NTU Centre for Contemporary Art's residency program in Singapore.

Recent exhibitions include *Our Islands*, SOUTH SOUTH VEZA, SOUTH SOUTH Platform (2021); *Anticipating the Day*, Silverlens, Manila (2020); *Construction of Truths*, Museum of Contemporary Art and Design, Manila (2020); *INUNDATION: Art and Climate Change in the Pacific*, University of Hawai'i, Manoa Art Gallery, Hawai'i (2020); *Bangkok Art Biennale: Escape Routes*, Bangkok Art and Culture Center, Bangkok (2020); *Equation of State*, solo exhibition, Silverlens, Manila (2019); *Honolulu Biennial: To Make Wrong / Right / Now*, Honolulu, Hawaii (2019).

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#### b. 1981, Manila, PH



Tarong 11°16'12.0"N 123°45'23.4"E  
2019-08-06 Tue 2:27 PM PST 1.50 meters  
High Tide, 2019

#### AWARDS & GRANTS

- 2017 Winner, Baloise Art Prize, Art Basel Basel, Switzerland
- 2016 Shortlisted, Benesse Prize, Singapore Art Museum  
Winner, Ateneo Art Awards, Manila
- 2015 Winner, CCP Thirteen Artists Award, Manila
- 2014 Sovereign Asian Art Prize nomination, Hong Kong  
Ontwikkeling- en Onderzoekssubsidie, Centrum beeldende kunst, Rotterdam
- 2013 Bijdrage Werkbudget-standaard, Mondriaan Fonds, Amsterdam  
New Media Fund, National Commission for Culture and Arts, Manila
- 2012 Bewegend beeld, dienst kunst en cultuur Rotterdam, Rotterdam  
Winner, Ateneo Art Awards, Manila
- 2010 Bewegend beeld, dienst kunst en cultuur Rotterdam, Rotterdam  
New Media Fund, National Commission for Culture and Arts, Manila  
Social Innovation in Culture Experiment, Office of Culture and Design, Manila
- 2009 Ateneo Art Awards Nomination, Manila

#### RESIDENCIES

- 2018 NTU Centre for Contemporary Art, Singapore
- 2017 La Trobe University Visual Arts Centre Melbourne, Residency Program, Melbourne
- 2016 Gasworks, Mercedes Zobel/Outset Residency, London
- 2014 Artesan Gallery Studio Grant, Singapore
- 2013 Art Omi International Artists Residency, New York  
La Trobe University Visual Arts Centre Melbourne, Residency Program, Melbourne  
Liverpool Hope University, Residency Program, Liverpool
- 2009 Green Papaya Art Projects Residency Program, Arts Network Asia, Manila

#### BIENNALES, TRIENNALES

- 2020 *Bangkok Art Biennale: Escape Routes*, Bangkok Art and Culture Centre, Bangkok
- 2019 *Honolulu Biennial 2019: To Make Wrong / Right / Now*, Oahu, Hawaii
- 2018 *9th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art*, Queensland Art Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA), Australia  
*Taipei Biennale: Post-Nature: A Museum as an Ecosystem*, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taipei  
*Visayas Islands Visual Arts Exhibition and Conference (VIVA EXCON)*, Roxas City, Capiz  
*Bienal do Mercosul*, Porto Alegre, Brazil
- 2016 *Singapore Biennale: An Atlas of Mirrors*, Singapore
- 2013 *Anito*, Sharjah Biennale 11, United Arab Emirates
- 2012 *Anito*, Viva Excon Biennale, Dumaguete

#### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 *Equation of State*, Silverlens, Manila
- 2018 *Fair Isles*, including Anito I and World Premiere of Anito II, Nassauischer Kunstverein Wiesbaden, Center for Contemporary Art, Germany  
*Our Islands*, Tower One and Exchange Plaza, Manila

