



Pavilion of Thailand
at the 57th International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia

KRUNG THEP BANGKOK
by Somboon Hormtientong

Commissioner: Vimolluck Chuchat

Curator: Numthong Sae Tang

Special Preview day: 9th May 2017 at 10:00 a.m. – 18:00 p.m.

Vernissage: 10th – 12th May 2017 at 10:00 a.m. – 18:00 p.m.

Opening Reception: 12th May 2017 at 16:00 pm

Official Opening: 13th May – 26th Nov 2017 (Opening Hours 10:00 a.m. – 18:00 p.m.)

Venue: Thai Pavilion, Giardini della Biennale, Castello 1260

Somboon Hormtientong, an abstract artist whose work is widely recognized by the local and international art scene, represents Thailand at the 57th International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia, with KRUNG THEP BANGKOK. Curated by Numthong Sae Tang, with the support of the Thai Office of Contemporary Art and Culture (OCAC), the exhibition at the Thai Pavilion presents Hormtientong's installation, sculpture, drawings, and videos.

Hormtientong's Bangkok differs from the perception commonly held by tourists or those unfamiliar with the city. Seeing beyond the surface of urbanization and the capital's skyscrapers, the artist looks deeply into the narratives in the ordinary people's social life. He examines their ways of life through mundane items of different functions and backgrounds, which underline the beauty disguised in each object in his installation.

One of the challenges facing the artist while working on the exhibition at the Thai Pavilion was to deal with the space that was once a busy restaurant and not originally designed for exhibition. Through his installation, Hormtientong creates inside the space the calmness in which the audience could find and experience aesthetics in their own subjective ways, from their interaction with his work. Such calmness, which clashes with the hectic surroundings around the Pavilion, would entice the audience to enter a peaceful state where they could analyze

and interpret, ask questions and seek answers, or even connect their own experience with the stories in Hormtientong's work.

A fully illustrated catalogue will be released in May in conjunction with the exhibition **KRUNG THEP BANGKOK**.

The publication will feature essays by Dr. Chetana Nagavajara.

Media Contact

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