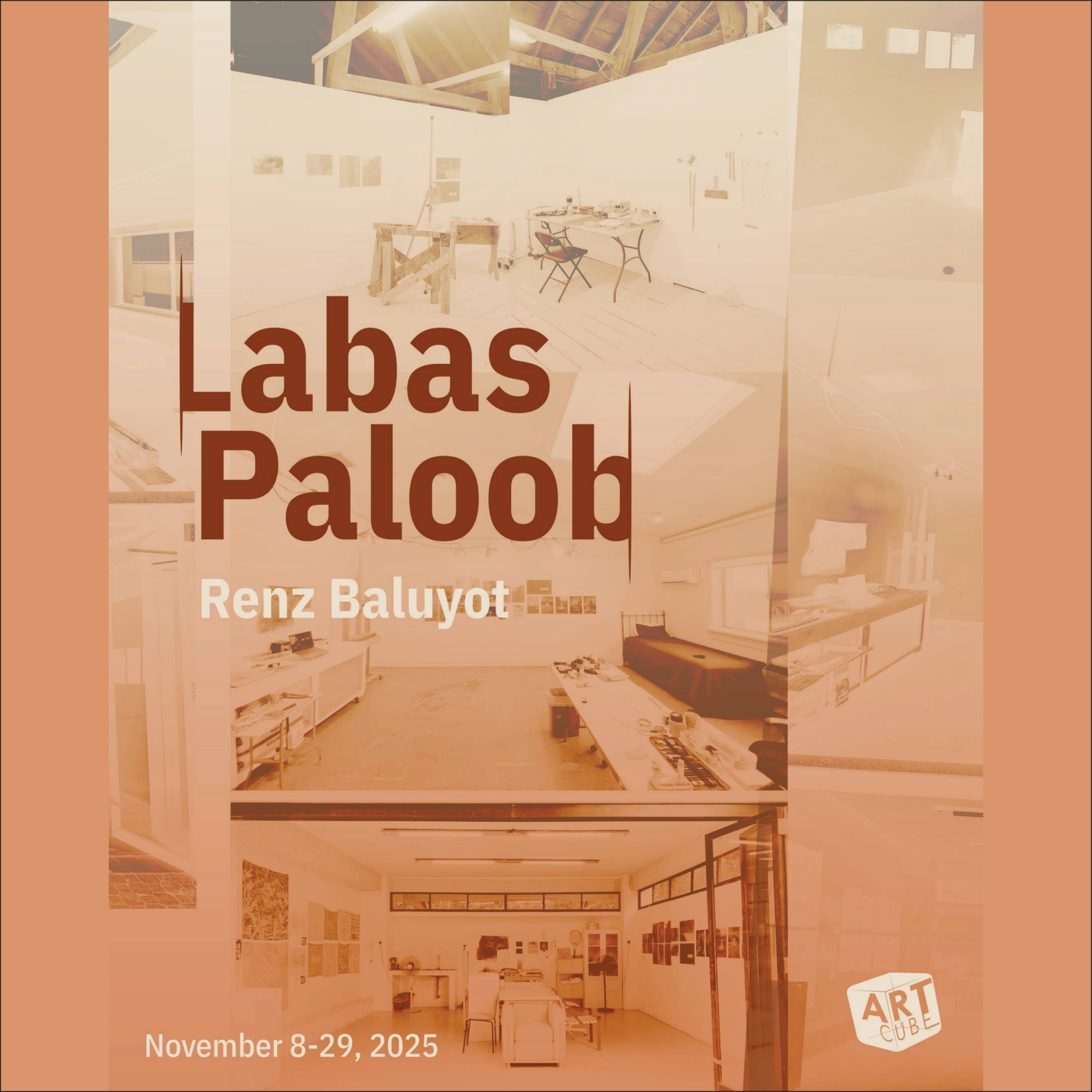




Labas Palooob

Renz Baluyot

November 8-29, 2025



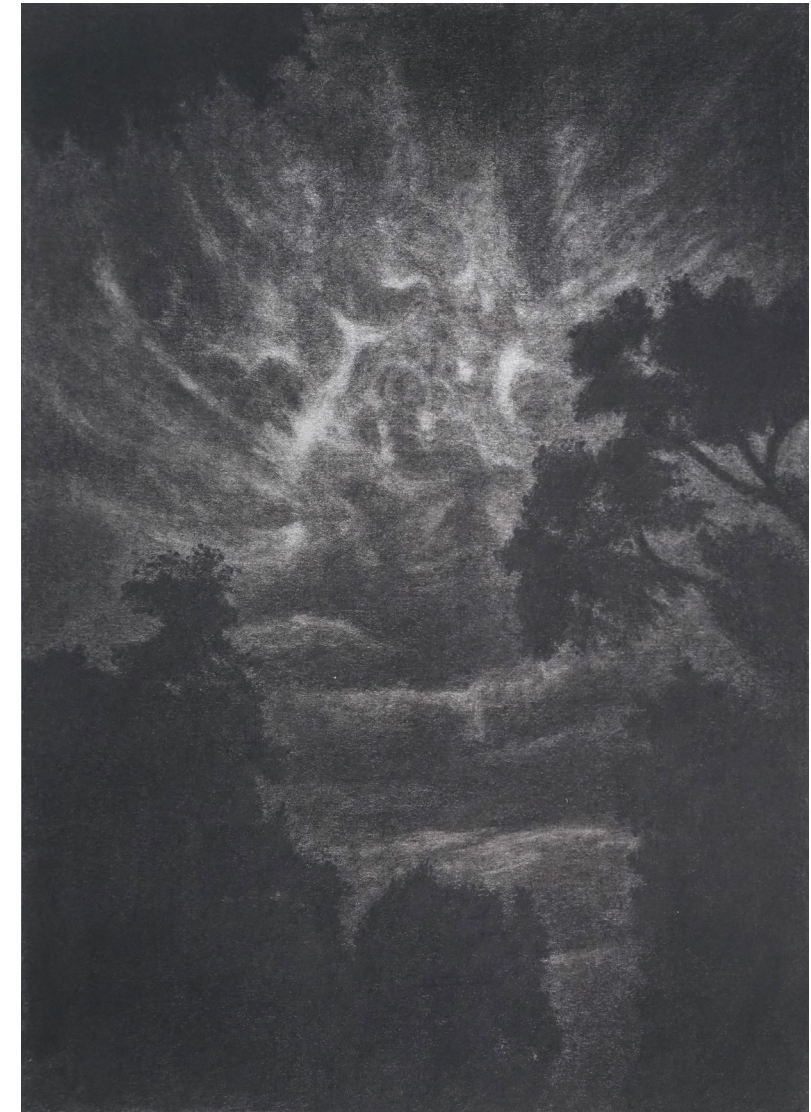
Renz Baluyot’s newest solo presentation is the culmination of his residencies outside the Philippines. The series of works in the exhibition reflects his underlying motivation to create outside familiar environments. These residencies entail rigorous work and demand a significant amount of preparation. Baluyot draws themes from recently concluded artist residencies in Virginia, New York, and Malaysia.¹ He takes this as an opportunity to experiment with materials and to pursue process-based production that will only be possible in a given space and time for art-making. In a set of drawings, he documents everyday scenes from these places, capturing singular moments of his surroundings. He employs a subtractive approach to his drawings, erasing darker shades of graphite to reveal subtle layers of light, evoking heightened emotions within seemingly isolated environments.

The subtractive approach in Baluyot’s process is also echoed in his textile works. Using rust to create images and patterns on fabric, Baluyot adapts techniques involved in batik mark-making. He covers areas of the fabric with wax to resist the absorption of rust when dyeing. The fabric is then submerged in boiling water to melt the wax off and reveal the image beneath. The use of rust underscores a recurring theme he has long been exploring in his practice: urban decay and industrial degradation. This theme is present in his paintings of tarpaulin-covered objects, a series he started years ago. Unlike his first few paintings of the same subject, his new works depict the subject against a plain background, isolated and removed from their usual context. By concealing the object, he explores absence and presence, showing how meaning can emerge from what is revealed and what remains hidden.

In this exhibition, Baluyot experiments not only with materials and processes, as hinted by the use of actual copper in his initial studies. His text-based pieces bring forth a more conceptual approach to the subject matter. Combining cut-out texts and drawings onto copper-tinted paper, his text-based compositions highlight the linguistic roots between Filipino and some Malay words such as “Lupa,” “Bendera,” “Tangis,” “Landasan” and “Mahal.” These words retained their original contexts and resisted the impact of colonial influence. His play on words injects humor while carrying socio-political undertones. Resistance is central to this particular—and likely significant—body of work by Baluyot, shaping both its concept and the process of his image-making.