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- 2017 *Martha Atienza*, Mind Set Art Center, Taipei  
*Our Islands*, Art Basel Statements, Switzerland
- 2016 *Anito*, Silverlens, Manila
- 2015 *Study In Reality No.3*, Silverlens, Manila
- 2014 *Endless Hours at Sea II*, Ateneo Art Gallery, Manila  
*Endless Hours at Sea I*, Artesan Gallery, Singapore
- 2013 Access Gallery, Visual Arts Centre Melbourne, La Trobe University, Australia
- 2012 *My Navel Is Buried In The Sea*, Pablo Gallery, Manila  
*My Navel Is Buried In The Sea*, Gallery Orange, Bacolod
- 2011 *My Navel Is Buried In The Sea*, Madridejos, Bantayan Island, Cebu
- 2009 *Man In Suit*, Green Papaya Project Space, Manila  
*Abe Reina Si Maria*, Wolfart Projectspaces, Rotterdam
- 2008 *Man In Suit*, Weijerkapel Boxmeer, Boxmeer  
*Man In Suit*, Loesje, Berlin  
*Man In Suit*, Perron 1, Delden
- 2006 *Passage*, Het Torentje, Almelo

#### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- Upcoming *Be Water*, Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, USA
- 2021 *Animal Kingdom*, Àme Nue Artspace, Hamburg  
*Sea Media*, Museum of Contemporary Art and Design (MCAD), Manila  
*Art Fair Philippines*, Silverlens, Manila  
*SOUTH SOUTH VEZA*, SOUTH SOUTH Platform
- 2020 *Anticipating the Day*, Silverlens, Manila  
*Constructions of Truths*, Museum of Contemporary Art and Design (MCAD), Manila  
*INUNDATION: Art and Climate Change in the Pacific*, University of Hawai'i, Manoa Art Gallery, Hawai'i
- 2019 *Fracture/Fiction: Selections from the ILHAM collection*, ILHAM Gallery, Kuala Lumpur  
*Far Away But Strangely Familiar*, Danubiana Meulensteen Art Museum, Bratislava  
*Good Space - Communities or the Promise of Happiness*, Villa Merkel, Galerien der Stadt Esslingen am Neckar  
*Taipei Dangdai*, Silverlens, Taipei
- 2018 *No Man's Land*, Musée d'Art Moderne Grand-Duc Jean (MUDAM), Luxembourg  
*2018 Asia Project: How Little You Know About Me*, National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea  
*Shared Coordinates*, a collaboration of Edouard Malingue Gallery, ROH Projects, MSAC and SILVERLENS, The Arts House, Singapore  
*JEAN-MARIE APPRIOU, MARTHA ATIENZA, DORA BUDOR, SHARA HUGHES, IMAN ISSA, JUSTIN MATHERLY, TOBIAS PILS, MAGALI REUS, YVES SCHERER*, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zurich, Switzerland
- 2017 *Choruses*, Edouard Malingue Gallery, Hong Kong  
*Invisible Cities*, organized by The Crow Collection of Asian Art, Dallas Contemporary, Dallas, Texas  
*Mutable Truths: Perspectives in Philippine Contemporary*, Arete, Ateneo Art Gallery, Manila  
*Sunshower: Contemporary Art from Southeast Asia 1980 to Now*, Mori Art Museum and National Art Center, Tokyo, Japan  
*Archipelago Mountain*, Gallery 5020, Salzburg

