



DAVID RODRIGUEZ STUDIO



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STATEMENT

My work is a journey through the possibilities of painting within the limits of the traditional craft. I oscillate between the concepts of figuration/abstraction, painting/drawing, to create a sophisticated canvas where none of them is more important than the other, and the medium itself is the main subject.

Through each body of work, I question notions of identity, sexuality, and body representation, by confronting modern and ancient images, with roots in popular imagery and art history. In this way I dig into personal contradictions by exploring further my obsession for the human body.





BAILEMOS



—
ENCUENTROS, 2024
oil pastels and oil paint on canvas
150 x 120 cm



EL GARABATO, 2021
charcoal, pastel, and acrylic paint on canvas
350 x 200 cm

MASKS - PHI TA KHON , 2024
oil pastels and oil paint on canvas
60 x 45 cm



MASKS - LA MARIMONDA, 2024
oil pastels and oil paint on canvas
45 x 60 cm



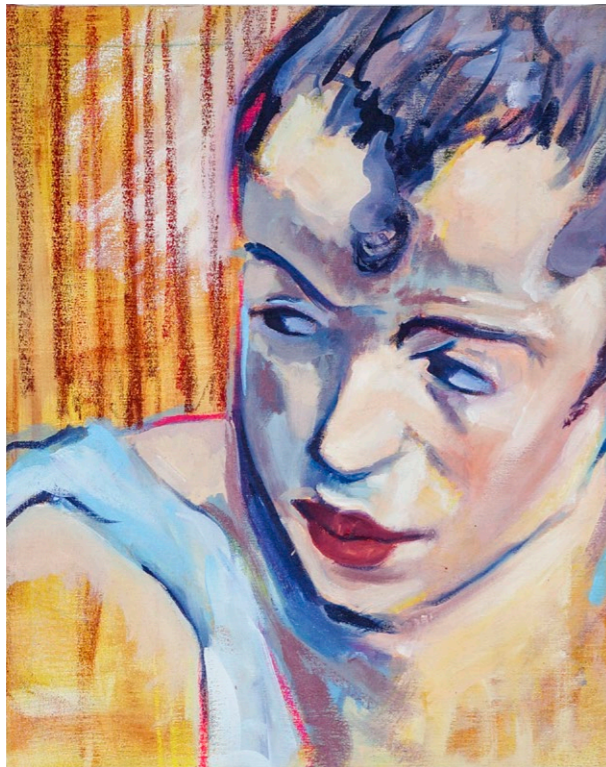
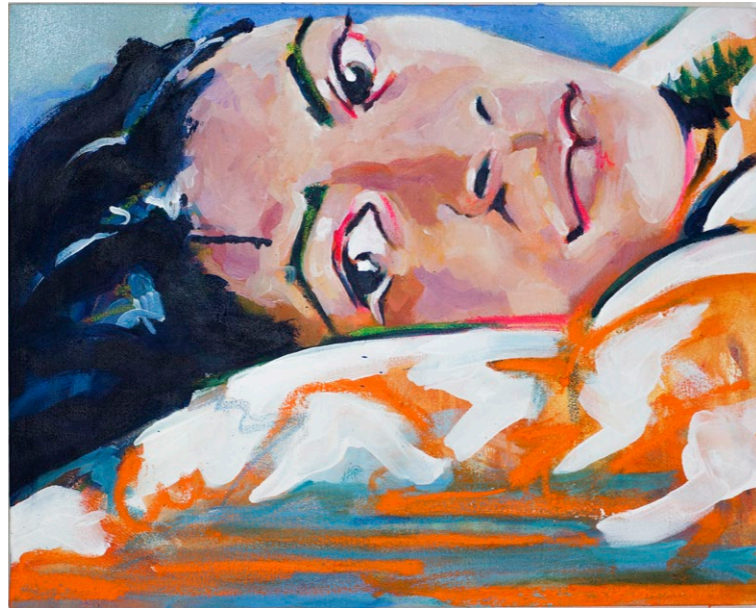
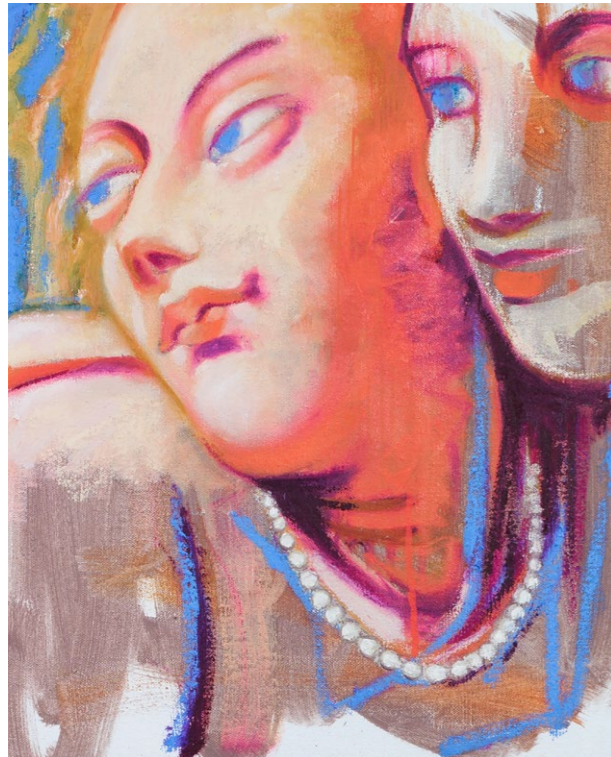
BAILEMOS, 2024
Siam Discovery, Bangkok



