



October 16 – 20, 2024 #fbm24

Press invitation, September 26, 2024

The Philippines to Feature a Dynamic Program for FBM 2024 in Lead-up to 2025 Guest of Honour Role

The Philippines will step into a central role at the 2025 Frankfurter Buchmesse (FBM) as the Guest of Honour (GOH). It is a singular opportunity that the culturally diverse nation of 7,641 islands will fully bring into play starting with the FBM 2024. The country will present more than 70 publishers, authors, and creatives. Moreover, 700 titles will grace the Philippine stand and various sections of FBM including for genres such as graphic novel, children, new adult and education.

The program offers a significant platform for the Philippines to highlight its vibrant history, culture and heritage - the basis of its literary depth and richness. The country shines a light on the developments made more than a century after its hero and renowned prolific writer, Dr. Jose P. Rizal, accomplished and published his magnum opus in Germany, *Noli Me Tangere*.

We are pleased to invite you to the preview press conference:

Date: Thursday, October 17, 2024, 9.45 – 10.45 am

Location: Frankfurter Buchmesse, Frankfurt Pavilion, Agora

Accreditation: www.artefakt-berlin.de (Please note that you additionally need to [register for the Frankfurter Buchmesse](#) to participate at the press conference.)

Photo Call: at the beginning of the press conference

Livestream: <https://youtube.com/live/XsZX5mfxjAM?feature=share>

The press conference is held in English and German, simultaneous interpretation will be available. Additional press information for download: www.artefakt-berlin.de.

Speakers:

Mr. Juergen Boos, President and CEO, Frankfurter Buchmesse

Chairperson Dante Francis Ang II, National Book Development Board (NBDB)

Mr. Eric B. Zerrudo, Ph.D., Executive Director, National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA)

Hon. Irene Susan B. Natividad, Ambassador, Philippine Embassy to Berlin on behalf of Hon. Loren Legarda, Senator, Republic of the Philippines

Dr. Patrick D. Flores, Curator, Philippine Pavilion

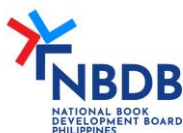
Ms. Karina Bolasco, Head of Literary Program / Curator for Books

Dr. Jaya Jacobo, Transfeminine Thinker & Artist

Mr. Ferdinand Benedict „Budjette“ Tan, Author/Creator of Trese Comics

The participants will be available for interviews afterwards in the Pop Up Frankfurt Studio in Hall 4.0.

Philippines – Guest of Honour Frankfurter Buchmesse 2025



Press contact

ARTEFAKT Kulturkonzepte
Alexander Flöth, Elisabeth Friedrich, Damaris Schmitz, Celia Solf
E-Mail: Philippines@artefakt-berlin.de
Phone: ++49 (0) 30 440 10 720
Press downloads: www.artefakt-berlin.de

Guest of Honour Team

Karen Capino, Communications Manager
E-Mail: communications@phlgohfbf2025.net



October 16 – 20, 2024 #fbm24

***In the air* – A Cultural Program Beyond the Fair in Heidelberg and Wilhelmsfeld**

The Philippines will extend its cultural programming beyond the fairgrounds in Frankfurt through a dynamic four-day launching program titled, *In the air*, that will be held in Heidelberg and Wilhelmsfeld from October 24-27.

The program will explore Jose Rizal's legacy as a hero, writer, and thinker who inspired countless Filipinos, surfacing how his experiences in Germany shaped his work and ideas. It will also delve into broader themes such as home, exile, and international solidarity, examining their relevance to the contemporary Philippine diaspora and how these interactions with the world animate Filipino literature.

We are pleased to invite members of the press to the launching program *In the air*:

Date: October 24 – 27, 2024

Locations: Heidelberg und Wilhelmsfeld

Accreditation: www.artefakt-berlin.de

You are welcome to register for individual events as well.

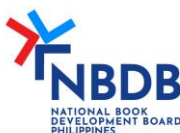
The events in Heidelberg include a ***Filipino and German Writers Fellowship***; a ***Walking Tour*** led by Ambeth Ocampo retracing Rizal's footsteps in Heidelberg; ***Talking Heads #4: Art and Science Show***, a collaborative engagement between Philippine artist Miljohn Ruperto and Professor Jonas Grethlein from the University of Heidelberg; ***With Spectres*** an artists' talk between Joscha Steffens and Stephanie Misa inspired by Rizal's ophthalmology studies in Heidelberg; a launching program with the collaborating agencies for the Philippines' GoH role; and a concert featuring Filipino artists. Additionally, the Wilhelmsfeld event titled, ***Pumpon ng mga Gunita (Bouquet of Reminiscences)***, features a two-part program that combines performances, talks, and conversations about Rizal.

The first part, ***Lebendes Bild***, is an evocative performance-tableau that will depict scenes from Rizal's *Noli Me Tangere* and dramatize his letters to his close friend Ferdinand Blumentritt and his family. It will culminate in Pastor Karl Ullmer's house, where Rizal lived for three months in 1896.

The second part is the ***Tertulia***, an engaging discussion led by German and European scholars, artists, and authors whose works focus on Rizal. The talks will be complemented by performances of Filipino music and poetry, evoking the lively spirit of Rizal's era.

The detailed program is available at: www.artefakt-berlin.de

Philippines – Guest of Honour Frankfurter Buchmesse 2025



Press contact

ARTEFAKT Kulturkonzepte
Alexander Flöth, Elisabeth Friedrich, Damaris Schmitz, Celia Solf
E-Mail: Philippines@artefakt-berlin.de
Phone: ++49 (0) 30 440 10 720
Press downloads: www.artefakt-berlin.de

Guest of Honour Team

Karen Capino, Communications Manager
E-Mail: communications@phlgohfbf2025.net