

Patrick Fernandez (01:00:17 -> 01:03:56)

I am Patrick Fernandez. I'm a Filipino Asian settler here in Regina. I'm being a visual artist for over 20 years. Been making paintings, lots of mixed media. I've been drawn to creating patterns. A lot of it I've been inspired with comic books, anime, and video games. So that's kind of like my inspiration came from drawing inspiration from the festivities in the Philippines. Uh, we have 42,000 festivals over the course of one year, and this particular artwork is, uh, inspired by the IDE Diet of Festival of the Sea in Lingen, also the nearby city Tagan, they're celebrating Pango Festival, which is the Milk Fish Festival. So they are celebrated just like a week after one festival. So they're celebrating first Bung Festival on April. Then on May 1st, they're celebrating Festival of the Sea. It is important to celebrate 'cause it's, uh, it shows that you are grateful for small things. I heard a story where they said that the happiest people are the most grateful. So I think that if you are able to be, be thankful for small success, small things in life, you know, you'll be happier. I made a big mural with, with a Big Sun at the back of it. Uh, I just want the viewers to see what, once they enter, they get greeted, but by a hot sun. So it's kind of like reminds me of, of where I came from, a very tropical country. Then you go around, it's kind of like it'll draw you towards the sun and, and navigate from it to the space. So it's the starting point of everything. Uh, a person going through a journey, going ups and downs. Uphill in, uh, downhill, I have made like 12 panels that represent stages in life. It's, uh, 12 months in a year, but also it looks like a dense city. Inspired also by the, uh, the dense population in the Philippines. But I made it look like it's a jellyfish floating in the ocean. Well, as you go through life, I thought I might include the <inaudible>. It's a Filipino proverbs, the most common proverbs that you hear during supper, dinner table or occasions from your grandma, from your old uncles, aunties. I thought it's really important for me to, uh, be able to transcend these ideas to the generation now, to other culture as well so they can connect or what, what the, uh, Filipino culture is kind of like about. These are nuggets of wisdom that made, made you persevere, uh, guide you through life. So I thought it's kind of like important for people to learn what these nuggets of wisdoms are like, kind of like the guiding light of your journey that would make you endure the hardship and still go through it. I wanna pull the audience into this, um, memory of reading a comic book. 'cause I grew up reading comic books, uh, when I was like a, a little kid. When, when they walk into the space, I want them to feel like they're inside a comic book. This animated characters this, uh, combination of a water buffalo and a milk fish that you won't see in real life, but you know, like gives you like a cereal feeling that you're, you're inside, uh, someone's universe.

Ken Duczek (01:03:58 -> 01:05:18)

My name is Ken Duczek. I'm the Coordinator of Learning Initiatives here at the MacKenzie Art Gallery. So my role here at the MacKenzie is to help the artists realize their goals with, uh, creating their work, right from being a prepared to assisting however you can to coordinating and running workshops and just to be on hand and help him out. However, however he needs. When I walk in, I just feel happy. It's a space that's just full of, of color and, and light, and I think Patrick has really done a fantastic job of capturing that mood and, uh, translating message that he hopes that people will, will also come in and, and just enjoy the space and add to it. Because that's one of the things that we're hoping is that people will come in, create a banderita, begin this dialogue with other folks in the community, um, about their own personal points of celebration or milestones and things that they learned in life. So, so it's really important to host Artisan Residence programs just because it gives us a chance to highlight, uh, an artist's work and have them create a new piece, but also it, it's an opportunity for the general public to come

in and just meet an artist and learn about their creative process and how they think and just enjoy the space that the artist creates.