—
THAI MONK, 2024
oil pastels and oil paint on canvas
100 x 80 cm



PERSONA



—
STUDIES (SERIES), 2024
 oil pastels and oil paint on canvas
 50 x 40 cm



—
PERSONA, 2024
 RHIZOME Creative Space, Bangkok



—
TIMELESS TRIOS - SOLDIERS, 2023
charcoal, pastel, acrylic and spray paint on canvas
150 x 120 cm



—
ORIGINS: MOTHER, 2023
charcoal, pastel, acrylic and oil paint on canvas
240 x 150 cm



—
TRES: PORTRAITS, 2021
 acrylic, spray paint and charcoal on paper
 100 x 68 cm



—
ROOTS, 2023
 The Food School, Bangkok



**NADIE NOS QUITA
LO BILAO!**



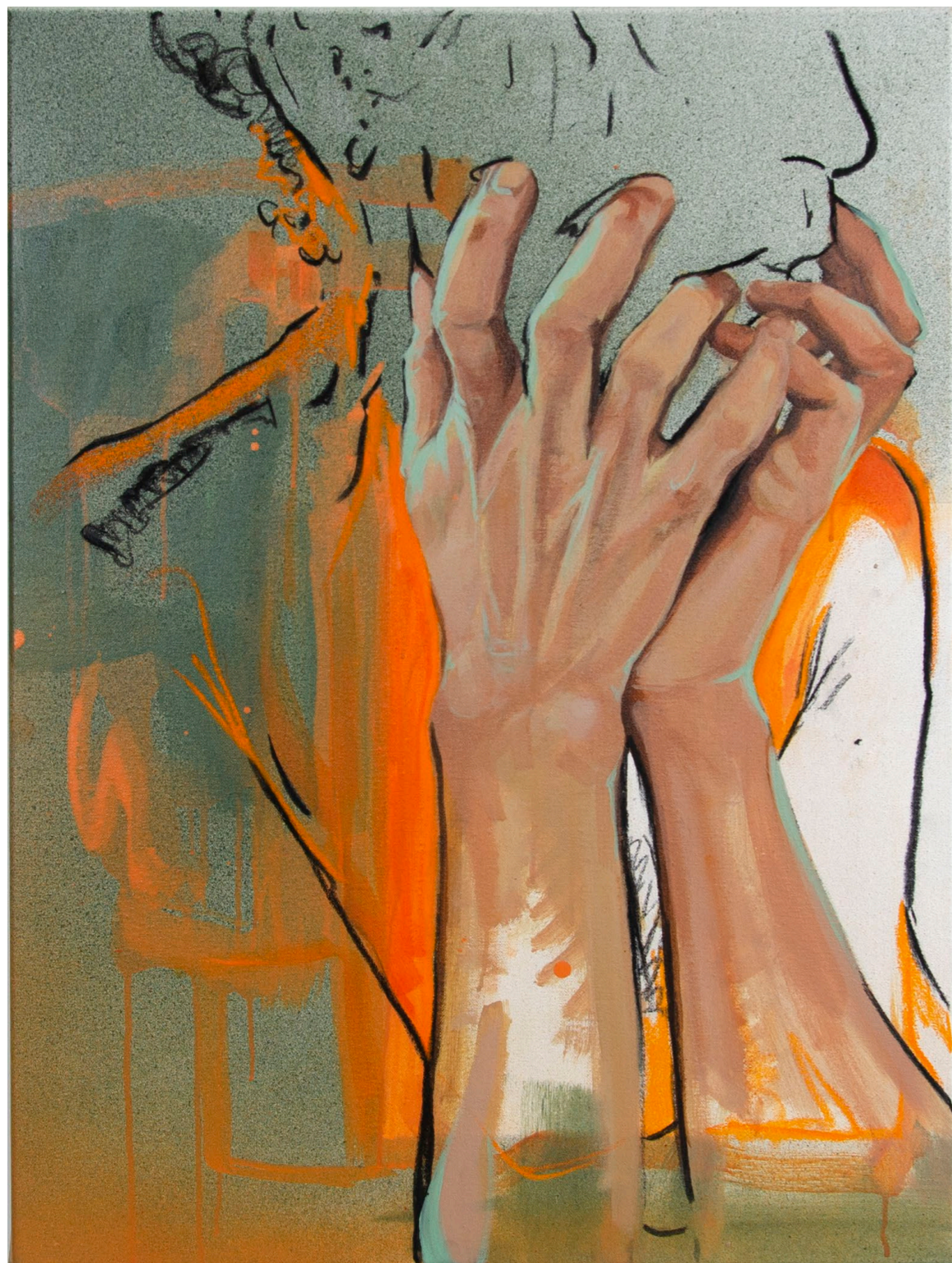
—
EL MAPALE, 2021
charcoal, pastel and acrylic paint on canvas
150 x 120 cm



