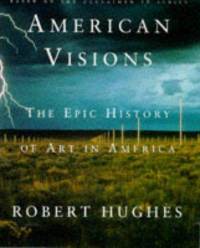
NEH Summer Institute: **THE DYNAMICS OF CULTURAL UNITY AND DIVERSITY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA**

Erin Tapley- Western Carolina University [etapley@wcu.edu](mailto:etapley@wcu.edu)

*Sampling SE Asia through Visual Culture: Outline for forthcoming Article*

1. Characterizing the art of a nation: Leap of good faith &/or perhaps the insight of innocence
2. How Robert Hughes’ characterized the history of American

Art in 200 pages and implications for SE Asia.



1. Ramifications of ‘packaging’ a nation’s art or visual culture – a thousand disclaimers and definitions.
2. Looking at SE Asia as an entity
3. Some factors of unification
4. Some factors of diversification
5. Regions of SE Asia and Archetypal art forms
6. A list of archetypal forms/key images of visual culture and how their meanings toward a holistic understanding of culture
7. What textbook, tour books and national museums are saying
8. Implications for teaching the Art of SE Asia for K-12 Arts Educators

Appendix A - How SE Asia is depicted in various K-12 art history and art appreciation textbooks.

**I. Characterizing the art of a nation- it’s better to have leapt in such faith than to not stayed inert and superficial**

*A parable:*

In 1993 Time Magazine art critic, Robert Hughes wrote and produced “American Visions” which attempted to explore the artist traditions of 300+ years of “American” life – playing upon paradoxes of excess and piety– baronism and provinciality. In nine chapters of a book or about 8 hours of video, (initially broadcast on PBS), Hughes explained his selections that defined archetypes of American art and visual culture. From the Puritans to the Wild West and from the acetic nature of Georgia O’Keeffe to the egregiousness of Jeff Koons, Hughes somehow segues disparate “episodes” and links American art to the philosophically-grinding evolution of the United States.

Hughes did have the advantage of being an outsider on the inside. In 1974 Hughes emigrated from Australia to New York … Despite his foreign viewpoint,” the series was so thoughtfully codified that it became an instant success and the required text for many college and university courses about American Art. Hughes was educated in “fine art” and this purview caused him to select more “high brow” academic art than vernacular or ‘folk art’–however he does make some reference to things such as the church in Acoma Pueblo or the Model T Ford as artistic emblems of American culture. In essence, Hughes tries to link art and visual culture to the key ages in American history that produced them. Focusing on art making as a basic reaction/reflection of the human experience, Hughes’ series seemed not to be so much about what pieces he chose to represent a nation, but how he linked the two together.

**Southeast Asian (Art) Visions? – countless disclaimers and working definitions:**

There are many good reasons perhaps as to why most college textbooks (see chart in Appendix A) do not address SE Asian art per its 11 regions or countries. SouthEast Asia is a region that is ten times as “old” as the US and only recently contextualized as one of our world’s units. Its history is a complicated myriad of maritime interaction and multicultural settlement. Most textbooks that address “World Art” with a focus on Art Appreciation in general, represent SE Asia with quintessential works from the classical ages of this region (exception: Philippines). This means that ten out of ten textbooks discuss Angkor Wat and Hindu-Buddhist statuary as evolved from India. Such discussion is rarely in depth and is even less contextualized within the dynamics of the region itself. Nonetheless, I am choosing to teach units about SE Asian art within an Asian art course and I floundered with which objects to employ toward cultural inference. There are infinite ways to organize information, but my primary rationale in selecting a certain presentation framework is to allow my audience (primarily provincial undergraduates with no travel experience) to be engaged with demanding visual images and to slowly provide their observations with information that allow inferences to be made. Of course one can see potential dangers in visually dissecting Japan’s “Hello Kitty” icon and making it akin to “Garfield” in the US but a thorough contextual understanding these invented cats will spot differences that ascribe cultural uniqueness. Mapping is also a lacking skill of millennial students. (quote here from ed journal). GPS devices, internet and provide quick access to “finding places” such that basic understanding of distance, historical proximities and historical phenomena are not engrained as they might once have been through rote-memory style education. On the flip side, this new generation of students are more likely to travel and interact with persons of differing nationalities than ever before so their comfort with such leaps is noticeably more than that of their parents. (another quote here). Essentially creative visual expression can broker a sense of cultural distance as well as accentuate these differences. Expertise from the instructor is always desirable but as most K-12 art teachers are required to specialize in just one art media, knowledge about regional art comes with concerted efforts toward professional development. A more “middle path” approach to presenting the ‘art’ of an unfamiliar region should include involving students in the fine details of the research process. In other words, the instructor piques the interest of students with knowledge about the artist, place or object (that may really be that of a native 6th grader). This includes a basic understanding of geo-cultural phenomena and major historical trends as these may be reflected in art work. More specific details such as *why a sculpted image rests on a tetradic pedastal?* are likely metaphysical and symbolic. While a K-12 art instructor should be familiar with major philosophical and religious trends of the world, a wide range of regional particulars could never be fully learned. These are the occasions for research: interpersonal, cyber or both.

