

BANGKOK MEETS COLOGNE
COLOGNE MEETS BANGKOK

Rama IX Art Museum Foundation

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Workshop and Art Exhibition
by Thai - German Artists

Cologne; Germany
KunstWerk, August 25 - September 15, 2001

Bangkok; Thailand
Art Centre, Silpakorn University, February 1 - 28, 2002

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	• Uli Eichhorn
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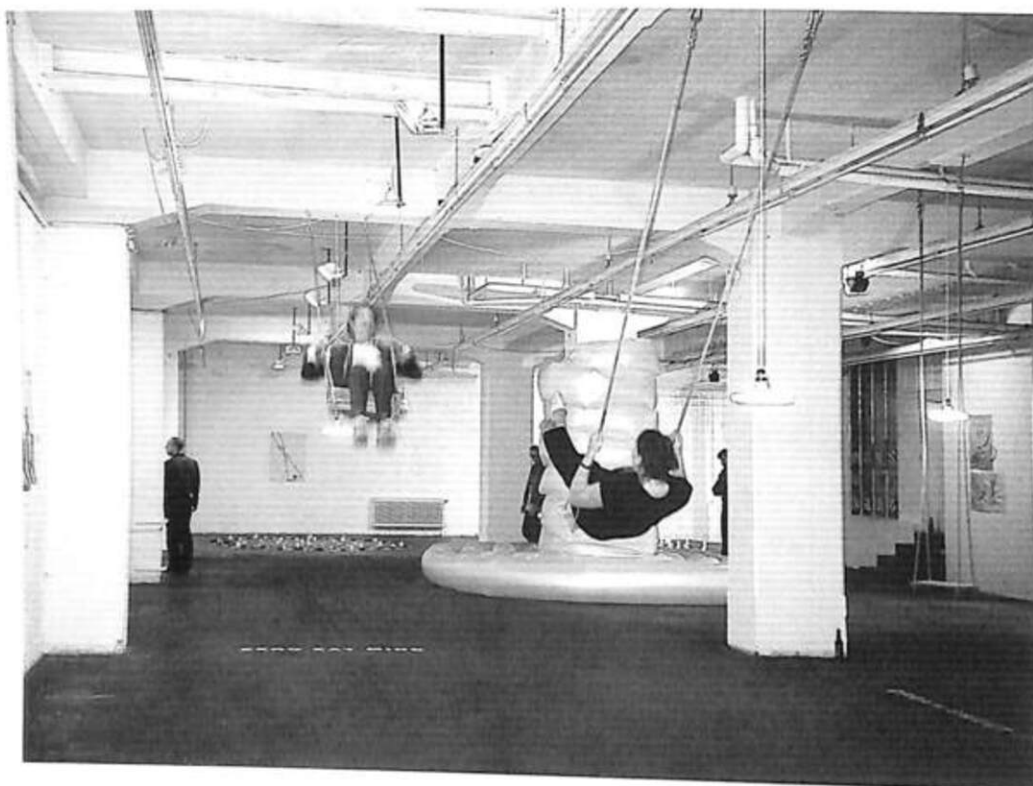
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คำนำ

ตั้งแต่โบราณกาล ประเทศเอเชียเป็นพื้นที่สำคัญทางตะวันออกที่คนในซีกโลกตะวันตกเดินทางมาเชื่อมโยงค้าขายและติดต่อเพื่อเผยแพร่วัฒนธรรมแก่กันและกัน ในอดีตหลายประเทศมาผูกสัมพันธ์เกี่ยวข้องกับประเทศไทย มุ่งเน้นไปที่ประโยชน์แห่งการค้าขายและการครอบครองที่เกิดผลต่อตัวเอง

แต่โลกปัจจุบัน ภาพแห่งการเข้ามาเกี่ยวข้องกับสัมพันธ์กัน เริ่มแปรเปลี่ยนไปสู่การแบ่งปันซึ่งกันและกัน การเดินทางไปศึกษาแลกเปลี่ยนความรู้ของชาวตะวันตกและชาวตะวันออก เป็นโลกใหม่ของการก้าวข้ามพรมแดนในยุคข้อมูลข่าวสาร

