



RETROGRADE 2025

Bayani Catapang

15 September – 3 October 2025

RETROGRADE 2025 presents six new collections alongside excerpts from *The Modern Filipino*, reflecting **Bayani Catapang's** 16-year journey as an artist. Rooted in personal history and cultural heritage, this body of work explores themes of healing, resilience, spirituality, family and strength.

From childhood experiences in the Philippines to formative years in British Columbia, Bayani weaves together influences of land, ancestry, and family, creating compositions that honour both tradition and transformation.

Each set carries forward a story: the rice fields of Luzon, the soaring Philippine Eagle, the resilience of women in his family, and the enduring spirits of folklore. The accompanying poetry excerpts deepens these themes, bridging visual and literary expression. **RETROGRADE 2025** is both a tribute to the past and a bold step toward the future, defined by authenticity, imagination, and soul.

About the Artist

Bayani Catapang (31) is a multidisciplinary artist with a diverse portfolio. His entry into the world of visual arts started at the age of 15 when he began working as a commissioned painter (acrylic and mixed-media) and graphic designer. During this same timeframe, his passion for street dance also flourished - culminating in nearly a decade in the scene as a choreographer/dancer with the career highlight of representing Canada at Hip Hop Internationals 2012 in Las Vegas, Nevada under the banner of PraiseTEAM Studio (an internationally renowned dance company from Surrey, BC). Bayani started tattooing at the age of 19 after completing a summer apprenticeship program in Scarborough, ON. Today, he continues to tattoo as a freelancer specializing in neo-classical and tribal designs. In January 2024, he completed a three-volume book project, titled "*The Modern Filipino*", an anthology of spoken word poetry that details the life of a first-generation immigrant.