

# Art From the Land Of Smiles

Part2

# Thai Puppetry

What is it? Thai puppetry, known as hun lakhon lek, is **an ancient art form similar to Japanese buruku puppetry**. Each puppet, usually just under a meter long (3.2 feet), is controlled by three people with a rope and pulley system, which help make the puppet look as if it is gracefully dancing on stage.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A9nehnT9VqM&list=PLGoWfaN3xL\\_y32\\_SCFi0k0qICqvEZ\\_zO-&index=7](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A9nehnT9VqM&list=PLGoWfaN3xL_y32_SCFi0k0qICqvEZ_zO-&index=7)













# Sakorn Yang-keawsot



**Sakorn Yang-keawsot** (Thai: ศาคร ยังเขียวสด; 1922 in Nonthaburi Province – May 21, 2007 in Bangkok, Thailand) was a Thai puppeteer.<sup>[1]</sup> He was a master of the *hun lakorn lek* (traditional Thai small puppets). Also known by his English nickname, **Joe Louis**, in 1985 he founded the Joe Louis Puppet Theatre. He was named a National Artist for performing arts in 1996.

<https://www.sirinyas-thailand.de/2015/04/07/the-joe-louis-traditional-thai-puppet-theatre/>





Download from  
**Dreamstime.com**

This watermarked comp image is for previewing purposes only.

ID

©





# **WASINBUREE SUPANICHVORAPARCH**

Dragonerpanzer is a series of artworks depicting glory, desire and power structure by Thai artist Wasinburee Supanichvoraparch. The series of ceramics is on display at MOCA Bangkok until 5 February 2023. After discovering the Dresden porcelain collection at the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden in Germany, the artist took what was left of the Dragonervasen, or dragon vases, and created a life-size tank decorated with Chinese porcelain motifs. Symbolizing an important moment in time, the tank also reflects the quest for power and status, from centuries ago to the present day. The artist studied ceramics and photography in Germany.

























# KORAKRIT ARUNANONDCHAI

## **Image, Symbol, Prayer**

Kukje Gallery in Seoul presents "Image, Symbol, Prayer", a solo exhibition by Thai artist Korakrit Arunanondchai, from 15 December 2022 to 29 January 2023. Working in a wide range of media, from video and performance to painting and installation, Arunanondchai interweaves a complex codependency of forms to ask fundamental questions about existence and meaning, which proceeds through the personal and the collective, life and death, and different belief systems.

<https://www.kukjegallery.com/exhibitions/view?seq=251>

<https://www.artbasel.com/stories/meet-the-artists-korakrit-arunanondchai>





Korakrit Arunanondchai presented PRAY, an exhibition that includes Korakrit Arunanondchai's two most recent videos: 'Songs for dying' and 'Songs for living' (both 2021). These videos were created in collaboration with artist and director Alex Gvojic. They are shown at Canal Projects, Canal Street, New York, until 17 December 2022. For 'Songs for living', each of the videos is narrated by the voice of the "ghost" that speaks for dead spirits, political regimes, family members, and animals. 'Songs for dying' focuses on the rituals of death and the process of decomposition, which more than enunciating a final end create the possibility of continuous transformation.

[Pray | Canal Projects](#)



# MIT JAI INN

Mit Jai Inn lives and works in Chiang Mai. He is still influenced by his early experiences: his education in an indigenous weaving village, his meditation practice learned during his six years as a Theravada Buddhist monk and his training as a professional boxer. He is best known for his abstract compositions exploring the social and political implications of art making. When Mit Jai Inn returned to Chiang Mai in 1992, he co-founded the Chiang Mai Social Installation, an art project and festival that took art out of its traditional and commercial focus and place it on the streets to engage the public. He is currently pursuing this participatory and community ethic.. In 2015, Mit Jai Inn also founded Cartel Artspace in Bangkok, a gallery providing a space for artists to reflect on the historical and current context of Thailand and Southeast Asia. One of his first series, Free Flyers, was designed as gifts, in reference to the free information sharing system of the Internet. His Scrolls Series, developed from 2002 onwards, emphasized Mit Jain Inn's interest in communal ritual forms, such as rolled iconographic or ceremonial painting.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UpSpCvIn35Q>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EYYJq0pSRDo>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AWuLMbYM5fM&t=69s>