ศิลปินเป็นนักเดินทางท่องเที่ยวโลกแห่งศิลปะวัฒนธรรม สร้างแนวร่วมแห่งข้อมูลข่าวสารอย่างหลากหลาย พวกเราไม่ได้ไปเพื่อขยายการสื่อสารในโลกของการคมนาคมหรือสารสนเทศสมัยใหม่ แต่เป็นการเรียนรู้คุณค่าวัฒนธรรมของกันและกัน การค้นหาวัฒนธรรมของผู้อื่น เรียนรู้วัฒนธรรมของตนเอง ซึ่งเราจะได้ร่วมกันประเมินความสัมพันธ์ของวัฒนธรรมของพวกเราผ่านงานศิลปะร่วมสมัย

โครงการ Bangkok Meets Cologne เกิดขึ้นโดยศิลปินไทย 6 คน ได้แก่ วิชัย สิทธิรัตน์ วิโชค มุกดามณี ศราวุธ ดวงจำปา อัมฤฤทธิ์ ชูสุวรรณ สุธี คุณาวิชยานนท์ และ ธวัชชัย พันธุ์สวัสดิ์ เดินทางจากกรุงเทพฯ ประเทศไทย ไปพบกับศิลปินชาวโคโลญจน์ 6 คน ณ เมืองโคโลญจน์ ประเทศเยอรมัน ศึกษาวัฒนธรรมของกันและกัน สร้างงานศิลปะกรรมและจัดทำ Workshop ร่วมกัน ณ สตูดิโอปฏิบัติงาน KunstWerk เมืองโคโลญจน์ จากนั้นนำผลงานศิลปะกรรมแสดง ณ ห้องแสดงศิลปะของ KunstWerk ในระหว่างวันที่ 23 สิงหาคม - 15 กันยายน 2544

และในปี 2545 โครงการ Cologne Meets Bangkok ก็จะเป็นในแนวทางเดียวกัน คือศิลปิน 6 คนจากยุโรป ได้แก่ Caroline Cochius (เยอรมัน), Ewa Latoszek (โปแลนด์), Martina Pütz (เยอรมัน), Etienne Szabo (ฝรั่งเศส) และ Vadim Zakharov (รัสเซีย) ภายใต้การนำของ Uli Eichhorn ผู้อำนวยการของ KunstWerk, Kunstschalter e.V., ก็จะเดินทางมาพบกับศิลปินไทย และทำ Workshop ร่วมกัน ณ มหาวิทยาลัยศิลปากร จากนั้นนำผลงานออกแสดง ณ หอศิลป์ มหาวิทยาลัยศิลปากร กรุงเทพฯ ในระหว่างวันที่ 1-28 กุมภาพันธ์ 2545

หอศิลป์ มหาวิทยาลัยศิลปากร ขอขอบคุณหน่วยงานที่ให้การสนับสนุนในโครงการ ได้แก่ สถานเอกอัครราชทูตไทยแห่งประเทศไทย ประเทศเยอรมัน, Goethe Institut Inter Nationes, Kulturamt Köln, KunstWerk e.V. Kunstschalter e.V. ศิลปินและหน่วยงานต่างๆ ในเมืองโคโลญจน์ ที่ให้ความร่วมมือในกิจกรรมครั้งนี้

หอศิลป์ หวังว่าการจัดการแสดงผลงาน การจัดกิจกรรมประกอบนิทรรศการ ทั้งการบรรยาย การทำ Workshop ระหว่างศิลปินไทยและศิลปินยุโรปจากเมืองโคโลญจน์ จะก่อให้เกิดมิติใหม่ทางวัฒนธรรมของกรุงเทพฯ และโคโลญจน์เกิดมิติใหม่ในงานสร้างสรรค์ ศิลปกรรมร่วมสมัยระหว่างตะวันออกและตะวันตกซึ่งจะได้เชื่อมความสัมพันธ์จากงานศิลปวัฒนธรรมไปสู่ความร่วมมือด้านอื่นๆ สืบไปในอนาคต

รองศาสตราจารย์ วิโชค มุกดามณี
ผู้อำนวยการหอศิลป์
มหาวิทยาลัยศิลปากร

PREFACE

From time immemorial, Asian countries were considered to be Eastern's key hub where people in many western countries tried to be success as especially the main purpose of both trading and cultural domination.

Nowadays in which above-mentioned relationships have been changed in a favour of western and eastern people under an educational exchange amongst the new era of information technology.

Artists are like the travellers in an art-culture world to search and study their own valuable cultures and other various societies by the purpose of cultural relationships evaluation through contemporary artwork and not for any communicable expansion in the region of transportation or modern information technology.