**Organization/Presentation of Images:**

The plastic arts may be simply described as exuding “person, place or thing” essences. Organizational themes of art historians may include a-chronological frameworks such as “metaphysical meaning, (why an object is made) media, (how an object is made) or international style (where an object is made- regional attributes). It is tougher perhaps to present art objects chronologically in a ‘whole wide world” context or even a regional one-- however if one wants to stress the evolution of ideas that inform such art, this is the way to go. Furthermore, aesthetic ideas travel with travelers and seeing related traits allows students to more holistically understand our world’s history and connectivity.

**Ramifications of ‘packaging’ visual culture – a thousand disclaimers**

•1. Definitions of art differ. In many societies the concept of “beautification or empowerment” constituted the activity of creating art objects. In many societies these are used – not necessarily treasured for their ‘aged’ qualities – ie. Replaced rather than restored.

•2. For the convenience of categorization within scholarship, we tend to look at traditional art that reflects our perception of the examined society’s values

•3. Orthopraxy versus Orthodoxy-the modus operandi (and methods) of one who creates art is subject to change over time

•4. Any conclusions about artistic style, archetypes etc. can only be based upon what has been found so far. Regarding ancient art-- stone and metal win that prize almost every time.

•5. Since much ‘ancient’ art that survives reflects spiritual places and practice, the decorative/folk arts of ancient times are not reflected.

•6. Factors of Abstraction- Artistic intent – given the mystique and often mystery of ancient or cross-cultural objects, the “artistry” is often eclipsed by historical factoid-finding missions. In this category as well, esoteric underpinnings of art making and cultural beliefs with regard to maintaining production methods can skew explanations.

**Regional Traits – (mainland and island cultures of SE Asia):**

1. Ring of fire region and volcanic activity. The Sunda shelf of SE Asia allows for shallow, warm, fish-filled water. Monsoon winds pervade island and coastal regions and have always affected travel/planting. Alluvial plains foster rice irrigation and swidden farming in rainforest areas.

1. Regions that are upland are often more isolated than coastal regions because of historical trade interactions. Prior to the spread of Hinduism/Buddhism most cultures were Animistic- - most important spirits related to tempestuous weather and earth phenomenology and needed propitiation in the form of offerings. (material and ritual/performance). All SE countries have some petroglyphs that support these ideas.
2. All areas of SE Asia were affected by Indianization and Sinization - however sociological systems such as caste or permanent dynastic rule did not adhere.
3. The position of women in SE Asia differs (historically) from that of other great historical civilizations in Asia – namely kinship patterns were largely matrilineal and subordination to men and Appreciation for dualities or even hermaphroditic natures. (e.g. HariHara- half Shiva/half Vishnu )
4. All areas of SE Asia were affected by interaction with the west beginning around the Age of Exploration c. 1400. The west sought key preservation spices and fiber that only SE Asia produced and in return SE Asia largely sought metal weaponry.
5. Colonialism occurred in all areas of SE Asia with the possible exception of Thailand. Colonialism may be viewed as a trope of commonly accompanied with practices of forced / oppressed labor and religious conversion. Western cultures were at odds with one another to control these lands that they saw as ‘outposts” and Japan and China were added to this phenomena sporadically during this half of a millennia. Meritocratic or oligarchic- not merely aristocratic. Theocratic bases.
6. In many SE cultures, Royal cities, usually built during the Classical Ages have come to define and distinguish cultures – even if the sites are no longer ritually active.
7. Current phenomena of unity via membership in in ASEAN. This “confederation” was formed in 1967 with the goal of … “a concert of Southeast Asian nations, outward looking, living in peace, stability and prosperity, bonded together in partnership in dynamic development and in a community of caring societies.” ( htp://www.asean.org/64.htm)
8. In terms of the “arts” ASEAN has sponsored various Biennales of the region but mainly that in Jakarta with specific aims of representing ASEAN countries so as to give these artists a world presence.

Some common historical factors

**I. Classical Period and Kingdoms**

•Both terms reflect view that these kingdoms were the cultural and political foundations of later nation-states

•Provided nation-states with symbols to unify their citizens into a single cultural identity

~ Angkor (Cambodia), 9th-13th centuries

~ Pagan (Burma), 11th-13th centuries

~ Dai Viet (Vietnam), since c. 200 CE

~ Srivijaya (Indonesia-Malaysia), since 7th century CE

~ Majapahit (Indonesia), from late 13th

~ Beginning of expansion of powerful centers to incorporate smaller units, though peripheral areas continued to maintain autonomy

**II. EARLY MODERN PERDIO 1450-1800 Age of Commerce**

China, Japan and other nations traded with SE Asia, however Europeans were first to exact monopolies. Then, the idea of plantation crops grew. Christianity and colonial languages (western) were imprinted, preceded by Islam in some places.