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- Seascapes: Tranquility and Agitation*, Metropolitan Museum of Manila
- Body Electric*, Yuka Tsuruno Gallery, Tokyo
- Mutable Truths*, La Trobe University's Visual Art Centre, Bendigo, Victoria
- "Behind the Terrain"*, Nha San Collective, Hanoi
- Translación*, Inaugural Exhibition, Curated by Gary-Ross Pastrana, Silverlens, Manila
- 2016 *Art Basel*, Silverlens, Hong Kong
- Art Basel*, Film Sector, curated by Li Zhenhua, Hong Kong
- Art Fair Philippines*, Silverlens, Manila
- Behind the terrain*, Studio Kalahan, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- I want to be where I am*, The Engine Room Gallery, Wellington
- Didto sa Amoa*, Vereinigung Bildender Künstlerinnen, Vienna, Austria
- 2015 *Video Spotlight: Philippines*, Asia Society and Museum, New York
- Sights and Sounds: Philippines*, The Jewish Museum, New York
- Thirteen Artists Awards*, Cultural Center of the Philippines, Manila, Philippines
- 2014 *Joint Gallery Show*, Art Gallery Association of Singapore, Singapore
- TEN*, Cornerstone Gallery, Hope University, Liverpool
- 2013 *Missing Interiors*, Cornerstone Gallery, Hope University, Liverpool
- My Navel Is Buried In The Sea*, Visual Arts Centre, Access Gallery, La Trobe University  
Visual Arts Center, Bendigo Victoria, Melbourne
- 2012 *Modes Of Impact: The Inaugural Collection of Video Arts*, Ateneo Art Gallery, Manila
- Sneak Peak*, Ateneo Art Gallery, Manila
- Heavy Merry Finland*, Recycleart, Brussels
- Topophilia*, Finale Art File, Manila
- Videopreformance 01*, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore
- Before The Rain: Contemporary Landscape*, Manila Contemporary VWFA, Manila
- Videopreformance 01*, Museum Of Contemporary Art, Taipei
- CV: Cinema In Video*, Ishmael Bernal Gallery, Manila
- Habagat, The Unifiedfield*, Nikolaj Kunsthallen, Copenhagen
- 2011 *Habagat, The Unifiedfield*, Beirut
- I Feel So Sorry For Myself, A Gathering of Tribes*, New York
- Intolerance, Videoforma*, Kuryokhin Centre for Contemporary Art, St. Petersburg
- Roving Eye*, Sørlandet Kunstmuseum, Kristiansand
- Performing Pinoy*, Barcelona
- Programme#08, The Unifiedfield*, Granada
- 2010 *Beautiful In My Mind Forever*, Silverlens, Manila
- Programme#01, The Unifiedfield*, Yogyakarta
- 2009 *Serial Killers II*, Green Papaya Project Space, Manila
- Forever and Ever and Ever*, VWAF, Singapore
- Dial*, Cultural Center Of The Philippines, Manila
- The Next Wave*, Ateneo Art Gallery, Manila
- 2007 *Art Amsterdam*, Gallerie Smarius, De Rai

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*Longitude*, SMU Gallery, Singapore

*Shoot Me*, Mo\_Space, Manila

*No Problem*, Femenotika, Poznan

2006 *Riles*, Gallerie Smarius, Groningen

*Riles*, Gogbot Festival, Enschede

2005 *Untitled*, Kaiki Gallery, Helsinki

### FESTIVALS/SCREENINGS

2021 *The Imagining Queer Bandung Film Festival*, bi'bak at Haus der Statistik, Berlin

2020 *Daang Dokyu A Festival of Philippine Documentaries*, online screening, Manila, Philippines

2017 *Unruly Shadows: Artist Films and Videos on Challenging Spheres*, The Seminar Room, Malan Road, Singapore

2015-present

*The Kalampag Tracking Agency* (Cities: Angono, Quezon, Bacolod, Laguna, Davao, General Santos, London, Boston, New York, Ho Chi Minh, Bandar Seri Begawan, Vienna, Wellington, Auckland, Melbourne, Bangalore, San Francisco, Tokyo, Jakarta, Tromso, Ljubljana, Toronto, Singapore, South Korea)

2015 *The Kalampag Tracking Agency*, London

*2015 Image Festival*, Toronto

2014 *The Singapore International Film Festival*, EXiS, Singapore

National Museum Of Korea, Seoul

UPFI Center Videotheque, University Of The Philippines, Manila

USC-TC Cafa Theater, Cebu

Green Papaya Art Projects, Manila

*Man & Nature*, South To South Film Festival, Jakarta

2013 *Lupang Prabang Film Festival*, Lupang Prabang

*Traveing Chopshots Festival*, An.oth.er.8, Sda Cinema, Manila

*Intercambiator*, Projector Festival, Madrid

2012 *Chopshots Documentary Film Festival Southeast Asia*, Jakarta

*Cinema Rehiyon*, Barangay Punta Taytay, Negros

2011 *Vi Carnival Of E-Creativity Festival*, Indonesia

2010 *Ultimate Time Lapse Mega Mix*, Melbourne

2009 *Cinekatipunan*, Magnet, Manila

### EDUCATION

2006 Bachelor in Mixed Media and Media Art, Aki Academy Of Visual Arts and Design, Enschede, The Netherlands

2005 Kuvataideakatemi, Finnish Academy of Fine Arts, Time and Space Department, Finland

### SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Quijon, Carlos Jr. "Equation of State." *ArtReview Asia*, Spring 2020, vol. 8, issue no. 1.

