

**THAVIBU
ART**

THAVIBU ART GALLERY



INVESTIGATING INSPIRATIONS

(March 18 - May 30, 2017 at Thavibu Art Gallery)

Featuring new artworks by 6 established & promising contemporary Thai artists:

Therdkiat Wangwatcharakul
Santi Thongsuk
Kritsana Chaikitwattana
Chatchawan Amsomkid
Rattana Salee
Sudaporn Phannil

The exhibition will feature new paintings and sculptures created from inspirations, ranging from the social & political to the spiritual & aesthetic. Topics covered in this exhibition range broadly from the geo-political to the loneliness of living in a metropolis, Buddhism as an antidote to external & internal chaos, the collision of ideologies, the fragility of human existence, and the ethics, or lack thereof, of animal experimentations.



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Therdkiat Wangwatcharakul

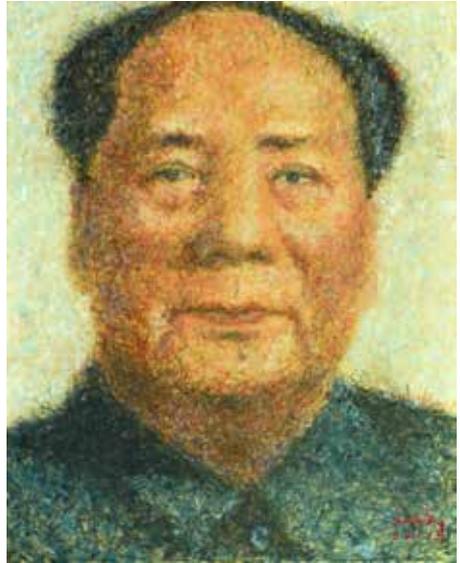
Do Not Forget, 2016

Oil and acrylic on canvas, 160 x 200 cm

An established and versatile artist, Therdkiat Wangwatcharakul was born in 1971 and graduated with an MA from Silpakorn University in 2003. He often paints in oil and acrylic on aluminum sheets as well as canvas. Therdkiat has participated in several exhibitions in Thailand, Singapore, Japan, the Netherlands, Korea, China, Spain, and USA. He was awarded the Jurors' Choice Prize in the ASEAN Art



Awards, Singapore in 2000, picked up the bronze at the 47th National Exhibition of Art, and the silver medal at the 48th National Exhibition of Art. Typical to Therdkiat's spatially sensitive compositions are his focus on architectural detailing and the subtle interplay of light and shadow. Therdkiat is a master at evoking the deep loneliness of living in a metropolis. In his new series, Therdkiat deviates from his usual distinctive style and engages the audience to question the inevitable consequences of geo-politics, through a series of powerful portraits of influential leaders, past and present, who have shaped the world and history, for better or worse.



Mr. Mao, 2017

Oil on canvas and wood

148 x 178 cm

Santi Thongsuk



Body & Mind, 2001
Oil on canvas
90 x 110 cm

Eyes of the Universe
2016
Oil on canvas
90 x 100 cm

Born in 1969 in the province of Ubon Ratchathani, Santi Thongsuk graduated from Silpakorn University in 1994 and sprung into the domestic limelight after picking up top honors at the inaugural Philip Morris ASEAN Art Award in Singapore that same year, for his painting titled, "Breath in the Capital City". He has participated in several exhibitions in Thailand and in Great Britain in 1994, ARTSingapore in 2001, and was represented at Christie's Auction, Thailand in 2000. Santi is a naturally versatile artist, and often creates figurative paintings with some surrealism in the content. Santi is a devout Buddhist and often times portray Buddhism as an antidote to urban chaos, inequality, and man-made conflicts. Viewers could be mistaken in thinking that Santi is a despondent man as his paintings are of a dark mood in color and sometimes content. Santi claims that he only harnesses his more pained, darker moods as motivations because they churn up more powerful imagery than his normal life does. Santi's uneasy renderings of urban chaos and advocating Buddhism as a remedy to suffering are recurring themes in his paintings.



