

5. JEEPNEY

**Do you see the area with the brown stone
paving where the twisted black sculpture is?
That's where Jeepneys stop.**

Can you "HEAR" a Jeepney coming?

“5. JEEPNEY” , black matte cutting letters, size of the text area: 40×20cm

THE WAY I HEAR / LAKWATSA, Manila 2013

text installation, "Media/Art Kitchen - Reality Distortion Field, Sensorium", Ayala Museum, Manila, Philippines
The group exhibition was a part of the ASEAN-countries-traveling exhibition organized by Japan Foundation.

The installation is made with 13 text-scores on the glass window or the glass case. Each text features a certain soundscape of Manila either from the present or from the past; they have been collected through listening and research. The view from the windows or the objects inside the glass case are directly connected and integral to the soundscape presented by the text.

Most of the texts are written in casual form, using conversational expressions, navigating the audience to do "Lakwatsa", Tagalog word for "wandering", around the imaginarily Manila while they actually walk around the huge glass case, 2-storey-high, surrounded by the staircase and glass windows in the museum.

The dynamics of the whole process of walking and reading/listening is composed with the volume, complexity and intensity of the text, building up from “1. INTRODUCTION” to “13. AIRPLANE”, creating a certain path in time and space, and stretching the audience’s imagination at the same time.

For more images and the documentation of the work
URL: http://www.afewnotes.com/TWIH_Manila2013_txt_e.html



"1.INTRODUCTION", black glossy cutting letters, glass, music notebook, conductor stand, size of the text area:38×25cm

The following text is put on the glass case in which a broom is placed.

4. WALIS TING-TING

Let's take a walk for a few minutes outside the museum.
(in your mind)

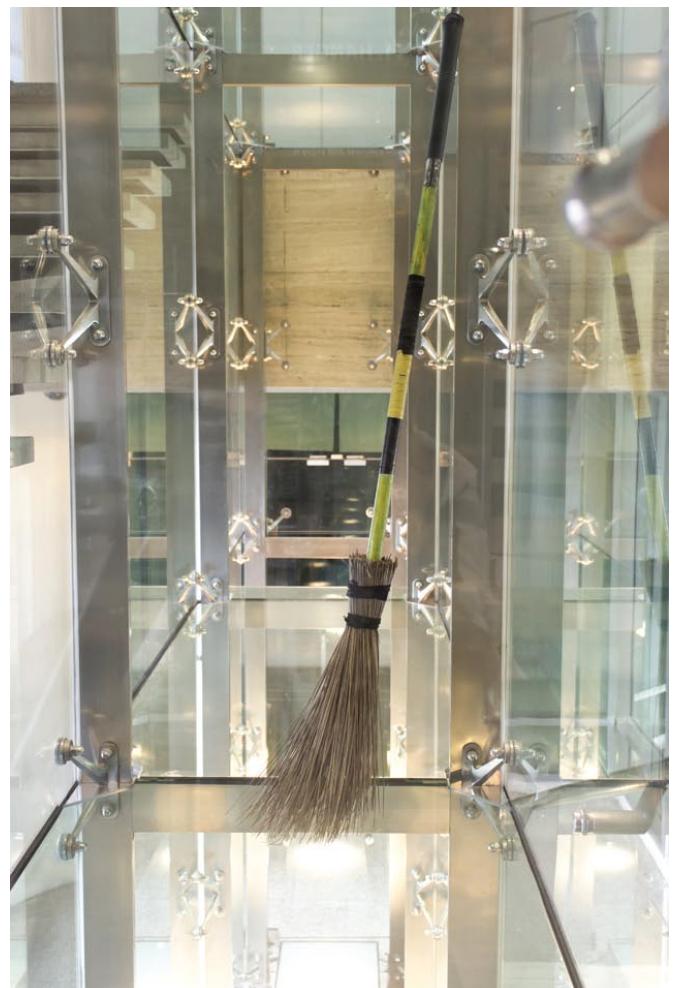
Now we are on the street.
What do you "HEAR"?

noise of the traffic (at any time)
people passing by (many often)
construction sound (Manila is growing)
and what else? (it's your turn)