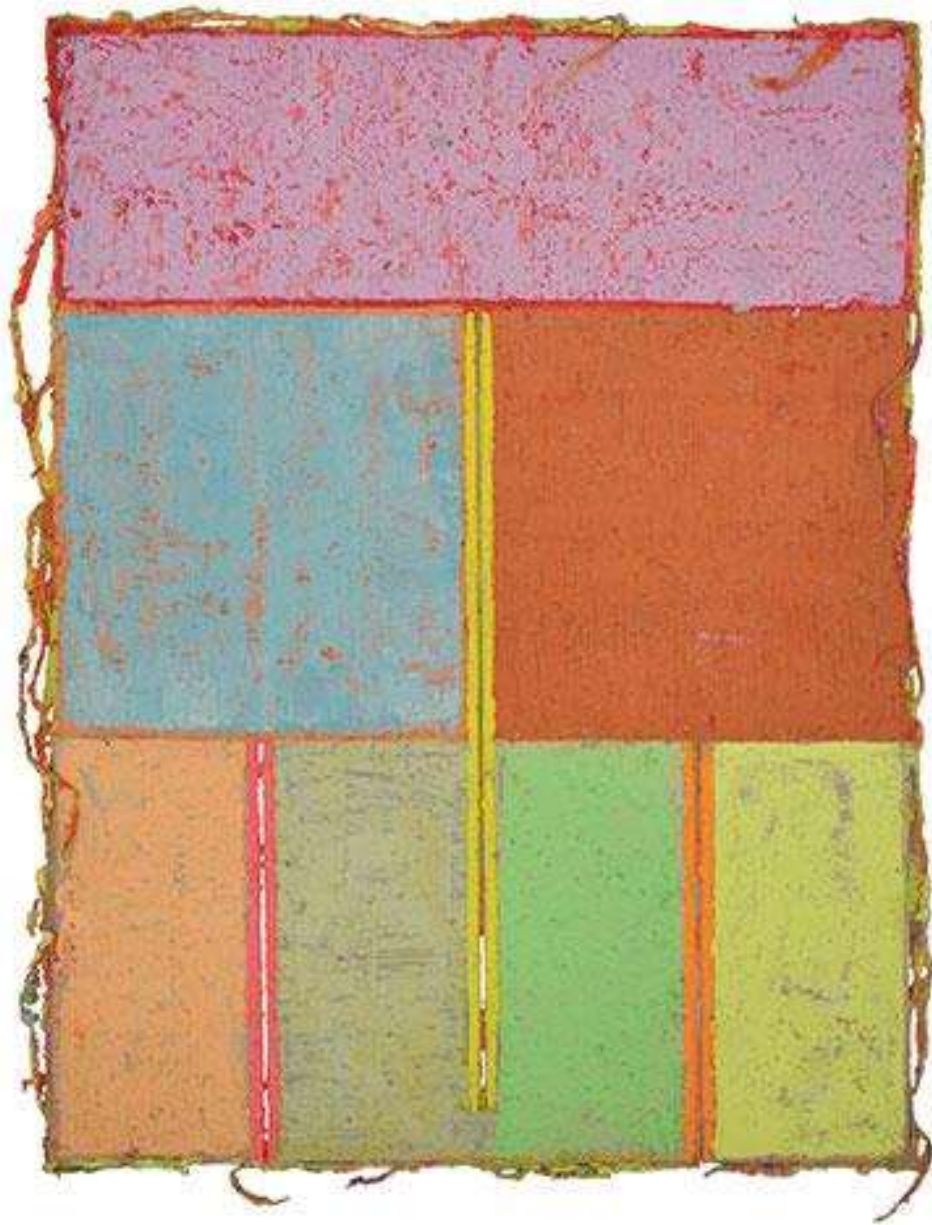
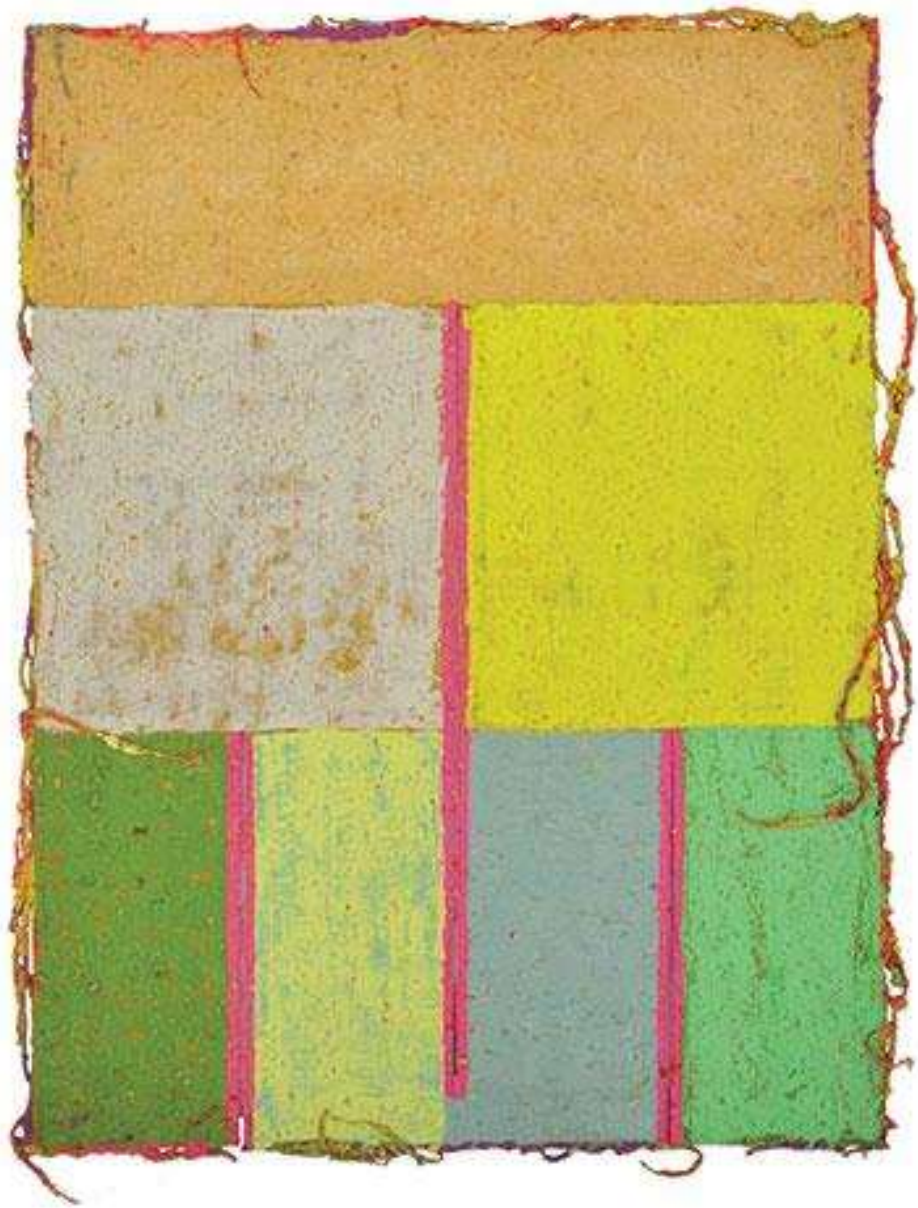












