

Art From the Land of Smiles

Thai Travelogue

Background

History

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PNwqSR5clWw>

Culture and Traditions:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DYwG1ap7Gic> (use this)

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9TEVBwkkbDA>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WVfjXKldI-0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DYwG1ap7Gic>
- Museums
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O3dSJAoEKsw> (museums)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQO-y1B58eY> skip beginning.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8i9Rg1rmyb8>

The Grand Palace

The Grand Palace is a complex of buildings at the heart of Bangkok, Thailand. The palace has been the official residence of the Kings of Siam since 1782. The king, his court, and his royal government were based on the grounds of the palace until 1925.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mLzNn-q5ydg&t=16s>



Bangkok Temples

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UOFzampg6rI&t=6s>

Wat Phra Kaew--Temple of the Emerald Buddha

Wat Phra Kaew, commonly known in English as the Temple of the Emerald Buddha and officially as Wat Phra Si Rattana Satsadaram, is regarded as the most sacred Buddhist temple in Thailand. The complex consists of a number of buildings within the precincts of the Grand Palace in the historical center of Bangkok.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MqF7ysFnz3s> (no words)

https://www.google.com/search?q=Wat+Phra+Kaew&source=lmns&tbm=vid&bih=769&biw=1205&client=firefox-b-1-d&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjqlCz59f8AhWrOEQIHdgDC-QQ_AUoBHoECAEQBA#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:cd4fef8b,vid:aDKOjUzt99s
(no words—short)









Wat Pho

Wat Pho, also spelled Wat Po, is a Buddhist temple complex in the Phra Nakhon District, Bangkok, Thailand. It is on Rattanakosin Island, directly south of the Grand Palace. Known also as the Temple of the Reclining Buddha, its official name is Wat Phra Chetuphon Wimon Mangkhalaram.









T.B.



Wat Arun—The Temple of Dawn

Wat Arun Ratchawararam Ratchawaramahawihan or Wat Arun is a Buddhist temple in Bangkok Yai district of Bangkok, Thailand, on the Thonburi west bank of the Chao Phraya River. The temple derives its name from the Hindu god Aruṇa, often personified as the radiations of the rising sun.







Wat Suthat Thepwararam

Wat Suthat Thepwararam is a Buddhist temple in Bangkok, Thailand. It is a royal temple of the first grade, one of ten such temples in Bangkok. Construction was begun by King Rama I in 1807. In the beginning, it was initially called "Wat Maha Sutthawat" and was located in the combretum grove.

<https://www.google.com/search?q=Wat+Suthat+Thepwararam&source=Imns&tbm=vid&bih=769&biw=1205&client=firefox-b-1-d&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjaoSS79f8AhXMOEQIHUjECpUQAUoA3oECAEQAw#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:d6dbde5a,vid:XUhA0E2yUUc>

<https://www.google.com/search?q=Wat+Suthat+Thepwararam&source=Imns&tbm=vid&bih=769&biw=1205&client=firefox-b-1-d&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjaoSS79f8AhXMOEQIHUjECpUQAUoA3oECAEQAw#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:9979ddba,vid:dTQ8jKiioFY>





Wat Saket—The Golden Temple

Wat Saket Ratcha Wora Maha Wihan in Pom Prap Sattru Phai district, Bangkok, Thailand. The temple dates back to the Ayutthaya era, when it was known as Wat Sakae.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rPkIfJl7EBY&t=32s>





Wat Mahathat

The Wat Mahathat is a Buddhist temple in Ayutthaya, central Thailand.

Wat Phra Mahathat, Thailand, was a royal Temple of the Ayutthaya Kingdom. It is one of the oldest and most significant temples in the history of Ayutthaya as it housed the Buddha's holy relic. Many important royal ceremonies of the Ayutthaya era had been hosted here. When the Ayutthaya Kingdom failed in 1767, Wat Phra Mahathat was severely damaged by fire and was since abandoned.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BRhGsGjH_Wk&t=25s







Wat Rong Khun—The White Temple

Wat Rong Khun, better known as the White Temple, is a privately owned art exhibit in the style of a Buddhist temple in Pa O Don Chai, Mueang District, Chiang Rai Province, Thailand. It is owned by Chalermchai Kositpipat, who designed, constructed, and opened it to visitors in 1997.

With its majestic, otherworldly exterior, Wat Rong Khun is unlike any other site of worship. From the ghoulish heads that hang from surrounding trees, to the hands that reach for you as you cross the bridge to the main temple, every part of this site is unique. While Wat Rong Khun attracts thousands of tourists from around the world, it received negative attention when it first opened because critics said it wasn't traditional Thai art. Yet the temple continues to stand defiantly as a symbol of Thai art for a modern world.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nxfqVCLXa9k>





The Temple of The Rising Dragon

Wat Sam Phran (Thai: วัดสามพระยา, pronounced [wát sǎ:m pʰrā:n]) is a Buddhist temple (wat) in Amphoe Sam Phran, Nakhon Pathom province, around 40 kilometers to the west of Bangkok. The temple was officially registered in 1985. In English, the wat is sometimes referred to as the "Dragon Temple".

