

osage art foundation

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# Press Release

Attention Arts and Features Editors

23 February 2011

For immediate release

## Regional Perspectives: Chabet 50 Years

**Forum: *Chabet in Three and Four Dimensions***

**Complete & Unabridged, Part II**

05.03.2011, 4pm

Venue: Osage Kwun Tong

**Speakers: Gary-Ross Pastrana, Ringo Bunoan, Isabel Ching, Ark Fongsmut and John Batten**

**Moderators: Charles Merewether and Lee Weng Choy**

**Chabet in Three and Four Dimensions** is a forum held in conjunction with the series of four exhibitions centred on pioneering Filipino artist Roberto Chabet, presented by the Osage Art Foundation and the Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore.

Please join us as exhibition curators Gary-Ross Pastrana, Ringo Bunoan and Isabel Ching discuss the different dimensions of Chabet's art practice, and Bangkok curator Ark Fongsmut adds his perspective on conceptual art practices in Thailand. Hong Kong-based writer and critic John Batten will act as respondent, and Charles Merewether and Lee Weng Choy will moderate the session and following discussion.

Since his first exhibition in 1961, Chabet has been instrumental in establishing the foundations for contemporary practice in the Philippines. His works, ranging from painting, drawing, collage, sculpture to installation, resist easy categorisation. Using mostly ordinary and found material, he takes an inclusive approach to art, searching for the sublime not just in abstract ideas but also in the immediacy of the quotidian and the commonplace.

The four exhibitions, "**To Be Continued**", "**Intermediate Geography**" and "**Complete & Unabridged, Parts I and II**", feature Chabet and 80 contemporary artists from the Philippines, all of whom studied with or were mentored by him at the University of the Philippines, College of Fine Arts, or at key artist-run spaces in Manila.



Roberto Chabet, **COMPLETE & UNABRIDGED**, 2010,  
Neon, plywood, metal bracket, transformer, 488cm X 30cm X 17cm

These exhibitions are part of “**Chabet 50 Years**”, a series of projects organised by King Kong Art Projects Unlimited throughout 2011 – 2012 at various venues in Singapore, Hong Kong and Manila in celebration of fifty years of Chabet’s pioneering conceptual work and his role in shaping Philippine contemporary art.

The Asian Cultural Council is the principal sponsor of the forum and a partner organisation for the entire project. Mr Chabet is one of the first artists from the Philippines to receive a fellowship in 1967, which supported him to travel to the United States.

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**Past exhibition: TO BE CONTINUED**

Artist:	Roberto Chabet
Curators:	Ringo Bunoan, Isabel Ching and Nilo Ilarde
Exhibition Duration:	14 January 2011 till 11 February 2011
Opening Reception:	13 January 2011 (Thursday), 6:30pm – 9pm

**Past event: Curators' Talk**

Date:	14 January 2011 (Friday)
Time:	5pm - 7pm
Venue:	Room #F201, LASALLE College of the Arts 1 McNally Street, Singapore 187940
Language:	English
Participants:	Respondent: Ahmad bin Mashadi Head of National University of Singapore Museum  Speakers: Ringo Bunoan <i>Artist, curator, writer and researcher.</i> Isabel Ching <i>Independent curator and adjunct lecturer in the Masters of Asian Art Histories Department at the LASALLE College of the Arts</i>  Moderators: Charles Merewether <i>Director of Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore</i> Lee Weng Choy <i>Director of Projects, Research &amp; Publications, OAF</i>