The exhibition posits the necessity of looking inward and journeying outward as important aspects of his artistic practice. Labas Paloob is Baluyot’s way of introspecting, which, in Baluyot’s own words, is possible through quietude and pause.

¹ Renz Baluyot attended the following residencies in this year alone: Rimbun Dahan (Malaysia), Elizabeth Murray Artist Residency (New York, US), and Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (Virginia, US).



Amherst, VA I
graphite on 190 gsm natural white paper
16.5 x 11.7 inches / 42 x 30 cm
2025



Amherst, VA II

graphite on 190 gsm natural white paper

16.5 x 11.7 inches / 42 x 30 cm

2025

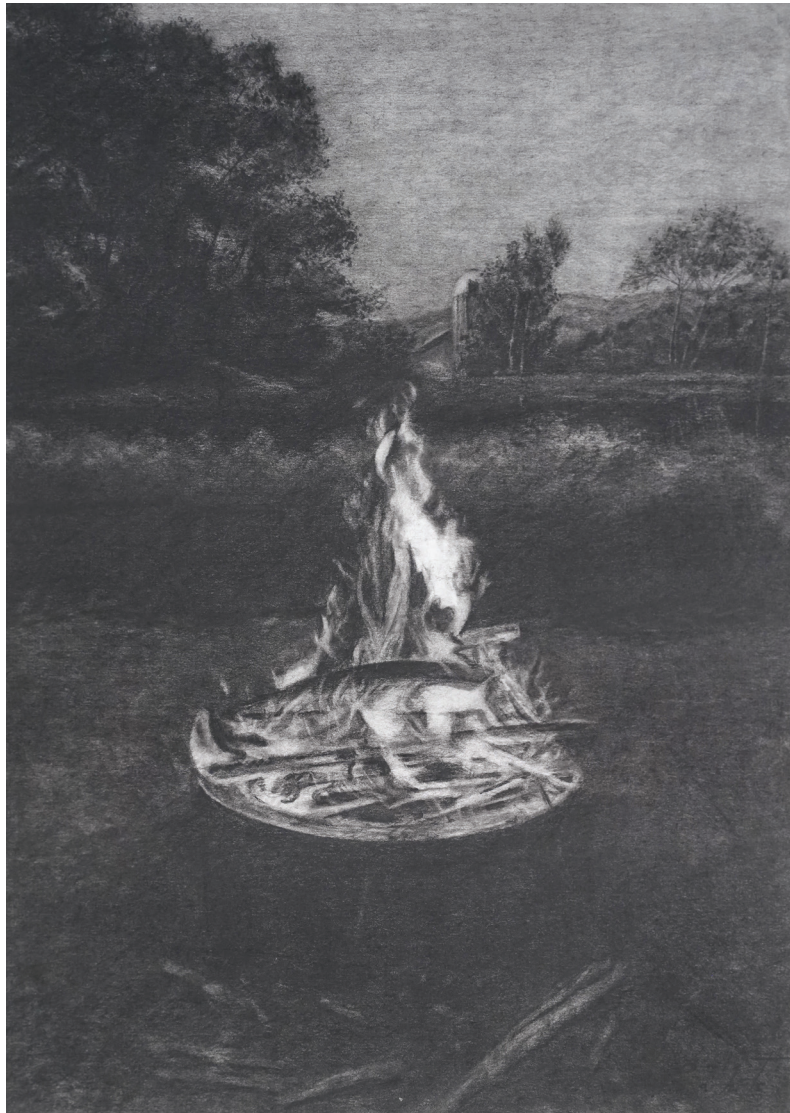


Amherst, VA III

graphite on 190 gsm natural white paper

16.5 x 11.7 inches / 42 x 30 cm

2025

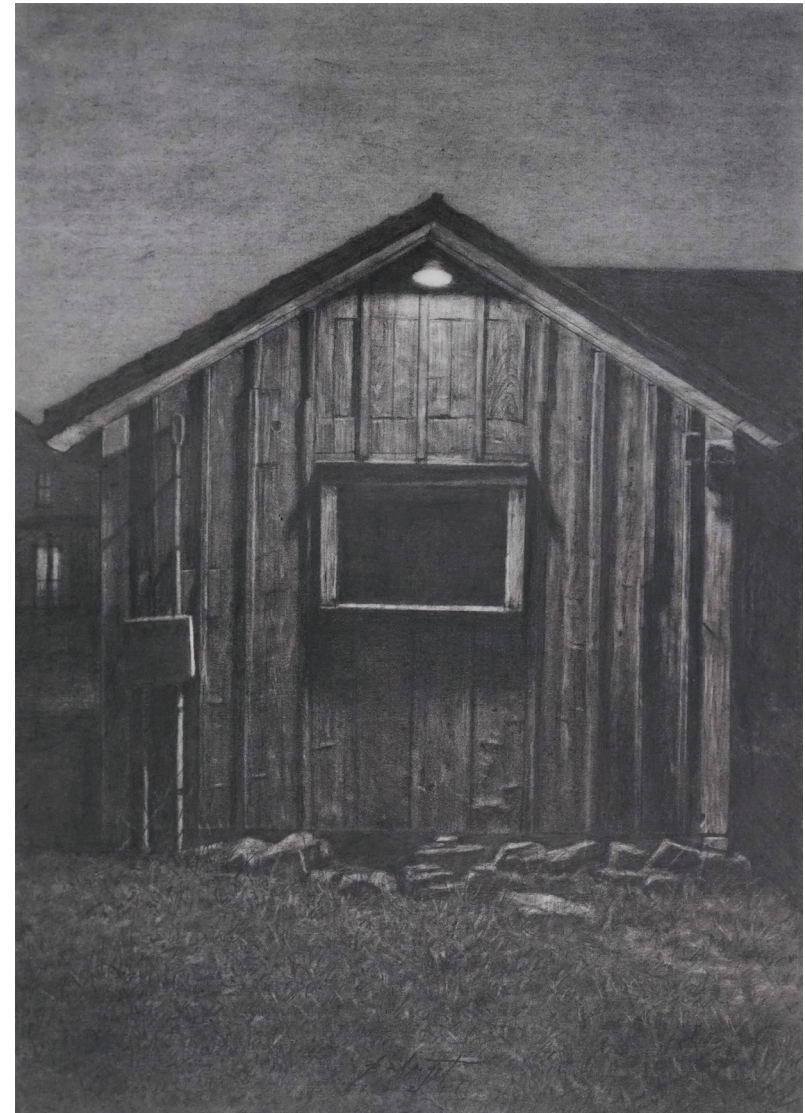


Granville, NY I

graphite on 190 gsm natural white paper

16.5 x 11.7 inches / 42 x 30 cm

2025