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SS66xA5d05c>





Wat Phra That Doi Suthep

Wat Phra That Doi Suthep is a Theravada Buddhist temple in Chiang Mai Province, Thailand. The temple is often referred to as "Doi Suthep" although this is actually the name of the mountain where it's located. It is a sacred site to many Thai people.









Wat Chaiwatthanaram

Wat Chaiwatthanaram is a Buddhist temple in the city of Ayutthaya Historical Park, Thailand, on the west bank of the Chao Phraya River, outside Ayutthaya island. It is one of Ayutthaya's best known temples and a major tourist attraction.

https://www.google.com/search?q=Wat+Chaiwatthanaram&source=Imns&tbm=vid&bih=775&biw=1600&client=firefox-b-1-d&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj43aH89Nf8AhUuK0QIHRqNBpAQ_AUoBHoECAEQBA#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:ecd97beb,vid:zHteUjAfwkM (good)





Wat Chedi Luang

Wat Chedi Luang is a Buddhist temple in the historic center of Chiang Mai, Thailand. The current temple grounds were originally made up of three temples — Wat Chedi Luang, Wat Ho Tham and Wat Sukmin.

The Wat Chedi Luang is a large ruined temple located in the heart of the old city area of Chiang Mai. It gets its name from the large Chedi or Stupa that once formed part of the temple complex.

The construction of Wat Chedi Luang was begun by King Saen Muang Ma to hold the ashes of his father, Ku Na. His successors further expanded the temple and construction was completed in 1475. At the time, it housed the Emerald Buddha regarded as the holiest religious object in Thailand. In 1575, the temple fell to ruin and was never rebuilt. In the 1990s, the UNESCO and the Japanese Government built a new Chedi in Central Thai style rather than in the traditional Lanna style of other temples in Chiang Mai.

https://www.google.com/search?q=Wat+Chedi+Luang&source=lmns&tbm=vid&bih=775&biw=1600&client=firefox-b-1-d&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwju_Zn19df8AhVmOUQIHd_eB_AQ_AUoBHoECAEQBA#fpstat e=ive&vld=cid:54d32426,vid:VIAj7Ectvuo





Wat Saen Suk--Hell's Garden

Wat Saen Suk or Wang Saen Suk Monastery Garden is a buddhist temple located in Bang Saen city, Chonburi province, Thailand. A popular tourist attraction, it is meant to describe and depict Naraka (Buddhist Hell).

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-o_DFUPwABs









Traditional Thai Painting

Traditional **artwork from Thailand** exists within a firm religious tradition, primarily **Buddhism**. Many early paintings are **murals** on the walls of *wat*, or temples, are the work of anonymous monks or pious laypeople depicting scenes from religious stories. Other smaller works are **book illustrations**.

The Painter of Sakorn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HhgO5ylfQ0Y> (3 mins no words)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PyAXxCRgqTc> (26 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HhgO5ylfQ0Y> (8 mins—no words)

Painter of Sakorn

Travelers will see many works of Classical Thai painting inside Buddhist temples and palaces of the royalty. Murals present idealized scenes and stories from the life of the Buddha. Walls also display imagined images of the three worlds --- heaven, earth, and hell. Thai artists presented the subjects in two dimensions without perspective. The size of each element in the picture reflected its degree of importance. Principle elements are isolated. This eliminates perspective. In temples, the artists worked to draw Thais to Buddhism through the beauty and dignity of the paintings. The walls of images also served to educate Thais in the history of Buddhism. Modern artists work within traditions --- and introduce new contemporary elements. Fortunate travelers will have the opportunity to visit sites throughout Thailand to view the ancient, traditional, and modern.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TWNIbDXsb98> (short no words)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PyAXxCRgqTc> (26 minutes)















Mother of Pearl Inlay

Thai PBS and Thailand Foundation proudly present “Thai Arts Masters”, where we explore the stories of master craftsmen from all across Thailand.