The "Bangkok meets Cologne" Project was happened by six Thai artists: Vichai Sithiratr, Vichoke Mukdamanee, Saravudth Duangjampa, Amrit Chusuwan, Sutee Kunavichayanont and Tawatchai Puntusawasdi. They left Bangkok to meet another six western artists in Cologne, Germany, under a major theme of art and culture exchange. They have voluntarily created their individual pieces of artworks in the workshop at KunstWerk Studio, Cologne. It came out with many various artworks for staging an exhibition at KunstWerk Art Gallery during 23th August-15th September 2001. And vice versa to the "Cologne meets Bangkok" exhibition and workshop project which will be held at Silpakorn University Art Gallery, Bangkok in the period of 1st -15th February 2002, participating by another six european artists; Caroline Cochius and Martin Putz from German, Ewa Zatoszek from Poland, Etienne Szabo from France, Vadim Zakharov from Russia including Uli Eichhorn, Director of KunstWerk, Kunstschalter e.V.

On behalf of Silpakorn University Art Centre would like to express the most sincere appreciation and thankfulness to all involved supporting and coordinating organisation in these projects; Royal Thai Embassy in Federal Republic of Germany, Goethe Institut Inter Nationes, Kulturamt Köln KunstWerk e.V. Kunstschalter e.V. all artists and other participated organizations in Cologne.

Finally, Silpakorn University Art Centre believed that these project of workshops and exhibitions by all thai-german artists would be an effectiveness to the marvellous dimension of culture and contemporary art creation between Bangkok and Cologne including have absolutely a mutual illumination of relationships through art-culture activities into further coordinations in the approach future.

Assoc.Prof. Vichoke Mukdamanee
Director of
Silpakorn University
Art Centre

Opening of the exhibition

BANGKOK MEETS COLOGNE COLOGNE MEETS BANGKOK

on September 2nd 2001
at 11 hrs in KunstWerk,
Cologne, Germany
Deutz-Muelheimer Str.
127-129, D-51063 Köln

KunstWerk e.V.
ehem. Kunstschalet e.V.

Dear Ladies and Sirs,

As you might know, it is not the first time the City of Cologne supports the dialogue between artists from Cologne and other cities, countries, and continents. The City of Cologne acts this way because we are clearly aware that art speaks a language that in a very special way is able to cross borders - a language that can be understood even where languages in the narrow sense mean a fence that separates people. The dialogue between artists of different cultures is important because it is them who are willing and capable to deal with new situations and use them as material for their work.

Three weeks ago, I opened an exhibition showing pieces of modern art of artists from Indonesia in our ethnological museum, and today work from Thailand is with us. As you see, actual art from Southern Asia is very welcome in Cologne. And this is true especially for the event today because it is a part of a dialogue project that is outlined for continuity: In the course of this project, also artists from Cologne will have the opportunity to present their work to the Bangkok public. By the way, some of these artists from Cologne have their cultural roots in Poland, France, and the Union of Independent States.

In my opinion, this mutual exchange gains its special importance from the fact that the relationship between Europe and South East Asia cannot be that of a misconceived "world art" that is characterized by exploiting and plagiarizing intellectual property. Artists of all countries and all regions of the world must have the chance to come together in a state of equality and to exchange whatever can be wisely transported from tradition into the present time. Otherwise, market mechanisms would - given the actual economical and political inequality - seduce to the production of only so called art that does not react to the values, attitudes, and knowledge that have been developed by the human kind in the course of thousands of years.

This exhibition will show that in that respect the task is always to interrogate traditions in as far their values are meaningful for the present time and for the present world. I read that the artists from Cologne concerned with the exhibition focussed on the issue of hospitality. This is one of the traditional - but perhaps not only traditional - and according to culture differently interpreted values I have been pointing at. I am eager to know what will be the result of the artist's concentration on this issue.

But now I wish you to gain pleasure out of the pieces of work from Bangkok you will meet here. I hope everybody who has taken part in the preparation and organisation of the exhibitions under the title "Bangkok meets Cologne - Cologne meets Bangkok" will have the same power in the future to manage more of meaningful events like this.

Greeting by
Mrs Marie Huellenkremer
Head of Culture
of the City of Cologne

GOETHE-
INSTITUT  BANGKOK

BANGKOK MEETS COLOGNE COLOGNE MEETS BANGKOK 2001- 2002

Please allow me to begin this text with a very private view on this project. Already the title makes me feel very happy, because Cologne is my beloved home town and Bangkok is where I lived the most important year of my childhood. The results of the workshops of Thai and German artists in Cologne and in Bangkok therefore are for me more than just a normal exchange programme between artists.