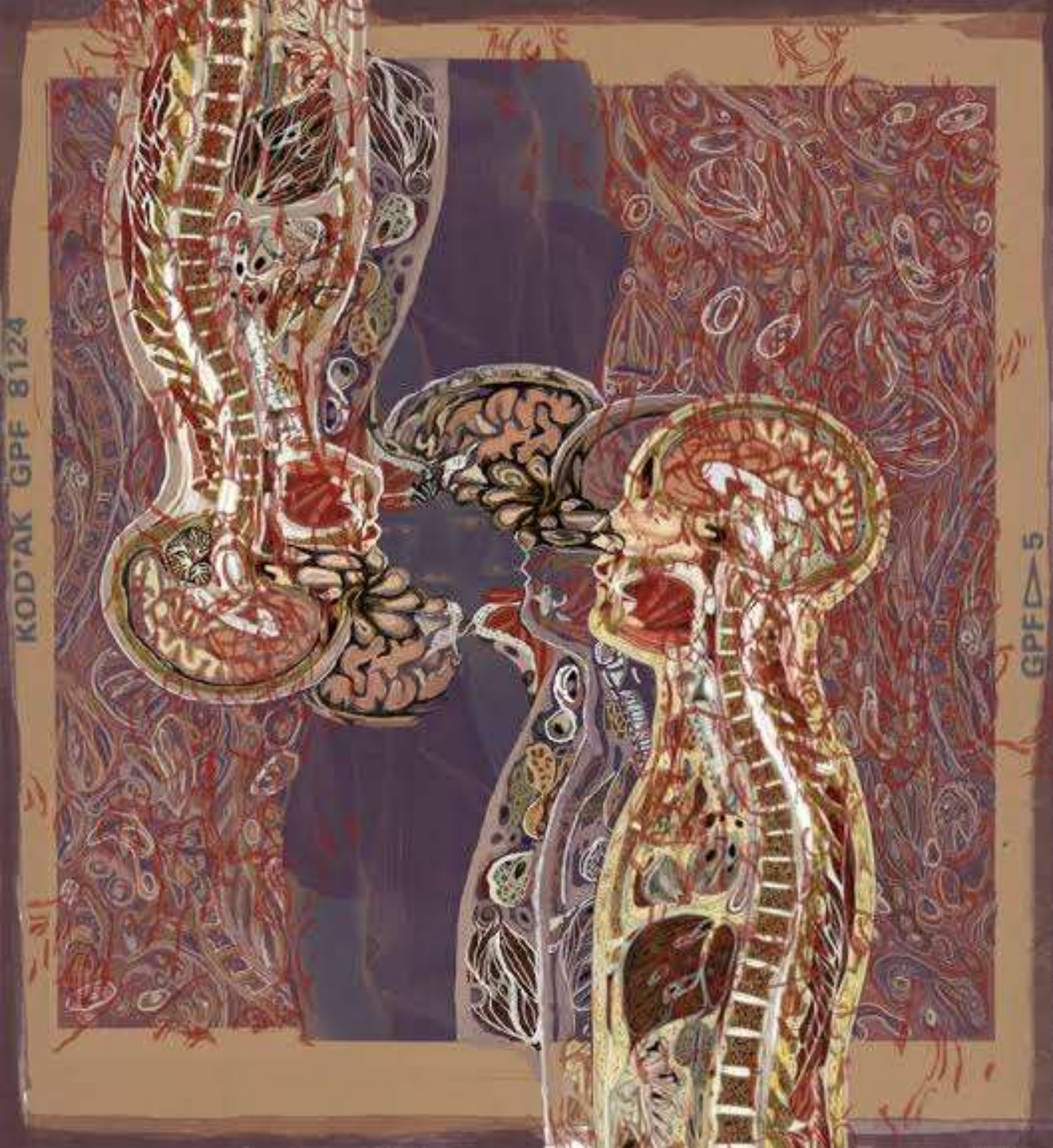


# PRAPAT JIWARANGSAN

Prapat Jiwarangsan was born in 1979 in Bangkok. He received his B.A. Interior Architecture (2002), and MFA Visual Art (2009), from King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang, Bangkok and his Master of Arts from the Royal College of Art, London in 2011.

At the end of his studies, Prapat Jiwarangsan focused his artistic practices on the relationship between history, memory and politics in Thailand, with a particular focus on the theme of migration. In 2017, Prapat Jiwarangsan made a film entitled "The Wandering Ghost", the context of which he explained: "Over the past two years, thousands of illegal Thai migrant workers in South Korea have been sent back to Thailand, while thousands more have crossed borders to work in legal and illegal jobs. Calling themselves "ghosts", they have left their homeland for a foreign country where they do not speak the language, work towards an uncertain future and hide like ghosts to escape the authorities. In another film in 2015, "The Asylum", Prapat Jiwarangsan describes a place near Chiang Mai where undocumented and unemployed people gather.

<https://ntu.ccasingapore.org/residency/prapat-jiwarangsan/>













# PEERAWAT KRASAESOM

Peerawat Krasaesom was born in 1981 in the province of Surin. Coming from a rural family, he trained himself, making sketches for many years. He worked for 6 years as a graphic designer and then in artistic production for television. He then went on to study for an MAF in Visual Arts at King Mongkut's Institute Technology Ladkrabang (KMITL), Bangkok (2014). He lives and works in Bangkok.

Peerawat Krasaesom's artwork questions the human violence that was a shock to him when he arrived in the city, in this case Bangkok and which has its roots in human nature. Nuclear guns, tanks and explosions are ingeniously shattered into cellular structures that resemble microscopic views of human blood cells.

