

An abstract painting of a face, rendered in a style reminiscent of Vincent van Gogh's 'Olympionik'. The face is composed of thick, expressive brushstrokes in various shades of blue, white, and hints of red. The eyes are particularly prominent, with dark, swirling patterns. The overall texture is very rough and tactile.

Rama IX Art Museum Foundation

Ode to the Period's Difference

a r t e x h i b i t i o n

17 July – 10 August, 2004

(Mon – Sat 11:00 am. – 19:00 pm.)

Two Artists.....Wattuya

Twenty years ago, I knew one Thai artist named Niti Wattuya. He liked to paint about nature, especially landscape. First, he practiced how to paint by using pen and pencil. Since he was never able to study art, he learned how to paint by himself without going to any fine arts institution. Then he began to paint by using watercolor. Mostly his paintings involved Chao Phraya River because he lived beside that river. He started to exhibit at Silpa Bhirasri Gallery, which had since closed down. When he began to paint using watercolor, he usually went to that place to see the scene and imagine. He mostly used "Monochrome" technique for painting. After that he preferred to take a photograph and painted in his studio. He said, "I preferred to work and paint in my studio because I could think and change the way to paint, which came from my feeling inside not from what I had seen". His paintings have changed from landscapes into combinations of larger groups of color. He said, "Since I have seen nature (water scenes), the surface of water is so smooth. Nobody can use watercolor to paint as smooth as water scenes. I use thick color paint on wet paper to control its shape. Actually, I paint water scenes using this technique because when color gets dry, it seems like real nature". Since 1987, I saw little of Niti. The reason might be that artist's ideas and expressions are always changing. His paintings have changed into two styles: portrait using gold color and rural landscape using acrylic. I guess he wants to find something new for himself. He said during the interview with Montien Boonma on Tenth Anniversary of White Group 1992

"I must stop painting water scenes and find something more suitable and specific for myself". In 2004 we will see his paintings in a new look, which he had spent 13 years to discover. What kind of feeling and expression will be in his new style? His paintings are still derived from nature, so it's fair to say that his inspirations will be recognizable whether in the realistic or the abstract. During the time that I did not see Niti, his nephew Tawan Wattuya was a freshman at Silpakorn University (The Faculty of Painting Sculpture and Graphic Arts) in 1992, and he graduated around 1997. Tawan is different from his uncle in that he is interested in urban lifestyle, which has changed by the growth of Western society and culture. Now people are moved by fashion and modern technology. The painting "Women.....Today" expresses style and movement of social women in the generation of 1997-1999. In his painting, the woman who wears fashionable clothing is set in dirty colors and textures, depicting a fearsome urban environment. In 2004 Niti and Tawan Wattuya will together hold an art exhibition at Tang Gallery, presenting both the beauty of nature and the nature of urbanism. "Ode to the Period's Difference" combines two generations, though of different experiences and styles, the way they see society is the same. They both deeply express the real meaning of the word "Society" into their artworks. Let's get inside and understand how nature, rural lifestyle and urban lifestyle came together. Ultimately, you will sense beauty, sorrow, or that essence of truth.