Emergence of nation states – Burma dominates mainland leadership at this time

Island-based SE Asia never consolidates.

1830- Holland/France become more aggressive, Burma suffers takeover.

All areas except Thailand –controlled by Europe powers who vie against each other as well as China/Japan for trade control of SE Asia

**III. High Colonialism 1800-1930-ish**

Nationalistic Era

Education may have somewhat united formerly-divided peoples

SE Asia becomes aware of Japanese victory over Russians --a new sense of “Asia can do it” appears.

1941- 1945 WWII

Japan shakes European powers and SE Asia is theater place for war. Prompt self –identification of some nations

South East Asian Art

Region by Region:

**Author’s note:**

This list is undergoing constant revision and research! I am indebted to NEH participants/leaders for their many suggestions!

Also, I have a huge powerpoint based on the following images – email me and I may be able to send it to you in three sections via a compressed mac “zip” file.

Brunei Darusalam

Brunei is a recent country that calls itself a constitutional sultanate. It is 70% ethnic Malay but almost 100% Islamic. It is considered the richest SE country because of oil reserves which make up 90% of the GNP. Brunei is located and gained independence in . Brunei was trading with China during the 6th century, and, through allegiance to the Javanese Majapahit kingdom (13th to 15th century), it came under Hindu influence. In the early 15th century, with the decline of the Majapahit kingdom and widespread conversion to Islam, Brunei became an independent sultanate. It was a powerful Il state from the 16th to the 19th century, ruling over the northern part of Borneo and adjacent island chains. But Brunei fell into decay and lost Sarawak in 1841, becoming a British protectorate in 1888 and a British dependency in 1905. Japan occupied Brunei during World War II; it was liberated by Australia in 1945. Although considered an authoritarian state, Sultan Bolkiah began taking cautious steps toward democratic reform in Sept. 2004, when he reinstated Parliament for the first time in 30 years.

Representative Art and Visual Culture

A. Old - NA

B. Borrowed - NA

C. Used – Swords /Kris

D. New – Sultan’s mosque

Burma

**Burma** is 1/3 coastline and otherwise surrounded by China [Laos](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laos), [Thailand](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thailand), [Bangladesh](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bangladesh) and [India](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India). Burma is the 40th largest country in the world with over 55 million people.[6]Burma is home to some of the major [civilizations](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civilizations) of Southeast Asia including [Pyu](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pyu_city_states) and [Mon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mon_people).[7] In 9th century, the Burmans of the [Nanzhao Kingdom](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nanzhao_Kingdom), entered the upper Irrawaddy valley and established the [Pagan Empire](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pagan_Empire) in 1057. The [Burmese language](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Burmese_language) and [culture](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Culture_of_Burma) slowly came to intertwine with Pyu and Mon norms. During this period, Pagan Kings adopted [Buddhism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buddhism) as the predominant religion of the country. After [Pagan's fall in 1287](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mongol_invasion_of_Burma), several warring states emerged. In the second half of the 16th century, the [Toungoo Dynasty](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Toungoo_Dynasty) reunified the country, and founded the largest empire in the [history of Southeast Asia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Southeast_Asia) for a brief period. In the 18th century, the [Konbaung Dynasty](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Konbaung_Dynasty) restored the kingdom, and went to war with all its neighbors. The kingdom fought [three wars](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anglo-Burmese_Wars) with the British and was eventually annexed into [British Raj](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Raj). The British rule brought several enduring social, economic, cultural and administrative changes that completely transformed the once-feudal society. Since independence in 1948, the country has been in one of the [longest running](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_ongoing_military_conflicts#Other_conflicts) [civil wars](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internal_conflict_in_Burma) among the country's [myriad ethnic groups](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_ethnic_groups_in_Burma) that remains unresolved. From 1962 to 2011, the country was under [military rule](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stratocracy) and in the process has become one of the least developed nations in the world. The [military junta](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/State_Peace_and_Development_Council) finally dissolved in 2011 following a [general election in 2010](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Burmese_general_election,_2010) and the subsequent inauguration of Burma's civilian government.

