### YAVUZ GALLERY | PRESS RELEASE | 4 FEB 2020

## One Thing After Another

#### Johanna Helmuth

#### **Curated by Ryan Francis Reyes**

**Opening:** 15 February 2020, 4-7 pm

On view: Until 9 March 2020

Yavuz Gallery Singapore is pleased to present *One Thing After Another,* a solo exhibition by Filipino artist **Johanna Helmuth.** 

In Helmuth's characteristic pictorial approach to exploring human behaviour, tendencies and social relationships, she composes a set of canvases partly as an introspection of personal challenges from her past year. Through the imagery emerging from the works, she suggests the cultivation of an inner strength that enables one to clear and forge new paths; to stand up for one's self and rise above the seemingly inevitable. Though largely emphasising self-empowerment, the scenes portrayed also recognise the value of social support, of letting people in and allowing them to possibly offer a guiding light amid states of confusion. A tone of positivity and encouragement resonates with the exhibition title *One Thing After Another*, which conjures a situation when things fall into their right places and at their right moments.

#### **ABOUT THE ARTIST**

A graduate of Advertising from the Technological University of the Philippines, **Johanna Helmuth** (b. 1992, Philippines) paints subjects that reflect on human behaviour, social values and standards, in muted and earth tones and highly textured surfaces vigorously applied using the palette knife. Some of her works depict compositions that lend themselves to narratives, like scenes or excerpts from stories. In 2018, she received the Fernando Zobel Prize for the Visual Arts, Ateneo Art Awards, one of the top awards in the Philippines for young artists. She is also a three-time semifinalist of the Metrobank Art and Design Excellence Award (MADE). She has exhibited extensively in group shows in Manila, Philippines; Taipei, Taiwan; Milan, Italy; and New York, United States, and has presented seven solo exhibitions to date. *One Thing After Another* is presented in collaboration with The Working Animals Art Projects.

For inquiries and more information, please contact Caryn Quek at caryn@yavuzgallery.com or tel: +65 6734 3262.

# **Selected Works**



The Tough, 2020, oil on canvas,  $198 \times 244 \text{ cm}$ 



The Optimist, 2020, oil on canvas, 198 x 305 cm

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