

Verein Studiyo Filipino
% Annette Hug
Sihlfeldstrasse 28
8003 Zürich

Minutes of the General Assembly (GA), 02 Mai 2025

Bullingerstr. 63, 8004 Zürich

14 Attendees: Doris Bacalzo, Bea Lorente, Annette Hug, Tobias Schwörer, Lenny Bugayong, Sining Bruni, Lina Ermert, Anny Hefti, Susan Nagel, Theresita Gaukler, Imelda Wiesendanger, Stephanie Willi, Salma Martinez, Raquel Billiones (Excused: Patrick Wirz, Ueli Brunner)

1. Welcome and introductions

Introduction by Annette Hug: we are moving the schedule of our GA back to the spring; this will be a short GA as it covers only half a year since our last GA.

Duties and Minutes

- Annette Hug and Beatriz Lorente (new chair persons) facilitated the meeting; Lenny Bugayong was secretary for the minutes.
- The agenda for the GA was approved.
- The minutes from the previous GA were unanimously approved.

2. Review of 2024

Activities of the association

- Our activities in 2024 have been documented in the Annual Report [website](#) (see also posters on the walls). Some highlights were presented as follows:
- The bi-annual symposium was held on 9 June 2024 in Zurich. The theme of the symposium was "Nation in Motion: Changing representations of Philippine culture and identities".
- Two Salas were organized, one in Lucerne and one in Zurich:
 - 26 April 2024, Bettina Beer on "Three decades later: the persistent challenge of perpetrator-victim narratives"
 - 12 October 2024, Luna Sicat Cleto and Annette Hug, Poetry reading from "Offenes Meer"
- A poetry workshop was facilitated by Lenny Bugayong in the summer; some of the poems can be found on our [website](#).

- We uploaded or helped upload of more Philippine objects from museums to the MPMC platform by SOAS, including from the Museum der Kulturen Basel (MKB).
- A [podcast](#) series on Philippine books was uploaded with five new episodes.
- Additional comments by Annette Hug:
 - The great diversity at our last symposium was highly cherished.
 - Such diversity can also be seen among us board members; we learn from and complement one another.
 - Instagram plays an important role for reaching out to more audiences; a big “thank you” goes to Stephanie Willi for her untiring work.
 - The panel interview we gave at the Landesmuseum last November in connection with the exhibit «kolonial» showed that our association has become a reference for events on a bigger stage.
 - Two ethnographic museums have been willing to remunerate our work. Though our work is primarily based on a voluntary basis, it enables us to pay honorary fees where appropriate and finance smaller projects.

3. Finances and budget

- **Financial statement**
 - See attached document provided by the treasurer for details.
 - Income: 14555 CHF; expenses: 11987 CHF (mainly for symposium)
 - → profit: 2568 CHF for year 2024
 - Including amount from 2023: total capital of **3709** CHF
 - Membership fees still outstanding (reminder will be sent after Sala)
- **Budget for 2025**
 - The budget for 2025 has yet to be drafted.
 - Seeing that our activities for 2025 will require little funding, however, as they will mainly be funded through our respective partner organizations (see below, point 5), spendings are expected to be small.
- **Audit of the report**

The accounting was prepared by Patrick Wirz in his capacity as former treasurer, Tobias Schwörer checked the numbers in his capacity as former auditor. Tobias confirmed that the books were handled professionally, despite the busy year with frequent in- and output. He concluded that the accounts are accurate and transparent.

On the advice of the auditor, Tobias Schwörer, the annual financial statements were unanimously accepted by the members and they approved the décharge.

All members thanked Patrick Wirz for his work.

4. (Re-)Election of board members

- All current board members, including co-chairs, were unanimously re-elected.
- Patrick Wirz as auditor was unanimously re-elected.

5. Plans for 2025

- Cf. newsletter from 06 April 2025; Bea presented upcoming highlights as follows:
- All our events for 2025 are themed around the Philippines featured as “Guest of Honor” at the Frankfurt Book Fair in October (see below).
- Accordingly, our spring Sala today (following the GA) will be a Literaturabend featuring community members George Londob and Karel Otto.
- 11 September 2025: in cooperation with “Kino Royal” in Baden, “Ora pro nobis” by Lino Brocka will be shown and studiyo filipino will co-host; in particular: Doris Bacalzo will give an input at the beginning.
- 14-19 October 2025: Philippines will be “Guest of Honor” at Frankfurt Book Fair (open to the public from 18 October onwards) and 30 Philippine books will come out in the German language. studiyo filipino plans to be there and members are encouraged to join (travel and lodging to be organized individually).
- 24-26 October 2025: Literaturtage Zofingen will also feature the Philippines; the organizers have been consulting with studiyo filipino. Our autumn Sala will be combined with the Zofinger Literaturtage (details tba).
- Two projects are ongoing: Doris Bacalzo is working with the MKB and four of her students on a project involving Philippine objects MKB have uploaded to SOAS; VMZ has invited studiyo filipino for a “mini residency”, where studiyo filipino’s work on digitizing museum objects and awareness raising of Switzerland’s historical ties with the Philippines can be showcased in 2026.

6. Question from the members

- Input by Anny Hefti: the topics tackled by the association could involve more issues pertaining to indigenous groups.
 - Response by Beatriz Lorente: we were supposed to feature a book about the Cordilleras today, but the invited speaker is out of town.
 - Response by Tobias Schwörer: many of the objects studied by the students at MKB are indigenous as well.
 - Response by Annette Hug: one of the novels she translated “Aswanglout” (Allan N. Derain) also involves reflections on indigenous topics.
- No further questions; we proceeded to hosting the spring Sala.

Zurich, 02 May 2025

Lenny Bugayong

and


Beatriz Lorente / Annette Hug