In the 1970s, Filipino filmmaker Lino Brocka gained worldwide attention at the Cannes Film Festival with films that challenged the Marcos regime's state-sponsored fantasies of modernity, prosperity and peace. He introduced the world to a different aesthetic, the political melodrama. This lecture looks at the life and art of Brocka by considering his Filipino melodramas as visual narratives against the Philippine state and the afterlife of the American Empire.

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