**Representative Art and Visual Culture:**

1. **Old**

1. 1044-1287- **Pagan** (site) •More than 3000 temples built in Pagan- Ananda and Golden Umbrella Statue, at peak Pagan had 119,000 acres planted with wet rice; 14 major canals, 16 dams, and 4 major tanks, Pagan’s influence from Bhamo in the north to Martaban in the south (almost to current boundaries), It provided the cultural, political, and religious model for all subsequent Burmese kingdoms and became the symbol of the Burmese nation-state

2. (alternate suggestion: Mahamuni Buddha Statue)\_\_\_\_

This celebrated huge sculpture of Lord Buddha is called Payagyi (the great Buddha)by the Buddhist devotees with reverence and veneration. Mahamuni is meant the exalted Sage and Saint. This huge [Buddha statue](http://www.buddha-buddhism.com/Buddha-Statues.html) was brought from Myohaung in the Rakhine state during the reign of King Bodawpaya in 1784 over difficult terrain of high overhanging mountain ranges and [Irrawaddy River](http://www.travel-myanmar-all.com/Irrawaddy-River.html) and enshrined in a imposing building in Amarapura. **When the building that housed the sculpture caught fire**, the statue was saved. Originally, the sculpture was made of alloy but now being heavily gilded, increasing day by day with gold leafs; it is estimated to weigh more than one ton of gold. The golden crown of the statue is studded with several precious stones and gems, rubies, sapphires, emeralds, jade, diamonds, etc. donated by pious devotees.

1. **Borrowed**
2. Lacquer Buddha in Duke Collection

2. Alternative: Kammavaca Uppasampada Manuscript\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

fragments found but forms basis of Mahayana Buddhism and in burma (whre may people become mons for a time) becomes basis for taking “vows” This manuscript is divided into two parts, of which the first is intended to serve as a manual of the initiation to devotees, lay or recluse, into the Mahayanic rules of discipline, and the second is a dissertation on the apattis (offences) and anapattis (non-offencdes) of a Bodhisattva, the whole manuscript is really a compilation of extracts from different works, two of which evidently are the Bodhisattvabhumi and the Ujpalipariprcchasutra. The citations from the Bodhisattvabhumi appear in the first part and have been marked in the appended texts. the upalipariprcchasutra commences from leaf 5 (reverse side-see the attached plate). Judging by the contents, the first part should be called a Karmavakya, corresponding go the Kammavacam of the Burmese and Ceylonese Buddhists, and not a pratimoksa Sutra, the second part being a supplement ot it. The first part corresponds roughly to the first chapter (Ordination service) of the Kammavacam, detailing the formalities through which a candidate is to pass to undertake the discipline of a Bodhisattva. I the Bodhicaryavatara we have an account of 5theceremony of initiation of a Bodhisattva but it is written not in the characterstic form and style of manual of initiation-the form ands style in which the present ms. is written. I is in this manuscript that we of the first time come across the formal request and announcements necessary for the initiation of a devotee into the Mahayanic rules of discipline, and I think, this is the earliest book of its kind so far discovered.

1. **Used:**
2. Nats- 37 worshipped spirits in Burma used in conjunction with Buddhism.

Almost all of the 37 Great Nats were human beings who met violent deaths. They may thus also be called *nat sein* lit. green spirits). It is important to note that the word 'sein', while meaning 'green', is being used to mean 'raw' in this context. There are however two types of nats in Burmese Buddhist belief.

“Nat spirits are termed lower nats or *auk nat*s, whether named or unnamed, whereas *ahtet nat*s or higher nat [dewas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deva_(Buddhism)) inhabit the six heavens.[1] Much like [sainthood](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sainthood), nats can be designated for a variety of reasons, including those only known in certain regions in rural Burma. Burmese villages tend to each have their own *nat* which essentially serves as a shrine to the village guardian. An offertory coconut is often hung on the main southeast postin the house, wearing a [*gaung baung*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaung_baung) (headdress) and surrounded by perfume, as an offering to the Min Mahagiri (Lord of the Great Mountain).”

2. (alternative) Pottery making site OTein Taung at center of city,

3. (alternative) =Manau Posts - Tuangbyon brothers

4. (Altnerative)\* Kammavaca Uppasampada Manuscript\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**D. New** - Weizca Posters- Buddhist monk- made into sacred figure upon death.

**Cambodia**

**ABOUT: Cambodia**, is a country of 14.8 million located in the southern portion of the [Indochina](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indochina) Peninsula in [Southeast Asia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southeast_Asia). The official religion is [Theravada](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theravada) [Buddhism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buddhism) which is practiced by around 92% of the Cambodian population. The kingdom is a [constitutional monarchy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitutional_monarchy) with [Norodom Sihamoni](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norodom_Sihamoni) an [elected monarch](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elective_monarchy) chosen by the [Royal Throne Council](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Politics_of_Cambodia) as head of state. The head of government differs.