"I try to express my thoughts about what surrounds us like air, water, humans, plants and animals in my work. I lived a country life, easy, based on nature, until, as an adult, I moved to the capital and life became complicated and I had to fight. Struggle often happens when humans, animals or plants have to live in different environments than they have experienced, and we have to adapt to survive, physically and mentally," says the artist.













# UTTAPORN NIMMALAIKAEW

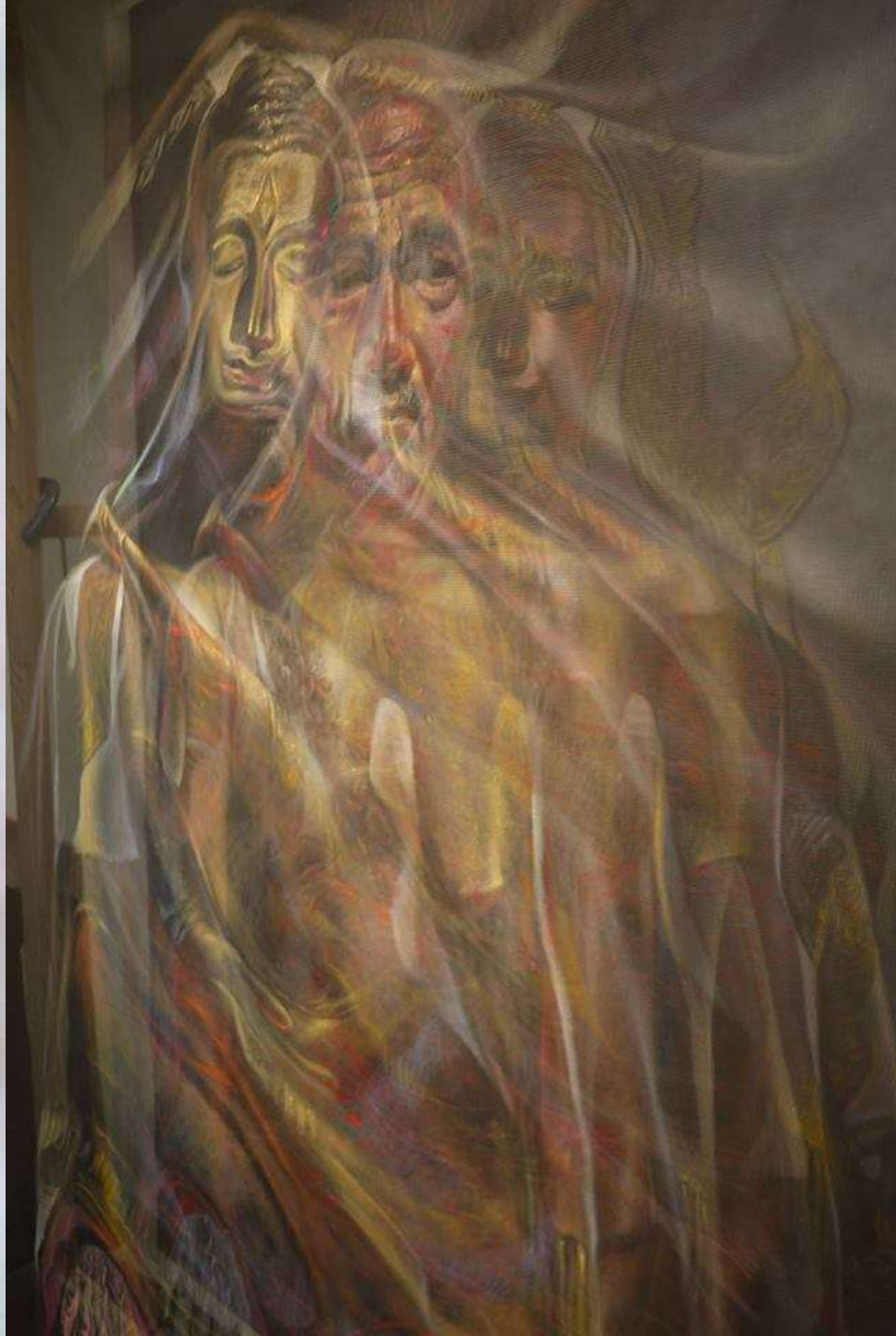
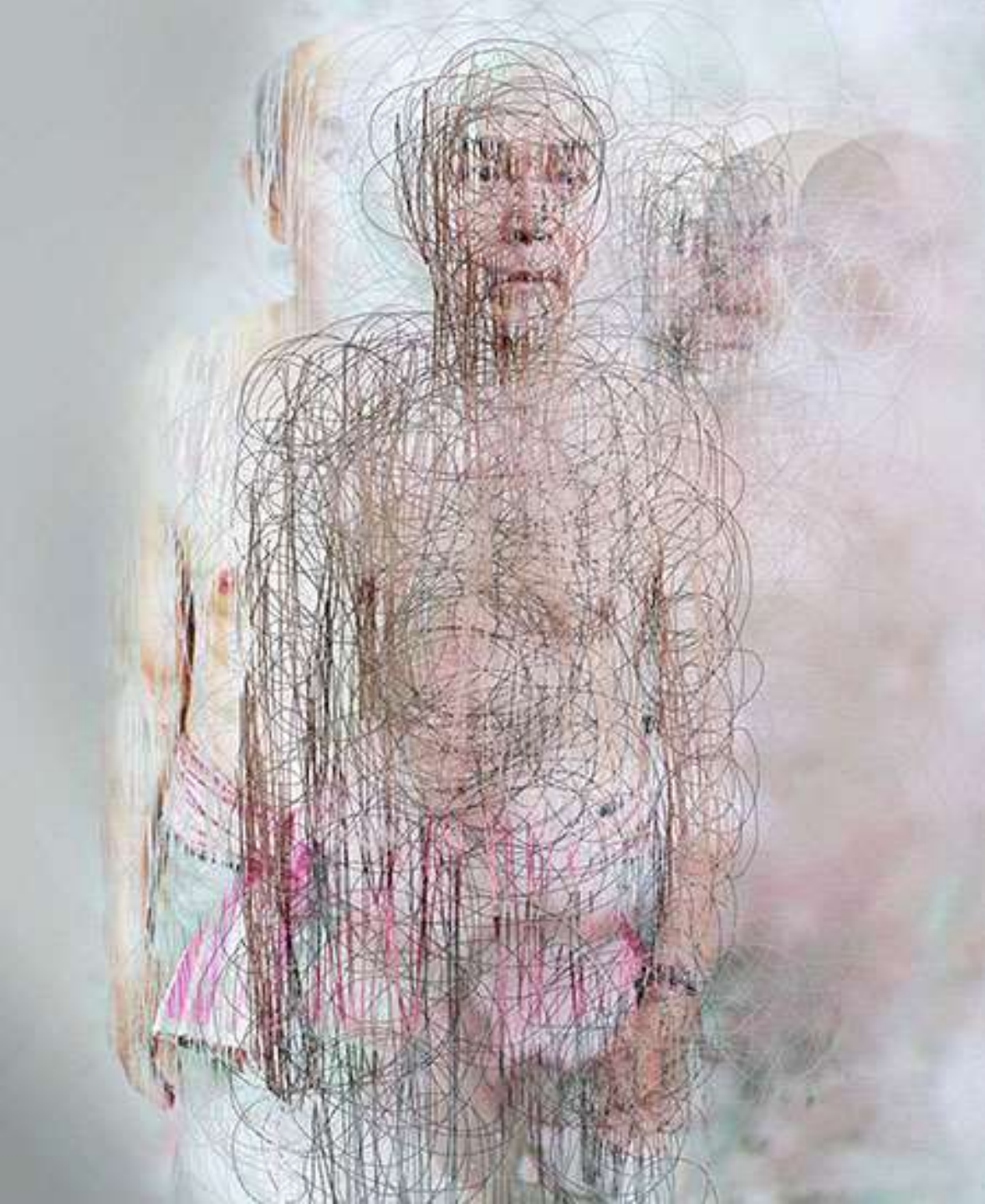
Uttaporn Nimmalaikaew was born in Bangkok in 1980. He paints portraits on several layers of fine nets or on tulle, producing a 3D effect. "You have to see his works as layers, layers of paint, assembled to each other in lamination. Like layers that are superimposed with different layers of information arranged on each of them." His subjects seem to be sitting on chairs or lying on beds. They metamorphose and change shape depending on the distance and location of the viewer and the painting technique is revealed. Uttaporn Nimmalaikaew's paintings look like shimmering holograms. He discovered this technique while studying at Silpakorn University in Bangkok after a drop of paint got lost on a mosquito net in his studio. He then began to explore a new way of painting on this material. For each piece, the artist begins with a digital drawing, which he then prints in actual size to determine the shape and texture of the subject. He then begins to paint in layers with oil paint in a style he calls "tulle-paint style".