Balaguer, John Alexis. "Martha Atienza Equation of State." *ArtAsiaPacific*, March/April 2020, vol. 117, p. 85.

Deyro, Elizabeth Ruth. "A Sense of Community." *ArtPlus Magazine*, issue no. 66, pp. 34-37.

De Castro, Chiara. "Art: Martha Atienza's Equation of State – using island technology and video to illuminate the effects of climate change in Bantayan's communities." *Adobo Magazine*. Accessed 5 May 2020. <https://www.adobomagazine.com/the-magazine/martha-atienzas-equation-of-state-using-video-art-and-island-technology-to-illuminate-the-effects-of-climate-change-in-bantayan->

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Stead, Chloe. "Martha Atienza protects Filipino shores with robotic mangroves." Art Basel. Accessed 5 May 2020. <https://www.artbasel.com/stories/martha-atienza-climate-change-philippines-art>

"Taipei Biennial 2018." Artforum, April 2019, vol. 57, issue no. 8, p. 216.

"The 9th Asia Pacific Triennial keeps up with the zeitgeist." Ocula. Accessed 5 May 2020. <https://ocula.com/magazine/reports/the-9th-asia-pacific-triennial-keeps-up-with/>

Masters, H.G. "Martha Atienza." ArtAsiaPacific Almanac 2018, XIII, p. 73.

Haruko, Kumakara, Martha Atienza and Atonisla, Sunshower: Contemporary Art from Southeast Asia 1980's to Now, August 2017.

"Martha Atienza's Sub Aquatic Procession Wins in Art Basel." BluPrint PH. Accessed June 2017. <http://bluprint.ph/martha-atienza-art-basel-2017/>

Juacian, Don. "Filipino political figures submerged in underwater parade." CNN Style. Accessed 5 May 2020. <https://edition.cnn.com/style/article/art-basel-2017-martha-atienza-underwater-art/index.html>

Wu, Crystal. "Martha Atienza and Sam Pulitzer Named Winners of Baloise Art Prize." ArtAsiaPacific. Accessed 16 June 2017. <http://artasiapacific.com/News/MarthaAtienzaandSamPulitzerNamedWinnersofBaloiseArtPrize2017>

Juacian, Don. "Why the International Art Worlds is Paying Attention to Martha Atienza's Video Art." CNN Life Philippines. Accessed 25 November 2016. <http://cnnphilippines.com/life/culture/arts/2016/11/25/martha-atienza-cover-story.html>

Juacian, Don. "Filipino artists triumph at the Singapore Biennale." CNN Life Philippines. Accessed 5 May 2020. <https://cnnphilippines.com/life/culture/arts/2016/11/04/singapore-biennale-2016.html>

Xuan Mau Ardia. "An Atlas Of Mirrors: The Singapore Biennale 2016." Art Radar Journal. 2016.

Wilson, Claire. "Ateneo Art Awards 2016 Announce Winners." Art Radar Journal. Accessed 21 September 2016. <http://artradarjournal.com/2016/09/21/ateneo-art-awards-2016-announce-winners/>

"Profiles: Martha Atienza." Art Asia Pacific. July/Agusut 2016, pp. 54-55.

Lagdameo, Jennifer, "Community Engagement," Art Asia Pacific, Issue 99., July/August 2016.

Santos, Carina. "Martha Atienza." The Philippine Star Lifestyle Magazine. 18 February 2016.

Acuin, Paulo, "Bench Presents Martha Atienza," Art Fair Philippines 2016 Catalogue, February 2016.

Olazo, Jonathan, "Stories from the Sea or Underwater," 2015 Thirteen Artists Awards, 2015.