**COMPLETE & UNABRIDGED PART I**

Artists:	Agnes Arellano   Bernardo Pacquing   Bert Antonio   Crispin Villanueva Jr.   Dan Raralio   Elaine Roberto-Navas   Felix Bacolor   Francesca Enriquez   Gaston Damag   Gerardo Tan   Jet Melencio   Jojo Serrano   Jonathan Olazo   Juan Alcazaren   Juni Salvador   Lani Maestro   Mona Santos   Nilo Ilarde   Pardo de Leon   Popo San Pascual   Raul Rodriguez   RM de Leon   Roberto Chabet   Rock Drilon   Ronald Achacoso   Soler Santos   Retired Artist   Trek Valdizno   Waling Waling Gorospe   Yolanda Perez-Johnson
Curators:	Ringo Bunoan, Isabel Ching and Gary-Ross Pastrana
Venue:	Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore (ICAS), LASALLE College of the Arts
Address:	1 McNally Street, Singapore 187940
Exhibition Duration:	18 February 2011 till 26 March 2011
Opening Reception:	17 February 2011 (Thursday), 6:30pm – 9pm
Hours:	Tues - Sun: 10:00am - 6:00pm (except Public Holidays)
Tel:	(+65) 6496 5070

**Past Event: Artist's Talk**

Date:	18 February (Friday)
Time:	4:00pm
Venue:	IRoom F202, Bldg F, Level 2. Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore (ICAS), LASALLE College of the Arts 1 McNally Street, Singapore 187940
Language:	English
Artist:	Lani Maestro, Artist

## COMPLETE AND UNABRIDGED PART II

Artists:	Aba Lluch Dalena   Al Cruz   Alvin Villaruel   Alvin Zafra   Amy Aragon   Annie Cabigting   Argie Bandyoy   Bea Camacho   Bembol de la Cruz   Cocoy Lumbao   Erik Sausa   Ernest Concepcion   Gary-Ross Pastrana   Geraldine Javier   Jayson Oliveria   Jay Ticar   Jed Escueta   Jonathan Ching   Jucar Raquepo   Kaloy Olavides   Katya Guerrero   Keiye Miranda   Kiri Lluch Dalena   Kreskin Sugay   Lea Lim   Lena Cobangbang   Louie Cordero   Lui Medina   Maria Taniguchi   Mariano Ching   Mawen Ong   Mike Crisostomo   Miko Sandejas   MM Yu   Nona Garcia   Norberto Roldan   Patricia Eustaquio   Paul Mondok   Paulo Vinluan   Pipo Alido   Poklong Anading   Pow Martinez   Ranelle Dial   Reg Yuson   Ringo Bunoan   Robert Langenegger   Roberto Chabet   Romeo Lee   Sam Kiyoumars   Wire Tuazon   Yasmin Sison   Yason Banal
Curators:	Ringo Bunoan, Isabel Ching and Gary-Ross Pastrana
Venue:	Osage Kwun Tong
Address:	5/F, Kian Dai Industrial Building, 73-75 Hung To Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong
Exhibition Duration:	5 March 2011 till 9 May 2011
Opening Reception:	4 March 2011 (Friday), 6pm – 8pm
Hours:	Mon - Sun: 10:00am - 7:00pm
Tel:	(+852) 2793 4817

### Artist's Workshop

Date:	5 March 2011 ( Saturday)
Time:	10:30am to 12:00 noon
Venue:	Osage Kwun Tong
	5/F, Kian Dai Industrial Building, 73 - 75 Hung To Road, Kwun Tong, Hong Kong
Language:	English
Artist:	Yason Banal <i>Professor at University of the Philippines Film Institute, Artist, Curator</i>

### Forum

Date:	5 March 2011 (Saturday)
Time:	4pm
Venue:	Osage Kwun Tong
	5/F, Kian Dai Industrial Building, 73 - 75 Hung To Road, Kwun Tong, Hong Kong
Language:	English
Participants:	<p><b>Speakers:</b>            John Batten <i>Writer, art critic, curator and organiser</i>            Ringo Bunoan <i>Artist, curator, writer and researcher</i>            Isabel Ching <i>Independent Curator and adjunct lecturer in the Masters of Asian Art Histories Department at the LASALLE College of the Arts</i>            Ark Fongsmut <i>Curator at Bangkok University Gallery</i>            Gary-Ross Pastrana <i>Artist, organiser and co-founder of Future Prospects art space, Manila</i></p> <p><b>Moderators:</b>            Lee Weng Choy <i>Director of Projects, Research &amp; Publications, OAF</i>            Charles Merewether <i>Director of Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore</i></p>