As the director of the Goethe-Institut Bangkok my main aim is to support the cultural exchange between Thailand and Germany and of course I am delighted to see, when artists of both countries meet and work together. Artists tend to be rather misanthropic - or let's say - great individuals, expressing their own unique ideas and thoughts. It is therefore quite difficult to combine them to do workshops together and exchange their ideas - especially considering, that they come from two cultures that are so completely different to each other. You could say that this is part of the globalisation and meeting people from different cultures and different corners from this world is by now part of every days life. But is this really true in the sense of really knowing each other or learn from each other? In my opinion the only chance for cultures to understand each other is to work together and to inspire each other threw culture.

This is what the Silpakorn University Bangkok and the Kunstschalet im KunstWerk Cologne achieve and the result of this idea will be an intercultural one, showing the influences of each others cultures directly and with that fostering the understanding between the two countries.

I want to congratulate the Silpakorn University and the Kunstschalet to this successful project and hope that there are many more to come. I also want to thank the Kunstschalet - and especially Ass. Prof. Vichoke Mukdamanee - for the former and future co-operations with the Goethe-Institut, who both follow the mutual foal to create - threw art - understanding and peace between the countries.

Dr. Katharina
von Ruckteschell
Goethe-Institut Bangkok

Rama IX Art Museum Foundation

**BANGKOK
MEETS
COLOGNE
COLOGNE
MEETS
BANGKOK
2001- 2002**

KunstWerk e.V.
ehem. Kunstschalter e.V.

In the 70ties, Joseph Beuys defines the idea of a social sculpture, to describe an enlarged Conception of art, aiming to build an collective, democratic and creative space, in which our lives can be created in a new way. The idea and in this context combined practice with social plastic has been supported by many artists. Since this time artists all over the world started to hold up Beuys' idea of social and ecological initiatives and made up projects stressing the subject of democratic functions. I didn't want to invent something new with the "Bangkok meets Cologne" project. I wanted to connect the works of artists belonging to different cultures and to weave a ribbon combining two cultures. This is not meant as an alternative role model of the actual art scene, but rather more as an additional experiment.

The wish to belong to a community, instead of lonely artwork and the ability to connect different things always has been a risk and challenge for me. To see, how the individual in a group with its unique and pragmatic character, is forming the community at the base of social interaction, using social acting as flexible and self-determined activity. Knowledge instead of science, away from classic disciplines, laboratory-like-situation and interdisciplinarily in Cross Over, High and Low - that all connected with each other creates something new and vivid. So is Production, like the product, to bind nets and to keep people and work together: Collaborative environment's, unideological, without style, temporary, self-controlled with changes. The "We" for team-spirit, in the classic way is getting lost. The individual keeps its own personality and character in the group: The single will not drown as an individual in the group. In the contrary: The individual starts in the group and will later form it to something new. The social interest will either substitute politics, capitalism or this terms will have another sense. Located to the concrete live-circumstances, the group will be lead to pragmatic agitation. Not looking for artbasics or statues, it is a summary of ideas and arrangements, transposing, interposition, intercession, complex and multimedial. So offers "Bangkok meets Cologne" - like other of my passed projects - the necessity to open the views for other cultures, which differ in religion or habits for example. The discussions of the artists among each other, pushed religious and politic themes in the background. The main issues during this social exchange have been tolerance and acceptance. Fulfilling the duties of a host I tried to organise a couple of enchantments like visiting museums and galleries, a sightseeing-tour in Cologne or a trip in a thermal bath. The group should have the possibility to get in touch with everything that convened. Improvement of social Communication on a non-verbal level is part of my intention. Moreover it is my intention to treat artprojects as a first step to economical behaviour. The experimental, not predictable aspect is a further stimulus.

