

PRESS RELEASE

WHAT: Performance Ecologies **WHEN:** February to June 2025

WHERE: Linangan Art Residency | Orange Project

"Performance Ecologies: A Platform for Performance Art, Dialogue, and Collective Imagination"

Manila, Philippines – Manila, Philippines — The Goethe-Institut Philippinen, in collaboration with Künstler*innenhaus Mousonturm, Linangan Art Residency, and Orange Project, announces *Performance Ecologies*, a Filipino performance platform that brings together 10 artists from across the Philippines for a multi-phase exploration of contemporary performance practices. This initiative supports practitioners in performance art, dance, and theater by offering them space, mentorship, and community to develop and test new work.

Structured around two intensive workshops, Performance Ecologies begins its first phase from February 26 to March 2, 2025, at Linangan Art Residency in Alfonso, Cavite, and continues with a second phase from June 12 to 16, 2025, at the Orange Project in Bacolod's Art District. These workshops will serve as collaborative laboratories, providing an immersive environment for artistic experimentation, critical reflection, and public engagement.

At the heart of Performance Ecologies is a commitment to exploring urgent themes that shape contemporary Filipino experience. The platform invites artists to reflect on their relationship to land and nature, considering how landscapes—both physical and emotional—shape ideas of identity, belonging, and collective memory. It further delves into the intricacies of community and care, examining how interdependence, mutual aid, and environmental stewardship sustain relationships and cultural practices.

The program also invites a critical engagement with colonial histories and decolonial movements. Participants are encouraged to confront the ongoing impact of colonization on identity and artistic practice, while exploring the transformative power of decolonial resistance. Themes of memory and voice are central, with a focus on storytelling and ancestral knowledge as tools for preserving marginalized histories. Gendered narratives and invisible forces are likewise brought to the surface, shining a light on overlooked contributions of women and other marginalized figures in the creation of cultural memory and resistance.

Facilitating the program are two influential voices in Philippine contemporary performance. Eisa Jocson, an interdisciplinary artist based in La Union, brings her internationally acclaimed practice to the platform. Her work, rooted in visual art, ballet, and pole dancing, dissects body politics in the context of labor and migration. From *Death of the Pole Dancer* to *Manila Zoo*, her performances critique the socioeconomic conditions shaping Filipino identities across global stages. Jocson is the recipient of multiple international awards, including the Hugo Boss Asia Art Award and the Tabori Award International.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:





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Joining her is Franchesca Casauay, a cultural worker and independent producer whose curatorial and research work spans Asia, Australia, Europe, and the UK. With experience in new media, performance, and visual arts, Casauay has led key projects such as the Philippine Pavilion for the 2025 Venice Biennale of Architecture and the ASEF Green Guides PH. A long-time collaborator with Jocson, she brings both strategic and curatorial depth to the project.

Performance Ecologies is more than a professional development initiative—it is a platform for inquiry, solidarity, and reimagining the role of performance in shaping culture, memory, and resistance in the Philippines today.

For more information, visit Goethe.de/Manila or send your inquiries to info-manila@goethe.de

ABOUT THE GOETHE-INSTITUT PHILIPPINEN – The Goethe-Institut is the Federal Republic of Germany's cultural institute, promoting the study of the German language abroad, and encouraging international cultural exchange.

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