—
DANCING GRACES (AFTER DEGAS), 2021
 charcoal, pastel and acrylic paint on canvas
 150 x 120 cm



—
NADIE NOS QUITA LO BAILAO!, 2021/22
 La Cava de Laoma, Shanghai



—
GESTURE STUDIES, 2021 (SERIES)
 charcoal, pastel, acrylic and spray paint on canvas
 two sizes : 40 x 50 cm / 60 x 80 cm
 some in private collection



(DE)CONSTRUCTED



—

TIMELESS TRIOS, 2021
 charcoal, pastel, acrylic and spray paint on canvas
 150 x 120 cm



—

TIMELESS TRIOS, 2021
 charcoal, pastel, acrylic and spray paint on canvas
 150 x 120 cm



DISCO, 2021
 charcoal, pastel, acrylic and spray paint on canvas
 240 x 160 cm
 No.Name Studio collection - Zhujiyajiao



(DE) CONSTRUCTED, 2021
 No.Name Studio, Shanghai/Zhujiyajiao



THREE WOMEN

Three Races, Three Graces

Colombian artist David Rodriguez (olive-skinned) invited a white woman (me), a black woman, and a gold woman to do a photo shoot for his project about the dynamic between threesomes of women.

“Dynamic”? It soon turns into a playful romp!

I arrive at the appointed time. David Rodriguez’s studio is in an attic in a dilapidated and picturesque 1930s low-rise apartment complex. Lanes, alleyways, looping electrical cables; steep, dark wooden staircases; shared stone sinks on landings, washing lines and dangling wash-cloths, hubbub of family life in nooks and behind doors.

I reach the top of the house. His door is open. The flat is three simple, frugal rooms filled with David’s oil paintings hung randomly, or leaning haphazardly on walls. None of them, he moans, have fully dried, due to the humidity.

David: laid-back, charming, disarming, his welcoming grin reaching ear to ear. I already know the other two models: Alex, a voluptuous American of Afro-Caribbean heritage, Harvard-educated, feminist, lesbian, in Shanghai to start up a company manufacturing sex-toys; Shin Yi, Taiwanese, who lived for a dozen years in Paris and works in perfume design; uninhibited, free-thinking, liberated, she has an international perspective on the world, as well as being elegant and beautiful, and reminds me of model and photographer Lee Miller. And me? I’m a poet and writer from England where I model unclothed for artists and photographers to pay my bills.

But today is not about earning money. We are four creative people, making something. Before the shoot starts, we women – three graces of three races – strip off and sit around, naked, comfortably warm, drinking Columbian espresso. I’ve got a lazy Saturday feeling. All my stresses are temporarily lifted.

‘So. David: is this about race? About femaleness? Or are you into erotica? Do you want porn?’ Alex is very direct. Puts David on the spot.

‘I don’t know yet.’ Now, David places his laptop on a table in front of us. ‘I’ll show you some images of threesomes of women made by other art photographers and fine artists. See this one: Terry Richardson is well known as an erotic photographer, so the idea to please men – pleasure – is definitely shaping his decision-making. Whereas this one here by a woman photographer, Ellen von Unwerth, is more like two meanings.

‘Ambiguous,’ offers Shin Yi.

‘Yes yes yes. And next, the artist John Currin: some of his work relates to pornography... But it is also about clichés. See – ‘ (he points at the grotesque threesome of females arranged around a cooked turkey) – ‘it’s complicated. I mean, is his motive ironic?’

We three boisterously discuss all the pictures David shows us on the ‘three women’ theme, drink coffee, crack sexist jokes, and tease him. He can only sit and wait, and take the joking on the chin. But eventually he breaks into our messing about, wanting to explain more.

