



James Harvey Estrada

Theater-maker Performance-maker Film-maker

As a grandchild of a faith healer from the Philippines, I strongly believed that some of the first actors and performance artists were the Babaylans or Shamans.

They used their talents and skills to mediate for mankind to please the anitos and other godlike entities to grant them their requests and other needs.

Having these foundations, I have always considered theater-making as a form of my offering, a prayer to my God and my adoration to the universe.

Healing and Community Performances



1. REIGNBOW: A DEVISED MUSICAL FOR HIV AIDS STIGMA REDUCTION

Director/Writer

A devised semi-musical comedy that explores the potentials of a scripted and improvised performance by emerging the two contrasting forms of theatrical production. The work examines the inner dealings of people living with HIV and how they will be able to surpass the social and self stigma. Exploring a reality-competition ambiance, two drag HIV positive drag queens are set to undergo a series of challenges on how they will be able to withstand the pressure of having a positive HIV status.



2. METABOLISM OF THE WALL

Healer/Performer

The visual and performance collaboration with Japanese visual artist Kanade Yagi features a Filipino spiritual medical practice called tawas*. The artist employed the method to the abstract images she found under the old wall painting, inventing a different means for tawas. She set a video camera in front of the wall to let it witness the whole process of what would happen there.

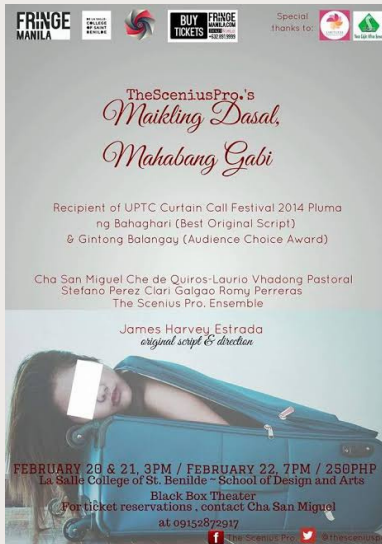


3. HEAR, HERE!

Director/Performer/Collaborator

Can Filipino Deaf join a videoke party?

In Hear! Here!, an interactive performance/gathering in the Karnabal Festival, deaf artists lead dances, poetry presentations, and even a karaoke sing-along, as they debunk stereotypes on what differently-abled people can create.



4. FRINGE MANILA: "MAIKLING DASAL, MAHABANG GABI"

Director/Playwright

Was developed under DulaRalan of PUP Sining-Lahi Polyrepertory as part of the alumni showcase. Now it is considered as an award-winning university production bagging Best Story and 3rd Best Play at UP Theatre Council. This was then staged at various universities and high schools including UP Dulaang Laboratoryo as an acting thesis production.



5. ANG PAGSAPI SA ROOM 116

Playwright

This Play won various awards from university theatre festivals including Best Playwright and Best Actress awards. This play was a response on the proliferation of fake news. The work advocates critical thinking to the Filipino youth. It has been staged and won in Davao for PASUC as a PUP entry and then was part of various university productions in Metro Manila.



Artist-Educator Initiatives



6. REGIONAL LEAD SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS IN ANGONO (MENTORSHIP PROGRAM)

TEACHER

I have been working as a performing arts mentor for 4 years teaching performance research and collaboration for Senior High School Arts and Design Track. I handle five art areas of performing arts orchestra, rondalla, theater, music-vocal and dance.



7. ARTISTS ON Q LABORATORY

WORKSHOP FACILITATOR

In early lockdown months of the pandemic, I have designed a workshop program teaching broadcasting and filmmaking basics for performing arts students. The workshop happened online using zoom platform. It was attended by various young artists from Manila and other provinces in the Philippines.

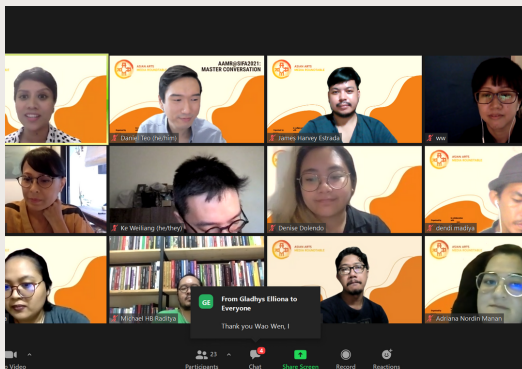


8. BEST PRACTICES SHARING IN THE ACADEME

PRESENTER

I presented my Master in Communication paper on Hybrid Production process in PUP Open University and shared my practices in hybrid work for TV, Theater and Education. It was also then considered as one of the best practices in the Media.

