

# ASIATOPIA

INTERNATIONAL  
PERFORMANCE ART FESTIVAL 12/2010

“ GIVE ART A CHANCE ”



# เทศกาล เอเชียโทเปีย

ศิลปะสื่อแสดงสด ครั้งที่ 12 / 2553  
 ณ.หอศิลปวัฒนธรรม มหาวิทยาลัยเชียงใหม่  
 12 - 14 พฤศจิกายน 2553

“ GIVE ART A CHANCE ”

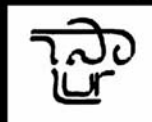
\* ARTIST TALK & WORK SHOP ,12 NOV 2010 ,1.00 PM-4.00 PM  
 AT MEDIA ART&DESIGN BUILDING, CMU ART CENTER  
 \*PERFORMANCE ART ,13-14 NOV 2010, 5.30 PM - 8.30 PM,  
 AT CMU ART CENTER

## ASIATOPIA INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCE ART FESTIVAL 12/2010 12 - 14 November 2010 CMU Art Center

Alice De VISSCHER , Belgium / Chakkrit CHIMNOK , Thailand / Chumpon APISUK , Thailand /  
 Eric Scott NELSON , U.S.A. / Jittima PHOLSAWEK , Thailand / Kaori HABA , Japan / MA Ei , Myanmar /  
 Maria Victoria Muñoz , Columbia / Mongkol PLIENBANGCHANG , Thailand / Nopawan SIRIVEJKUL , Thailand /  
 Padungsak KOCHSOMRONG , Thailand / Paison PLIENBANGCHANG , Thailand /Rahmat HARON , Malaysia /  
 Rommel ESPINOSA , Philippines / Vichukorn TANGPAIBOON , Thailand / Vita AU , Hongkong /



กลุ่มช่างงาน



# Asiatopia

## International Performance Art Festival

Asiatopia performance art festival founded in Bangkok in 1998, by a Thai performance artist Chumpon Apisuk and his colleagues such as Vasan Sitthiket, Paisan Plienbangchang, Surapol Panyavachira, etc... Today the festival has become one of the most important performance platform in Asia, and in the international community of performance art.

Asiatopia is the combination of the words "ASIA" and "TOPIA". In Greek "topos" means 'place' therefore meaning of the word 'Asiatopia' conveys the attempt to create a place for asia among the stream of globalization as local people try to create and present their own identities. It is the desire of locals to have both 'Asia's place' and 'a place for asia'. It is something ideal and desired ; therefore,asiatopia can be considered a 'Utopia' as well.The meaning of the Greek word 'ou topos' means 'no place' and froms a new meaning of ' the wonderful' virtuous, idealistic place' because of the glorious Latin novel written by Sir Thomas More in 16<sup>th</sup> century.This story about an imaginary island called 'UTOPIA' refers to a state of virtue and decency and the word 'Utopia' has beem linked to that novel ever since.As 'Utopia' is an idealistic place. It does not exist in reality (ou topos/no place),but is still a desirable place worth searching for. The meaning of 'Asiatopia' can be related to both 'topos' and 'ou topos' of or for 'Asia'. At the same time it can be considered both as a goal and a hope. Its goal is to create a place of and for Asia which is the hope for an idealistic state, reflected in the words of Asiatopia founder Chumpon Apisuk himself –"What can we do so that all the Asian artists don't have to go to Europe to see each other?"

In November 2008, nearly 100 world reknown artists from 32 countries took turn each weeks to celebrate 10thanniversary of ASIATOPIA international performance art festival.

Though performance practice has become a popular form among younger generation in Europe and America, and many countries in Asia with over 100 festival held world wide each year, but in Thailand government agencies and private funders focus their support in traditional art form, rather than contemporary practices. However, in order to keep the creative form going in the local art community most of the time the artists use their own money, or have to work with limited budget.

Since the founding of Asiatopia a decade ago, many Thai performance artists actively engaged in the international performance art movement, and has been traveled world wide. Asiatopia, in turn has invited more than 300 international artists to perform for the Thai public audience.