It is part of the process to influence at this level, contents, methods and aesthetic aspects. In this system I prefer to work with institutions. The medial and education-political capital of institutions make it possible with its culture-position in the society to find a quicker and less official way to higher positions. To present parts of the exhibition "Paper Works of Thailand" was another condition for the flow of the project. To organise in this way means in our days to use the complexity of media and to have the choice between Scylla and Charibdis. The necessity of that in the starting process is sometimes difficult to communicate. Art in public space is more than decoration or capitalism: It takes position, goes in situations, starts out to be an experiment at events. The conditions and structure of art production and its presentation in work of progress are opened. The group decides by itself which way it goes and where it applies its standards. In Cologne especially friendship wove a strong ribbon to keep the group together: Questions and chats, to see, to find out, to eat, to draw, to film and to sing, to go shopping and swimming together.

It is still to be proved that human beings need to be in a pack and that the individual is able to find this spirit in its mind. If this is the case and if this is reflected in its soul it will get connected in an intelligent way with others. This means for the project to live without usual habits, being flexible and to sustain instabilities. So it is important for me to build a distinctive kind of strong frame. In addition of my good co-operation with Vichoke Mukdamanee from the Silpakorn University in Bangkok and the support from KunstWerk e.V., I have had to find financial funds. The Cologne Culture Office and the international Goethe Institute and the state of Nordrhein-Westfalen helped us to realise the project.

The qualifications of the artists from Cologne for this concept rounded everything up. Their possibilities as individuals in Cologne helped as well as that they were used to perform in front of an interested audience and that they already have been working in different socialcultural projects. Mrs. Marie H?llenkr?mer, the head of the office Culture, and Mr. Kaspar K?nig, the director of Wallraf-Richartz-Museum, did anything to make our guests feel home at Cologne. I may thank all sponsors and cooperation-partners by heart for their effort and their help to realise this international exchange project. The experiment to connect the international exchange and art, cultural dialogue on a high level between Asia and Europe and to build bridges of friendships between artists started with this meeting in Cologne happily.

My desire is more realisation of international social-cultural projects which will create more acceptance for each other.

*Uli Eichhorn
October 2001*

The Proposal of Exchange Programme of Asia - Europe Contemporary Art

Project : BANGKOK MEETS COLOGNE COLOGNE MEETS BANGKOK

1. The principle of concept

Contacts between the contemporary art circle in Thailand and those of the outside world are growing both in scope and intensity. The thriving contemporary art scene in no longer restricted to North America and Europe; Asia and the Pacific region have begun to assume a more prominent role in this cultural realm. This is evident in the fact that international exhibitions are now being frequently held in Japan, South Korea and Australia. On almost all such occasions Thai artists have been represented; and the world's growing interest in Asia means that Thailand can now move into the forefront of the international art community.

There have been numerous international exhibitions that also feature works of Thai artists. This dates back to the pioneering era of the early generations of modern Thai artists and continues well into the present. One of the latest such events was the exhibition, Asian Modernism, organized by Japanese institutions in collaboration with countries in Southeast Asia which toured various Asian countries in 1995 - 1996. A similar event entitled, Modernity and Beyond; Themes in Southeast Asian Art, was held in Singapore, and earlier in 1992 an exhibition, New Art from Southeast Asia, had also been organized in Japan. Other international exhibitions that have included exhibits from Thailand are the Biennale of Sydney (participation since 1990) and ARX (Australia and Regions Artists' Exchange) in Australia in 1989 and 1992. In addition, there have been exhibitions of artists from Asia and the Pacific such as, Asia - Pacific Triennale in Australia, Traditions / Tension in the United States, and many others in several Asian countries during 1995 - 1996. In 1995 a Kwangju Biennale was staged in South Korea, and Confess and Conceal which included Australian and Southeast Asian artists was held during 1993 - 1994. In the same period a joint Thai - Australian exhibition entitled, Thai Australian Cultural Space was held in both Thailand and Australia.

In addition to various forms of successful participation in international exhibitions and competitions, Thai artists and members of the general public have had more opportunities to attend exhibitions of foreigners in Thailand as a result of the expanding international exchanges supported by the public and private sector.

The growing interest in foreign artists and the more frequent exposures to the outside world, together with today's rapid and updated flow of information, have widened the outlooks of both artists and patrons. This is a major factor strengthening the art circle in Thailand.

The new trend and directions for the following decade after 1999 will be one of closer cooperation among Asian artists, which will later be projected onto the wider art world. A project already being implemented is The Intercultural Arts Consortium, a collaboration among three art institutes: the Faculty of Performing Arts, Fine Arts and Design, University of Western Sydney (Nepean); China Academy of Fine Arts, Hangzhou; and the Faculty of Painting Sculpture and Graphic Arts, Silpakorn University. The move is aimed to encourage joint programming of study on both undergraduate and graduate levels, which, it is hoped, will have the important effect of widening the perspective and intercultural understanding of students and to explore new artistic alternatives.

