



Fundació Joan Miró presents Asian video art proposals by Musquiqui Chihying and Timoteus Anggawan Kusno

- The exhibition is dedicated to two winners of the prestigious international Han Nefkens Foundation – Loop Barcelona grant, in collaboration with the Fundació Joan Miró.
- Musquiqui Chihying's proposal examines the complexities of applying Western industry lighting technologies to racialised subjects in film and mobile technology
- While Timoteus Anggawan Kusno explores trance states in traditional Javanese dance as a form of resistance to political oppression and colonial memory.
- The audiovisual projects can be seen in Room 20 of the Fundació Joan Miró from 14 March to 18 May 2025.

Barcelona, 14 March 2025. - The Fundació Joan Miró has inaugurated *New Talents in Asian Video Art*, an exhibition that brings together recent audiovisual projects by Musquiqui Chihying (Taipei, Taiwan, 1985) and Timoteus Anggawan Kusno (Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 1989), two artists who have been acclaimed for their innovative approach to contemporary video art. Both creators have been awarded the prestigious Han Nefkens Foundation – Loop Barcelona Video Art Production Grant, in collaboration with the Fundació Joan Miró, for the 2019 and 2021 editions respectively.

The support of these grants led to Musquiqui Chihying making *The Lighting* (2021) and Timoteus Anggawan Kusno *Reversal* and *Terra Incognita* (2022), the first two parts of his *Phantoms* trilogy. All were produced thanks to this grant call in collaboration with other European and Asian art centres.

A mix of film, mobile technology and historical memory

In *The Lighting*, Taiwanese artist Musquiqui Chihying begins with an investigation into the nuances of lighting for racialised subjects in the mobile phone sector and martial arts films in the great meccas of African cinema. The result is a peculiar crossroads between the racial biases of the mobile phone industry and the globalisation of the popular kung fu film sub-genre. Inspired by the aesthetics of B-movies shot on Ektachrome film in the 1970s, the artist examines how filmmakers and lighting technicians have developed systems for capturing images of racialised people in the film industry. The work features



Musquiqui Chihying interviewing technicians specialising in mobile phone photography applications and lighting technicians in the African film industry. These interviews are interspersed with kung fu scenes that emulate the style of martial arts actor Jim Kelly, with the intervention of a Bruce Lee-like digital narrator generated through facial motion capture and voice recognition.

For his part, in *Reversal* and *Terra Incognita*, video artist Timoteus Anggawan Kusno introduces us to the world of *jathilan*, a traditional Javanese dance that calls upon supernatural forces and ancestral spirits to possess the bodies of its participants until they enter a trance-like state. Kusno's hallucinatory films present this altered state as a strategy of resistance that can free its participants from the feudal oppression of the island of Java and the memory of Dutch colonialism in Indonesia.

International collaborations

The production of the screened projects has been made possible thanks to the support of the **Han Nefkens Foundation – Loop Barcelona Video Art Production Grant** in collaboration with the following institutions:

Musquiqui Chihying (2019): Fundació Joan Miró (Barcelona), Art Sonje Centre (Seoul), Inside-Out Art Museum (Beijing), MoCA (Taipei) and ILHAM Gallery (Kuala Lumpur).

Timoteus Anggawan Kusno (2021): Fundació Joan Miró (Barcelona), Inside-Out Art Museum (Beijing), MoCA (Taipei), ILHAM Gallery (Kuala Lumpur), Centre d'Art Contemporain (Geneva) and Art Hub Copenhagen.

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