A pensive, melancholic face is at the center of each work. The translucent subjects appear ethereal and ghostly on these thin fabric screens. These are often his family, indeed he sees his work as a way of preserving their spirit over time.

"One of the characteristics of my work," says Uttaporn Nimmalaikaew, "is that it changes the viewer's experience. The work of art as an illusion deceives perception. From the front, the viewer will see the work in the middle of the empty space. I draw human shapes on a sparse white fabric with colored oil paint. The details are different because of the volume, color, light and layer of fabric."

<https://vimeo.com/252967199>













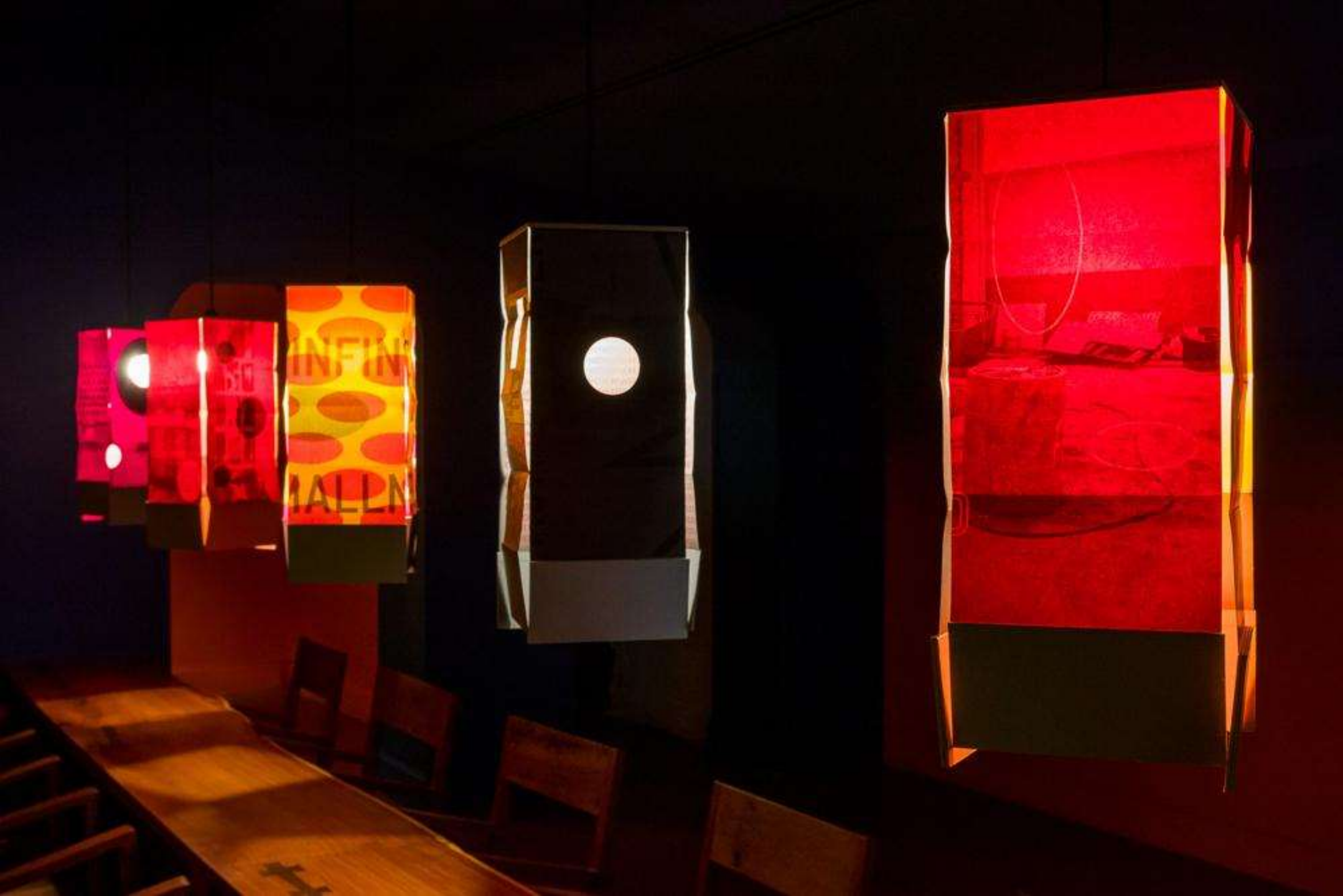


# RIRKRIT TIRAVANIJA

Rirkrit Tiravanija was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1961. He grew up in Thailand, Ethiopia and Canada. He lives and works in New York, Berlin and Chiang Mai. Rirkrit Tiravanija's work and career are unclassifiable. For 30 years, he has focused on in situ experience and exchange, breaking down barriers between object and viewer. His work was first shown to the public in a group exhibition in New York in 1989: the title was "Untitled Empty Parenthesis" and consisted of remnants of a green curry meal. Criticism was then destabilized. He continued to use the space for the preparation and consumption of communal meals for galleries such as "Untitled (free)" (1992). The artist explains: "I can't paint but I can cook." He continued in this approach in the following years, setting up communal environments that offer a playful alternative place for daily activities.

<https://wrightwood659.org/exhibitions/rirkrit-tiravanija-whos-afraid-of-red-yellow-and-green-2/>













# RATTANA SALEE

Rattana Salee's sculptures are essentially abstract. The artist is inspired by Alberto Giacometti. Shell', the solo exhibition that marked her debut, showed sculptures installed in the atmosphere, made of metal and plaster architectures. They were intended to reflect the complexity of urban life. Thailand's capital, Bangkok, has become a vast construction site where the sound of drills and hammers can be heard. The inhabitants are confined to small spaces. The artist asks questions about the development of the city, about the quality of life, about memories and stories of construction. Her sculptures represent the state of life in the city. Rattana Salee creates forms that show hundreds of dilapidated structures, unfinished towers that continue to point to the sky, testimony to the economic failure of the 1997 financial crisis in Thailand. The artist composes sculptures out of steel bars, deeply worked with resin to show us a sense of erosion, of the dematerialization of the sculptural mass.

In her exhibition "Unreal Monument" at Lanta Fine Art, Bangkok - June 5 to July 14, 2021 - Rattana Salee outlined her view of the public monument: a memorial or monument symbolises the collective memories of people in a particular area using texts or statues as vehicles. Memorials could present both the visible and invisible aspects of the story being told.

