

NOME

FABULOUS EXPLOITS OF THE FAR EAST
CIAN DAYRIT
JUNE 5 – AUGUST 28, 2021

NOME is pleased to announce a solo exhibition with Cian Dayrit. This will be the artist's second exhibition with the gallery. *Fabulous Exploits of the Far East* presents three series of works that reflect and respond to the legacies of colonialism and the current semi-feudal and semi-colonial state of the Philippines.

Archetypes of the Semi-Colony (2017), a collaboration with Bellas Artes Projects, is a series of sculptures in the form of outsized wooden masks. Conceived both as a form of storytelling and an emblem of protection, each mask reflects upon an issue facing the indigenous Aeta in Bataan, who have been subjected to violent landgrabs that have stripped them of their homes, livelihoods, and ancestral ties. Each sculpture personifies episodes and chapters of the colonial history of this region. A series of assemblages entitled *Terra Rationarium* examines systemic oppression on a more personal and intimate scale. Shaped like houses, these objects reconfigure microscopic life-worlds into theatrical depictions of cruelty (ranging from highly local to supranational) bound together by exploitative practices of hegemonic neo-imperial powers like mineral extraction, monocrop agriculture, cheap labor, militarization, and the market of surplus. Each assemblage encapsulates different forms of slavery, which according to geographer Jason Moore are "internal and external frontiers that snake their ways into our web of life." *A Natural history of Struggle* (2021), made in collaboration with RJ Fernandez and Henry Caceres, comprises seven new textile works that draw upon the archive of American zoologist and colonial administrator Dean Conant Worcester. Worcester's photographs are printed upon textiles and embroidered with texts, emblems, and adornments, thereby opening up the original archival photographs as an arena to reframe power-relationships and inscribe counter narratives within the colonial history of the Philippines.

Cian Dayrit (b. 1989, Manila) is a Filipino multimedia artist. His interdisciplinary practice explores questions related to colonialism, ethnography, archeology, history, and mythology. He has exhibited his works in group and solo exhibitions internationally, including the Gwangju Biennale (2021), Berlin Biennale (2020), Gothenburg Biennial (2019) Dhaka Art Summit (2018) and the New Museum's triennial *Songs for Sabotage* (2018). Dayrit will participate in the forthcoming editions of the Biennial of Sydney and the MOMENTUM Biennial.

NOMEGALLERY.COM

Potsdamer Str. 72 - 10785 - Berlin

N O M E

Fabulous Exploits of the Far East

Cian Dayrit

05 June – 28 August 2021

Opens on 04 June, 4–9pm

Potsdamer Str. 72

IMPORTANT:

According to the current regulation, **visits are possible by appointment only and with a negative covid-test from the same day.** Please contact us at info@nomegallery.com.

Press contact

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