

Henri Eteve

45 years of "artventures" in the Philippines

A week and a day

before the French National Day on July 14, Alliance

Française de Manille, in collaboration with Avellana Art Gallery, opens Henri

Etève's exhibition "This French is Pinoy!". The exhibition will feature black-and-white-themed works from the 45-year artistic career in the Philippines of French artist

Henri Etève a.k.a. Di Meliora, and is one of three simultaneous exhibitions in

three different venues: Alliance Française de Manille, White Cube Gallery (Metropolitan Museum of Manila) and Alliance Française de Cebu.

Arriving in the

Philippines in the mid-1960's, Etève, then a young man in his twenties, found a congenial milieu in Malate's Café Los Indios Bravos, which was then the favorite watering hole of Manila's artistic and literary cognoscenti, and frequented by assorted other bohemians. By and large an autodidacte, Etève created paintings, sculpted wood and metal, wove tapestries, and cobbled together unexpected and striking assemblages.

While not obviously identifiable at first glance as the classic homme engagé, certain of his works offer cogent social and political commentaries on Philippine and world events.

Etève's vividly colorful canvases, mostly peopled by graceful, organic or geometric forms, sometimes belie more serious underlying primordial themes. But then again, more often than not, Etève's works can simply be appreciated for the playful, witty, or humorous "artventures" that they are.

The show "This French is Pinoy!" by Henri Etève opens at the Alliance Française Total Gallery on Tuesday, July 6, 2010, with cocktails at 6:30 pm to 9 pm. It will be on exhibit until Thursday, July 29, 2010.

For high resolution images of the artworks and more details about the exhibit, kindly contact Mr. Earl Parco (AFM Cultural Officer) at 895 7441 / 895 7585 or email cultural@alliance.ph. You may visit the AFM website at www.alliance.ph.

Alliance Française de Manille is located at 209 Nicanor Garcia St. formerly Reposo St.) Bel-Air 2, Makati City.

Gallery days and hours:

Monday to Thursday, 9am to 6pm; Friday, 9am to 2pm; Saturday, 9am to 5pm;

Closed on Sundays and Holidays.