Across the Mekong

a group show with works from
Tanupon En-on
Suwit Maprajuab
Maitree Siriboon
Chusak Srikwan
Pornprasert Yamazaki

Curated by Maitree Siriboon and Paul Ulan-Taylor,
ACROSS THE MEKONG is an exhibition of thought
evoking works presenting questions and perceived
truths on today's social, cultural and environmental
issues. The exhibition intends to foster a developing
relationship of artistic exchange and cultural debate
between the Thai and Lao art communities.

Maitree Siriboon and Paul Ulan-Taylor will be present at the opening reception and will give a talk on Friday, 21st of October, at 7:00 PM.

The exhibition will run from the 22nd of October till the 27th of November 2011.



Tanupon En-on

Born: August 22, 1978

Tanupon En-on's paintings depict the urbanization of the countryside in a highly iconographic style. He juxtaposes scenes of imaginary and mythological creatures with the modern day culture of technology.



Tanupon En-on Out With The Old, In With The New 150×150 cm, acrylic on canvas, 2007

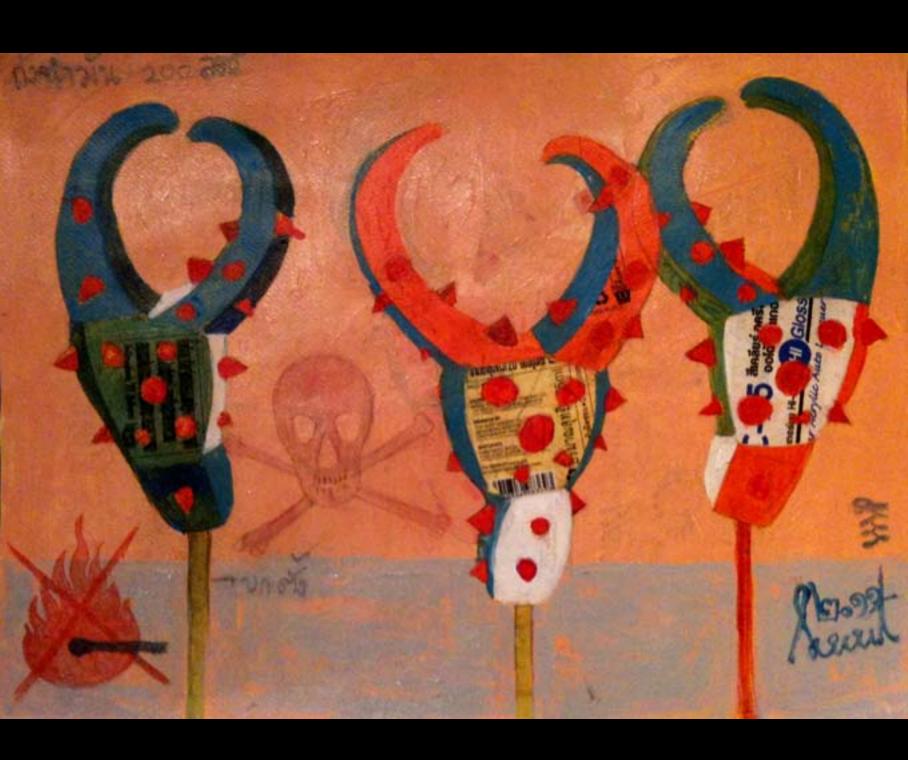


200 x 200 cm, acrylic on canvas, 2008



Suwit Maprajuab Born May 19,1981

Suwit Maprajuab uses discarded oil and gas tanks to create sculptures offering a commentary on mankind's impact on the environment and how marine animals have been forced to adapt due to human interference. His choice of medium presents a tangible inter connectivity between societal themes and the effect this has on our ecosystems.





