



**The Philippine American Life and
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MEDIA RELEASE

Manansala cubism exhibit opens at Philam Life Gallery wing at National Museum

Manila, Philippines (April 2, 2014)—The masterpieces of renowned National painter, Vicente Silva Manansala, are now on exhibit following a partnership between Philam Life and the National Museum of the Philippines.

Coming from an extensive Manansala collection commissioned by Philam Life especially for the Philam Life Building at United Nations Avenue in Manila, seven paintings will be on display at a special gallery created at the National Museum to accommodate the works of the famed Filipino cubist.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony last April 2 formally opened the National Museum Manansala exhibit. The event was attended by Jose L. Cuisia Jr., Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines to the United States of America; Rex A. Mendoza, Philam Life president and CEO; Max Ventura, Philam Foundation executive director, Jeremy Barns, National Museum director, Ramon del Rosario, National Museum chairman, and the Manansala heirs.

Located next to historic Rizal Park and Intramuros in Manila, the National Museum is the official repository of the fine arts, cultural heritage and natural history of the Philippines.

“Vicente Manansala is one of the most important Filipino painters of the 20th century”, said Barns. “As such, it is most appropriate for the National Museum to feature his works, especially those of outstanding significance such as this series from Philam Life.”

As part of its corporate culture, Philam Life is a strong supporter of the advancement of Philippine arts and culture. Having the Manansala collection for public display is just one of its many efforts that exemplify their patronage.

“We consider it a privilege that our Manansala collection is showcased at the National Museum,” said Mendoza. “Creating a special gallery accessible for general viewing is right in line with our efforts to further promote appreciation of the arts.”

As a member of the Thirteen Modernists and neo-realists – artists whose works reflected the social environment and local sensibilities of the late 50s and early 60s – Manansala refrained from the idyllic subject matter of much of his contemporaries. Instead, his compositions mirrored the prevailing issues on national culture and identity during post-World War II.

“Mang Enteng,” as he was known, was one of the most prolific and versatile artists of his time. He pioneered the style of transparent cubism, which favored geometric faceting of forms, and shifting and overlapping planes rather than analytical cubism, which fragments and dissects figures into complex abstract compositions.

Following his passing in 1981, he was posthumously proclaimed a National Artist in Painting in the same year.



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About Philam Life

The Philippine American Life and General Insurance Company (Philam Life) is the country's premier life insurance company. Established on June 21, 1947, Philam Life offers an extensive line of products in the industry that provides solutions to various financial needs including life protection, health insurance, savings, education, retirement, investment, group and credit life insurance.

Philam Life is a member of AIA Group Limited, the largest independent publicly listed pan-Asian life insurance group.

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AIA Group Limited and its subsidiaries (collectively "AIA" or "the Group") comprise the largest independent publicly listed pan-Asian life insurance group. It has operations in 17 markets in Asia-Pacific – wholly-owned branches and subsidiaries in Hong Kong, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, China, Korea, the Philippines, Australia, Indonesia, Taiwan, Vietnam, New Zealand, Macau, Brunei, a 97 per cent subsidiary in Sri Lanka, a 26 per cent joint venture in India and a representative office in Myanmar.

The business that is now AIA was first established in Shanghai over 90 years ago. It is a market leader in the Asia-Pacific region (ex-Japan) based on life insurance premiums and holds leading positions across the majority of its markets. It had total assets of US\$147 billion as of 30 November 2013.

AIA meets the savings and protection needs of individuals by offering a range of products and services including life insurance, accidental and health insurance and savings plans. The Group also provides employee benefits, credit life and pension services to corporate clients. Through an extensive network of agents and employees across Asia-Pacific, AIA serves the holders of more than 28 million individual policies and over 16 million participating members of group insurance schemes.

AIA Group Limited is listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited under the stock code "1299" with American Depositary Receipts (Level 1) traded on the over-the-counter market (ticker symbol: "AAGIY").

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