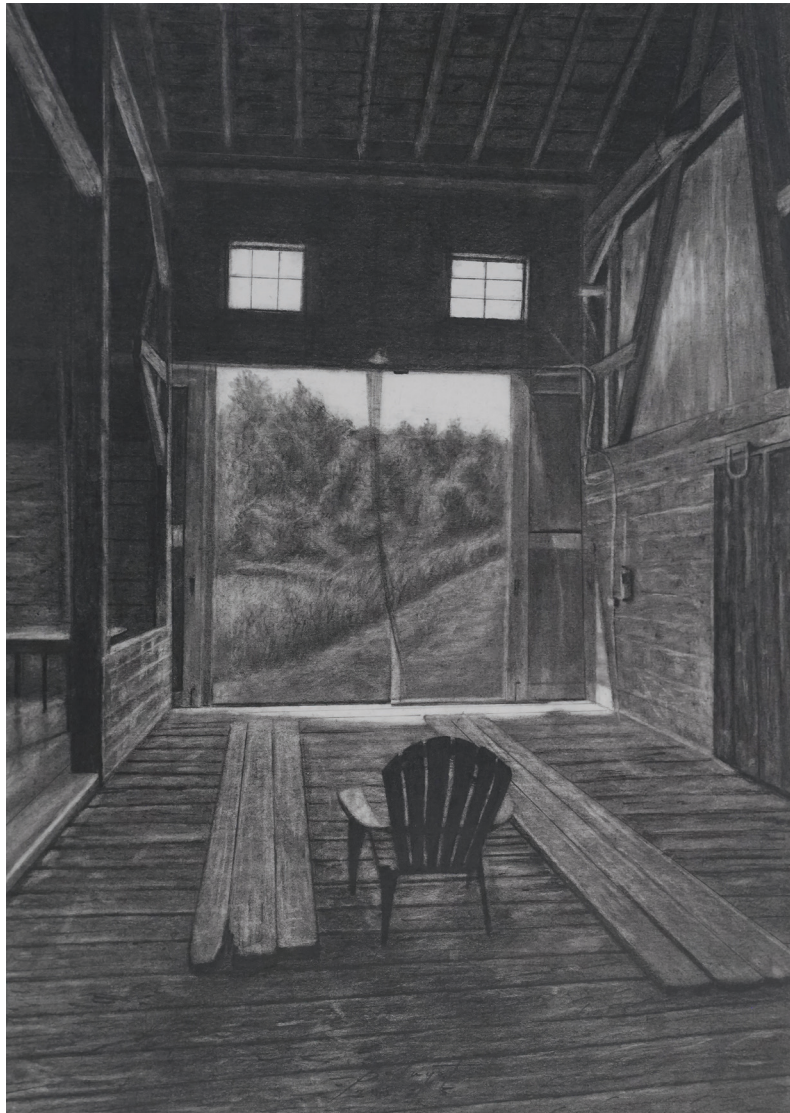


Granville, NY II

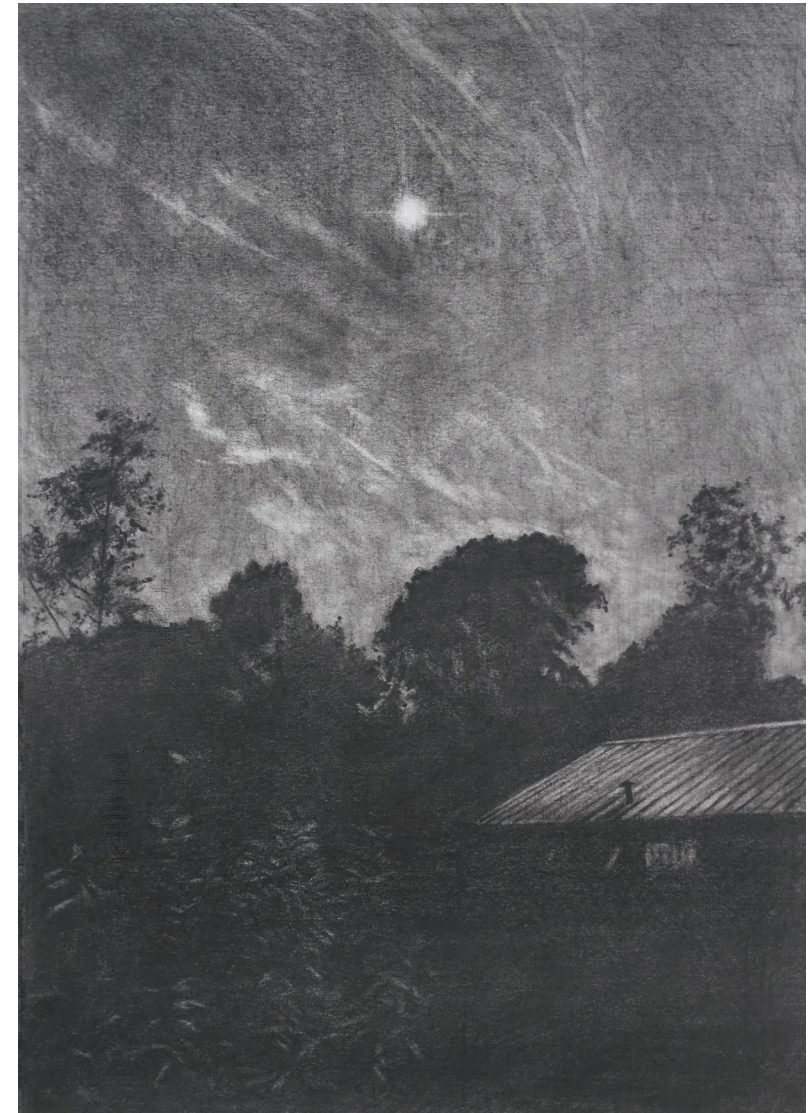
graphite on 190 gsm natural white paper

16.5 x 11.7 inches / 42 x 30 cm

2025



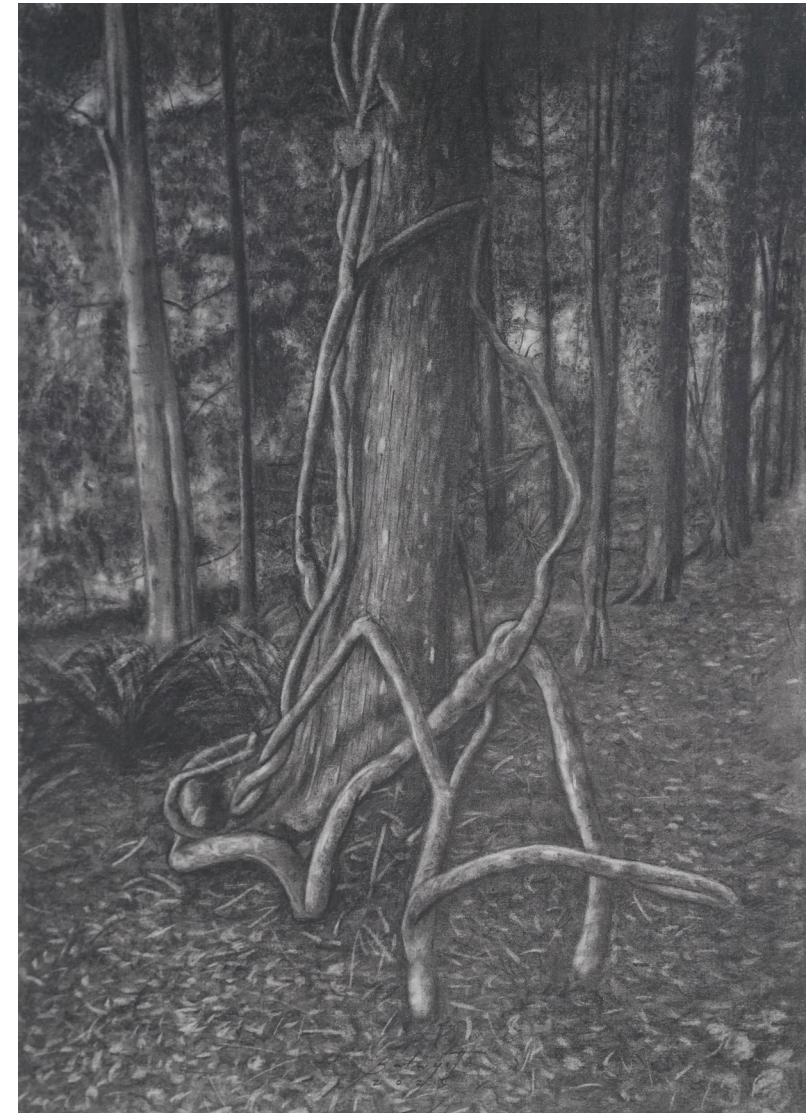
Granville, NY III
graphite on 190 gsm natural white paper
16.5 x 11.7 inches / 42 x 30 cm
2025



