

## DINA GADIA

### Bio

Visually arresting with a style that exploits the familiar, in playing with signs and language culled from popular printed matter and other quotidian expression, the works of Dina Gadia are imaginative subversions of cultural codes, featuring collaged realities and altered bodies that bespeak of gender issues and sexuality, taste and identity, of the official and the outsider, fine art and lowbrow culture, authorship and subjectivity, all done with a touch of whimsy and a sense of wonder for everything strange and absurd. Gadia's approach to her practice involves a deft handling of cut-up elements disposed in unorthodox settings, which brings about the distortion and detournement of its content into areas of discomfiting subject matter, probing areas previously unrecognized yet perceptive of sociological and psychological matters that tread on the path of the political. Notably in most works, found text ambiguously loaded with significance are combined with appropriated images selected from pulp magazines of a certain milieu, resonating larger localized contexts and its people, which can yield unsettling relationships with regard to postcolonial attitudes, the view and treatment of women, and the contested boundaries of taste and class issues that unveil disparate economic realities. Most often these jarring juxtapositions are imbued with humor, surprisingly, like a Freudian slip that unleashes the unwanted in a witty but exact manner. Humor consequently in Gadia's work becomes a reliable weapon in discharging cultural anxieties. Not only are visual puns generated through physical or formal incongruences in a comedic cycle of errors - by way of pictorial proportion, composition, gesture and

expression, but also through a deadpan narration of the impossible yet true - all portrayed vividly in ironic manner. Gadia's paintings remarkably capture the tone of the cryptic angsts and uncertainties of her subject matter, the lost and inchoate expressions of an oblivious community, applying a touch that is removed from sentimentality or self-righteous judgment. Doing so, the artist employs tropes of illustration and design to remove the proverbial weight of the author's hand, a post-modern resolve that Gadia has mastered.

Dina Gadia is represented by Silverlens Galleries in Manila and has exhibited extensively since 2005 both locally and internationally. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts Major in Advertising and Design at Far Eastern University in 2006. Gadia was shortlisted for the Ateneo Art Awards in 2012 for her exhibit *Regal Discomforts*. Her work has been the subject of numerous publications, and her interest on the creative output and history of print design and illustration extends to her collaborative publishing project in Saturnino Basilla.

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b. 1986, Pangasinan, PH



*New Nadir: Ventures on  
Unchallenged Imagination, 2013*

### AWARDS

2012 *Ateneo Art Awards*, shortlist, Ateneo Art Gallery, Manila

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 (Upcoming), Silverlens, Manila  
2016 *Never Landscape*, West Gallery, Manila  
*Vase, Floral and Other Substitute*, Pon Ding, Taipei  
2015 *Select The Right Bad Picture*, Clear Edition and Gallery, Tokyo  
*Non Mint Copy*, Owen James Gallery, Brooklyn, New York  
*At Odds With The Visual*, Silverlens, Manila  
2013 *Adaptable to New Redundancies*, Silverlens, Singapore  
*Convenient Culture Prop*, Silverlens, Manila  
2012 *Primal Salvo in Vibracolor*, Silverlens, Manila  
2011 *Regal Discomforts*, Blanc, Manila  
2010 *Contra-Affair*, Silverlens, Manila  
*How Does That Grab You Darling*, Blanc, Manila  
2009 *Ultra Plastic Style Now!*, Hiraya Gallery, Manila