Asiatopia has been organised each year since 1998, in Bangkok and/or in Chiang Mai. In 2008 and 2009, the festival took place in the recently opened Bangkok Art and Culture Centre (BACC). This year it will take place in the Art Centre, Chiang Mai University.

## **'ASIATOPIA '**

**We believe that art can change the world.**

**We believe that art can change the world.**

**We believe that art can heal wounds of estrangement of people in society.**

**We believe that art is an answer, and a voice that can be seen.**

**There are human rights and equal freedom, we sought...**

**... Midst of conflict in international politics , every moment Natural disasters .**

**Suspicion cleavage occurs with people who rely on the same planet.**

**Be like strangers to each other ...**

**Asiatopia International Performance Art festival has been held annually since 1998, in Bangkok and Chiang Mai. ASIATOPIA has brought more than 300 international artists and over 35 countries to Thailand. Throughout 12 years of the festival, numerous acclaimed by local and international art press and medias, their comments and information sharing among international art community have giving a place for Asiatopia and Thailand in the global art map.**

**Asiatopia operates by Thai artists, aims to develop live art in Thailand as well as strengthening regional cooperation among live art practitioners and organizers. The festival is a platform and meeting place for artists from all regions of the world as well.**

**In addition, ASIATOPIA has also promoted the artists live in Thailand opportunities to work in other international events and festivals.**

# Asiatopia

## International Performance Art Festival

**Give art a chance**

**12 – 14 november 2010/ Chiang mai Thailand**

### **A place to stay**

**Green Palace Hotel**

**70 sirimonkarajran road / nimanheamin 11**

**Suthep, Chiang mai Thailand**

**+665-3-894718**

## **SCHEDULE**

10 nov.2010

Open for artists arrival

Free time

6.00 pm.

Dinner at Lur Café' nimanheamin 9

11 nov. 2010

9.00 am

breakfast at Lur Café' nimamheamin 9

10.00 am– 4.00 pm.

City tour going to Wat Phrathat Doi Suthep

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wat\\_Phathat\\_Doi\\_Suthep](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wat_Phathat_Doi_Suthep)  
chaing mai national museum, Chiang mai  
city art & cultural Centre

7.00 pm.

Welcome party at CAFÉ de nimman near  
the art & culture of Chiang mai university,  
nimanheamin road

## 12 nov.2010

- 9.00 am breakfast at Lur Café' nimamheamin 9
- 11.00 – 12.00 am looking at the space to perform and check material
- 12.30 lauch time together
- 1.30 – 4.00 pm. Workshop by artists present  
the process of work and process of idea  
[art student will come to join]
- 7.00 pm. Dinner & party @ music & poetry event sud sa nan restaurant

## 13 nov. 2010

- 9.00 am breakfast at Lur Café' nimamheamin 9
- 10.00 – 12.00 am. Go to place for buy material ,market
- 1.30 pm. Chumpon Apisuk ; duration Performance at Tha Phae Gate
- 3.00 pm. Rehearsal at CMU art center
- 5.00 pm. Dinner 's box
- 5.30 – 8.00 pm. Ma ei ; Myanmar  
Nopawan Sirivejkul ; Thailand  
Rommel Espinosa ; Philippines  
Alice De Visscher ; Belgium  
Mongkol Plienbangchang ; Thailand  
Chakkrit Chimnok ; Thailand  
Rahmat Haron ; Malaysia

**14 nov. 2010**

9.00 am	breakfast at Lur Café' nimamheamin 9
10.00 – 12.00 am	free time
3.30 pm.	Rehearsal At CMU art center
5.00 pm.	Dinner's box
5.30 – 8.00 pm.	Vita Au ; Hong Kong Vichukorn Tangpaiboon ; Thailand Maria Victoria ; Columbia Paisan plienbangchang ;Thailand Kaori Haba ; Japan Padungsak Khochasumrong ;Thailand Jittima Pholsawek ; Thailand Eric Scott Nelson ; U.S.A.
9.00 pm.	Farewell party

# Workshop by artists present the process of work and process of idea

12 nov.2010

by Chumpon Apisuk ; Thailand , Eric Scott Nelson ; U.S.A. , Alice De Visscher ; Belgium .Moderator Thasnai Sethaseree and kosit juntaratip



# Performance art

13 nov. 2010

Chumpon Apisuk ; Thailand “ Stand ”



Ma ei ; Myanmar “ life and chain”



**Nopawan Sirivejkul ; Thailand “ Let's the flowers bloom ”**



Rommel Espinosa ; Philippines “ INDIFFERENCES....”



