

# FRIEZE

## The Best Shows to See During This Year's Gallery Weekend Berlin

BY CARINA BUKUTS IN CRITIC'S GUIDES | 28 APR 21

Nicholas Grafia  
Peres Projects  
30 April – 4 June

Düsseldorf-based artist Nicholas Grafia's first exhibition at Peres Projects, 'Free Verse Spirit', explores the meaning of oral history within the medium of painting. In his colourful works, he combines Philippine history and folklore with pop culture to address the cultural maintenance of identities. During the Spanish colonization of the Philippines in the 16th century, indigenous Filipinos were held captive in so-called *encomienda* labour camps. In *The Ambush* (all works 2021), Grafia gives agency back to the suppressed. In the purple shades of night and under a full moon, a group of Filipino Aeta hunters with bows and arrows attack the head of the labour camp.

