



Reflected in Fernando Zobel's *Boy with a Kite* (1952), featured here on the cover, is the painter's passion for high chromatism. His subject and his vibrant summery hues form an ode to the colorful Philippine landscape—and to its dreams, promise, and hope. We in the Ayala group look upon the artwork's radiance as an emblem of Filipino creativity and innovation. Filipino acts of imagination have constantly inspired new solutions and opened up new paths in our highly mutable developing world. While celebrating the Ayala group's 170th anniversary, the new Ayala Museum commemorates this ennobling aspect of Filipino identity: the pioneering spirit that is crucial to both cultural work and nation building. More significantly, it firmly secures a place for this spirit to thrive today and in the future.

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For Ayala Foundation, pioneering the future and celebrating the Filipino go hand-in-hand—more so when the task is social and cultural transformation. The foundation works to help disadvantaged communities and individuals, especially children, realize their possibilities. Our development programs, schools, electronic library, and museum operations emphasize the link between the formation of today's children and the quality of tomorrow's citizens. Goldened by the tropic heat, the boy in Zobel's painting embodies the foundation's commitment to empowering the Filipino. He peers with dark eyes from behind a blazing-red kite. To what figure is his gaze turned? Art, culture, and knowledge shape young people's imaginations and strengthen their sense of agency, the power to generate change. With this power, the Filipino future may decisively be won.

