

# VINYL ON VINYL

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## STRANGERS IN A STRANGE LAND

NINA GARIBAY

MARCH 8, 2022

"All men have the stars but they are not the same things for different people. For some, who are travelers, the stars are guides. For others they are no more than little lights in the sky. For others, who are scholars, they are problems. For businessmen they were wealth. But all these stars are silent.

You-you alone-will have the stars as no one else has them-

- Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, *The Little Prince*

A pale blue dot. This is how the astronomer Carl Sagan infamously summed up the entirety of human existence. Everything we have ever known and everyone we have ever loved simply "on a mote of dust suspended in a sunbeam." No wonder our current generation is obsessed with concepts of interstellar travel, parallel universes, time loops, and whatever science can unearth beyond the realms of the terrestrial. Escapism fuels our curiosity, the inherent desire to gain distance from the familiar. Indubitably, centuries from now (perhaps even mere decades) when we'd have conquered other planets and called them home, we'll look back at the blue star with longing...or be overwhelmed in its strange complexities.

This collection of paintings by Nina Garibay explores the speculative scenario of an unfamiliar homeland. Like a guileless alien emissary getting the lay of the land, she uses snippets and silhouettes from magazine collages to create a working narrative of the daunting milieu. Ubiquitous clouds and endless floors ground the outlandish characters who are either shrouded in mystery or missing, recognizable only by their exaggerated poses or the negative space that surrounds them.

Garibay guides us through this alternate reality by treating the canvas like a window to different story arcs, keeping us behind a safe, albeit symbolic barrier.

Sol 234

You have landed safely on Earth after your arduous journey. However, the atmosphere is tense. In Observatory, we spy upon the shadow of a man who looks back at us with a mysterious side glance, dissolving into a perforated layer. You are like the Starboy, a lone interstellar voyager navigating the unknown terrain. Tesseract features a man transported through a canvas. The title alludes to the fifth dimension, the portal between time and space. Will he make it to his destination?

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Nina Garibay  
*Observatory*, 2022  
Oil on Canvas  
30h x 28w in  
76.20h x 71.12w cm  
₱ 24,000.00



Nina Garibay  
*Tesseract*, 2022  
Oil on Canvas  
30h x 28w in  
76.20h x 71.12w cm  
₱ 24,000.00



Nina Garibay  
*Starboy*, 2022  
Oil on Canvas  
48h x 36w in  
121.92h x 91.44w cm  
₱ 50,000.00



Nina Garibay  
*Sentinel*, 2022  
Oil on Canvas  
54h x 36w in  
137.16h x 91.44w cm  
₱ 56,000.00



Nina Garibay  
*Gemini*, 2022  
Oil on Canvas  
54h x 36w in  
137.16h x 91.44w cm  
₱ 56,000.00



Nina Garibay  
*Actuarian*, 2022  
Oil on Canvas  
54h x 36w in  
137.16h x 91.44w cm  
₱ 56,000.00



Nina Garibay  
*Arrival*, 2022  
Oil on Canvas  
60h x 48w in  
152.40h x 121.92w cm  
₱ 83,000.00