In 802 AD [Jayavarman II](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jayavarman_II) declared himself king which marked the beginning of the [Khmer Empire](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khmer_Empire). Successive kings flourished which marked the Khmer empire's immense power and wealth who dominate much of South East Asia for over 600 years. Cambodia was ruled as a vassal between its neighbors, until it was colonized by the French in mid-19th century. Cambodia gained independence in 1953. The [Vietnam War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vietnam_War) extended into Cambodia, giving rise to the [Khmer Rouge](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khmer_Rouge), which took Phnom Penh in 1975. 40% of cambodea’s population was slaughtered at this time—many people became refugees. Cambodia reemerged several years later within a [socialistic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Socialism) sphere of influence as the [People's Republic of Kampuchea](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/People%27s_Republic_of_Kampuchea) until 1993. After years of isolation, the war-ravaged nation was reunited under the monarchy in 1993.

Rebuilding from decades of [civil war](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khmer_Rouge), Cambodia has seen rapid progress with one of the best economic records in Asia, with economic growth growing an average 6.0% for the last 10 years. Strong textiles, agriculture, construction, garments, and tourism sectors led to foreign investments and international trade.[6] In 2005, oil and natural gas deposits were found beneath Cambodia's territorial waters, and commercial extraction begins in 2011.

**A. Old –** ANGKOR WAT In delta of Mekong river-surrounded by moat, temple in middle = Mt meru etc. friezes contain Apsaras, built by Suryavarman I and II, complex irrigation system, 3,000 temples via inscriptions found. Becomes model for subsequent Burmhese temples, Main temple has 4 alcove statues –gold plated- sensitive , flowing etc. Construction via: Elephant-pulled stone –ground into place. Post and lintel system-some wood as lintels is in need of replacement, structurally only elite (“priests”) would have had access to top of stupa (Mt. Meru),

Statues got more life-sized and authoritative during actual Ankgor period

Theravada tradition Huge water pools (Barais) – talk about whether or not these were a way to “star watch” or for irrigation or both. Phenomena of 7 headed naga serpent in back of Buddha head – first found here, upon arrival or Europeans in 1866 top stupa filled with 1000+ Buddhas

found “deposit” in stupa 2 gold leaves and crystals

**B Used: DANCE**

Khmer classical dancers use stylized movements and [gestures](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gesture) to convey meaning and tell a story. These gestures are often vague and abstract while some may be easily understood. Dancers do not sing or generally speak except for some dance dramas where there are brief instances of speech by the dancers.

Hand gestures in Khmer classical dance are called *kbach* (meaning *style*). These hand gestures form a sort of alphabet and represent various things from nature such as fruit, flowers, and leaves. They are used in different combinations and transitions with accompanying movement of the legs and feet, to convey different thoughts and concepts.[9] The way in which they are presented, the position of the arm, and the position of the hand relative to the arm can also affect their meaning. Gestures are performed in different manners depending on the character type.

Four main roles in Khmer classical dance; *neay rong* (male), *neang* (female), *yeak* (ogres or [asuras](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asuras)), and the *sva* (monkeys).[19] These four basic roles contain sub-classes to indicate character ran.

In the Royal Ballet of Cambodia, most roles are performed by female dancers, but the role of monkeys is often male. Other roles performed by men include hermits and animals such as horses and mythical lions.

\*Alternative Used - Silk weaving ( <http://www.der.org/films/ksai-chivit-threads-of-life.html>)

**C. Borrowed** - Van MolyVann's version of International Modernism- European trained MolyVann’s buildings in the 30’s and 40’s echo that of the west. (Vann MolyVann http://www.vannmolyvannproject.org/)

**D. New** - Pich Sopheap (artist) - re: recent exhibition: Tidal. The Phenom Penh–based artist has been steadily building an international profile and glimpses of his work tend to lead one to search for more information about him. Of course, interest in the artist probably extends more generally to Cambodia and its burgeoning art scene. Pich’s sculptures and installations evoke local contexts through their materials and ostensible concerns but could never, as this exhibition demonstrated, be reducible to local contexts because of his methods. Zoomorphic and otherwise bulbous forms woven from rattan and wire hang, sit, and emerge from the walls of the gallery. The semi-reflective surface of the rattan, its undulating form and skeletal shadows give the installation of sculptures a transient quality. Abstracted dog-like shapes appear to struggle to free themselves from their base, and an enormous replica of a stomach glitters to the degree that belies the sculpture’s materials and labor-intensive construction. Other pieces include small phallic shapes in various stages of erection, and traditional water containers turned impractical objects for aesthetic deliberation.

The title of the exhibition, ‘Tidal’, is an apt one for the experience of the installation, in that there is a great sense of fluidity between the sculptures, but it also alludes to the artist’s home country: from the Khmer civilization’s foundation on water to current failures to irrigate Cambodian land resulting in widespread poverty. Individually, each piece functions symbolically: the stomach for hunger; dogs the ubiquitous sign for scavengers in South East Asia; water vessels – however, an engagement on this level would quickly run dry, so to speak. Taken as a whole, or in terms of installation, ‘Tidal’

proves compelling because of more lateral interpretations of the artworks’ relationship to the theme. (Pich Sopheap http://sopheappich.com/)

East Timor

The **Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste** comprises the eastern half of the island of [Timor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timor) and has 1mil. inhabitants.