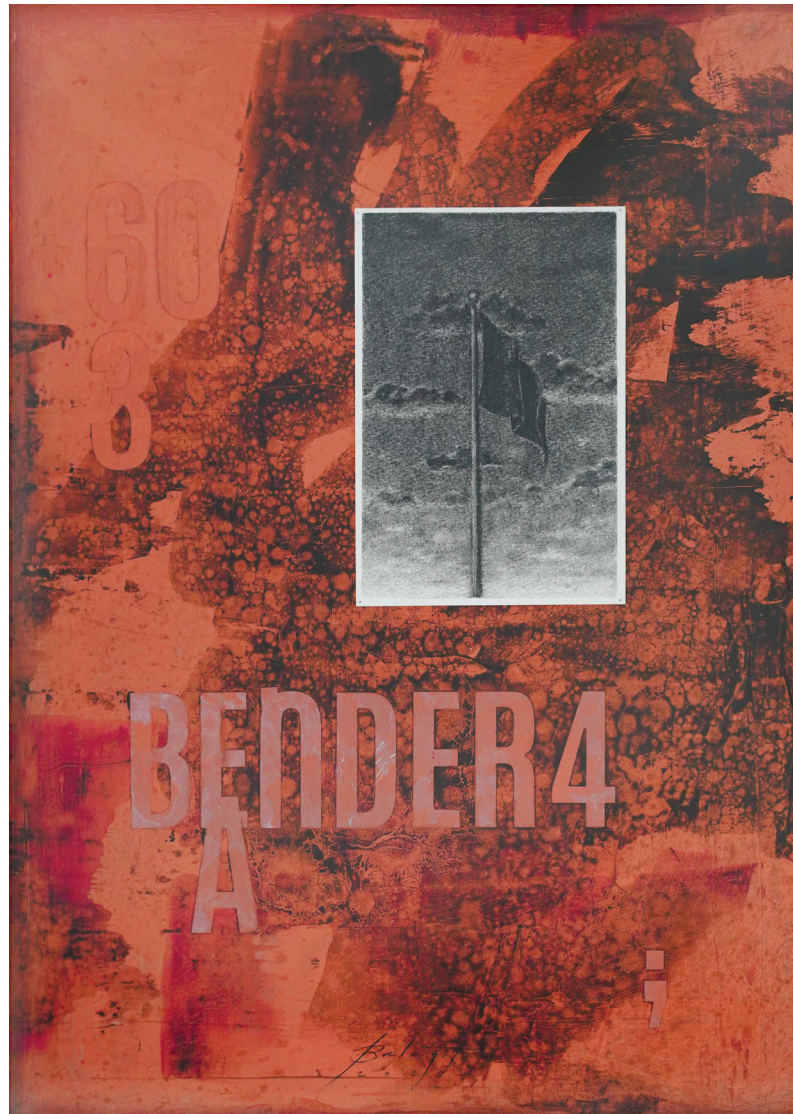
Kuang, Selangor I
graphite on 190 gsm natural white paper
16.5 x 11.7 inches / 42 x 30 cm
2025



Kuang, Selangor II
graphite on 190 gsm natural white paper
16.5 x 11.7 inches / 42 x 30 cm
2025



Kuang, Selangor III
graphite on 190 gsm natural white paper
16.5 x 11.7 inches / 42 x 30 cm
2025

