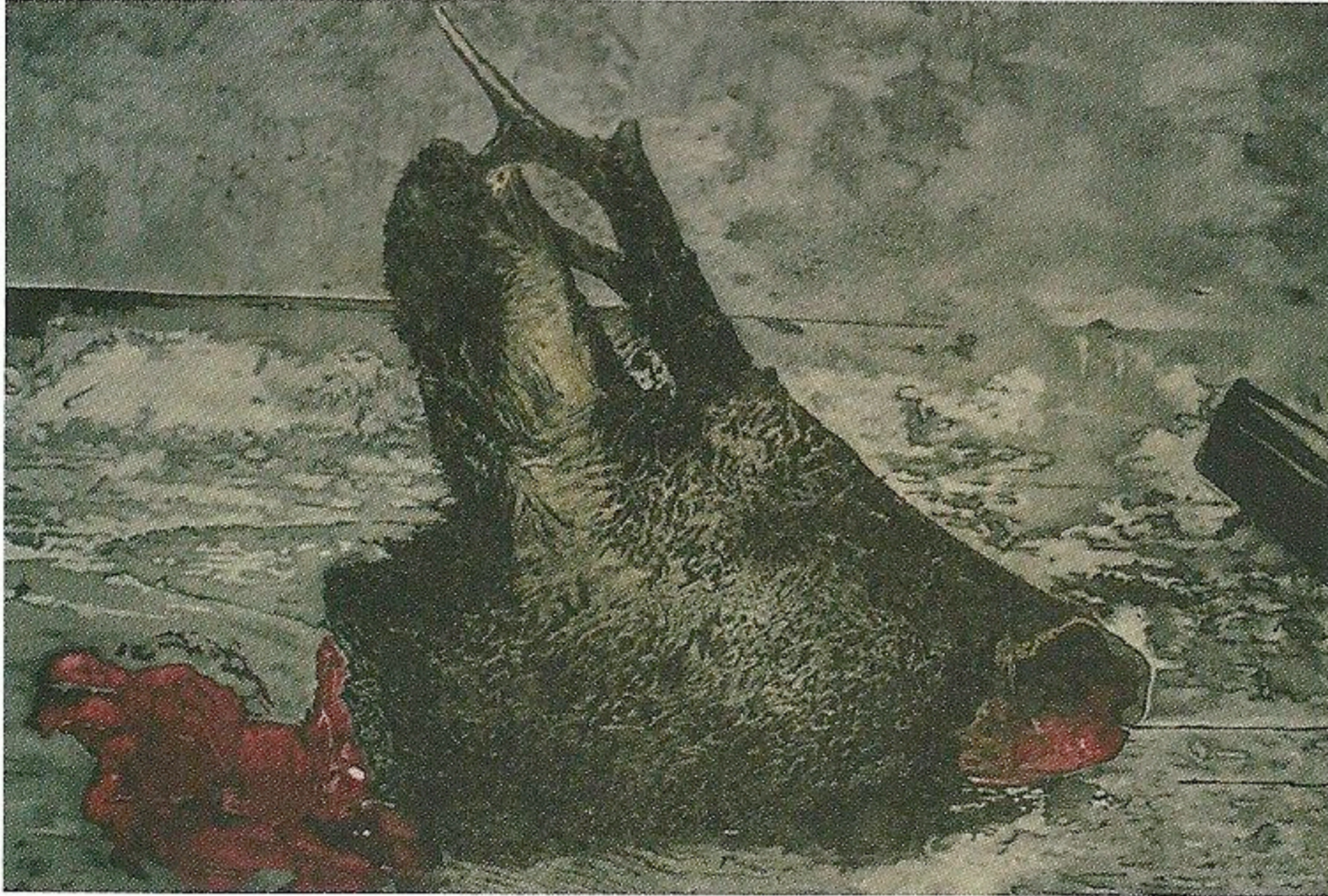


THRICE
UPON A TIME

A Century of Story in the Art
of the Philippines





Patricia Eustaquio (b. 1977)

HORNS (DEER, COLUMBINE, PAINE), 2008

Oil on canvas & oil on linen | 488 x 122 cm
Singapore Art Museum collection

Horns (Deer, Columbine, Paine) is a conceptually driven exploration about the formal and experimental processes of composition. It turns upon the play of visual and phonetic puns, and probes the relationship between word, sound and image. Riffs, echoes and resonances traverse aural and visual realms, and the work delights in the transformations and translations that occur between the sense of sight and sound.

The motif of horns—and death—runs through the three paintings, but each of the ‘horned’ subjects also carries its own specific symbolism. The severed deer’s head alludes to the triumphant deer hunt, a familiar subject in the western art canon. The central panel is dominated by a Columbine flower, which once signified melancholy, but in more recent times, the word conjures up the horrific bloodshed of the American school massacre. The dead tree evokes Roxy Paine, the artist known for making tree sculptures of stainless steel, but the homonym also connotes hurt and suffering. Juxtaposing different genres, the triptych performs like a postmodern musical composition, but the individual images also come together visually, composed like the stanzas of a poem.