East Timor was colonized by [Portugal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portugal) in the 16th century, and was known as [Portuguese Timor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portuguese_Timor) until Portugal's decolonization of the country. In late 1975, East Timor declared its independence, but later that year was invaded and [occupied](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_occupation) by Indonesia and was declared Indonesia's 27th province the following year. In 1999, following the [United Nations](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations)-sponsored act of self-determination, Indonesia relinquished control of the territory and East Timor became the first new [sovereign state](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_sovereign_states) of the 21st century on May 20, 2002. East Timor is one of only two predominantly [Roman Catholic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Catholic) countries in Asia, the other being the [Philippines](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philippines).

**A. Old –** Crocodile image-(based on origin myth) A long time ago, a small boy found a crocodile struggling to make his way from the lagoon where he was born, to the sea. Suppressing his fear of the crocodile, and out of great pity, the boy took the crocodile in his arms and carried him to the seashore.

The crocodile later returned the act of great kindness with a promise. He told the boy that should he ever wish to travel he should come back to the same spot and call to the crocodile. Later the boy and crocodile traveled together until the crocodile was nearing the end of his life. When the crocodile died his body would grow into an island on which the boy would continue to live, along with his family and all his descendants.

**B. Borrowed - ?**

**C. Used -?**

**D. New** Arte Moris was born in the aftermath of 25 years of Indonesian military  occupation and the extremely violent events following the August 1999 referendum leading to the country’s independence restoration on May 20th 2002. Its primary aim was to use art as a building block in the psychological  and social reconstruction of a country devastated by violence, with special emphasis on helping its young citizens.

Indonesia

The 1955 **Republic of Indonesia** a country in [Southeast Asia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southeast_Asia) and [Oceania](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oceania). Indonesia comprises [17,508 islands](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_islands_of_Indonesia) and [thirty three provinces](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Provinces_of_Indonesia). With over 238 million people, it is the world's fourth [most populous](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_population) country, and has the world's largest [population of Muslims](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Muslim_majority_countries). The [Indonesian economy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economy_of_Indonesia) is the world's [eighteenth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_GDP_(nominal)) largest economy by nominal [GDP](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gross_domestic_product) and [fifteenth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_GDP_(PPP)) largest by [purchasing power parity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Purchasing_power_parity).

The Indonesian archipelago has been an important trade region since at least the 7th century, when [Srivijaya](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Srivijaya) and then later [Majapahit](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Majapahit) traded with [China](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/China) and [India](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India). Local rulers gradually absorbed foreign cultural, religious and political models from the early centuries [CE](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Common_Era), and [Hindu](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hinduism_in_Southeast_Asia) and [Buddhist](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buddhism) kingdoms flourished. Indonesian history has been influenced by foreign powers drawn to its natural resources. Muslim traders brought [Islam](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islam), and European powers brought [Christianity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christianity) and fought one another to monopolize trade in the Spice Islands of [Maluku](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maluku_Islands) during the [Age of Discovery](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Age_of_Discovery). Following three and a half centuries of [Dutch colonialism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dutch_East_Indies), Indonesia [secured its independence](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indonesian_National_Revolution) after World War II. Indonesia's history has since been turbulent, with challenges posed by natural disasters, corruption, separatism, [a democratization process](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Post-Suharto_era), and periods of rapid economic change.

Across its many islands, Indonesia consists of distinct ethnic, linguistic, and religious groups. The [Javanese](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Javanese_people) are the largest—and the politically dominant—ethnic group. Indonesia has developed a shared identity defined by a national language, ethnic diversity, religious pluralism within a majority Muslim population, and a history of colonialism including rebellion against it.

**A. Old –** Srivijaya and Maapahit and Borobudur

**Srivijaya-** Much of this kingdom is surmised by a court poem written by Desawarnana

Sirivijaya is a region and relatively un-excavated site-lots of objects found under Sultan’s palace, evidence of serving as “ship yard” city (underground storage etc.). Malaysia doesn’t claim heritage to this because site was not Islamic

•Highpoint of Majapahit (which is currently national symbol of Indonesia) in mid 14th century under Hayam Wuruk (1350-69) and able prime minister, Gajah Mada

•Areas under “protection” of Majapahit ruler from Malay Peninsula to Birdshead Peninsula in Papua, but Ayudhya, Cambodia, Champa (central and southern Vietnam) and (northern) Vietnam are “always friends”

•Syrivaja Flourished 7th-13th centuries, influence from Sumatra and the Malay Peninsula to Java, south Borneo, and Luzon (Laguna inscription in 900 CE in Philippines)

•Role of the Orang Laut as collectors of sea products and guardians of the sea-lanes

•Srivijaya was center of Buddhist studies with 1000 Mahayana Buddhist monks studying the sutras in late 7th c.

