

DEPARTMENT OF ART AND DESIGN

Opening Reception

Thursday, March 30, 2017, 5-7 p.m.

Gallery Talk with the Artist

Thursday, March 30, 2017, 6 p.m.

Exhibition on View

March 30 – April 27, 2017

Elsie B. Rosefsky Memorial Art Gallery Fine Arts Building, Room 259 Binghamton University



Ink, Goauche, and Watercolor on Paper, 20 x 30 inches

Marcelino Stuhmer

A LIFE TO THOSE SHADOWS

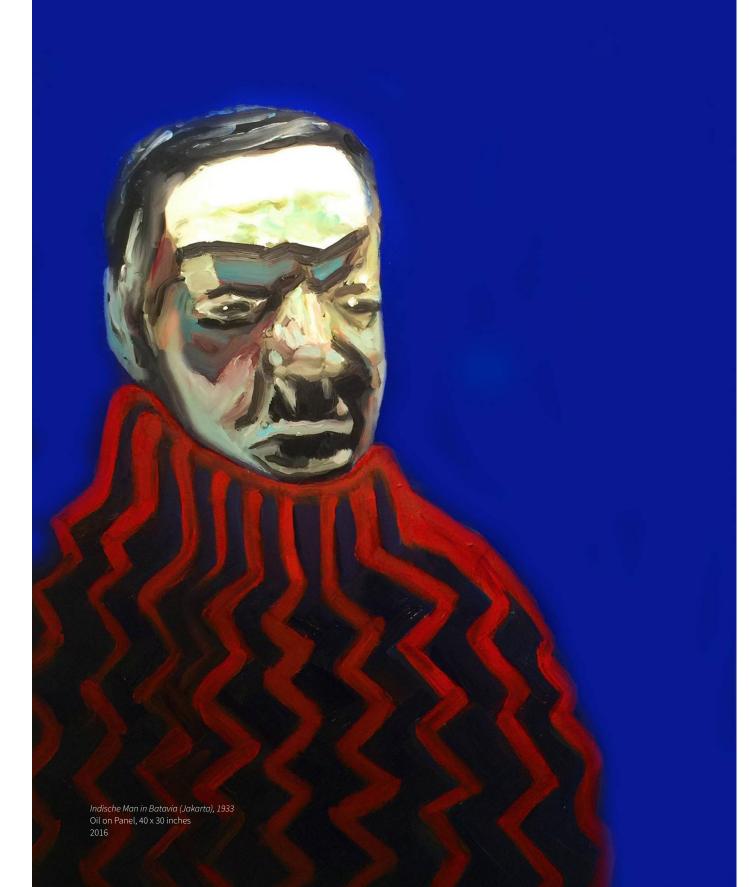
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A LIFE TO THOSE SHADOWS



Timeline of Dutch Javanese Men (1800-1954)

A Life to Those Shadows is a series of real and invented portraits that critically reconstruct, and attempt to create images for temporal experiences, which formerly had no visual component. As a first generation American of Dutch-Indonesian heritage, I find it unsettling that the Indische (Dutch-Indonesian) ethnicity is rapidly disappearing in the post-colonial diaspora of the 21st century. The distinctive Indische ethnicity came about when the first Dutch traders arrived on the banks of Java in the early 17th century. Slowly, the Indische rose to a respectable position in the rigid caste system in the Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia), while native Javanese had few opportunities to raise their educational and social status. For this reason, Indische men identified themselves as Dutch, and many fought in the Netherlands Royal Military against Japanese occupying forces during WWII. Following the Indonesian War for Independence (1945-49) 98% of the Indische population left their own country to 'repatriate' in Holland, a country most of them had never seen. The portraits are an imaginary genetic time line of speculative Dutch-Javanese ancestry through the process of visual invention; each face becomes a mask and an enigmatic labyrinth of shifting facial features. My obsessive remaking of the same or similar faces explores the pictorial paradoxes of how memory and the imaginary develop their own authentic forms of realism, and historical speculation. These faces reflect malleable, changeable, yet unknowable times, spaces, and narratives. The portraits address the crisis of race representation within the expansion of globalization, reflecting the familiar yet estranged voices of the current global mass migration crises. Two portraits of the dissident author and novelist Pramoedya Ananta Toer reflect the importance in writing Indonesian history through the Post-Colonial lens of Dutch imperialism, educational repression of native populations, to Post-Colonial Indonesian identity, to economic and political corruption, and the breakdown of racial, cultural and religious tolerance.





Marcelino Stuhmer earned his MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2000. He has participated in artist residencies at the Atlantic Center for the Arts (2006), Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture (2000), Cittadellarte-Pistoletto Foundation in Biella, Italy (2002), and completed a two-year research fellowship at the Rijksakademie in Amsterdam (2001-2002). Stuhmer's solo projects include "Get Ready to Shoot Yourself" at Jade Art Gallery in Bergamo, Italy (2009), "The Recurring Dream" at the Chicago Cultural Center (2008), "Transmission of Conflict" at Galerie Kusseneers in Antwerp (2003) and "Little Triggers" in the Playstation at Galerie Fons Welters in Amsterdam (2003). Group exhibitions include "PAINTING FOREVER: Young Artists from the Essl Collection" at the Essl Museum of Contemporary Art in Vienna (2012), "VOX VIII" at Vox Populi Gallery (2012), "Cinematic Bodies" at Zolla Lieberman Gallery in Chicago (2011) and "Bilingual: Art at the Intersection Between Painting and Video" at Columbia College in Chicago (2008).

Stuhmer has won a number of grants and prizes including a CAAP Grant in Chicago (2007), the Royal Prize for Painting in The Netherlands (2001), a Mondrian International Publication and Exhibition Grant (2003), and was named Best International Sculptor at the 4th Arte Laguna International Art Prize in Venice, Italy (2011). Stuhmer's work has been featured in New American Painting, Art Forum International, NRC Handlesblad in The Netherlands, The Chicago Tribune and Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, among others.

He is currently Assistant Professor of Painting in the Fine Arts program at the University of the Arts.

www.marcelinostuhmer.com