Alice De Visscher ; Belgium “ On a way”



Mongkol Plienbangchang ; Thailand “ war therapy ”



Chakkrit Chimnok ; Thailand “ Rain ’s Party ”



Rahmat Haron ; Malaysia “ Flower Head #1 ”



14 nov. 2010

Vichukorn Tangpaiboon ; Thailand “Let's Dance On All Dead man ”



Paisan plienbangchang ;Thailand “Or we got not enough LOVE ”



Vita Au ; Hong Kong “ Speak out the Truth, it's the Crime.”



**Kaori Haba ; Japan** “The numerical formula of the engram (memory trace) ”



Padungsak Khochasumrong ;Thailand “People let's not hate each other ”



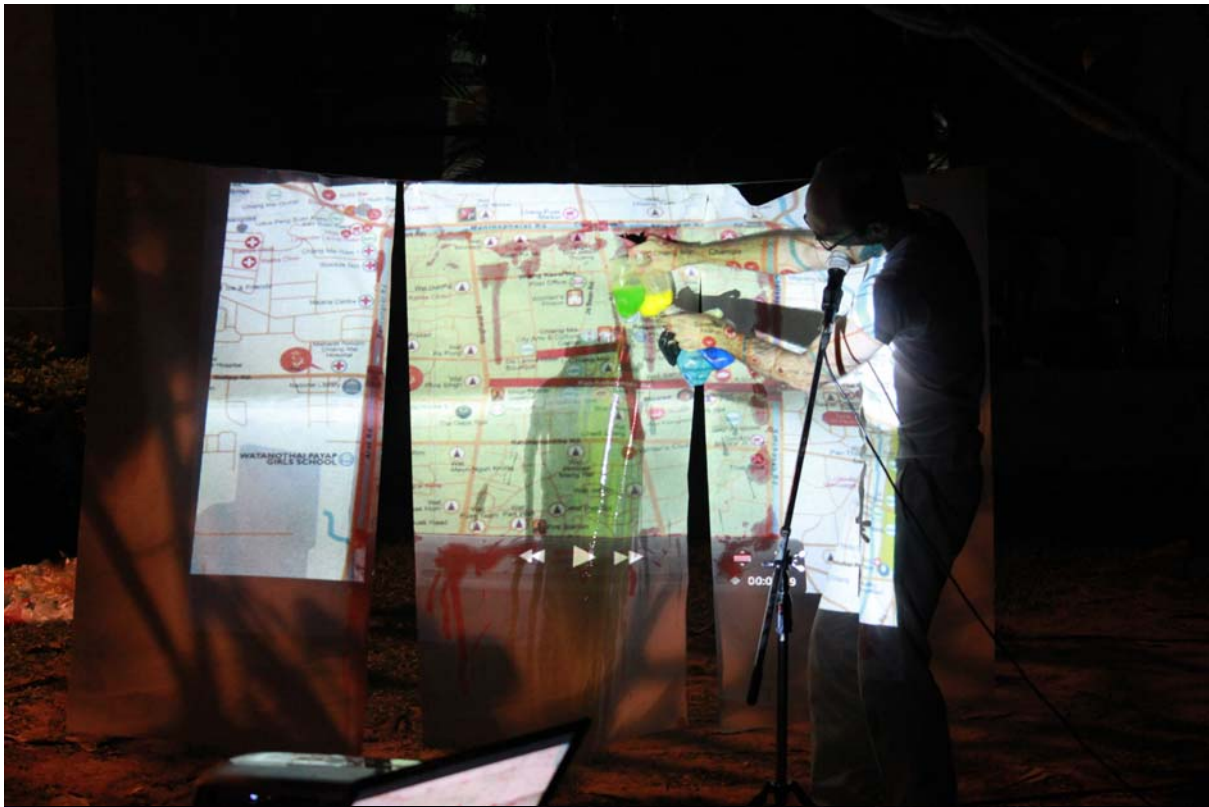
Maria Victoria ; Columbia “ here and there ”



Jittima Pholsawek ; Thailand “Is it a really beautiful world?????????”