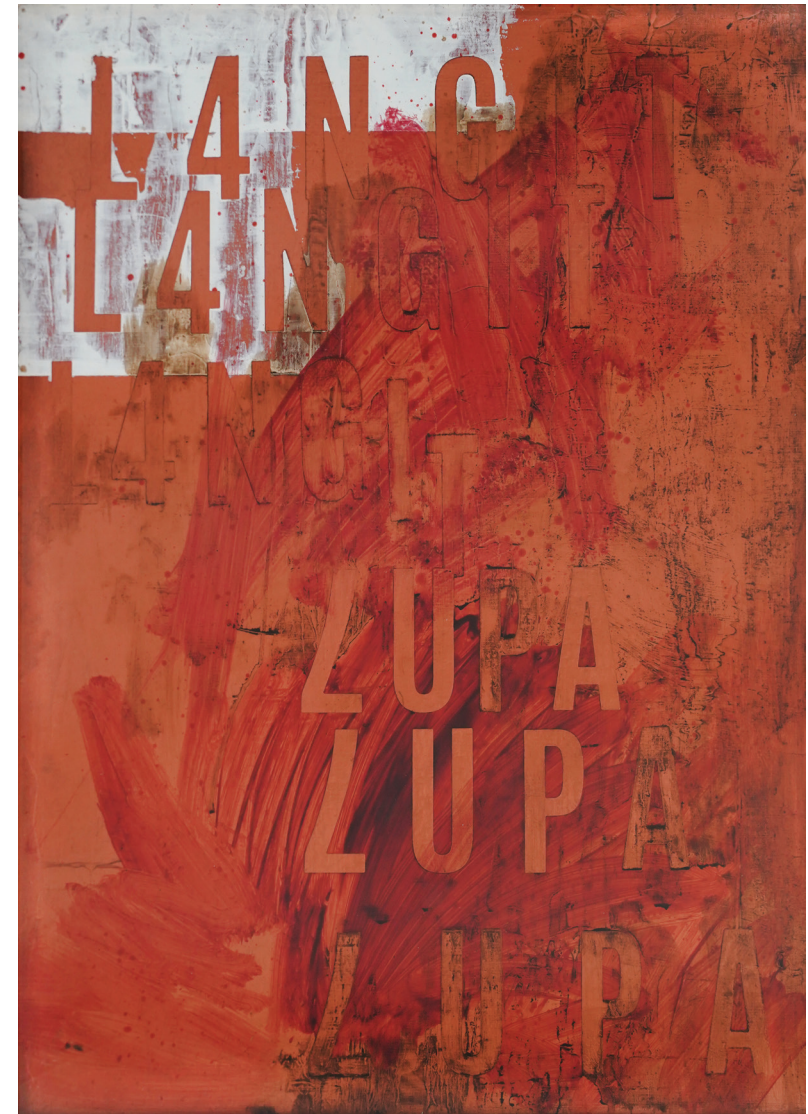


Bandera

mixed media on 240 gsm oil painting paper

16.5 x 11.7 inches / 42 x 30 cm

2025

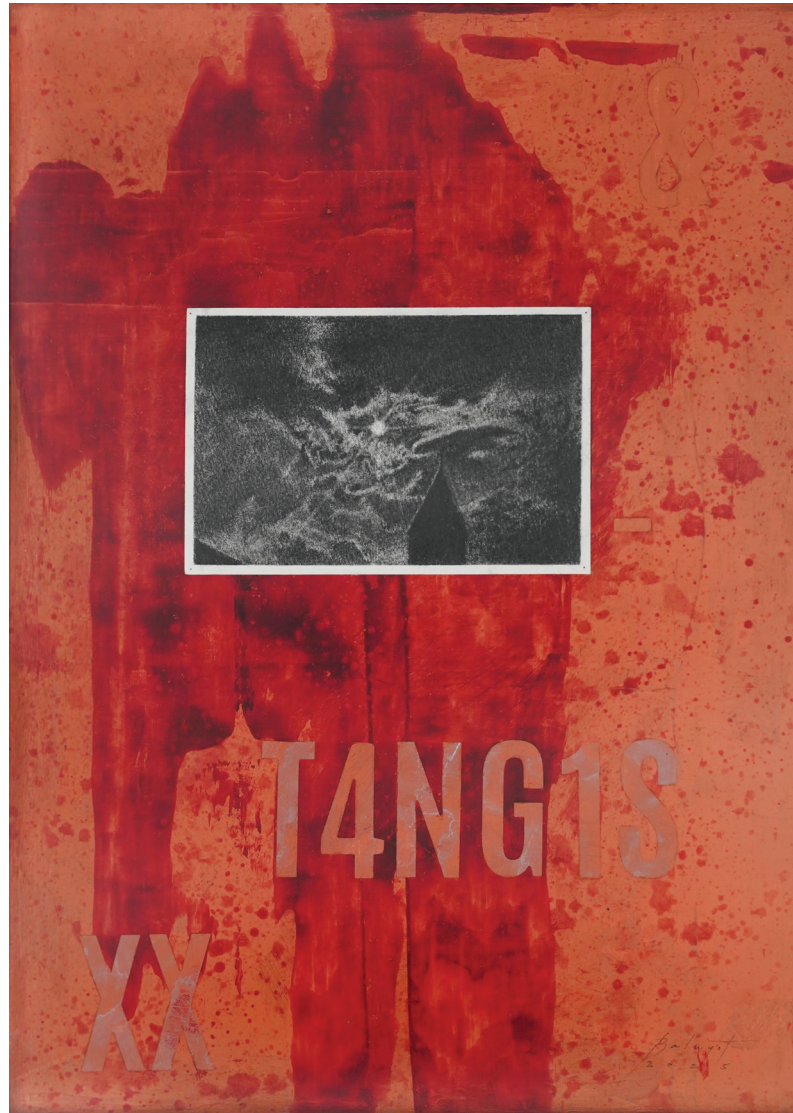


Bandera

mixed media on 240 gsm oil painting paper

15.7 x 11.8 inches / 40 x 30 cm

2025



Tangis
 mixed media on 240 gsm oil painting paper
 16.5 x 11.7 inches / 42 x 30 cm
 2025



Landas(an)
 acrylic and oil on canvas
 9 x 12 inches / 23 x 31 cm
 2025



Mahal
 acrylic and oil on canvas
 9 x 12 inches / 23 x 31 cm
 2025



AWAS ANJING!
 rust dye and batik on textile
 45 x 56 inches / 114 x 142 cm
 2025
 NFS



Kalakip ay Yakap
oil on canvas
48 x 36 inches / 122 x 91 cm
2025



Sa Pagitan ng Haplos
oil on canvas
48 x 36 inches / 122 x 91 cm
2025



Liwanag sa Loob
oil on canvas
60 x 48 inches / 152 x 122 cm
2025