International Hybrid Collaboration



9. ASIAN ARTS MEDIA ROUNDTABLE 2021 SINGAPORE

PARTICIPANT

The Asian Arts Media Roundtable is a meeting of arts editors, publishers, reviewers, arts journalists, critics, bloggers, podcasters, videocasters, academics and arts makers from Southeast Asia, East Asia and Asia-Pacific. The Roundtable is the first step towards establishing a network of arts media organizations and individual arts writers in the region that will have multiple impacts across the creation, discourse and consumption of the arts.



10. APAF EXHIBITION 2020 TOKYO, JAPAN

DIRECTOR/PLAYWRIGHT/COLLABORATOR

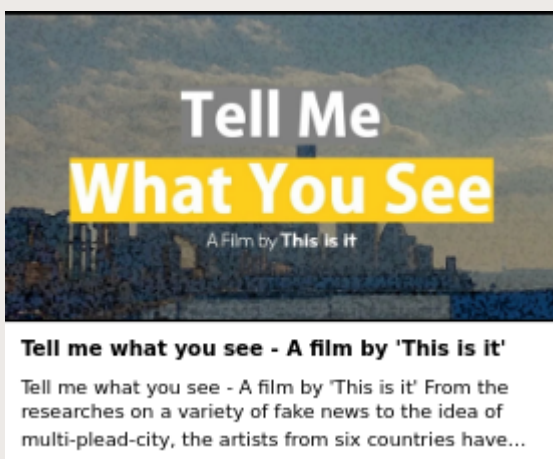
APAF Exhibition offers an opportunity for artists to create a transcultural performing arts piece, with the aim of opening up new possibilities for international collaboration. Participants from various backgrounds will extend their artistic "branches" by inspiring each other to try their hand at new creative processes and intercultural communication techniques, as well as further elevate their practice through audience feedback.

11. TELL ME WHAT YOU SEE? THIS IS IT! NEW YORK 2021

DIRECTOR/COLLABORATOR

In 2020, an international group of theater artists began to collaborate remotely, meeting on Zoom to create work together. They were from Canada, the U.K., the U.S.A, Malaysia, South Korea, Taiwan, and the Philippines. At the end of 2021, the group planned to meet in-person, in NYC, to develop a new piece. They chose James from the Philippines, to be the director of the project. Leysha from Malaysia was unable to get to the United States.

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a8KrCGq7IHw>
 Cue Mark: 3:30





International Hybrid Collaboration



12. THE CAVE: SEOUL VERSION KOREA 2021

ONLINE PERFORMER/DIRECTOR

CAVE explores the subject of fake news, and how it affects/transforms our way of life. Online meeting production process with great international team, including Callie Nestleroth (UK/USA), John-Philip Faienza (CANADA/USA), James Harvey Estrada (Philippines), Hyonji Park (South Korea), Dennis Yueh-yeh Li and Leysha Al-yahya (Malaysia).



13. TOKYO FESTIVAL 2021: FURE FURE OSTRICH! HAYUPANG DIE-BOW-KEN!!!

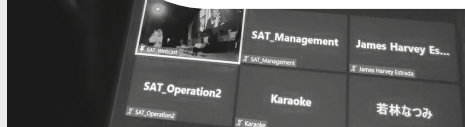
DIRECTOR/PERFORMER/PLAYWRIGHT

This reworking of a buzzworthy piece from the Tokyo Festival 2020 APAF Exhibition program is a hybrid form of performance straddling both online and offline venues (in the shape of Minamitsuka Hall). Neither online streaming of a theatrical performance nor online theatre, this new theatrical experience is a result of collaboration between young Asian artists.

Link: <https://youtu.be/YmOT5-C7gRo>
Cue Mark 1:12:01



International Hybrid Collaboration



14. KAWAN+GAWA: PHILIPPINES AND MALAYSIA

COLLABORATOR

Brought together by Innovation for Change - East Asia (I4C), a global network of people and organizations who work together to protect civic space and advocate for basic freedoms of assembly, association, and speech, we are a collective of artists, educators, cultural workers, and activists based in Malaysia and the Philippines engaged in creating support systems for the regional arts community for our present time, and the post-covid future!

15. BEFORE YOU DREAM KINOSAKI, JAPAN

GUEST ARTIST

Before You Dream is a radio program by Ryuichiro Suzuki and Miho Shimizu, where they research about dreams from various perspectives, through a conversation with guests. It started as part of a residency program by Kinosaki International Arts Center in 2020.

LINK AUDIO: <https://anchor.fm/yumewomiru/episodes/with-James-Harvey-Estrada-ep4p9k>
CUE MARK 1:04:31



PLEASE SCAN TO ACCESS MY WRITTEN ESSAY ON
PERFORMANCE-MAKING DURING THE PANDEMIC
FOR JAPAN FOUNDATION'S SUKI
"WINDOWS OF POSSIBILITIES
BY JAMES HARVEY ESTRADA
SEPTEMBER 25, 2020