Suwit Maprajuab Crab Claw 1 109 x 65 x 24 cm, discarded oil tanks, 2011



Suwit Maprajuab Crab Claw 2 98 x 55 x 20 cm, discarded oil tanks, 2011



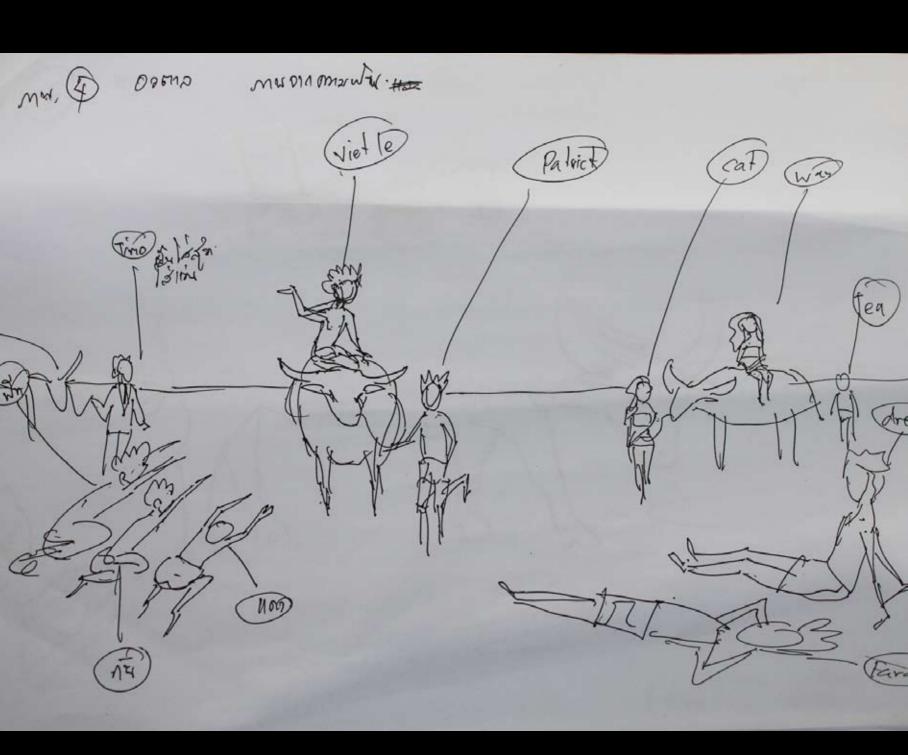
Maitree Siriboon

Born 11 June 1983

Maitree Siriboon focuses on cultural identity and mediating the differences between urban cosmopolitan life with rural charm and agricultural innocence. Photos from his series Dream of Beyond invite the observer to embark on a nostalgic visit into his past.

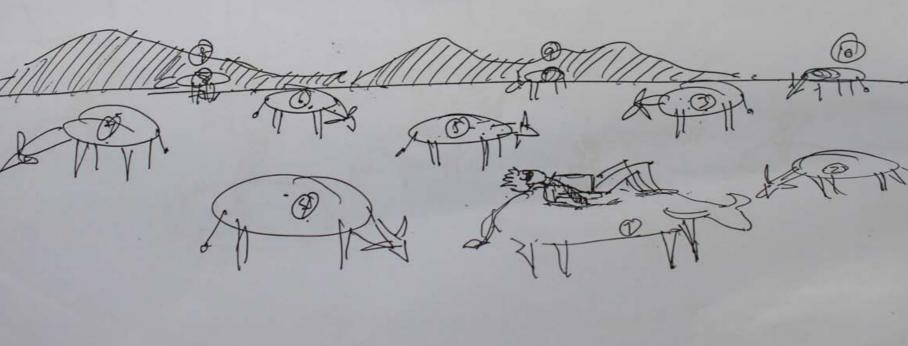
"Contrasts between urban and rural Thailand, transformations of the traditional village, and of the villagers who have moved to the city have been a key theme in Maitree Siriboon's work. For this new project, Maitree turns to the image of the Asian water buffalo, an iconic animal of a great historical significance that he has himself herded as a boy at his ancestral farm in Isan. In search for his childhood memories, the buffalo boy, who now lives in cosmopolitan Bangkok, will hardly find the familiar grounds unchanged. The buffaloes are different: having lost their place as indispensable working animals, they now serve as a decoration of the land, entertainers, performers. The people are different: imbued with the flavours and seductions of a big city, a global party vibe, they sport platinum blond hair and are ready to engage into surprising role-play. It is only through ritual and ceremony that the buffalo boy can reach /beyond/ this scenery, to a place of mysterious colours and shifting lights, where white buffaloes await blond buffalo herds, and where his fantasies, dreams and visions can finally be confronted. With this photo series, Maitree Siriboon invites you to join his quest for identity in an everchanging world, his nostalgic investigation of the past, a tribute to the agricultural cradle of mankind, and a search for auspicious signs of a more harmonious future that would reunite the city with the village and sophistication with innocence."