2. The objective

1. To publicize and is concerned with Thai - German Artist's works into international level
2. To make bonds of relationships in the line of art and culture between Asia and Europe
3. To express the creativity of contemporary art to general public and to exchange an form an artistic relationship between artists from each country

3. Organize

1. BANGKOK : Art centre, Silpakorn University, Bangkok, Thailand, Associate Professor Vickoke Mukdamee
2. COLOGNE : Kunstsclter e.V. Cologne, German, Mr. Uli Eichorn

Co-Organize

- Annette Schlez - Berlin, Wolfgang Maria Ohlhauser - Heidelberg, LAG NRW, ifa
- Gallery Bonn, DAAD, German - Thai Society, Bonn, Institute for Auslanderbeziehungen, Culture office Cologne
 - Herr Bunk, Bill Fingernagel - Mannheim, Mercedes, BMW

4. To do before:

- Conception of both Organisations for the project middle / end of June
- Information of artists from Thailand and Germany
- Last decision from Vickoke of the four chosen artists
- German and Thai group brainstorming about work in process till middle of July
- More exactly cost plan till end of June

5. Projectprofile:

- Exhibition (3 weeks)
- Work in process action (same 3 weeks)

6. To do within the project:

- Exhibition / 2001: 50 paperworks / 3 weeks from Thai - Artists in KunstWerk, Cologne
- Printing of the invitation cards, for the Vernissage (50 works) and the Finissage (work in process) (06.2001) - Reception of the 50 art works in Cologne from two Persons from Bangkok. (09.2001) - Preparation of the 50 paper works from Thailand in the exhibition hall of KunstWerk. (09.2001)
- Hostage for the Guest artists are the ateliers of the participated Cologne artists
- Requiring money for the project. Informing and Correspondence with financial supporters.
- 2002 work together with artists from KunstWerk and artists from of Silpakorn University with a following exhibition of this work process in Bangkok.

7. Schedule and Location

August 2001

- Thai Contemporary Art Exhibition by 50 Thai Artists at KunstWerk, Kunstschalter, Cologne, German
- Workshop and Art creation by 6 - 10 Thai - German Artists at Kunstschalter, Cologne

February 2002

- Thai - German Contemporary Art Exhibition by 10 Artists at Art Gallery, Silpakorn University, Bangkok, Thailand
- Workshop and Art Creation by 6 - 10 Thai - German Artists At Studio of Faculty of Painting Sculpture and Graphic Arts, Silpakorn University, Bangkok, Thailand

8. Public Relation

- In Cologne - Invitation of 2000 Persons from Cologne and NRW Kunstsclalter e.V+ Information of the local press in Cologne and the German press dpa, Reuters, ap, special Advertisements.
- In Bangkok - Invitation of guests from Bangkok, Catalogue, Local press

9. Documentation of the Project

- In Cologne - via Video and Photo
- In Bangkok - via Photo and Catalogue

10. Budget/Cologne:

Air tickets (5Ps.)	DM	7.000,00
Printing of the Invitation card	DM	1.500,00
Mailing and advertisements	DM	5.000,00
Documentation	DM	3.000,00
Internetperformance	DM	16.000,00
Material	DM	6.000,00
Food	DM	3.000,00
<u>Other</u>	<u>DM</u>	<u>3.000,00</u>
all	DM	44.500,00

Budget/Bangkok

Transportation	\$	10.000,00
Air tickets	\$	2.000,00
Catalogue, Poster and Invitation card	\$	7.500,00
Mailing and Advertisement	\$	500,00
Documentation	\$	1.000,00
Materials	\$	2.000,00
Food	\$	1.000,00
<u>Other</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>1.000,00</u>
all	\$	25.000,00

11. Goal

1. To publicize Thai Artists' works to be acknowledged and is concerned into The International Level
2. To develop the relationship between the artists from Thailand, Asia, Australia, Europe and America
3. To develop the Art of Thailand Through the Art and Cultural Creation Art Research and Contemporary Art Study
4. To express the cultural concern of each country and further develop contemporary art

Financial support: LAG NRW, ifa - Gallery Bonn, DAAD, German - Thai Society, Bonn, Institute for Ausländerbeziehungen - Berlin, Culture Office Cologne - Mr. Johannes Bunk - Mr. Bill Fingernagel - Mannheim, Mercedes, BMW

Corporations: Miss Annette Schlez - Berlin, Mr. Wolfgang Maria Ohlhauser - Heidelberg.