Eric Scott Nelson ; U.S.A. "This is square. This is a square box."



## Artist's Biographies



### 1. Alice De Visscher / Belgium

Alice De Visscher lives and works in Brussels (Belgium). In her performances, Alice uses her body, objects and space to explore the relationships between them. She's investigating the physical and poetical relationships, by creating strange images or actions which stimulate the imagination of the audiences. Her interest is in the elements of a certain material (and of the material of the body), breaking down their pre-conceived meanings and juxtaposing them to create new meanings and imagination. By doing so, Alice creates peculiar images and identities with everyday life objects vis-à-vis her body. The artist's works focuses mainly on performances and videos.

<http://alicedevisscher.mosaicglobe.com/>



## 2.Chakkrit Chimnok / Thailand

Chakkrit Chimnok is a multimedia artist. Who works with sculpture, fashion as art, performance art and photography, etc. Trained in sculpture at the Department Faculty of Fine Arts, Chiangmai University, Thailand . He is under taking master degree ( visual art ) at the Department Faculty of Fine Arts, Chiangmai University, Thailand .Chakkrit is interested in the changing form and perception of materials in order to play with audience perception. Since 2003, He have been participated in Asiatopia international performance arts festivals and Chakkrit have been participated in 2nd Beyond Pressure, International Festival Of Performance Art, YMCA & Sein Lan So Pyay Garden, Yangon, Myanmar 2009

<http://4003046.spaces.live.com>



### 3.Chumpon Apisuk / Thailand

He found Concrete House in 1993, an art and community space, the only performance art venue in Thailand. He is also a founder and director of “Asiatopia – an International Performance Art Festival in Thailand”, since 1998.

His current project “The Journey of Kumjing” collaborates with his wife Chantawipa Noi Apisuk, won an international art award “Freedom to Create Prize”. The project is engaged migrants women community in northern borders of Thailand and Myanmar.

He is known for his activism in AIDS, Human Rights, democracy. He also works with EMPOWER Foundation, which was founded by his partner Chantawipa Apisuk, an organization advocates for the rights of sex workers in Thailand. He has been continuously promotes performance art in Thailand since 80s and is one of a welknown performance artists in Asia.

[baanduek@asianet.co.th](mailto:baanduek@asianet.co.th)

<http://www.asiatopia.org>



#### 4. Eric Scott Nelson / U.S.A

ESN has created projects and performances in the USA, Europe, and Asia. His work is often multi-layered and involves exploring the relationship of place, people, action, and language. The foundation of many of his projects and performances comes from a 'word map'. These maps are created by writing a word, usually a verb, by walking through the streets in different cities. It is within these maps that thoughts are formed, images and sounds are gathered, and actions are explored. The projects are then further expanded upon by making additional performances and other work connected to the original word and place. ESN's formal art education was at Arizona State University, where he focused on video, sound art, and performance. He is currently living in Seoul, S. Korea.

<http://www.ericscottnelson.com>



## 5. Jittima Pholsawek / Thailand

Jittima is an artist, writer and poet, residing and working in Thailand. Jittima made her first debut performance at Concrete House in 1991. She is one of the core-initiator of art exhibitions by Thai woman artists on "Tradisextion" which has later developed into the critically acclaimed art project "Womanifesto". The artist's work deals much with border' cultures, migrant issues and environment concerns of the Indo-China region.

She was also the Co-organizer of the Thailand – Burma friendship Project "Salween River Art Project", The Urak Lavoy Community Art Project in Lanta Island, Krabi, "Mobile" art exhibition of sea nomads and lately the "Shared River" project which is a research, survey and exhibition on the Thai-Laotian Mekhong river basin.