By Vichoke Mukdamanee



Niti "Stainless steel No.1" 90 x 120 cm



Niti "Stainless steel No.2" 90 x 120 cm

Born: 1944, Chainat, Thailand

Education: Self-taught

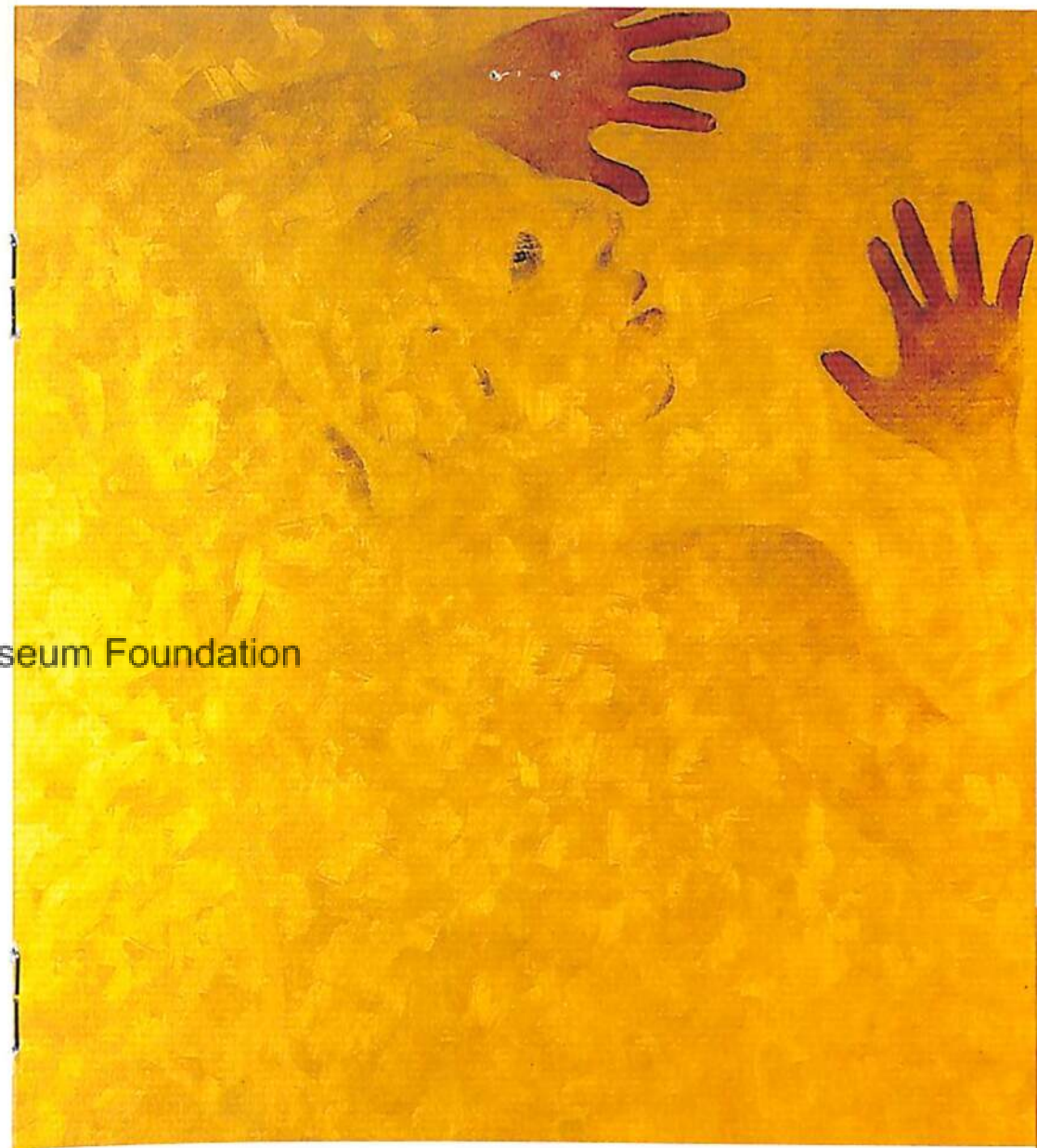
Solo Exhibition

- 1979 Pacific Design Center, Los Angeles, CA.
- 1981 "Chao Praya", Bhirasri Institute of Modern Art, Bangkok
- 1982 Watercolor at British Council, Bangkok
- 1983 Watercolor and Drawing, Vishval Dhamma Gallery, Bangkok
- 1985 Watercolor, Regent Hotel, Bangkok
- 1986 "Existing of Splendour", Gourmet Gallery, Bangkok
- 1987 "Ocean Symphony", British Council, Bangkok, Chiangmai.
- 1990 "Oriental Soul", Central Department Store, Bangkok
- 1992 "Return of the Golden Era", Dialogue Gallery, Bangkok
- 1993 "Golden Worms", Silom Art Space, Bangkok
- 1995 "Chao Praya", Silom Art Space, Bangkok
- 1997 Prototype of the Dark Age", Numthong Gallery, Bangkok
- 1998 "Dark Age", Centers for Academic Resources, Chulalongkorn University.
- 1999 Golden Conquest", Galleriasia, Hong Kong
- 2000 "Self-Portrait", Numthong Gallery, Bangkok
- 2000 "Intervened Nature", Galleriasia, Hong Kong
- 2001 "Wild Orchid", Numthong Gallery, Bangkok
- 2002 "The Countryside", Numthong Gallery, Bangkok

Selected Group Exhibition

- 1979 Los Angeles Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA.
- 1980 M.M. Shino Gallery, Los Angeles, CA.
- 1980 Thai artists in the US, College of Arts and Crafts, Bangkok
- 1982 Pacific Asia Museum, Pasadena, CA.
- 1982 Art After 1932, Thammasat University, Bangkok
- 1982 1st White Group Exhibition, Bhirasri Institute of Modern Art, Bangkok
- 1983 Contemporary Printmaking & Drawing from Thailand, Nurnberg, Federal Republic of Germany
- 1983 2nd White Group Exhibition, Bhirasri Institute of Modern Art, Bangkok
- 1984 The Asian Arts Exhibition, 1984
- 1984 Guest Artists, British Institute of Modern, Bangkok