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Bangkok Artists



Vichai Sithiratr



Vichoke Mukdamanee



Saravudth Duangjumpa



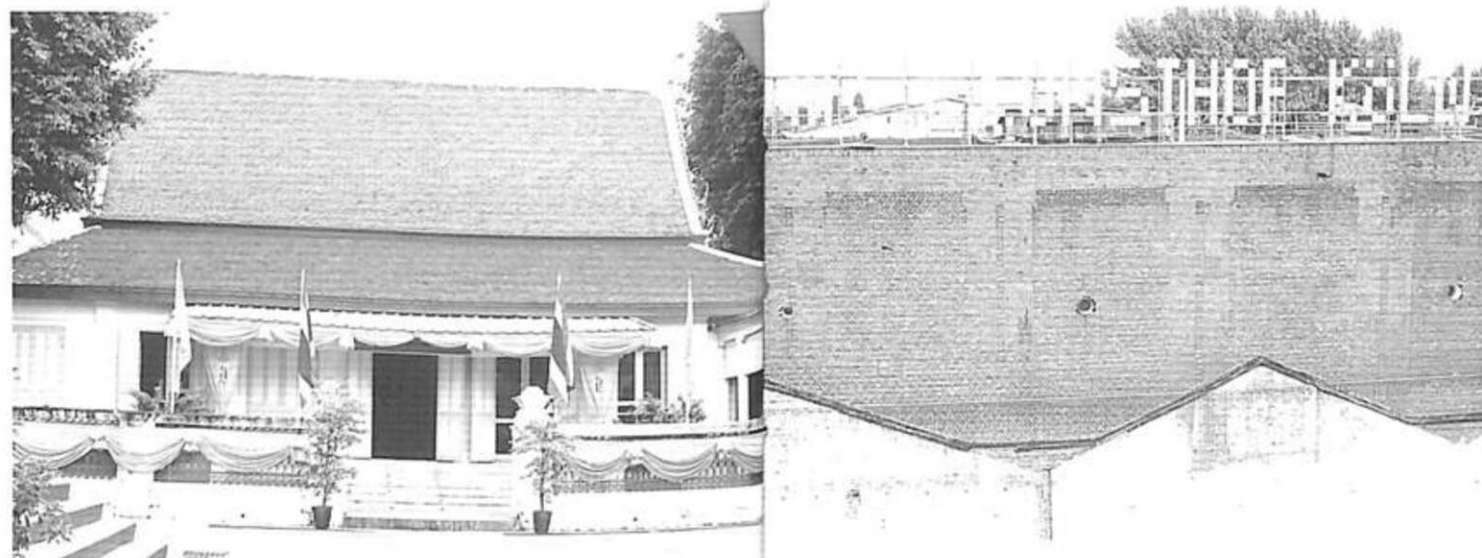
Amrit Chusuwan



Sutee Kunavichayanont



Tawatchai Puntusawasdi



Rama IX Art Museum Foundation

Cologne Artists



Uli Eichhorn



Etienne Szabo



Vadim Zakharov



Caroline Cochius



Martina Pütz



Ewa Jasnota Latoszek

The Cologne - Bangkok artist exchange project

Conception for a common work of 4 artist in Cologne:

General discription:

A large room of about 100 square/meter shall be divided in four sectors. This can be done in a circled or in a rectangular way.

Each artist gets one of the sectors to present himself and his interests.

In the middle of the circle or of the room should be situated one chair in each sector.

Project title:

- Zacharias leerstuehle (Zacharias empty seats)
or : Freechairs for liberty
or : Mensch hat Talent (Man has talent)

The following individual subjects that should be represented in the different sectors has been collected as following:

- person 1 :
medialabor for body and picture
interviews
science for brain; time; chaos
artists
- person 2 :
childhood; photographs; stories
forms of coming together
sensuality; plant; mouth
daily life - present life
kitchen, cooking, spirit
nonverbal communication; cultures
- person 3 :
methodology
psycodelic
humor
religion
schizopathology
- person 4 :
feet, human body - eros
poetry - language
spirit - plants - dining
intuition - new technologies - computer

In this open space - project every interested person or artist can take part in an active or passive way

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