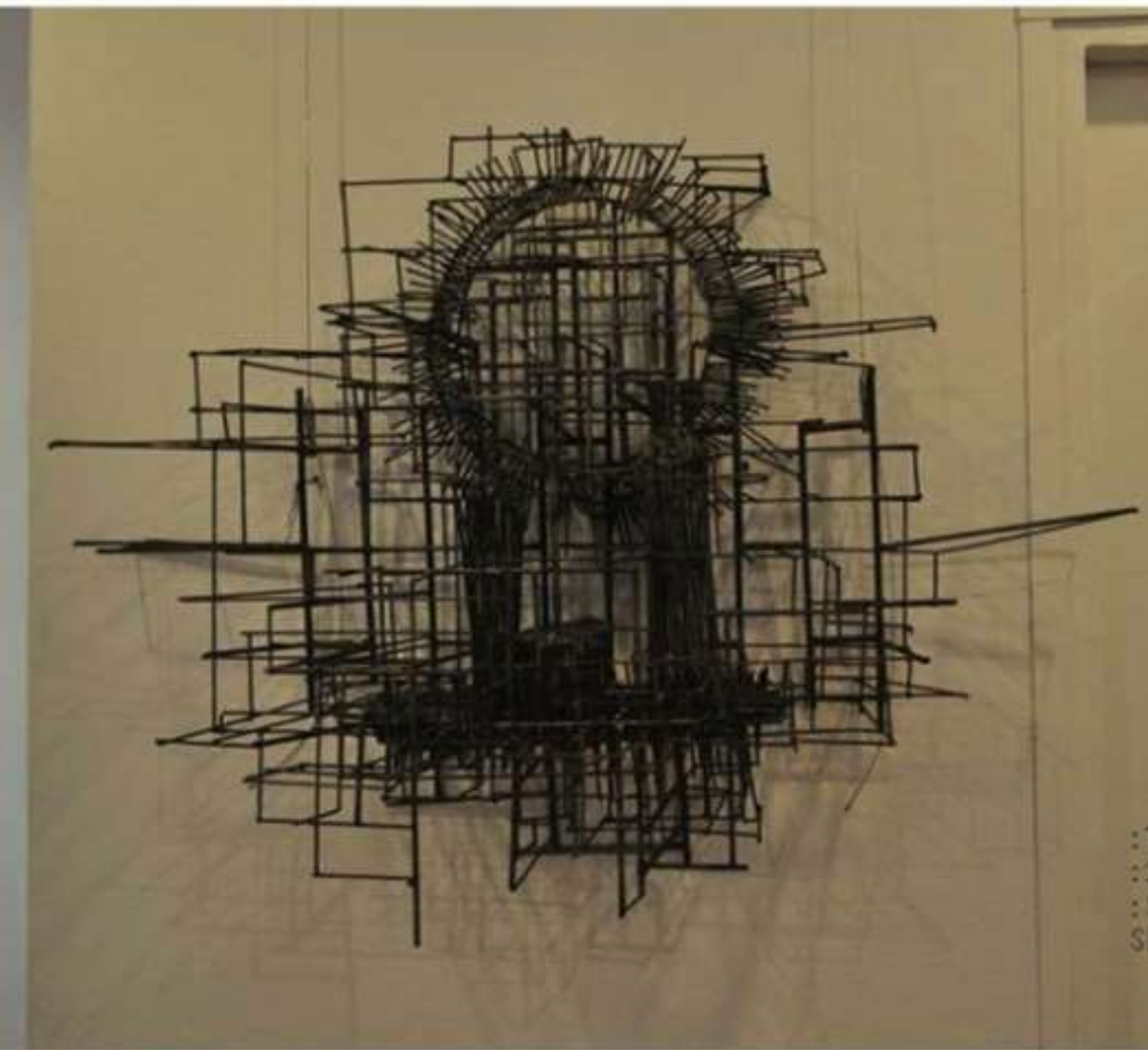
<https://vimeo.com/243145290>

