

FPJ WAS HERE

From Tablazon's solo exhibit, *And the World Thickens with Texture Instead of History*, 10-channel video and mixed-media installation, curated by Seno, 8–29 November 2018, National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) Gallery, Intramuros, Manila.





These images foreground the nomadic loner and knight-errant tropes evident in FPJ's cinema. They arrest said spaces in their diegetic course and re-present these sections as semantically charged zones and potent states of spectral remanence that can be deployed and exhausted in lieu of event. The hero's body as the locus of identification and subjectivity disappears, paving the way for place to invoke what is absent. As studies in erasure, the images explore the paradoxical role of video piracy as a mode of commemoration and archive.

— *Cristian Tablazon, artist*

Cristian Tablazon lives and works in Los Baños, Laguna where he co-runs Nomina Nuda, a small nonprofit curatorial platform and exhibition space. His works have been shown at GAMeC, Image Forum Festival, Artspeak, Animistic Apparatus, Centro Casa Asia Madrid, CICA Museum, The Wrong Biennale, among others. He is a member of the Young Critics' Circle Film Desk.

Images courtesy of Cristian Tablazon and Shireen Seno, unless noted.



Courtesy of Marlon Hacla



Tablazon mines the filmic medium as a production of fantasy and posits his own take on our hero- crazed world. Taking extracts from pirated copies of FPJ films as his starting point, he manipulates and builds upon the images toward varying degrees of abstraction, offering a haunting alternate universe of possibilities.

—*Shireen Seno, curator*



Shireen Seno is an artist and filmmaker. Her multi-awarded work *Nervous Translation* (2018) was screened at MoMA, Tate Modern, and the Tokyo Photographic Art Museum, among others. She and John Torres run Los Otros, a studio and platform dedicated to the intersections of film and art. She is also part of Tito & Tita, an art and film collective.