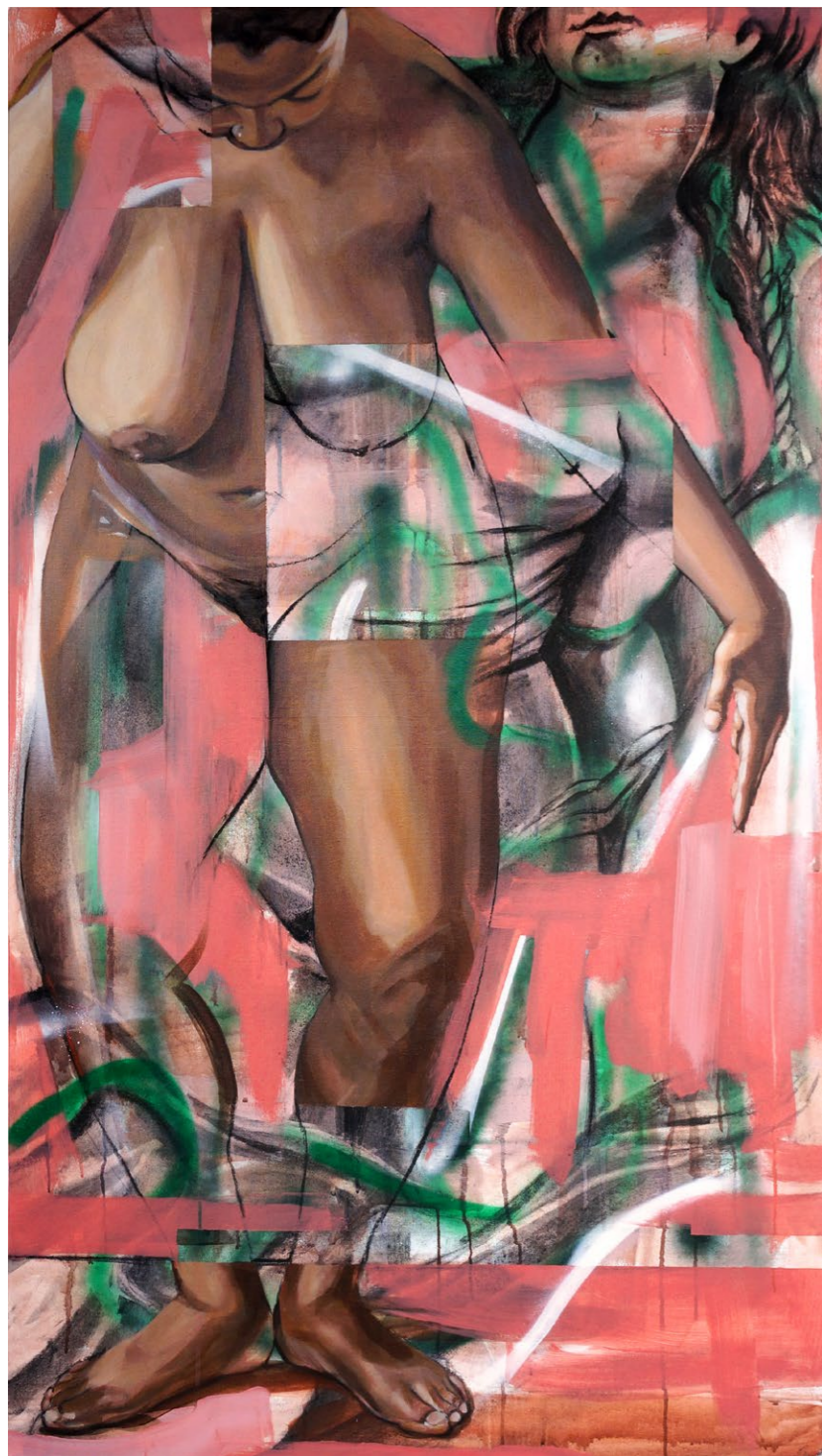
‘See these artists’ pictures of The Three Graces. In these classical paintings I cannot really say whether the idea was to please the looker, as we say now. But the fact is they are of women and were mostly painted by men.’It is unavoidable: the images resulting from this session will be the recordings of a man’s eye. A man eyeing women.

But what images will we choose to give him?

At last, David picks up his camera. We are still sprawled, chatting, relaxing, a pleasant window draught keeping at bay the first mosquitoes. ‘So, my ladies, I do not think it is essential to remember the images we’ve been looking at, or the conventions, but I think we cannot ignore them either. And as for the voyeur – the witness of these moments... myself, the photographer... well, you must ignore me completely. I am not looking for a special pose – no. What I want, quite simply, is to catch moments from the “interrelation” between three women. I am not asking you to somehow please me.’

Four nationalities. A morning spent under a wooden roof with skylight views onto makeshift roof-gardens and rickety balconies and crammed-in house-fronts decorated with lines of washing strung like bunting. But we are disengaged from the world beyond David’s rooms, from the city of Shanghai. We women are enjoying being a threesome who started out as three aliens until we stripped ourselves down to the womanhood that unites us. We scrutinise each other’s bodies. We play with our contrasting skin tones, lining up our limbs and interweaving our torsos to create interesting images. It does me good; for three hours, my worries suspended. I love to laugh, and that is the main thing we do. David snaps, snaps, while the women laugh and laugh and laugh.