**Borobudur**, or **Barabudur**, is a 8th-century [Mahayana](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mahayana) [Buddhist](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buddhism) [monument](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monument) near [Magelang](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magelang), [Central Java](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central_Java), Indonesia. The monument comprises six square platforms topped by three circular platforms, and is decorated with 2,672 [relief](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Relief) panels and 504 [Buddha statues](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buddhist_art).[1] A main dome, located at the center of the top platform, is surrounded by 72 Buddha statues seated inside perforated [stupa](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stupa).

The monument is both a [shrine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shrine) to the [Lord Buddha](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lord_Buddha) and a place for Buddhist [pilgrimage](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pilgrimage). The journey for pilgrims begins at the base of the monument and follows a path [circumambulating](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Circumambulation) the monument while ascending to the top through the three levels of [Buddhist cosmology](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buddhist_cosmology), namely [*Kāmadhātu*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desire_realm) (the world of desire), [*Rupadhatu*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rupajhana) (the world of forms) and [*Arupadhatu*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ar%C5%ABpajh%C4%81na) (the world of formlessness). During the journey the monument guides the pilgrims through a system of stairways and corridors with 1,460 narrative relief panels on the wall and the [balustrades](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Balustrade).

Evidence suggests Borobudur was abandoned following the 14th-century decline of Buddhist and [Hindu](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hinduism_in_Indonesia) kingdoms in Java, and the [Javanese](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Javanese_people) conversion to Islam.[2] Worldwide knowledge of its existence was sparked in 1814 by [Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sir_Thomas_Stamford_Raffles), then the British ruler of Java, who was advised of its location by native Indonesians. Borobudur has since been preserved through several restorations.

**B. Borrowed -** Wayana Kualit(shadow puppets)

Originally cut out of leather, each about 18”h., puppet master called Dalang- he does all the voices & movement, puppet plays always begin with invocation:

*“Hence the trees change into shadows and the spriit of the ancestors animate the living world”*

Plot bases: Adapted Ramayana and tales of Majapahit

Gamelan or music: 5 or 7 note scale, different tones indicate different episodes or times of day. Story goes through 3 successive states of mind (compare to western symphonies)

Symbolic specifics of wayana kulit – (bad guys: fat, big noses and big eyes), (Nobles: long noses slender ‘almond eyes’ and headdresses). (Women: long skirts, smaller than men) (Gunugnas- mountains- to give sense of place).

**C. Used – Woven Cloth** (Indonesia does both traditional weaving and weft dyeing techniques)

*Songket* patterns - lozenges crosses and arrowhead (only can hand-weave 2 meters a day )

*Poleng* –black and white checked cloth often put on shrines )ancestors and/or trees) – perhaps representing the synthesis of opposites

*\*LAMAK* –palm fiber hangings –also used to enclose dead before cremation or used on ground during ceremony so feet won’t touch earth. Balinese temples are dull/ gray on daily basis, however when Diecits (ancestors) are invited down they get decorated

Other Used Objects:

\* Tjilik figures –unique to indoni cute devotes of DeviSri-rice goddess

\* Gold taiganja ornament- of Ulawi people of central Sulawesi

\* Batuan painting style – a horror vacuii style that is translated into metal work and drawing

\* Kamben cepuk cloths

**D. New:**

\*Gusti Nyomar Lempad –Balinese painter who resisted western influence

\*Taman Ismail Marzuki- art center in Jakarta, where performances are on stage instead of in the open air as is done traditionally. Audiences behave like Western rather than traditional audiences.

Laos

**Lao People's Democratic Republic**, is a [landlocked country](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Landlocked_country) in [Southeast Asia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southeast_Asia) with about 6.8 million people. Laos traces its history to the Kingdom that existed from the 14th to the 18th century when it split into three separate kingdoms. In 1893, it became a [French protectorate](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French_colonial_empires), with the three kingdoms,  [Luang Phrabang](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingdom_of_Luang_Phrabang), [Vientiane](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingdom_of_Vientiane) and  [Champasak](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingdom_of_Champasak), uniting to form what is now known as Laos. It briefly gained independence in [1945](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1945) after Japanese occupation, but returned to French rule until it was granted autonomy in [1949](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1949). Laos became independent in [1954](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1954), with a constitutional monarchy under [Sisavang Vong](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sisavang_Vong). Shortly after independence, a long [civil war](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laos_Civil_War) ended the monarchy, when the Communist [Pathet Lao](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pathet_Lao) movement came to power in [1975](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1975).

