



Stephanie Comilang

In the IBB Video Space

25.2.26 – 1.6.26

Artist Talk during Gallery Weekend Berlin
Sat 2 May 26, 4 pm

In her work, Stephanie Comilang engages themes of labour, technology and postcolonial entanglement in the context of global mobility. Combining documentary footage, fictional elements and personal narratives, she describes her films as “science fiction documentaries”.

In “Lumapit Sa Akin, Paraiso” (Come to Me, Paradise) (2017, 26 min.), the urban space of Hong Kong is imagined from the perspective of Filipina migrant women. The film is narrated by Paraiso, a spirit embodied by a drone, who speaks of displacement, isolation and the search for meaning. On Sundays, thousands of women gather in the financial district, asserting a temporary space of care, community and self-determination beyond the households in which they work and live. This collective presence allows Paraiso to fulfil its task: transmitting the women’s images, voices and messages across distance. Bringing together dystopian architecture, digital technologies and intimate gestures, the film offers a layered reflection on migration, public space and connectedness.

“Search for Life I” (2024, 20 min.) is a visual exploration of global mobility. The work traces historical shipping routes that date back to the colonisation of the Philippines and are now used by the global container trade. At its centre are the lived realities of former Filipino seafarers: the artist Joar Songcuya and the florist Michael John Diaz. Their biographies are interwoven with the voices of the historian Guadalupe Pinzón Ríos and the lepidopterist Jade Aster T. Badon. The monarch butterfly functions as a connecting motif, its long migration becoming a metaphor for transformation and resilience across generations. Interlacing personal narratives with poetic imagery, the work reflects on diaspora, collective memory and belonging.

About the artist

Stephanie Comilang (born 1980, Toronto) is a Filipino-Canadian artist based in Berlin. She studied at the Ontario College of Art & Design. Recent solo exhibitions include presentations at the Schirn Kunsthalle Frankfurt, the National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, and the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza, Madrid.



IBB Video Space

Since 2011 the IBB Video Space has been screening artists who work with time-based media. The programme features not only established names in contemporary video art but also up-and-coming artists rarely seen in museums to date. For these, the Berlinische Galerie seeks to facilitate an institutional débüt.

Each screening brings a new encounter with work that raises questions about the medium and about social or political issues. Importance is attached to including marginalised perspectives and to shedding light on the impact of power structures.

More video works online:

bg.berlin/en/video-art-online

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Press Berlinische Galerie

Sascha Perkins

Head of Communications and Education

Tel +49 (0)30 789 02 829

perkins@berlinischegalerie.de

Contact

Janet Riedel

Communications

Tel +49 (0)30 789 02 831

riedel@berlinischegalerie.de

Berlinische Galerie
Berlin's Museum of Modern Art,
Photography and Architecture
Alte Jakobstraße 124–128
10969 Berlin
Tel +49 (0)30 789 02 600
berlinischegalerie.de

Admission 12€, concessions 7€
Every 1st Wed of the month
7€ for everyone
Wed–Mon 10 am–6 pm
Tue closed

Press images

[berlinischegalerie.de/en/press-release/
stephanie-comilang](http://berlinischegalerie.de/en/press-release/stephanie-comilang)

Online tickets

bg.berlin/en/tickets

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