Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City, Metro Manila  

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Third Regular Session  

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2400


A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING VISUAL ARTIST MICHAEL GARCIA VILLAGANTE FOR WINNING THE “LORENZO IL MAGNIFICO” AWARD OR THE HIGHEST AWARD FOR HIS ARTWORK “ANG PAGTAHAN” AT THE XIII FLORENCE BIENNALE 2021

WHEREAS, Filipino visual artist Michael Garcia Villagante won the “Lorenzo Il Magnifico” award for his artwork “Ang Pagtahan” in the Florence Biennale 2021 which was inspired by his wife and child;

WHEREAS, the Florence Biennale was founded by Pasuale and Piero Celona with a committee of artists, curator and art critics. It was conceived as a summoning of artists from around the world called to participate in the International Contemporary Art Exhibition in Florence. The founders proposed a model for biennale in which emerging talents and established artists as well could show their works within a free and independent context;

WHEREAS, Mr. Villagante was invited to join the Florence Biennale 2021 which took place last October 23-31 at Fortezza da Basso in Florence where around 1,000 artworks were submitted by almost 400 artists from 65 different countries;
WHEREAS, the theme of the XIII edition of the Florence Biennale focused on the polychrome and multiform universe of femininity, which will be investigated in its many facets with major guidelines1;

WHEREAS, Mr. Villagante’s artwork “Ang Pagtahan” features the ceasing of crying when a mother holds a baby while on the lower part shows five men, which represents the five continents and the heart above them represents the country2;

WHEREAS, this triumph increases the world’s awareness of the talents of Filipino artists and serves as an inspiration through the symbolism in his artwork especially in this time of the pandemic;

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize and acknowledge award-winning Filipino artists to empower other artists to pursue their mastery in their craft, and encourage them to go beyond their boundaries by joining international competitions which the National Commission for Culture and the Arts is very much supportive;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that taking into consideration the above-mentioned premises, we, the undersigned members of the House of Representatives hereby RESOLVE to congratulate and commend visual artist Michael Garcia Villagante for winning the grand prize for his artwork “Ang Pagtahan” in the XIII Florence Biennale 2021 held in Florence last October 23-31, 2021;

RESOLVED FINALLY, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be given to Mr. Michael Garcia Villagante and another copy be prepared for submission to the National Historical Commission of the Philippines for proper archiving.

Adopted,

HON. LORD ALLAN JAY Q. VELASCO

HON. CHRISTOPHER V.P. DE VENECIA

---

1 https://www.florencebiennale.org/en/theme
HON. ANGELICA NATASHA CO

HON. ALFRED D. VARGAS

HON. ALOY LIM

HON. JOSE CHRISTOPHER Y. BELMONTE

HON. FRANCISCO 'KIKO' B. BENITEZ

HON. ROSE MARIE "BABY" J. ARENAS

HON. LUISA LLOREN CUARESMA

HON. SANDRA Y. ERIGUEL, M.D.

HON. FLORIDA "RIDA" P. ROBES

HON. ROSANNA "RIA" V. VERGARA

HON. ANTHONY PETER "ONYX" D. CRISOLOGO

HON. LIANDA B. BOLILIA
HON. VINCENT FRANCO 'DUKE' D. FRASCO

HON. LOREN LEGARDA

HON. MARK O. GO

HON. JESUS "BONG" C. SUNTAY

HON. DAN S. FERNANDEZ

HON. JOEY SARTE SALCEDA

HON. JOHN MARVIN "YUL SERVO" C. NIETO