

DANCING THE SHRIMP

(The Tactical Improvisation of Post Colonial Space Mix)

JON CUYSON

1F Galleries

11 August – 15 September 2016

The Vargas Museum is pleased to present *Dancing The Shrimp (The Tactical Improvisation of Post Colonial Space Mix)* opening on August 11, 2016 at 4 pm at 1F Galleries. The exhibition features Jon Cuyson's new works of fragmented installations that combine painting, sculpture, sound, photography, performance and scenography. Jon Cuyson transforms the entire ground floor of the Vargas Museum into a space in flux, slipping between abstraction, figuration, ready made, still life and movement. Cuyson is interested in the appropriation and re appropriation of found texts, images and objects and their underlying social and psychological significations through the insertion of fiction and personal subjectivities as a means of destabilizing our perception of time, memory and space.

The artist's investigation of the 19th century Filipino settlement in the bayous of Louisiana led him to an image of settlers laboring under the sun removing shrimp shells using their feet referred to as "Dancing The Shrimp". This found document serves as the point of departure for the exhibition. Interwoven in the exhibition is the narrative of the fictional character "'Kerel", a trans Filipino seafarer who travels back and forth time further complicating our understanding of the mechanisms of the past with the present, authenticity and invention. *Dancing The Shrimp (The Tactical Improvisation of Post Colonial Space Mix)* brings together Jon Cuyson's interest in the relationship between history, impermanence, migration, and identity formation.

Born and educated in the Philippines, Jon Cuyson has participated in exhibitions in New York and Europe since 2004. His works employ different techniques and media including texts, photographs, drawings, artist books, paintings and installations. Jon Cuyson received a MFA from Columbia University in New York City in 2010 and currently lives and works in Manila, Philippines.

For more information, please contact Vargas Museum at (+632) 928-1927 (direct line), (+632) 981-8500 loc. 4024 (UP trunk line), (+632) 928-1925 (fax) or send an E-mail to vargasmuseum@gmail.com.

You may also check our website at <http://vargasmuseum.upd.edu.ph/> or like us at <http://www.facebook.com/vargasmuseum.upd> and follow us at Twitter and Instagram @UPVargasMuseum for updates.