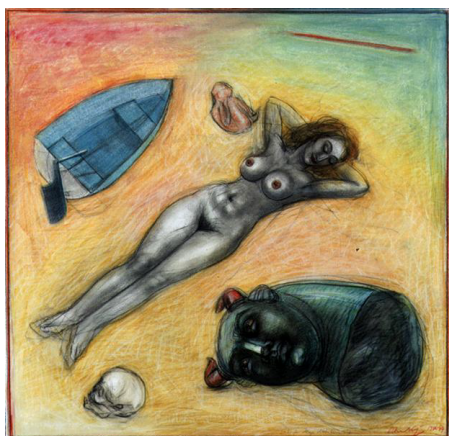




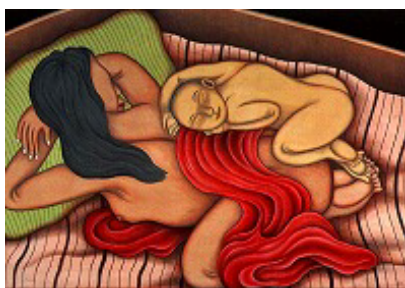
Ten Nights' Dream in Asia

Thu 24 March - Tue 5 July, 2011
Asia Gallery B

When you close your eyes and let yourself drift away, this is a season for exploring the realms our dreams take us. Our hopes for the future may be expressed through dreams, but in the illusionary world created in our dreams our anxiety and fears over an uncertain future are also played out through nightmares. In this exhibition, themed on the concept of dreams, 26 pieces are introduced from the work of various contemporary artists from Asia. Observing the figures and subjects within the pieces as well as the titles can be the start of a journey of the imagination into other worlds and ways of seeing.



Dhruva Mistry India
「Study for Maya Medallions 1,2」
pencil, pastel and chalk on paper
1986-87



I Dewa Putu Mokoh Indonesia
「Mother and Child Laying Sound Asleep」
acrylic on canvas 1992



Su Xinping China
「Dream」
lithograph on paper 1989

1 Journeys of the mind

In our dreams, with the power of imagination, we can make any journey a reality. What kinds of journeys of the imagination do artists set out on? The Taiwanese artist, Wu Tien-Chang, using retro photographs takes us on a journey back to the good old days and the optimism of that time. He Yunchang, from China, produced a performance piece in which while his body is physically bound and restrained, his mind makes the journey from Fukuoka to Mt. Fuji. Chi Peng, also from China, adapts digital images and adds them to images of the real world to create an unreal, or ultra-real, new world.

Wu Tien-Chang Taiwan
「Dreams of Past Era IV」
oil and objects on canvas with light, sound, etc. 1997



He Yunchang China
「Woyou--From Fukuoka to Mount Fuji」
digital C-print 2009



Chi Peng China
「Apollo in Transit」 C-print 2004

2 Surreal worlds

The dreams we experience while sleeping often break away from the norms of reality, connecting us to existences and experience impossible when awake. In this section we move beyond what is real and introduce the surreal. By confronting an expressionless human form against the vast expanse of the Mongolian plain, Su Xinping' s work is symbolic of the human psyche. The use of a subtle and muted monochrome scheme creates an ethereal atmosphere that beckons the viewer into the world beyond reality. In Don M. Salubayba' s "Taming a Baku" , the Philippine artist shows through simple line drawing the various dreams that the baku has consumed. Traditionally the baku is a mythical creature known in Japan for eating dreams.



Don M. Salubayba 「Taming a Baku #23」
pen on paper 2008

Yamanaka Gen 「Dream」 woodcut on paper	Japan 1989	N. N. Rimzon 「Fall of Dome」 charcoal, color pencil, crayon, acrylic and sawdust on paper 「The Light」 charcoal, acrylic, sawdust on paper	India 1997 1997
Su Xinping 「Sleeping Man, Departing Horse」 「Silent Town 1」 lithograph on paper	China 1989	Jose Legaspi 「The Fire」 oil on canvas	Philippines 1999

3 Imaginary landscapes

When our dreams incorporate natural forms and features many varied landscapes of the imagination are created. When we are in such a landscape, gazing at the sky, listening to the gentle whisper of the breeze in the trees, we are able to see a natural environment that does not exist in reality. The Burmese artist, Wah Nu' s gentle piece shows a young girl dreamily floating back and forth between reality and illusion depicted by the dappled play of sunlight through the trees of a forest and a troop of ants crawling up and down a wall. Dinh Thi Tham Poong from Vietnam has produced a piece evoking a sense of nostalgia and fantasy as a young girl' s figure and the leaves of the trees appear to melt together in a softly unfolding dream world.



Badamjavyn Chogsom Mongolia
「Dream」 oil on canvas 1985

Lucia Hartini 「Blue Moon」 oil on canvas	Indonesia 1988	Dinh Thi Tham Poong 「Love Belongs to Nature」 「Love-Freedom」 Chinese ink and watercolor on paper	Vietnam 2005
Ivan Sagito 「Reality and Reflection」 oil on canvas	Indonesia 1988	Tserennadmidin Tsegmed 「Time in Dream」 oil on canvas	Mongolia 1994
Kazi Ghiyasuddin 「Story of Night」 oil on canvas	Bangladesh 1996	Wah Nu 「Tea Time in Spring」 video (12:00)	Myanmar 2003–04

4 The nightmare of reality

Dreams not only relate ambiguous or blurred feelings and images, but also the harsh reality of modern life as nightmares. The stresses of reality on Asian society include issues of colonial history and post colonial tensions related to ethnicity and religion. Roberto Feleo depicts the many foreign powers that have invaded the Philippines as nightmares intruding on and threatening peaceful sleep. The Malaysian artist, Tan Chin Kuan portrays Malaysian society of the 90' s as a nightmare caught up in a frenzy of greed and anxiety. Nazlee Laila Mansur from Bangladesh shows nightmarish events from reality occurring within a beautiful dreamlike Louis Kahn architectural setting.

Nazlee Laila Mansur 「Louis Kahn's Dream: Rupanzel」 acrylic on canvas	Bangladesh 2002
Abdul 「Parliament Building」 enamel paint on tin	Bangladesh 1994
Roberto Feleo 「Sleeping Pintado」 acrylic and lace paper on wood	Philippines 1982
Tan Chin Kuan 「Nightmare of the '90s」 acrylic on board, plank, wood, paper, cloth, zinc, iron	Malaysia 1990