## 6. Kaori Haba / Japan

In 2010 my work will function as a 'performance art essay' that reveals my observations of human beings and society. This essay is not defined by words. Elements from the unconscious and emotions will appear as impromptu elements. Some fragments from my daily life act as metaphor, which the audience can understand through their own filters.

Born in Hokkaido island, Kaori Haba began making performance art in 1999 and her performance work has been presented at various International festivals in Japan and abroad. Her recent works "performance art essay" have been shown in Germany, Indonesia and Canada. She is the Director of Art\_Plus-jp, a non-profit group based in Nagano prefecture that organizes annual international performance art events.



## 7.Ma Ei / Myanmar

She was born in lower part of Myanmar, 1978. And interested in all kinds of art. She makes paintings, installations, photo arts and performance art. She is a member of New Zero Art Spasce and Myanmar Photo Society. She participates actively in art movements. Some of her works are based on feminism and sometimes based on buddism.



## 8. Maria Victoria Muñoz / Colombia

Is a vibrant Colombian artist. Art performance is her favourite media to express herself and displays in a very poetic way her social competence; very natural but also critical! She is always in the background to make her message of reflection fly.

Frequently she uses the eagle eyes of the electronic media using old Kodak's and Digital HD and recorders to tape for her experimental photography and video installation.

Marias favourite team are the children. In her oeuvre and life, the others are primordial as her existence depends on the presence and interaction with people. So she is the "other people". She also established a platform for stray cats and dogs "Ayudame salvame" The site for lost pets.

She left profound traces in her country Colombia, Peru, Switzerland and now also in Thailand



## 9. Mongkol Plienbangchang / Thailand

Coming from Thailand, a country overwhelmed by chaos with radical demonstrations against the government happening on a regular basis, his performances deal with the political sphere of Thai politics and Global situations. His performances are intense, as he has always been involved in the Arts and in the political social movements of Thailand.

Mongkol is a painter, poet and performance artist from Thailand who has performed since 1995 and is part of the ASIATOPIA International Festival of Performance Art committee. He has published 2 books of his drawings and poems: Inner & Outer and The Man Number Zero. He has performed in many performance art events & festivals, in Thailand and around Asia. Recently he just participated in a performance at Grace space gallery, Brooklyn New York, U.S.A.

<http://mplien.multiply.com/>



## 10. Nopawan Sirivejkul / Thailand

Nopawan is a writer, photographer and performance artist from Thailand and has always been involved in art & social movements in Thailand. She's exhibiting art since 1997. Her work is an emotive mix of life's beauty and horror. She's curious to know about passion of human ...when they're falling in love...when they're angry...when they're aggressive ..when they're hate...when they're anguish ...what do they react in the bottom of heart

Since 1998 Nopawan is part of the committee of Asiatopia, the international art performance festival in Thailand. And currently working on an exchange between Thailand and Japan called 'Blur Borders' and in 2010 she did the project with Myanmar and Singapore, she has performed in Taiwan, China, The Philippines, Indonesia, Germany, Poland, Myanmar, Japan, Korea and Singapore  
<http://aornopawan.multiply.com>



## 11. Padungsak Kochsomrong / Thailand

Padungsak Kochsomrong Performance Artist, Instructor of Painting division, Faculty of Finearts, Chiang Mai University and Director of Studio Xang, Chiang Mai, Board Member of MAP Foundation, was born in Bangkok in 1964. He received a BFA in Painting at the Faculty of Fine Art, Chiang Mai University in 1991 and a Masters degree in Art Education at the Faculty of Education, Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok in 1999. As the Director of Studio Xang, Chiang Mai, Board member of MAP Foundation, he champions its initiatives which combine art, education, and activism. Padungsak is also a practicing artist and painting instructor at Chiang Mai University. He has performed and exhibited widely, domestically and internationally. He is a frequent participant and organizer of The Asiatopia International Performance Art Festival held annually in Bangkok and Chiang Mai.