- 1987 Aesthetics in Honor to His Majesty the King Exhibition, Bangkok Bank Gallery, Bangkok
- 1988 7th White Group Exhibition, Thailand Cultural Center, Bangkok
- 1988 ASEAN Watercolor Exhibition, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1989 Contemporary Thai Artists Exhibition, espace Pierre Cardin, Paris, France
- 1990-1992 ASIAN Watercolor, Hong Kong, Korea, Indonesia, Taiwan
- 1991 Change and Modernism in Thai Art, curated by Peera Ditbanjong
- Canberra Contemporary Art Space, ACT, Australia
- 1992 Drawing Exhibition, Dialogue Gallery, Bangkok
- 1996 Golden Jubilee Art Exhibition: 50 years of Thai Art, Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, Bangkok
- 1997 "Conversing Contemporary", Numthong Gallery, Bangkok
- 1997 "Corners", Project 304, Bangkok
- 1997 12th Asian International Art Exhibition, Macau
- 1998 "Self-Portrait", Numthong Gallery, Bangkok
- 1998 Plastic (Other) Waste Project, Centers for Academic Resources, Chulalongkorn University Art Gallery
- 1998 World Artists for Tibet, Project 304, Bangkok
- 1999 "Love", Tachikawa, Tokyo, Japan
- 2000 Kwangju Biennale 2000 Man + Space, Kwangju, Korea
- 2000 Exhibition of Invisible Boundary: Metamorphosed Asian Art, Utsunomiya Museum of Art, Japan
- 2001 "Thai Contemporary", Valentine Willie Fine Art, Kuala Lumpur

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Niti Man in gold # 4 220 x 200 cm



Tawan "Dad" 150 x 120 cm

Tawan Wattuya

Biography

- 1973** Born March 16th in Bangkok, Thailand
- 1989** The college of Fine Arts, Bangkok
- 1992** The Faculty of Painting Sculpture and Graphic Arts, Silpakorn University, Bangkok

Solo Exhibition

- 2000** "Japan & European" The gallery by Cocoon, Gaysorn Plaza, Bangkok
- 2001** "Lonely People" Burapa University Art Gallery, Bangsaen, Chonburi