Sue Vickerman 2020
Live model



—
UNTITLED, 2020

charcoal, acrylic and spray paint on canvas
160 x 90 cm

Shanghai Jiaotong University - ICCI collection



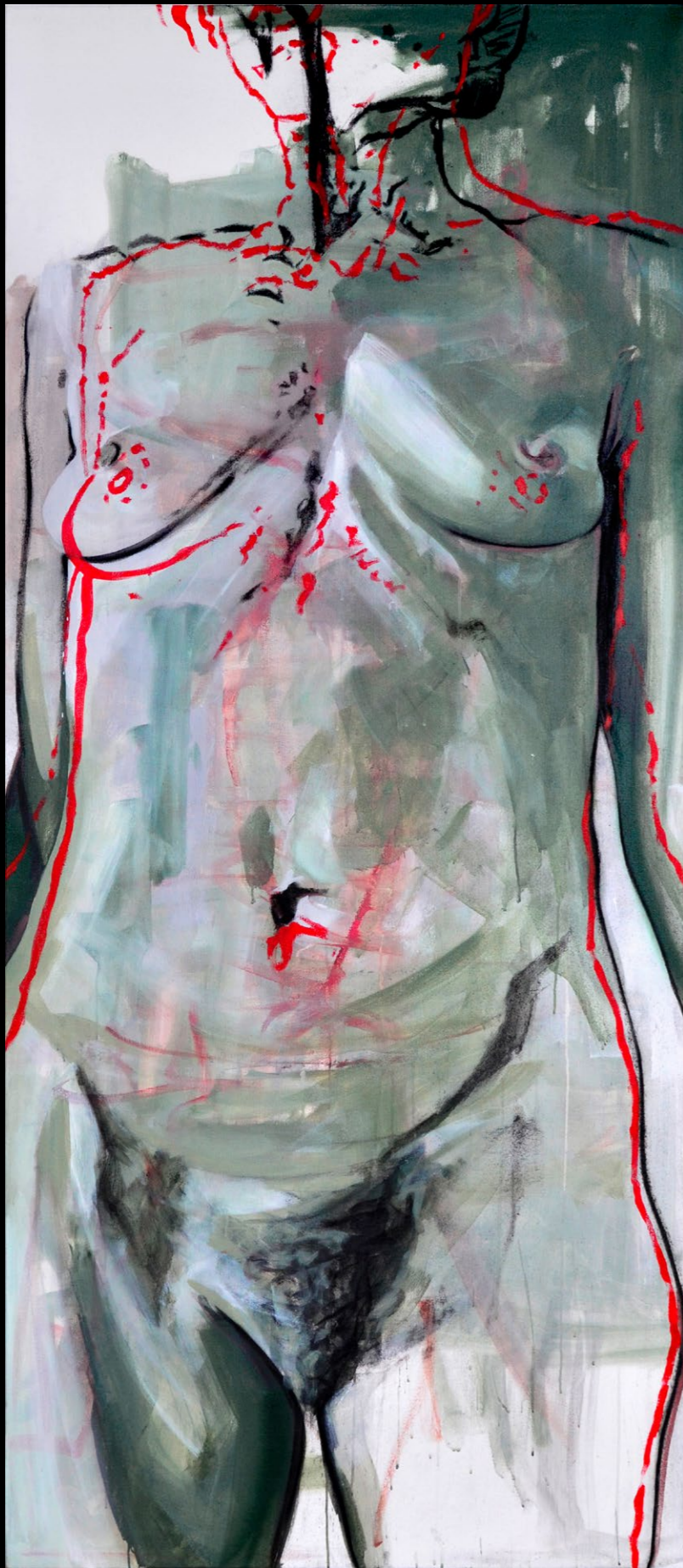
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UNTITLED - SITTING TRIO, 2020