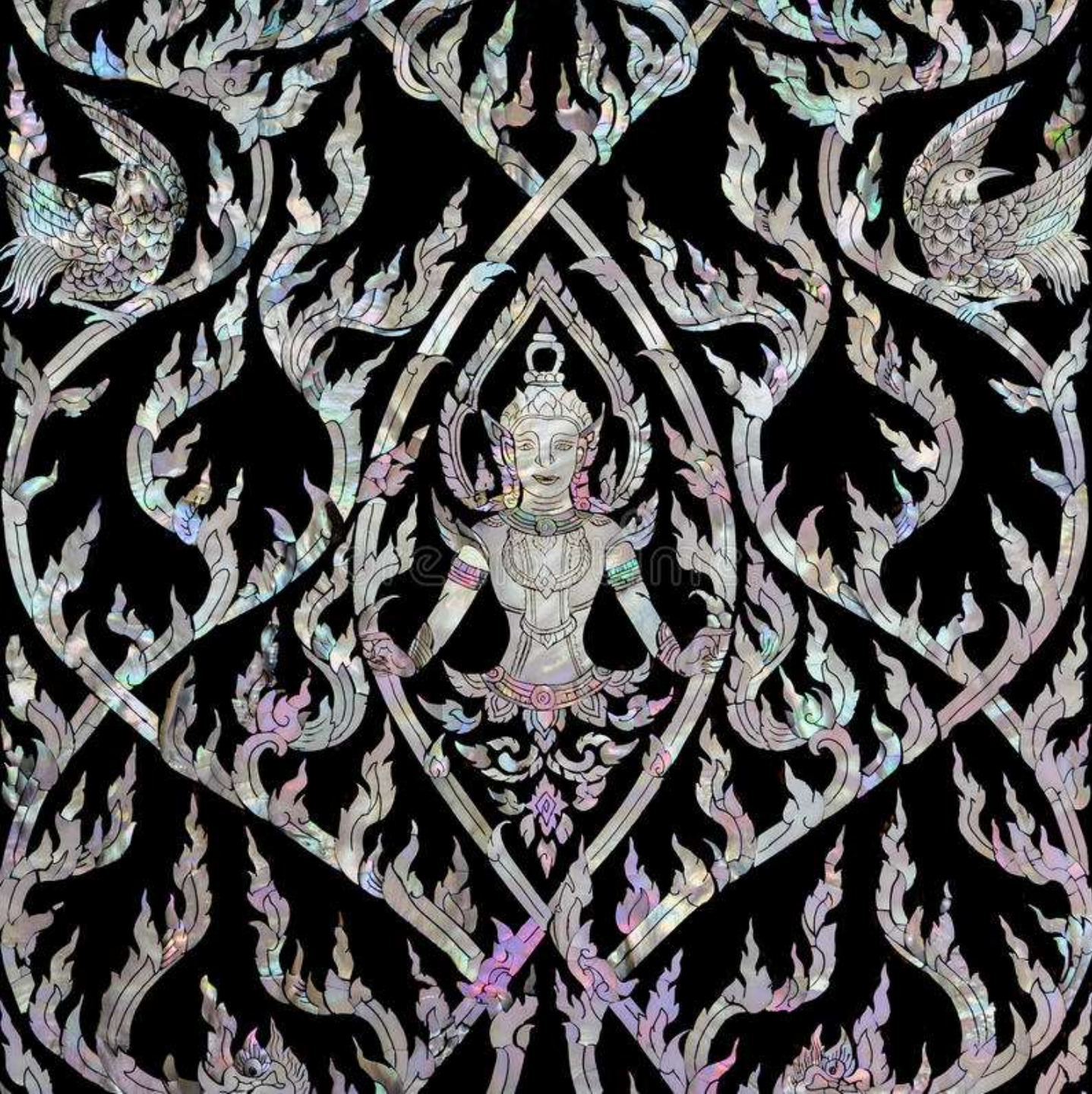
In this episode, we explore the art of mother of pearl inlay. Mother of pearl is a material derived from certain types of seashells. The shells are cut into small pieces and applied with black lacquer to create intricate patterns. This delicate process requires great skill as well as a deep appreciation for natural materials.

We visited Master Jukkit Suksawat, who strives to preserve ancient inlay patterns while also experimenting on new styles. His works has led to the creation of the “Bua Bang Lane” pattern, which embodies the spirit of his community.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OUDCJ2fRxfA> (1:26 mins)

<https://www.businessinsider.com/thailand-mother-of-pearl-inlay-snail-shell-art-2022-9> (8 mins—use this)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xnICyz5945U> (10 mins)







Khon Masks

Khon masks comprise part of the costume of performers of the classical dance-drama of Thailand. The dance-drama is also known as "Khon." A Khon performance involves singing, dancing, acting, acrobatics, and music. Stories for the drama are based exclusively on the Ramakien, the Thai version of an Indian epic. The following paragraphs will elaborate on the masks, the types and symbolism, and various aspects of the Khon drama.

Khon drama, commonly called the "masked-play," involves singing, dancing, acting, acrobatics, and music. The singing is accomplished by an offstage chorus which also recites the narrative and dialogues. The majority of actors are-unable to do this because of the masks they wear. Some forms of the masked-play, probably older forms, did not use singing.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eggSqYDoP1o&list=PLGoWfaN3xL_y32_SCFi0k0qICqvEZ_zO-&index=5