Kritsana Chaikitwattana

Kritsana Chaikitwattana was born in 1977 in Hat Yai. He earned his MA from Silpakorn University in 2002. He has exhibited extensively in Thailand, as well as Korea, Spain, Taiwan, China, and Singapore. Kritsana's works often concern the disconcerting realm between fact and fiction, reality and illusion, spiritual and secular and lost and found. He does not aim to depict absolutes or ideological positions that are unassailable due to intense, impassioned, separatist, authoritarian or militant fundamentalism - but with the places where these attitudes meet. Sometimes these encounters may result in conflict, as when ideologies collide, but at other times this is the only place where understanding can grow. This zone of contention is where change happens. Kritsana's recognition of the fact that there must be a place where opposites meet, however uncomfortable that might be, is the place where bonds of solidarity begin. He cites Montien Boonma as a major influence along with conceptual artists Ai Wei Wei and Joseph Kosuth and the transavantgarde artists Francesco Clemente, Enzo Cucchi and Mimmo Paladino. Like the conceptualists, his work is a sustained exploration of the production and role of meaning in art, while his commitment to the expression of emotion through painting has parallels in the work of the transavantgardists.



C'est La Vie No.12, 2016
Oil and wood carving on board
43 x 31.5 cm



Unnamed Song No.3, 2016
Oil on canvas
80 x 60 cm

Chatchawan Amsomkid

Chatchawan Amsomkid was born in 1976 and graduated with an MA from King Mongkut's Institute of Technology. He has picked up the bronze (2007, 2009) and silver prizes (2008) in the mixed media category of the annual National Exhibitions of Art, Thailand. The inspiration behind the sculptures in this exhibition stems from the artist's curiosity of what is the root of corruption and the disastrous effects it has on a country and society. Corruption carries a heavy price tag. Unchecked, corruption becomes a way of life that can paralyze industries, financial organizations, damage economies, destroy governments, and ruin societies. The snakes featured in the exhibition are symbolic of greed, the root cause of corruption, which permeates all aspects of life if left unchecked. Chatchawan hopes to take his audience on a journey of the evils of corruption and how it is, indeed, a global threat.



Guard Dog, 2016
Acrylic on fiberglass
24 x 81 x 59 cm



Watch Dog, 2016
Acrylic on fiberglass
39 x 56 x 50 cm

Rattana Salee

Rattana Salee was born in 1982 and graduated with an MFA in Sculpture at Silpakorn University in 2011. She was also a recipient of the French Embassy's scholarship to further her studies at École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts (ENS-BA), Paris, France in 2011. Rattana has attended residency programs in 2011, "Invited Artist in Residency Program at Da Wang Culture Highland", in Shenzhen, China, and in 2013, "Tropical Lap 7: ECHO – The Poetic of Translations" at Lasalle College of the Art, Singapore. She has participated in exhibitions in Thailand, Singapore, China, and France. Rattana is a versatile artist who works on sculptures and paintings with ease. Her works portray supposed progress of cities, and to her, the Thai capital has become one vast construction site. The builder's raucous rattle of drill and hammer shakes almost every street in the city,



while inhabitants seek mental and spiritual solace in the claustrophobic rectangular stacks they call home. Within such domestic confines, occupants establish individual expressions as refuge, yet the world beyond continues to infiltrate.

The Fortress, 2016
Acrylic on canvas
48 x 70 cm

Old Train Station, 2016
Acrylic on canvas
51 x 61 cm

Sudaporn Phannil

Sudaporn Phannil was born in 1993 and is a BA Fine Arts graduate of King Mongkut's Institute of Technology, year 2017. Her first group exhibition was in Bangkok, Thailand in that same year. Her current collection of furry sculptures attempts to convey the cruelty of the use of animals in laboratory experimentations, and why they should be treated ethically with compassion. Countless animals are disfigured, burned, blinded, cut open, poisoned, starved and drugged behind closed laboratory doors every year for convenience in experimentations. Growing up with animals, Sudaporn was struck by how similar to us they are. She has been impressed and touched by their bonds and emotions. She has seen these animals know who they are, who their friends are, and who their rivals are. Just like humans, they try to stay alive, get food and shelter, and raise their young. Animals are no different from humans in that regard and their presence here on earth is tremendously enriching.



Boo!, 2016
Mixed media, resin, and synthetic wool
24 x 26 x 19 cm



Spooky, 2016
Mixed media, resin, and synthetic wool
31 x 48 x 28 cm

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