ทางกั ปี เด็กเลียงสายแปลารภาพ เปรียรีเราเธร หลา ของงานครั สาย อดีเอกาน เปรี่ย ผลกั. ท่างกายสายการเกิด ครองาม เเอะ ปุง ภาย แอเอกัง













Chusak Srikwan

Born - 22 April 1983

Chusak Srikwan's artwork is inspired by 'Nang Talung' shadow puppetry that is part of the culture of Thailand's south.

His contemporary puppets comment on recent events and the dynamics of politics and society. The symbolism of the puppets and their ironic aesthetic are intended to raise awareness among the audience.









Chusak Srikwan The people funny of Northeast Thailand No. 2 67 x 30 cm (man), 60 x 30 cm (woman), Leather carving, 2011





Chusak Srikwan Tiger & Crocodile 59 x 42 cm, Acrylic on paper, 2011



Pornpraseart Yamazaki

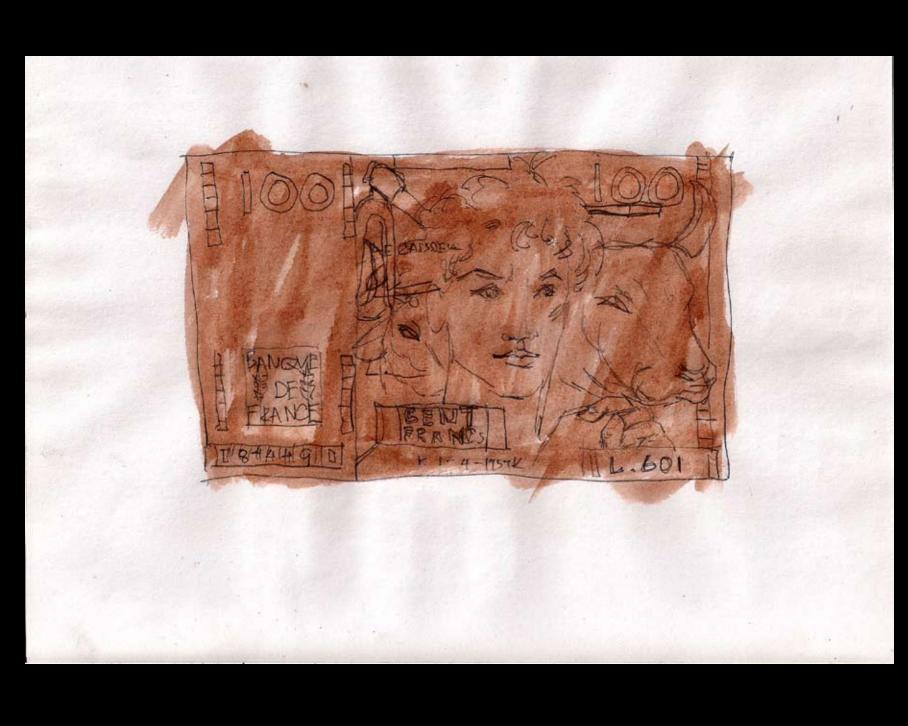
Born September 10, 1973

Pornprasert Yamazaki questions the true meaning of happiness in his blood paintings. Using his own blood as medium, he opens a debate on how to live with happiness in a world of materialism; he forces us to rethink the question of happiness and the meaning of life.

"I will paint everything that makes me happy with my blood, if I can make them to be with me forever" "Is there any real happiness in the materialist world?" "What is the real happiness that you expect in your life?" "I think these questions are always asked and always strong belief that all of us need the happiness in our life." "This exhibition arises from the question of how to live with happiness in the world of declining materialism. In this situation, we are forced to rethink the question of true happiness and the meaning of life. This exhibition will challenge the viewer to question the meaning of true happiness. I believe that true happiness is nirvana." "In order to achieve nirvana, one must kill oneself. In order to kill oneself, one must first kill one's parents then one's wife, children, and all the companions. After that ones will die and achieve nirvana."



 20×30 cm, sketch, pen on water colour paper, 2011



 20×30 cm, sketch, pen on water colour paper, 2011



20 x 30 cm, sketch, pen on water colour paper, 2011



Pornprasert Yamazaki

Sketch with buffalo blood, 2011

With all our thanks to the friends who have made this exhibition & publication possible

Especially the curators of the show Maitree Siriboon & Paul Ulan-Taylor

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