## INTERMEDIATE GEOGRAPHY

Artist:	Roberto Chabet
Curator:	Nilo Ilarde
Venue:	Osage Soho
Address:	45 Caine Road, L/G Shop 1, Corner Old Bailey St, Soho Central, Hong Kong
Exhibition Duration:	5 March 2011 till 9 May 2011
Hours:	Mon - Sat: 10:30am - 7:30pm Sun: 12:00pm - 5:00pm
Tel:	(+852) 2537 0688

## **ABOUT ROBERTO CHABET**

Roberto Chabet is a pioneering Filipino conceptual artist. Since his first exhibition in 1961, Chabet has questioned and critiqued modernity through his art, thereby establishing the foundations for contemporary art in the Philippines. His works, ranging from painting, drawing, collage, sculpture, and installation, resist easy categorization and oversimplified binary systems espoused by modern thought. Using mostly ordinary and found material, he insists on a more inclusive approach to art, a search for the sublime not just in abstract ideas but also in the immediacy of the quotidian and the commonplace.

Chabet studied Architecture at the University of Santo Tomas where he graduated in 1961. He had his first solo exhibition at the Luz Gallery in the same year. He was the founding Museum Director of the CCP from 1967 - 1970 where he initiated the first Thirteen Artists Awards with a goal in giving recognition to young artists whose works 'show a recentness, a turning away from the past and familiar modes of art-making'. He led the 1970s conceptual art group Shop 6 and taught for over thirty years at the UP College of Fine Arts, where he advocated a kind of practice that gave precedence to idea over form. Since the 1970s, he has also been organising landmark exhibitions featuring vanguard works by young artists, many of whom are among the most active and innovative artists in Manila today. He is the recipient of the 1972 Republic Cultural Heritage Award, the 1972 Araw ng Maynila Award for the Visual Arts and the 1998 Centennial Honor for the Arts.

## **ABOUT OSAGE ART FOUNDATION**

The Osage Art Foundation (OAF) was established in 2004 as an international not-for-profit philanthropic organization. A key part of the Osage Art Foundation's mission is to foster a deeper regional consciousness of the arts within Asia. OAF programmes are distinguished by their focus on cultural exchange, educational outreach and the building of knowledge; OAF exhibitions develop from substantial research, aim to make strong statements about significant as well as emerging artists, and to provide regional platforms for innovative curatorial perspectives. The OAF further aims to help increase community participation in the arts through better education and more platforms for engagement in order to help shape a future in which the arts play a vital role in the everyday life.

Please visit [www.oaf.cc](http://www.oaf.cc) for more information.

## **ABOUT INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS SINGAPORE**

The Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore (ICAS) is the curatorial division of LASALLE College of the Arts. It manages the galleries of LASALLE comprising some 1,500 square meters of exhibition space dedicated to exploring new and experimental art, design and media practices. The curatorial programme focuses on showcasing contemporary art with the aim of contributing to the cultural well-being of students, artists and members of the public. Committed to the experimental and the new, the programme seeks to support practices which challenge orthodoxies and establishment.

Please visit [www.lasalle.edu.sg](http://www.lasalle.edu.sg) for more information.

## **ABOUT ASIAN CULTURAL COUNCIL**

The Asian Cultural Council (ACC) is the only organization in the world whose sole mission is to support cultural exchange between the United States and Asia and within the countries of Asia. Headquartered in New York city, the ACC maintains offices in Hong Kong and Tokyo with partner Foundations in Manila and Taipei. Grants are awarded for research and creative projects across a wide spectrum of the performing and visual arts, and across both traditional and contemporary concentrations. Some grants are also made to educational and cultural institutions engaged in projects of special significance to Asian-American exchange. The ACC is both a grant-making and grant-seeking organization, raising funding from corporate, foundation and individual donors in both the United States and Asia.

