The UP Vargas Museum in cooperation with The Drawing Room presents Gaston Damag’s solo exhibition titled IFUGAO RED at the Lobby and West Wing Gallery of the museum. The exhibition opens on 4 October, Saturday, 4pm.

Damag, an artist with roots in Ifugao, appropriates cultural objects and places them in a museological context. His works are cast as “civilizational and institutional critique” as well as “reflections on modernism.” The deity carved in wood called the bulul, pestles, knives, and other objects are mingled with industrial materials such as galvanized iron, steel cables, incandescent bulbs, and glass. This mixture may also be an analogue to Damag’s position as an artist with Philippine lineage residing in Paris and dividing his time between the two worlds. The reconstruction and deconstruction of what is imagined to be ethnic objects, such of the bulul, play out as a performance, a ritual performed in the museum.

Gaston Damag (b. 1964) graduated from the University of the Philippines with a Fine Arts degree in 1985. He further honed his studies in the arts at the École Nationale d’Art de Cergy – Pontoise and Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-arts de Paris, France. He received the First Prize in multimédia/sculpture competition in 1995 at the Ecole des Beaux-arts de Paris. He has exhibited in such platforms as the Thessaloniki Biennale in Greece; the Dexia Banque Internationale, Luxembourg; Miam Museum in Sète; and Topaz Arts Center in New York.

Ifugao Red runs until 15 November 2014.

For more information, please contact Vargas Museum at (+632) 928-1927 (direct line), (+632) 981-8500 loc. 4024 (UP trunkline), (+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 www.facebook.com/vargasmuseum.upd and follow us @UPVargasMuseum for updates.