

Roland Escalona Artist Statement

My professional background is in the field of architecture, primarily in residential designs. But I am also a self-taught artist. Outside architecture, I create art pieces for art exhibits and art competitions. My art can be observed as an extension of my passion for architecture as evident of my extensive use of colors, shapes and architecture elements like houses and buildings.

Close Quarters V is the 5th installment for a series that started as a sketch entry for the Architectural Record magazine's 2014 Sketch Napkin Competition in which I won the non-registered architect category. The first 4 installments of the series represent my artistic expressions of the dense urban landscape found in slum neighborhoods or "squatters" of Tondo, Manila, "favelas" of Rio de Janeiro and other similar urban settings. On the other hand, the concept for Close Quarter V was to replace the compact dilapidated houses of the slums with houses like the ones found in American suburban neighborhoods. Basically, Close Quarters V became a visual study of what that concept would look like. For Close Quarters V, I used a variety of pens for every single line drawn and different grey tone colored pencils for shadows and textures.