Please visit [www.asianculturalcouncil.org](http://www.asianculturalcouncil.org) for more information.

## **ABOUT KING KONG ART PROJECTS UNLIMITED**

King Kong Art Projects Unlimited is a non-profit artist organization that supports the alternative in Philippine art through exhibitions, talks, educational programs, research and documentation, publications, and other art-related projects. The organization was established in 2010 by artists Ringo Bunoan, Nilo Ilarde, Mawen Ong, Soler Santos, and MM Yu.

Please visit [www.kingkongartprojects.org](http://www.kingkongartprojects.org) for more information.

For more information on the speakers and curators, please get in contact with Media Team in Hong Kong.

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**Press Images**

TO BE CONTINUED



Installation View, Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore, LASALLE College of the Arts  
Photos courtesy of At Maculangan / Pioneer Studio, Manila

COMPLETE AND UNABRIDGED PART I



Roberto Chabet, **Complete & Unabridged**, 2010, Neon, plywood, metal bracket, transformer, 488cm X 30cm X 17cm  
Image courtesy of MM Yu



Felix Bacolor, **TERMINAL**, 2010, Installation, 1067cm X 61cm X 61cm  
Image courtesy of MM Yu



Juan Alcazaren, **INVOLUNTARY**, 2009, Installation, Dimensions Variable  
Image courtesy of MM Yu

COMPLETE & UNABRIDGED PART II



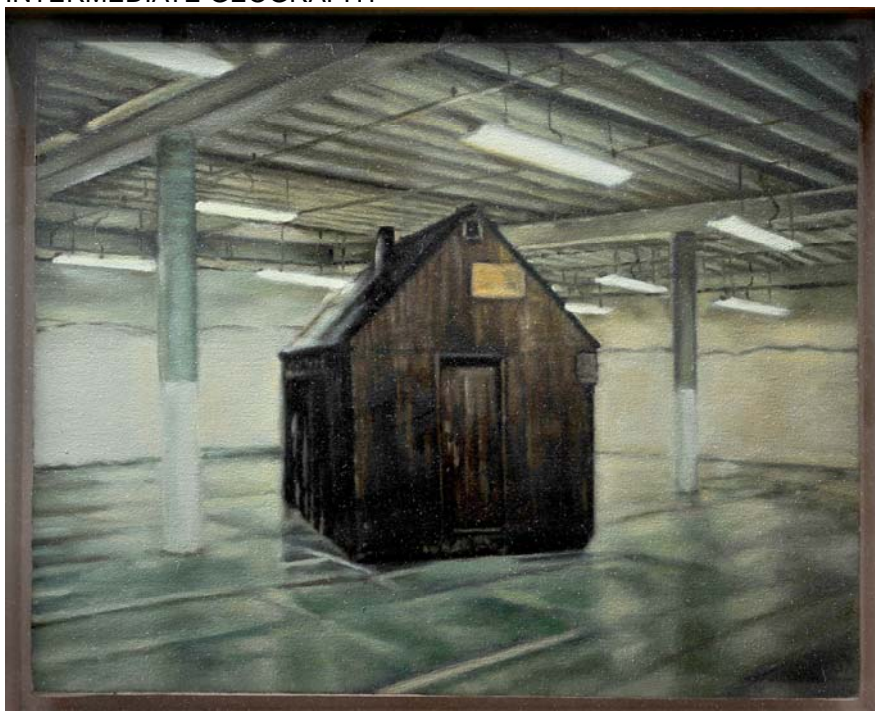
Kaloy Olavides, **Etherealscape: Full Screen**, 2008, Collage, 122cm X 122cm



Gary-Ross Pastrana, **Stream**, 2008, Re-assembled boat, 585cm



INTERMEDIATE GEOGRAPHY



Roberto Chabet, **Intermediate Geography (detail)**, 2005 / 2011, Oil on canvas, 35.5cm X 43.6cm X 7.6cm  
Photo courtesy of Roberto Chabet