

## Jose Rizal Art Exhibit Opens in Chicago - MabuhayRadio

Written by

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By JOSEPH G. LARIOS

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CHICAGO (*jGLi*) – Filipino-American international painter Bueno Silva breathed life into a black-and-white image of the two-Philippine peso bill of national hero Jose Rizal by painting it into a 26-inch by 52-inch triptych oil canvas in what was described as a double painting titled, “Duality of Rizal.”

With shades of gold as a backdrop, Mr. Silva made sure the face and bust image of the Philippine national hero springs forward while its mirror image recedes into the background. It took him seven months to finish the painting after a “thorough studies about Rizal’s features.”

After decades of being a traditional or conservative painter, Mr. Silva has graduated into an impressionist painter that puts to good use the interplay of adopting colors into his subject. He describes traditional or conservative painting as somewhat interpreting “exactly what a painter

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sees from a person or nature.”

After 25 years of painting in Chicago, the 73-year-old Mr. Silva confessed that he is now treading on expressionism, where a painter expresses himself towards a subject matter. “It is like getting the soul of the subject matter.”

The Rizal’s bust painting of Mr. Silva is just one of the nine paintings now on display at the street-level floor of the Daley Center at 50 West Washington Street in Downtown, Chicago until Aug 24th.

Other painters of Rizal-oriented subjects are Willi Buhay, Paul Cainto Balan, ERBU (Eve Red Buhay), Silva’s son, Eulalio Fabie de Silva, Susan Alforque Silvano and Sherie Sloane.

### **ART EXHIBIT INAUGURATED AUG. 15TH**

C onsul General Leo M. Herrera-Lim inaugurated the Art Exhibit of Seven Fil Am Visual Artists

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of Chicago last Monday, Aug. 15th, in a celebration called “The Philippine Renaissance Man, Jose Rizal.”

While ERBU has “Rizal’s Window,” an acrylic, 20-inch by 24-inch canvas; Willi R. Buhay has his young “Rizal” with arms of a woman believed to be Rizal’s mother wrapped around him as he looks at a lamp; Paul Cainto Balan’s 24-inch by 18-inch pen and ink drawings titled “Rizal’s Four Traits” and “Bella Esperanza de la Patria Mia” (Beautiful Hope of the Motherland); Eulalio Fabie de Silva’s 32-inch by 40-inch oil on canvas, “Rizal, Beyond The Stinky Fish;” Susan Alforque Silvano’s “Rizal: A Tourist in Chicago, 1888” and “The Renaissance Man,” on 18-inch by 24-inch watercolors on paper; and Sherie Sloane’s “Maria Clara,” “Jose Rizal,” and “Sisa,” all on 18-inch by 24-inch on acrylic on canvases.

Bueno Silva, considered “dean” of Fil Am Chicago-based artists, said the art exhibits by his group is their tribute to the 150th birth anniversary of Dr. Rizal. “Rizal had done a lot of good things to the Filipinos and the Philippines. It is just fitting that we return the favor by celebrating his heroism thru our art presentations,” Mr. Silva added.

The Filipino and mainstream community will have a chance to view the exhibit during office hours from now until August 24.

Some members of the diplomatic corps and other officials of the Philippine Consulate, namely, Deputy Consul General Orontes V. Castro, Vice Consul Alena Grace S. Borra and cultural

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officer, Berth D. Salvador and Edward M. Brotonel, president of the Filipino American National Historical Society of the Midwest chapter, the relatives and friends of the painters were on hand to witness the inaugural.

Only last Aug. 13, the father-and-son tandem of Bueno and Eulalio Fabie de Silva concluded a week-long art exhibit with Japanese artists Michael and son, David Tanimura in what was billed as "Kindred Spirits: Silva/Tanimura" held at Helium Gallery, 4710 North Ravenswood, Chicago.

Other works of Bueno Silva can be accessed at <http://www.buenosilva.com> . # # #

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