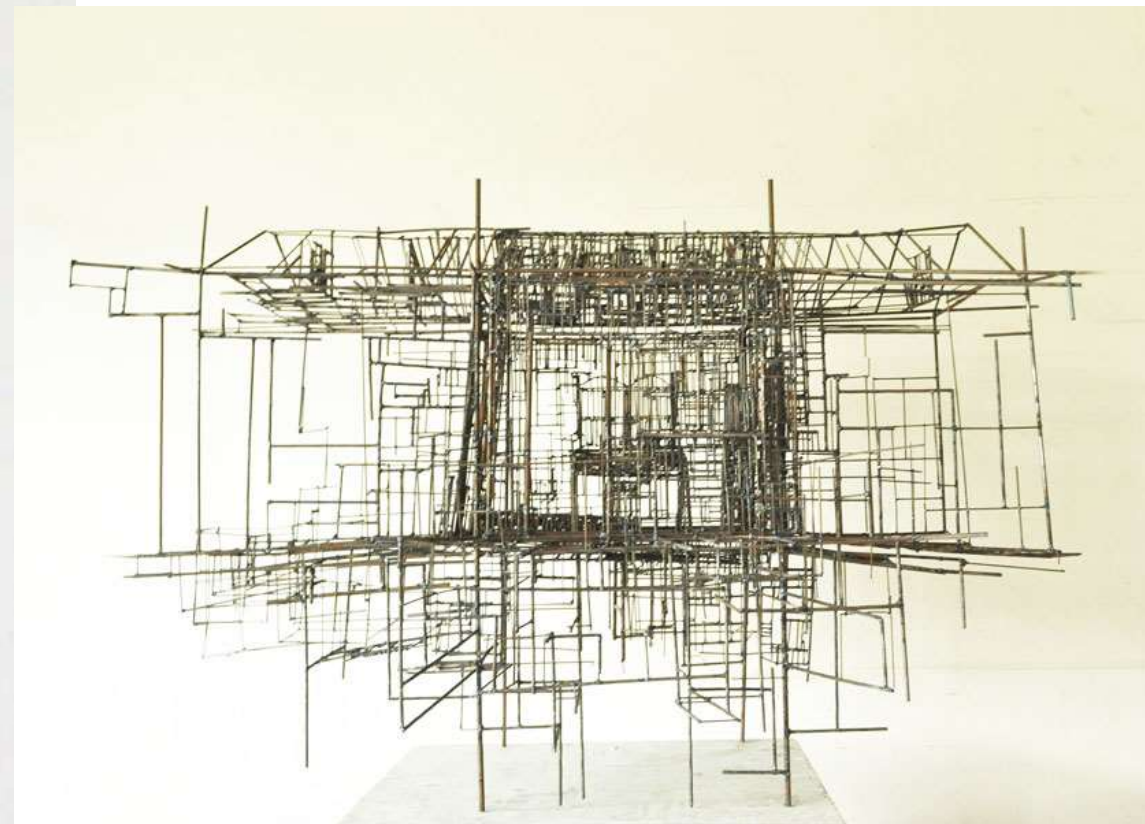
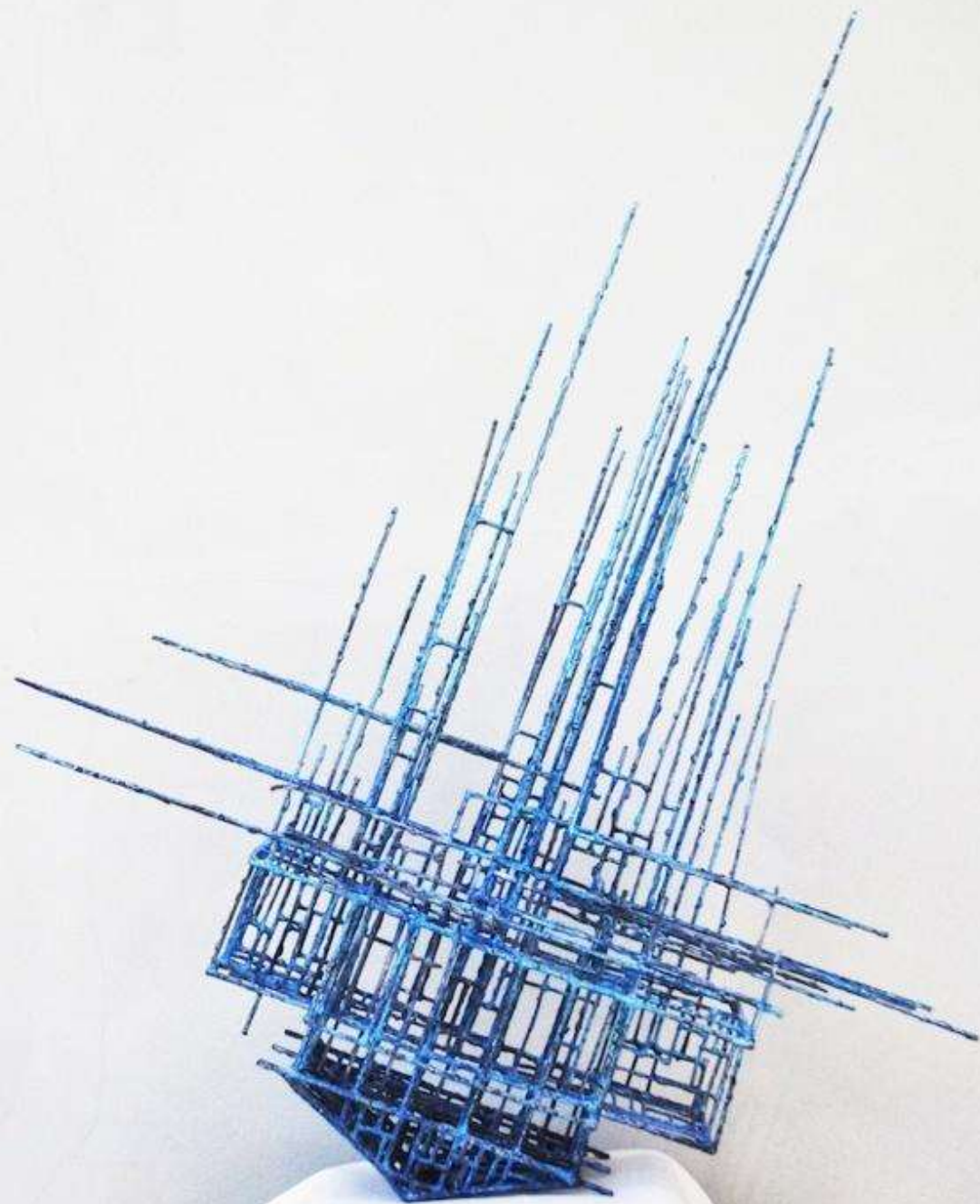
<https://vimeo.com/243152396>