Selected Exhibition

- 1989-1991** Art Exhibition of the College of Fine Arts, the National Gallery, Bangkok
- 1993** Art Exhibition of Painting Sculpture and Graphic Arts, Silpakorn University, Bangkok
- 1994** "Landscape & Flower" of Painting Sculpture and Graphic Arts, Silpakorn University Art Gallery, Bangkok
- 1995** "L'Art Conte Le Sida", Silpakorn University Art Gallery, Bangkok The 12th Exhibition of Contemporary Art by Young Artists, Silpakorn University Art Gallery, Bangkok
- 1998** "Follow the Sun" (invited artist), Century Park Hotel, Bangkok
- 2000** Art Thesis Exhibition by the Graduating Class of the Faculty of Painting, Sculpture and Graphics Arts, Silpakorn University Art Gallery, Bangkok
- 2002** "Traces of Wisdom" Tang Gallery, Bangkok
- 2003** Art Exhibition "Private", Rajamangala Institute of Technology Art Gallery (Klong 6 Campus)

Experience

- 1992-1997** Illustrator on Fashion Magazine such as Preaw, Image, Woman Today, etc.
- 1998-2000** Teacher Water Color Painting and Oil Painting Course at Hobby House and Art House

About Tawan

Feeling likes sick person, carrier of doubted disease, loneliness, separated and disappointed. Pain and suffering unreasonable involved in feeling. Have to pretend like happy guy for avoiding to be looked different from people. "Have you ever felt like this?"



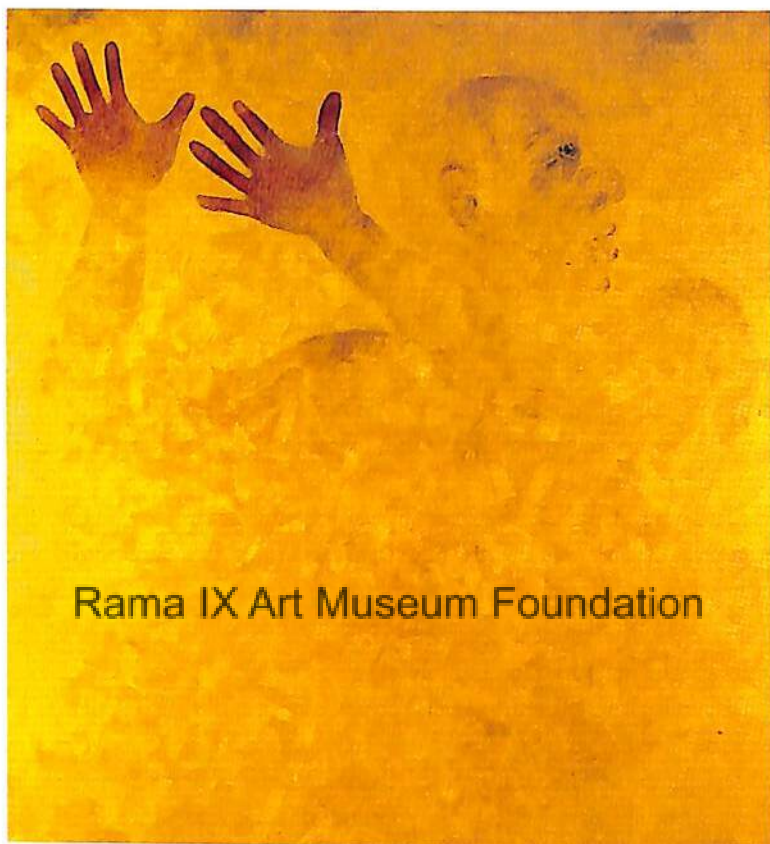
Tawan "Blow Egg" 120 x 160 cm



Tawan "Blind" 150 x 120 cm



Tawan "Yellow Sky" 100 x 80 cm



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Niti Man in gold #3 220 x 200 cm

Tang Gallery

唐人画廊

Exhibition venue: At Tang Gallery, B-28 (basement) Silom Galleria Plaza, 919/1 Silom (Soi 19 Silom) Road, Bangkok 10500
Tel : 02-630 1114 ext 0, 01-701 8079, Fax : 02-630 1114 ext 0 E-mail : info@tanggallery.com www.tanggallery.com