charcoal, acrylic and spray paint on canvas
120 x 180 cm

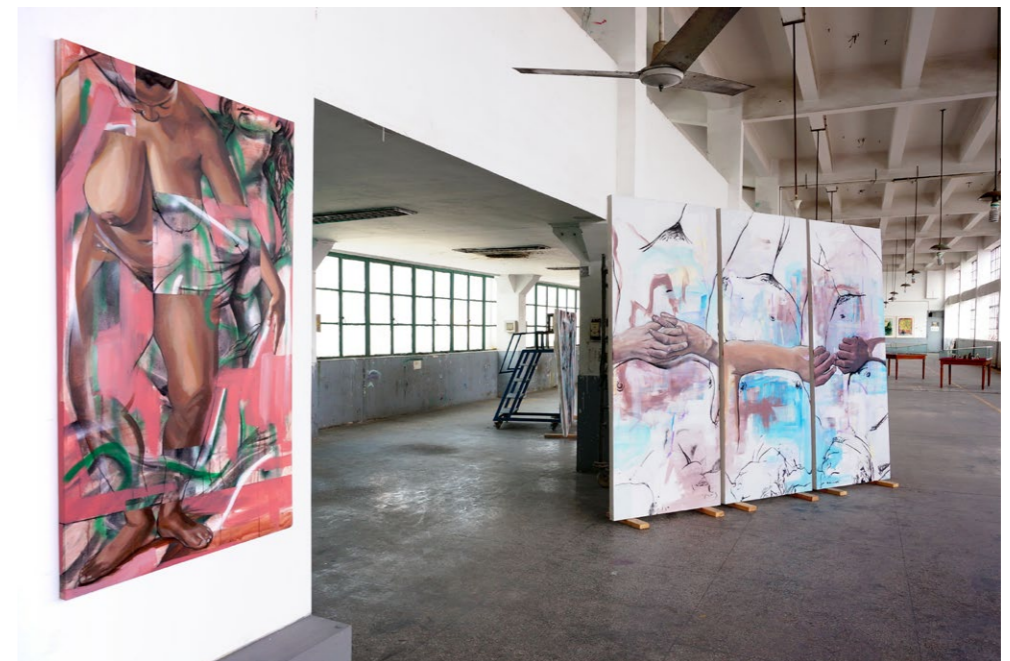


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TRES, 2020
charcoal, acrylic and spray paint on canvas
230 x 300 cm





—
UNTITLED, 2020
 charcoal, acrylic and spray paint on paper
 230 x 100 cm
 private collection



—
FLORILEGIA PAINTING : MARIE'S VILLA, 2021
 Marie's, Shanghai



ROOM SERVICE (SERIES), 2019
oil painting and collage on paper / wood , mounted
on found frames
Variable dimensions



ROOM SERVICE



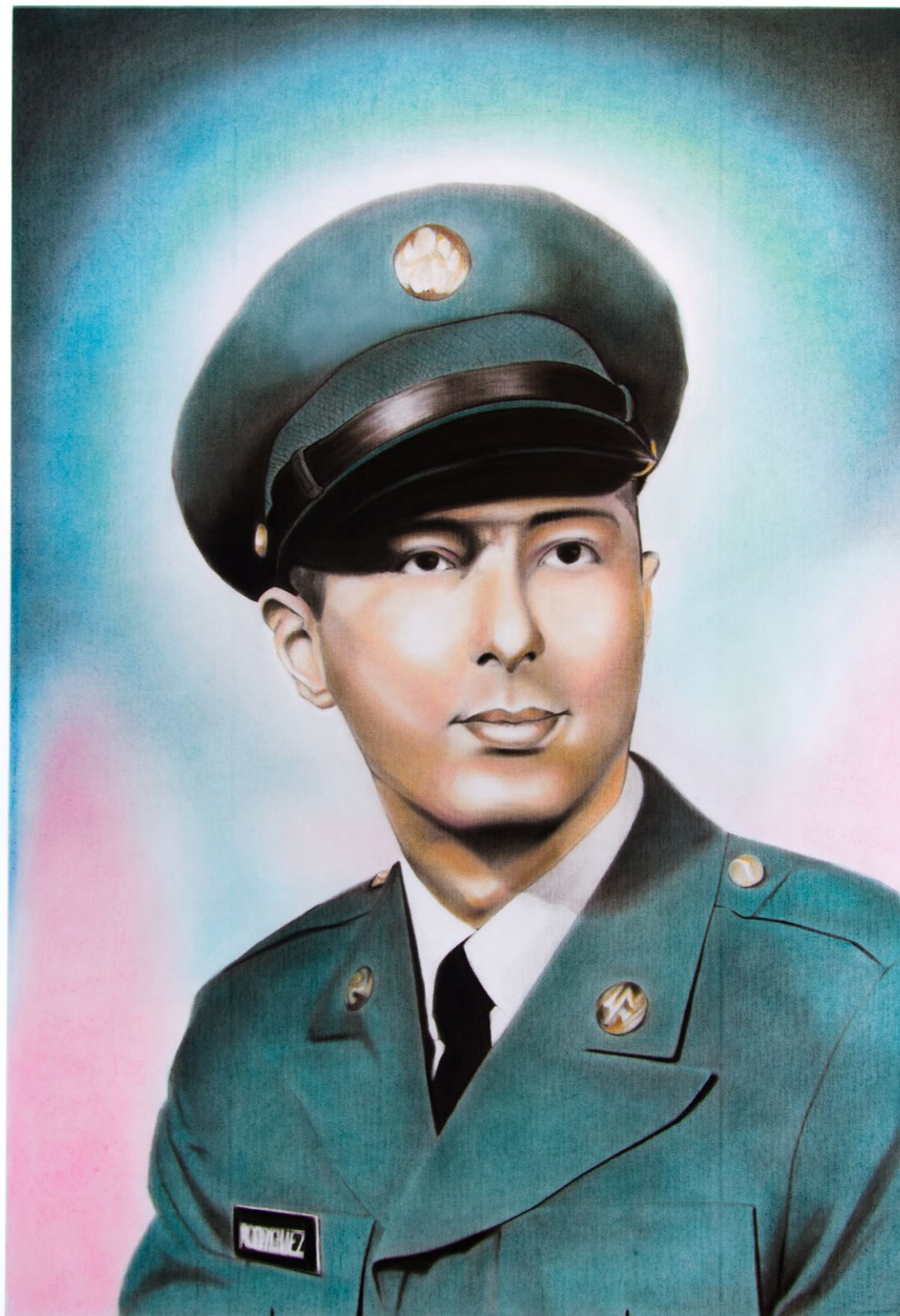
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ON LOOP, 2019
one channel video, 12' min
variable dimensions



