

MEDIA RELEASE

Fragments and Symbols

New Paintings by Victoria Lobregat

"An endlessly reflective net of jewels" is the title of Victoria Lobregat's exhibition of new paintings at Gallery 4A. A series of small canvas boards arranged into discrete grids form an unusual narrative with fragments from everyday life and symbols of different cultures.

Lobregat combines motifs from a variety of sources ranging from Buddhist prayer symbols to logos for surf brands. Having worked as an illustrator and designer for Hot Tuna, Lobregat is familiar with the power of the symbol. Employing an idiosyncratic logic she pairs the spiritual with consumer desire.

In other works she has covered the canvas entirely with felt, providing a background for small trinkets and objects sewn onto the surface. Spanish gold braid is sewn in zig zag fashion while an intricately beaded purse is splayed open to reveal the lustre of silk satin.

This exhibition is extended beyond the walls of the gallery by showing work in the foyer of the building. She will fill display cases with shoe boxes which have been transformed into paintings and collage.

Victoria Lobregat was born in Manila, Philippines. She has participated in exhibitions at the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne, Side on Gallery, Sydney, Perth Institute of Contemporary Art, Perth and Pendulum, Sydney. Later this year she will also hold her first solo exhibition at Gallery 139, MegaMall in Manila.

Gallery 4A is a new gallery located in Sydney's Chinatown committed to the development of cultural exchange between Australia and Asia. Affiliated with the Asian Australian Artists Association, Gallery 4A is a non-profit professional arts organisation which aims to promote cultural dialogue through the arts.

If you would like images or further information (including interviews) please contact Melissa Chiu, Curator, Tel. 92112245.

Artist:	Victoria Lobregat
Title of exhibition:	An Endlessly Reflective Net of Jewels
Preview:	Friday 11th July, 6-8 pm
Dates:	12th July - 2 August, 1997
Venue:	Gallery 4A