Art for Healing & Carino The WHO experience

Published in conjunction with the exhibition

Art for Healing & Caring: The WHO experience October 10 to 14, 2011

The exhibition is presented by the World Health Organization in collaboration with Ayala Museum, on the occasion of the 62nd Session of the Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, at the WHO Regional Office, Manila, Philippines.

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Western Pacific Region

Participating Artists

Tam Austria

Manuel Baldemor

Norma Belleza

Lor Calma

Jenny Cortes

Araceli Limcaco-Dans

Jeff Dizon

Arturo Luz

Ramon Orlina

Mario Parial

Popo San Pascual

Juvenal Sanso

Claude Tayag



Message

The exhibition "Art for Healing & Caring: The WHO Experience" is a step closer to realizing the vision of providing a venue to exhibit art objects from the Western Pacific Region which illustrate the richness, color, diversity and wealth of cultures and history of the Region's member countries.

The idea of establishing an art gallery at the Headquarters of the World Health Organization Regional Office for the Western Pacific came about at the time when plans were being drawn up for the renovation and rehabilitation of WHO's conference hall which incurred damages caused by typhoon Ondoy in September 2009. The devastation brought by Typhoon Ondoy was turned into an opportunity not only to bring back the WHO Conference Hall to its functional state but to upgrade its facilities and restore it to its old glory. The renovation of the Conference Hall therefore was designed to allow for the creation of an art gallery that will eventually house a permanent display of art objects that can truly be the best representation of the material cultures in the Region.

This exhibition organized in collaboration with the Ayala Museum signals the beginning of building up the WPRO Art Gallery that is to be a showcase of the arts, history and culture of the 37 countries and areas that comprise the Western Pacific Region.

Dr Shin Young-soo Regional Director WHO Western Pacific Region



Notes on the Exhibition

ART FOR HEALING & CARING: THE WHO EXPERIENCE

Science has yet to solidly prove that art has helped to enhance well-being and healing in medicine. However, art appreciation has been observed to be used as an aid or among the tools used to help in human care and healing. After all, isn't this one of art's reason for being?

On the occasion of the 62nd Session of the Regional Committee for the Western Pacific being held at the WHO Regional Office in Manila, the Philippines from 10 – 14 October 2011, the Ayala Museum has prepared the exhibition, ART FOR HEALING & CARING: THE WHO EXPERIENCE to showcase contemporary art in the Philippines for participants, both national and international, to this annual meeting. A selection of works by thirteen (13) Filipino artists that comprise paintings, sculptures and art furniture have been assembled for the exhibition. Leading the roster of artists is Arturo R. Luz, recipient of the National Artist of the Philippines for Visual Arts Awards in 1997.

The exhibition is being put up to dramatize the extent of wealth, color, richness, vibrance and pageantry of the local culture as demonstrated through the arts of Filipinos. Moreover, the show serves as the launch of WHO's plan for a permanent exhibition of the arts and culture of Member States of the Western Pacific Region.

Kenneth C. Esguerra Senior Curator & Head of Conservation Ayala Museum





Tam Austria, MOTHER AND CHILD, 1980, Oil on board, 89 x 89 cm, Ayala Museum Collection

Atanacio "Tam" Austria is best known for his folk genre and interpretation of Philippine myths. He is also known for his Madonna-and-Child series, painted mostly in sepia brown and somber tones.





Manuel Baldemor, PASKO PILIPINO, 1983, Molave wood relief, 34.2 x 80 cm, Ayala Museum Collection

Manuel Baldemor comes from an artist's family from Paete, Laguna, a municipality south of Manila. This town is famous for its woodcarvings. His art was influenced greatly by folk art traditions and his formal art training at the University of Santo Tomas where he graduated in 1986.

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