## 12.Paisan Plienbangchang / Thailand

Thai artist Paisan Plienbangchang is a visual and performance artist. Though he mainly works as a Performance Artist, Paisan also works with other forms of art – painting, photography and poetry. Paisan frequently exhibits and performs in international festivals and exhibitions. He has participated in YATOO and Gwangju Biennale in Korea. He has also shown his works in Europe, Canada and Asia. He has performed since 1993 and made about 80 performances. In 2006, he participated in the 14th Performance Art conference held in Dalat; Vietnam and 'Asiatopia International Performance Art event in Chiang Mai , Thailand.



### **13.Rahmat Haron/ Malaysia**

Rahmat Haron (born in 1977) is a self-taught interdisciplinary artist. Formerly trained in economics, he now creates works that range from text and images – like poetry, literature, theatre, video, film and visual arts – to ephemeral art like performance. His art often deals with social interaction and compromise in regards to individual problems, conflicts and the complex psychologies that come to play (particularly that of Rahmat). He has published a book of poetry, *Utopia Trauma* (2006).



## 14. Rommel Espinosa / Philippines

Rommel Espinosa works in mass media as a Production Designer/Art Director in one of the country's leading television networks. GMA 7 – GMA NETWORK INC. His performances interrogate contemporary Filipino issues in relation to cultural, political, economic and social history. Espinosa took part in the Philippine International Performance Art Festival Ugnayan in 2005 and Ambagan in 2009. As one of the conveners of Tupada Action and Media Art international performance art events, he has participated in TAMA 06, 07 and 08, even serving as co-organizer of TAMA 09 in his hometown of Baler, Aurora. He also participated in Tupada Xing in the Singapore Art Museum in 2007 and the Nippon International Performance Art Festival in Nagano, Yokohama, Tokyo and Saitama in 2009.

Sourcing from his background in theater acting and stage production, he has made the crossover to television, film and visual art. He is also a part of the On-the-spot-artists association (OTSAA).



## 15. Vichukorn Tangpaiboon / Thailand

By observing situations and evidences of his socio and political surroundings and environment, Vichukorn Tangpaiboon constructs a kind of poetical actions in his performances. Through the immediate space of emotions and logics he creates in his performance, public can enter his world without touching it. His presence is obviously an entity between both physical and conceptual body. Vichukorn Tangpaiboon is a visual artist who has been focusing his works on performance art since the last ten years. He has been involved in various political art actions and activities in Thailand. He has presented his works in various International events in Thailand and other countries.



## 16. Vita AU/ Hong Kong

Vita Au, "Time is passing and wouldn't stop with you." – She never thought to show her works but she started in accord with conditions in 2009. Her works usually focus on some words with simple, freedom, unknown, accord with conditions, forgettable, hidden, speechless. She made mostly about politics issue recently... or whatever you get from your own idea after read her works.

She was as a stage actress started in 1995 and enjoy in the improvisational drama, also involved in playscript and stage directing with movement and multi-media, In her career, she was a stage manager and acting tutor. But in 2007, she left stage, and became an actor-teacher in the drama-in-education's group which concern with autism child. She also involves and concern about civil and human rights issue.

## Organized by

### Concrete House, an art and community inter-action center.

57/60 Tivanond Road, Talad Kwan District, Nonthaburi 11000, Thailand

Tel: +66-2526-8311, [info@asiatopia.org](mailto:info@asiatopia.org), [www.asiatopia.org](http://www.asiatopia.org),

### ASIATOPIA committee

Chumpon Apisuk

Director

Padungsak Khochasumrong

Aritstic director

### Committee

Paisan Plienbangchang

Mongkol Plienbangchang

Chakkrit Chimnok

Vichukorn Tangpaiboon

Nopawan Sirivejkul

Manager

### Volunteers

Natepol Charoenthurayont

Suchon Sujit

Patipat Pintawana

Chinnakorn Yeenang

Nitipan Promlek

Kittima Jareeprasit

Tanyanun Aoi - Aree

### Photography

Pattree Chimnok

Toranid Keratipal

For more information about Asiatopia :

<http://asiatopia.blogspot.com/>

<http://www.asiatopia.org/>

## Supported by



กลุ่มช่างงาน



A single flame can light a thousand candles