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ROOM SERVICE, 2019
H27 Gallery, Shanghai



SELF

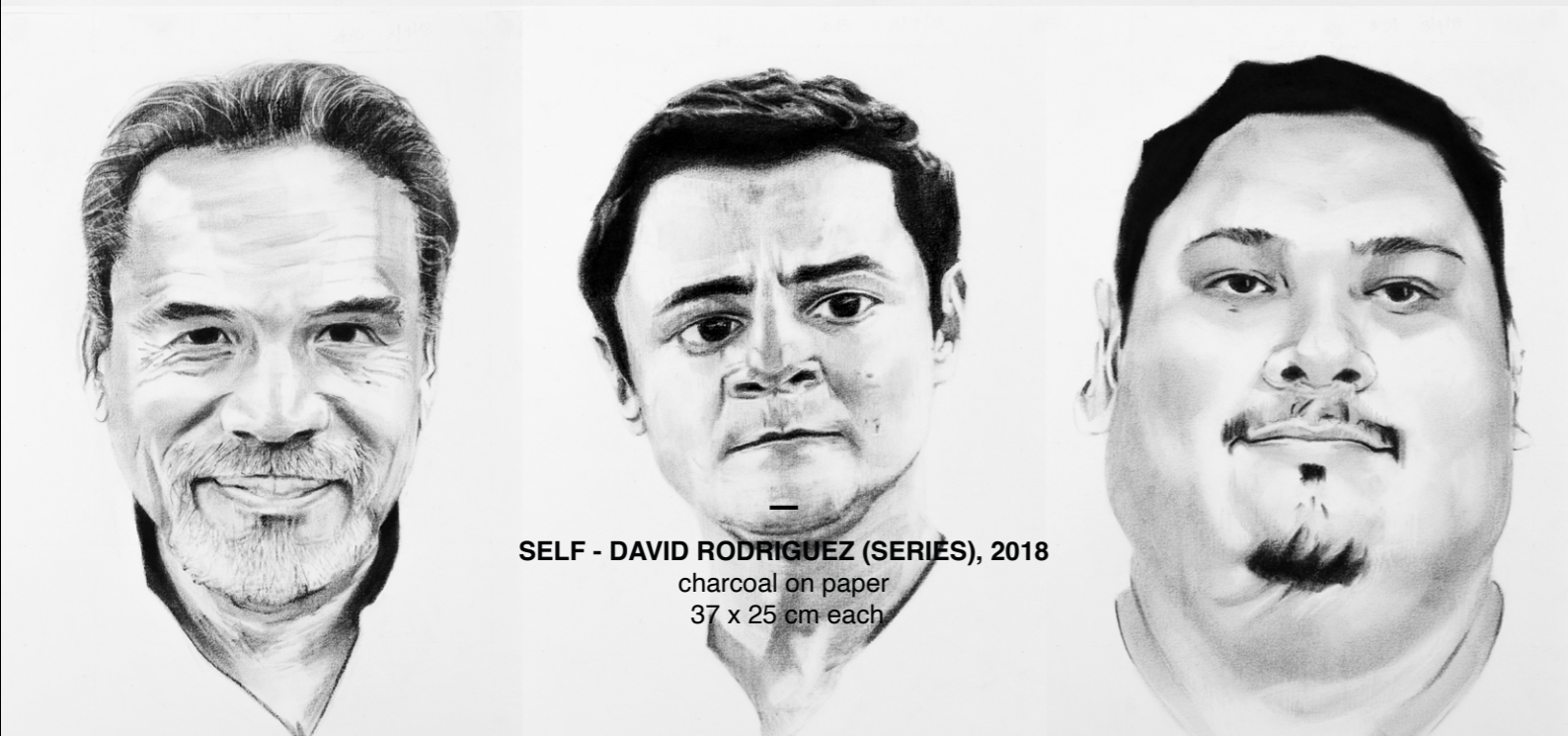


SELF - AL SOLDADO CAIDO, 2018

charcoal and pastel on canvas

152 x 108 cm

Shanghai Jiaotong University - ICCI collection



SELF - DAVID RODRIGUEZ (SERIES), 2018
 charcoal on paper
 37 x 25 cm each



SELF, 2018
 UrbanCross / TM Studio, Shanghai

EDUCATION

2015

Postgraduate program “OFFSHORE”
ENSA Nancy - Shanghai

2010

Master Pro “Contemporary Art and its Exhibition”
Paris-Sorbonne University (Paris IV)