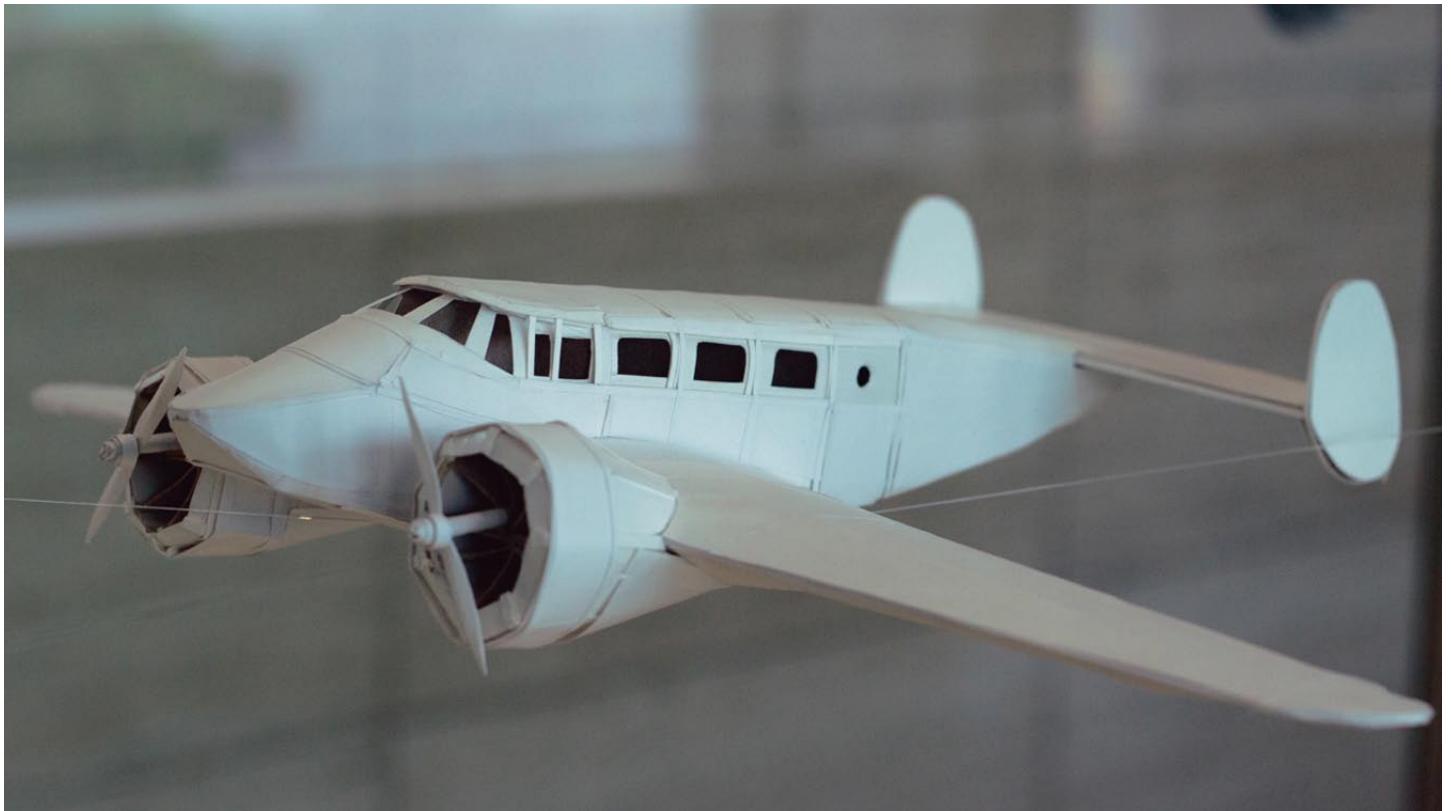
and in front of us, a man sweeping leaves.
(this is probably in the morning)
"LISTEN" to the sound.

note: I misheard it as a bamboo broom, but it is actually a
"walis ting-ting" made from the core of the coconut
leaves. They really sound very much alike.

Let's keep walking. (for real)
Please move on to your right, and go down stairs for more
"sound". (stay tuned)



"Mr. Juan's Walis Ting Ting", wood, tape, core of coconut leaves, 141×44cm
(this object is borrowed for the period of the exhibition)



"Beechcraft Model 18, 1941" by Joseph Gabriel, paper, sheet sticker, wood, 41.5×30.5×6cm

The following text is put on the glass case in which an airplane model is placed.

13. AIRPLANE

"LISTEN" to
the engine from both sides
people in awe looking through their windows
the captain informing that we are landing on the Nielson Airport
(Nielson Airport? Where are we now?)
landing..... landing.....
Welcome to Makati! (this is in 1941)

The Nielson Airport was here in Makati from 1937 to 1948.
The Ayala Avenue, just a block away to your right, was the runway of this airport;
3000 feet long and 100 feet wide.
Can you "HEAR" the airplanes taking off and landing on?

In 1942, Japanese military took over the airport. After American troops came back, it was restored and resumed in 1946. The airport operations moved to Nichols in 1948; however, the control tower has remained in the Ayala Triangle witnessing all the changes in Makati. The tower itself has gone through a lot of changes from being a police department, to an office, to a restaurant, to a library, and now it seems that it is under construction. (as of 1st Nov. 2013)

Manila is growing.

(pause for a minute. this is the end of the piece)

This is "THE WAY I HEAR" and this is where we are right now.

Thank you for "LISTENING". I hope you had a pleasant time with me.
I'll look forward to "LAKWATSA" with you again.

size of the text area: 62×73cm