<https://vimeo.com/243148982>

[https://m.facebook.com/lalantafineart/videos/10159085693804340/?locale2=th\\_TH](https://m.facebook.com/lalantafineart/videos/10159085693804340/?locale2=th_TH)

















# NATEE UTARIT

**NATEE UTARIT** is a contemporary Thai painter, known for his work on images – photographs – through painting. It mixes reality and fiction.

With cumulative sales of \$839,687, he ranked 209th in the Artprice ranking (sales revenues) of the art market worldwide in 2019. He ranked 188th in the Artprice Ranking 2020/2021 with cumulative sales of £ 1.321.295 (12 lots sold).

His work 'Steamboat Overture' sold at Christie's Hong Kong 'Asian 20th Century & Contemporary Art (Evening Sale)' in 2015, for \$221,916. Recently, his work 'The Ambassador' sold at Philipps Auction HK on June 7, 2021, US\$178,625.28.

According to Mutualart, Natee Utarit's work has been offered at auction multiple times, with realized prices ranging from \$431 to \$389,585 depending on the size and medium of the artwork. Since 2005 the record price for Natee Utarit at auction is \$389,585 for The Baroque, sold by Christie's HK in 2019.

<https://www.instagram.com/nateeutarit/?hl=en>

<https://rkfineart.com/artist/natee-utarit/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5skVu1c4m8&t=31s>



















# PANNAPHAN YODMANEE

**PANNAPHAN YODMANEE** is an artist who belongs to a new generation of contemporary Thai artists. In 2017, she was awarded the 11th Benesse Prize at the 2016 Singapore Biennale.

Pannaphan Yodmanee's artworks explore Buddhist philosophy, the permanent themes of loss, suffering, destruction and karmic cycles – from birth to death, to rebirth. In her work, she mixes natural elements such as rocks and minerals with contemporary painted objects reminiscent of traditional Thai art and architecture.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Shopping-Service/Pannaphan-yodmanee-fanpage-1395404517365381/>

<https://lalanta.com/artists/pannaphan-yodmanee/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fGqC9goGLuc>





















# P7

P7 is a **Bangkok based artist and designer** whose work showcases his self-taught style merging contemporary fine art with a street sensibility. P7 works all over Thailand and has exhibited internationally. P7 likes to pick places that not normally fit for contemporary art.















# Assignment Suggestions...

- Create an artwork inspired by traditional Thai patterns.
- Create an artwork painted on translucent layers.
- Create a dreamlike piece of architecture using thin sticks or draw it as line art.