2009

MFA (Master of Fine Arts) (DNSEP)
ENSA Nancy

2006

Certificate of Fine Arts (CEAP)
ENSA Nice « Villa Arson »

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

// El Pabellon de los objetos perdidos. **Text by David Rodriguez for Chopsuey Magazine #02 March 2020**

// (Catalog) Colombian (Without) Apparel. **A conversation between Aurelie Arena, Arthur Van Hoey and David Rodriguez for Le Point Fort Gallery,**

// (Catalog) Salon de Montrouge 2014. **Text by Olga Rozenblum**

// Biscuit Tins and Porn, Artist Profile: David Rodriguez. **Text by Charley Utton for Ghost Magazine**
www.ghostttt.com/biscuit-tins-and-porn-artist-profile-david-rodriguez

// David Rodriguez, un « artiste criminel » au salon de Montrouge by **Juliette Jean for Artistikrezo.com**
www.artistikrezo.com/2014042316094/art/portraits/david-rodriguez-artiste-criminel-salon-de-montrouge.html

// David Rodriguez by **Heather Goodchild for Thewardenstoday**
www.thewardenstoday.blogspot.ca/2014/04/david-rodriguez.html

// Marketing of the obscenity by **Agnès Giard for Les 400 culs**
sexes.blogs.liberation.fr/agnes_giard/2013/09/le-marketing-de-lobsc%C3%A9nit%C3%A9.html

AWARDS-GRANTS RESIDENCIES

2021

Artist in residency, ICCI Art Valley, Jiaotong University, Shanghai
Artist in residency, No Name Studio
Zhujiajiao, Shanghai

2020 - 2021

Artist in residency, DeYi Studio / Marie’s
Former Marie’s Factory, Shanghai

2014

Artist in residency, Studio Maes – Le Silence du Monde, Ardèche-France

2011

7th edition of Paliss’art, association
“La Source”

EXHIBITIONS

GROUP (selection)

2024

MANGO ART FESTIVAL, River City, Bangkok
HCHYO #1, Hugs Songwat, Bangkok

2023

ROOTS, The Food School, Bangkok

2021

UNKNOWN REALITY, Baolong Art Center, Shanghai
FLORILEGIA PAINTING: MARIE’S VILLA, Former Marie’s Factory, Shanghai
11th International Exhibition of traditional Fine Arts, Shanghai Art Collection Museum, Shanghai

2020

HYPERTIME, DEYI Studio, Shanghai

2019

CONNECTING DOTS, Sino Art Gallery, Shanghai

2017

Edge Water - Arts Party, LLND Studio, Shanghai
The little death, Le Point Fort Gallery, Strasbourg

2016

Ru Xiang Sui Su (入乡随俗), Bazaar compatible program #135, Shanghai

2015

Sea, Forest, Sun, Le Point Fort Gallery, Strasbourg

2014

TRASH TEST / CRASH TEST, Francés Foundation, Senlis
Salon de Montrouge 2014, Beffroi, Montrouge
Les délices de la consommation, University Paris 8, Saint-Denis

2013

The artist studio, University Paris Nord 13, Paris
Architectures, Colorida Art Gallery, Lisbonne (PT)
FEAR, Voûte 88 Gallery – Association La Vache Bleue, Paris
Jeux de Pistes, General consulate of Colombia, Paris

SOLO

2024

BAILEMOS, Siam Discovery, Bangkok
PERSONA, RHIZOME Creative Space, Bangkok

2021

Nadie nos quita lo bailao!, La Cava de Laoma, Shanghai
Anachronism Studio, Live Art 21, Shanghai
(DE)CONSTRUCTED, No Name Studio
Zhujiajiao, Shanghai

2019

ROOM SERVICE, H27 Gallery, Shanghai

2018

SELF, Urbancross gallery, Shanghai

2017

Caput Mortuum, Le Point Fort Gallery, Strasbourg

2016

Colombian (Without) Apparel, Le Point Fort Gallery, Strasbourg

2015

Chétife, Docks Art Fair, Lyon
Chétife, 57bis Bd. de Rochechouart, Paris
Feeling Lonely, Bazaar compatible program #89, Shanghai

2014

Peep Show, The Show on the Road, Austin / Texas (USA)

2013

Sexual Content Warning, Voûte 88 Gallery – Association La Vache Bleue, Paris



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THE GRACES (AFTER RUBENS)
charcoal, acrylic and spray paint on canvas
160 x 240 cm