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 *Translacion*, Silverlens, Manila  
2016 *Exchange Rates 2016*, Owen James Gallery, New York  
*Masks*, curated by Kult and ASHU, Diesel Gallery, Tokyo  
*Short Span: Works on Paper*, Post Gallery, Manila  
*Binding*, Blanc Gallery, Quezon City  
*Art on Paper, Owen James Gallery, Pier 36, New York*  
2015 *Bangkal Paintings*, curated by Nilo Ilarde, Underground Gallery, Manila  
*PaperViews15: Rapid Cycling*, Project Space Pilipinas, Lucban  
*Art Fair Philippines*, Manila  
*Dry Rub*, Post Gallery, Manila  
*Just Mad6*, Owen James Gallery, Madrid  
*Maphilindo*, Balai Seni Lukis Sabah, Kota Kinabalu  
*Melted City 2*, Blanc Gallery, Manila  
2014 *Bookends*, curated by Mariano Ching, Blanc Gallery, Manila  
*Brave New Worlds: My Utopia in your Dystopia*, curated by Manuel Ocampo, Metropolitan Museum of Manila, Manila  
*Hang 'em High*, Blanc Gallery, Manila  
*The Shadow Factory*, curated by Gary-Ross Pastrana, Silverlens, Singapore  
*Art Fair Philippines*, Manila  
*Neo Folk Showcase*, Ikkan Gallery, Singapore  
2013 *Still*, Blanc, Manila  
*Ley Hunting Pt. 2*, curated by Gary-Ross Pastrana, Silverlens, Singapore

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- Art Fair Philippines*, Manila
- 2012 *Bastards of Misrepresentation: NY Edition*, curated by Manuel Ocampo, New York
- Other*, curated by Lisa Chikiamco, Altromondo, Manila
- Ley Hunting Pt. 1*, curated by Gary-Ross Pastrana, Silverlens, Manila
- Just Leave the Itch Alone*, (two-person show w/ Allan Balisi), Pablo Gallery, Manila
- From the Black Lagoon*, D.A.G.C., Manila
- Art HK 12*, Hong Kong
- Fishnet Strangling She-male Accupuncture Bitchfest or The Y2K Babes* curated by Jeona Zoleta, Finale Art File, Manila
- 2011 *It Doesn't Snow in Manila*, Art Informal, Manila
- Pulse Miami Art Fair*, Miami
- Recent Prints*, D.A.G.C., Manila
- Hats On, Bottoms Off*, Blanc, Manila
- On the Radar: Six New Symptoms*, curated by Gary-Ross Pastrana, Silverlens, Manila
- Touch Me: An Exhibit of Artist' Books*, curated by Angelo V. Suarez, Hiraya Gallery, Manila
- Flatfield*, West Gallery, Quezon City
- Survivalism*, Light and Space Contemporary, Quezon City
- Departure Area*, Republikha Gallery, Quezon City
- We Are Not Aimless*, Manila Contemporary, Manila
- 2010 *His and Hers*, Blanc, Manila
- Sirens Hall*, organized by Mariano Ching, Mo Space, Taguig
- Happily Unhappy*, curated by Louie Cordero and Jordin Isip, Blanc, Manila
- Paper Panic!*, (two-person show w/ Mark Salvatus), Silverlens, Manila
- 2009 *Saturday Fun Machine*, organized by Mariano Ching, Finale Art File, Manila
- Tears, Cuts and Ruptures: A Philippine Collage Review*, curated by Gary-Ross Pastrana, Silverlens, Manila
- Pottymouth*, Blanc, Manila
- If You Only Walk Long Enough*, Studio 83, Singapore
- Welcome to the Jungle*, Art Informal, Manila
- Kasibulan PasyonNasyon*, Cultural Center of the Philippines
- 2008 *Boxed 3*, The Cubicle, Pasig City
- Tutokkk*, Blanc, Manila
- Amor Solo*, Amores Muchos, Hiraya Gallery, Manila
- Outtwotowwot*, Big Sky Mind, Quezon City
- 2007 *December Show*, Blanc, Manila
- Four Corners*, Fashion + Art Gallery, Quezon City
- Boxed 2*, Cultural Center of the Philippines
- 2006 *Plugged V*, Big Sky Mind, Quezon City
- Strange Things and Other Life Forms*, Chunky Far Flung Gallery, Quezon City
- 2005 *Plugged IV*, Big Sky Mind, Quezon City

# SILVERLENS

www.silverlensgalleries.com

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*Definition of Undefined Colors*, Pablo, Quezon City

*Wallpaper\**, Big Sky Mind, Quezon City

#### **EDUCATION**

2002-2006 Far Eastern University - Manila  
Bachelor of Fine Arts, Major in Advertising