

Asiatopia Performance Art in Residence



Mae Kumpaeng House

335 Moo 10,

Baan Namkrog Mai,

Tumbol Kong Kwai,

Nan Province, Thailand

Asiatopia is the longest-running Southeast Asian festival of performance art. Over 400 international artists have performed since 1998. Asiatopia was supported by Bangkok Metropolitan Administration from 1998-2002 and the Bangkok Art and Culture Centre since 2010. Since 2011, Asiatopia has expanded into Chiangmai and Chiangrai, Korat, and Nan, providing workshops with young students and artists.

Performance Art in Residence, is a new program of Asiatopia, where visiting artist(s) will temporarily live and work in rural village in Thailand where people are rice and fruit orchid farmers. The artists will be able to observe or participate in daily practice of farmers or spending their time in quiet environment refreshing their thought and conduct artistic research.

Asiatopia Nan is also link with local eco-farming organization Joko Learning Center, which promote eco-friendly and sufficient farming system. Artist can also choose to work with the center farmer university.

Principle:

1. The principle of the performance art study based on direct experience with artists and practice, artists will stay and work in residency at Baan Namkrog Mai village , Nan, Thailand.
2. Artists are not required to present their works, but can be arranged if artists request.
3. Artists must give 1 public speaking about his/her own work and /or 1-3 day (s) workshop with local young people. The talk and workshop could be arranged in Bangkok or at residence house.
4. At the end of residency artists should share his/her documents for the center's archive.
5. 1-2 months or 4 weeks period, where artists will be working in village environment in a quarter hectare area.
6. The program will be open from September to February.



Period & Arrangement:

7. Though individual artist is able to work alone in village environment, and be self sufficient with necessary assistant from organizer. However, the house is able to receive 2-5 persons in a long term basis, but best is 1-2 persons who are planning to develop works together or if artists know each other and plan to work together as a group, is also accepted.
8. Artists who are interested in working with a local traditional musician, should be specific for special arrangement, for transportation.
9. There is a sharing of household cost of Baht 18,000 (US\$ 600) per month, including house assistant, co-ordination. This is not include special arrangement with outside exchanges.
10. To apply artists should write to asiatopia@empowerfoundation.org, the artist who are accepted is required to find their own financial support or funds, with an invitation letter from the organization.
11. Artists who need to work in remote watershed area at Joko center of Hug Nan Foundation, need special arrangement with the center with our assistant and coordination of the organization.

Background



Mae Kumpaeng House

Mother Kumpaeng was born in Mueng (Town or city) Nan 100 years ago. Her father was an elephant merchant came from Burma (Some said he is Karen from Maehongson, some said he is Tai Yai), her mother was Lao from Mueng Ngern of Xaiyaburi. Mother Kumpaeng married with Father Att Apisuk, he came from Ayudhaya.

At Baan Namkrog, father Att and his friends in the village, together they helped develop new local orange, which later become Nan's wellknown "Golden Orange". His long relationship with people and the land in Baan Namkrog has been ever since.

This plot of land, father Att said has oldest longan trees in town, many are more than 50 years old. Though today, a few of them left, because our generation do not know how to take good care of trees. But I have determined that I will try my best to keep this oldest "pink" longan, as long as it can be.

Noi Chantawipa Apisuk came to lived in Nan with me in 1971, after that we went to studied abroad, and came back to work in Bangkok in 1984. Noi founded EMPOWER Foundation in 1985 to advocated for the labour rights of sex workers in Thailand. She loves clothes making, and old fabric. So, she has collected numbers of valuable old people's wear and woven materials, many of those were advised by Pi Nu Wacharee Eakanan of Changtrukul store, in Town.

We would like to make Mae Kumpaeng house a place to collect people's wear of the old days, as well as today's wear of villagers and farmers in Baan Namkrog. We hope this collection will be stories of normal people told through art of wearing materials.

Chumpon Apisuk is a performance artist. He has traveled to perform his ideas in more than 30 countries since 1986. He has met many artists from various part of the world, younger and older. He also think that it is time to develop Mae Kumpaeng's house as center for international artists exchange and performance art study.

Hug Nan Foundation



An environmental & ecological friendly agricultural advocacy organization. Which has been promoting local grains for cultivation in the province, by organize farmers university and rice museum. One of the scientific research in the watershed area is finding how nature produces its own fungus as natural fertilizers. The organization reproduction of natural fungus by mixing in animal food, in tern the animal farm can produce more richer fertilizer for their rice field and fruit orchards.

This is a community based experience, artists who spend time 1-3 month each residency, will learn about local eco system, works in upper Nan river watershed forest and around the Joko center. In return artist will help in local school by teaching children 3 hours a week, and helping around the organization in ways your artistic talent can contribute. It is advised that artists must be able to be self sufficient, strong health and able to adapt to local life style, and best if can use motorcycle on regular bases.

Contact:

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