

THAITAI FEVER - STAGE TWO: The Politics (Drama) of a Certain Site from November 1st (Thu) to December 2nd (Sun)

Opening/ 17:00 Thursday November 1st 2012

Performance: Lin Chi Wei - 18:30

Open-Contemporary Art Center (OCAC) is an artist-run space founded in Banciao (Taiwan) in 2001. Our tasks include curation, interdisciplinary exchange, art forum, study and publication. We believe that contemporary art permeates into our lives in a wider range than ever. People need a significant clue of “what is contemporary art?” with a full imagination. We look at this and attempt to dedicate ourselves to create diverse forms of which the public interacted with contemporary art.

OCAC has moved to Bangkok to run an art space named OCAC Bangkok (former ABOUT PHOTOGRAPHY). This project was initialized by OCAC and Thai artists, Jiandyin (Jiradej and Pornpilai Meemalai), co-organized with the Art Centre of Silpakorn University, Sakarin Krue-On as project's adviser and the space is contributed by Nopadon Kaosam-ang and Klaomard Yipintsoi. We believe that living locally and having interpersonal contact help us have in-depth understanding of Thai culture/art; and therefore, we can better assist Taiwanese artist in making art in Thailand. Meanwhile, OCAC Bangkok is not only a name of an art space but also a six-month residency project. We expect OCAC Bangkok to generate new dialogue between Thai and Taiwanese contemporary art and create networking.

It has been two months since the OCAC started to reside in the OCAC Bangkok. The opening exhibition, Stage One: We're Open, showcased five Taiwanese artists and three Thai artists' video works under the theme of narrative and restatement along with an in-situ collaboration work. After two months of residency in the outskirts of Chinatown, where OCAC Bangkok is located, they have discovered interesting textures in their surroundings. The road which shakes every time the buses pass, sex workers and flâneurs occupying street corners after dark, various kinds of vividness attract the eyes, arousing their curiosity about the locale.

What's next?

Stage Two: The Politics (Drama) of a Certain Site attempts to extend the process and possibility of art practice and dialogue with space, which means the theme of site specific production. The concept of site in which we contemplate is not merely focused on a single location or physical and architectural installation, but gazes on time and reflects on the debates of the extending the meaning of site in the context of geography: past/present, history/fiction and authority/authorizing.

On the theme of site specific, OCAC invites three Thai artists, Jaitip Jaidee, Suraporn Lertwongpaitoon (Jekky) and Prapat Jiwangsan along with three Taiwanese artists, XU Chien Yu, CHEN Szu Han, LO Shih Tong. Each Thai artist is connected to OCAC Bangkok in different ways, such as its location, space and naming. Artist Tip, who assists the owner of the building of OCAC Bangkok with building management, plays the role of spokesman and has close relation to the building. Artist Jekky, nick-named by himself for the reason of his origin of his Chinese mother's side. In Thailand, Jek is also a discriminating term of

Chinese. The naming somehow associates with the current circumstance that Chinese in Thailand not only lives in China Town but everywhere. It is almost impossible to completely distinguish Thai and Chinese nowadays due to the intermingling between ethnic groups and cultural assimilation process. Artist Prapat is interested in the naming of OCAC. OCAC in Thailand is not known as an independent art space but an abbreviations for Office of Contemporary Art & Culture in Thailand, which is in charge of culture management and politics.

Apart from Thai artists, three Taiwanese OCAC artists, coming to Bangkok in different time, will bring together happenings, performances, events in the context of politics of the site, and construct a micro-political scene in the space.

Arists:

(Thailand) Jekky Suraporn Lertwongpaitoon, Tip Jaitip Jaidee, Top Prapat Jiwarangsang
(Taiwan) XU Jian Yu, CHEN Szu Han, LO Shih Tung

Opening Music Performing:

LIN Chi Wei

Lin Chi Wei is one of the artist who participates in the THAITAI - A Measure of Understanding exhibition at the BACC in November 2012, a project co-organized by Thai and Taiwanese artists. Born in Taipei, Taiwan, now living in Beijing, Lin Chi-Wei has been one of the pioneers of experimental and noise music in Taiwan. He has been a member of ZSLO (Zero and Sound Liberation Organization) from the early 1990's. As a multimedia artist, he has published audio and video works and has been involved in solo and group exhibitions.

Site : <http://www.linchiwei.com/>

Video : <http://www.linchiwei.com/archives/556>

Ballon Music : <http://www.linchiwei.com/archives/464>

■■ OCAC Bangkok

Organizer: Open Contemporary Art Center (OCAC)

Co-organizers: Art Centre of Silpakorn University

Adviser: Asst. Prof. Sakarin Krue-On

Director of OCAC: Hsu Chia-Wei, Lo Shih-Tung

Curators: Pornpilai Meemalai, Jiradej Meemalai

Project manager: Manipa Jayawan, Chen Szu-Han

Media Partners: Fine Art magazine, art4d magazine, ARTITUDE

Space Contributor: Nopadon Kaosam-ang, Klaomard Yipintsoi

Sponsors: TKS Chemical (Thailand)