**A. Old** Phrabang Buddha Statue- **Luang Prabang** in northern Laos was the ancient capital city of the Lane Xang Kingdom. In 1995 it was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO and since it has become the most popular tourist destination in the country. Luang Prabang has a lot of natural, historical and cultural landmarks such as:

**Wat Xieng Thong** is the most beautiful temple in Luang Prabang. It was built in 1560 and perfectly displays Lao architecture. Wat Xieng Thong houses the royal urns used during the royal funeral ceremony.  **Tham Ting**, also known as Pak Ou Caves, are located at Pak Ou about 40 kilometers from Luang Prabang. There are countless Buddha images of different sizes inside the caves. The caves can be visited by using a speed boat, a slow boat or by a combination of bus/tuk-tuk and ferry boat across the Mekon

**B. Borrowed** - Dhammapada Palmleaf Manuscript

Better  than if there were thousands  of meaningless words is  one  meaningful  word  that on hearing  peace.Better  than if there were thousands  of meaningless verses is  one  meaningful  verse  that on hearing  brings peace. And better than chanting hundreds  of meaningless verses is  one  Dhamma-saying  that on hearing  brings peace. This Dhammapada palm leaf manuscript (44.5 \* 6.5 cm) in Sinhalese characters, of which the first and last pages are shown, is believed to be the oldest extant copy of the scripture. Photo: Courtesy of K. D. Paranavitana, Assistant Archivist, Department of National Archives, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

**C. Used** – Ptah Ntaub (Hmong story cloth) The **Hmong** ([RPA](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romanized_Popular_Alphabet): *Hmoob/Moob*, IPA: [[m̥ɔ̃ŋ]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:IPA)), are an Asian ethnic group from the mountainous regions of [China](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/China), [Vietnam](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vietnam), [Laos](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laos), and [Thailand](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thailand). Hmong are also one of the sub-groups of the [Miao ethnicity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Miao_people) (苗族) in [southern China](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_China). Hmong groups began a gradual southward migration in the 18th century due to political unrest and to find more arable land.A number of Hmong people fought against the communist [Pathet Lao](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pathet_Lao) during the [Laotian Civil War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laotian_Civil_War). Hmong people were singled out for retribution when the Pathet Lao took over the Laotian government in 1975, and tens of thousands fled –many to the US under the auspices of mission churches. Hmong story cloths typically depict the story of the Hmong from war to refugee camps to relocation- reflect an interest in preserving this history as well as folk customs of mountain village life. Blue and gray comprise the background colors of the cloth.

Alternate Used: That Dam Stupa

\*The That Dam is a large [stupa](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stupa) in [Vientiane](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vientiane), [Laos](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laos). Many [Laotians](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lao_people) believe it is inhabited by a seven-headed [nāga](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/N%C4%81ga) who tried to protect them from the armies of [Siam](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siam), who invaded in 1827. It is also known as the Black Stupa

\* Tham Scrupit –pushed into leaves and then rub over ash of cremated people.

**D. New**- Statue of King Setthathirat

Although the leaders of most Southeast Asian countries in the sixteenth century acknowledged the sovereignty of the Burmese king, Bayinnaung, one monarch resisted: the Lao king, Setthathirat of Vientiane. He became known as "the chieftain who never knelt before the king of kings." Three successive Burmese invasions did not curb his combativeness. Chao Anou acknowledged the legacy of Setthathirat when in 1824 he added Setthathirat's name to his own title. Similarly, some of Anou's generals bore the war names of their illustrious predecessors who had joined battle during Setthathirat's reign.2 Anou even modeled his battle strategy at Khao San in 1827 after one conducted by Setthathirat at Daen Somphu in 1569. Even in the most desperate situation, Setthathirat displayed confidence in himself and in his people.

Malaysiais a [federal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federation) [constitutional monarchy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitutional_monarchy) in [Southeast Asia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southeast_Asia). It consists of [thirteen states and three federal territories](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/States_and_federal_territories_of_Malaysia). It is separated by the [South China Sea](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_China_Sea) into two regions, [Peninsular Malaysia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peninsular_Malaysia) and [Malaysian Borneo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/East_Malaysia). In 2010 the population exceeded 27.5 million.

Malaysia has its origins in the Malay Kingdoms present in the area which, from the 18th century, became subject to the [British Empire](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Empire). The first British territories were known as the [Straits Settlements](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Straits_Settlements), with the other states forming protectorates. The states on Peninsular Malaysia, then known as Malaya, was first unified as the [Malayan Union](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malayan_Union) in 1946. Malaya was restructured as the [Federation of Malaya](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federation_of_Malaya) in 1948, and achieved independence on 31 August 1957. Malaya united with [Sabah](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sabah), [Sarawak](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sarawak), and [Singapore](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Singapore) on 16 September 1963, with 'si' being added to give the new country the name Malaysia. However, less than two years later in 1965, Singapore was expelled from the federation. Malaysia has had one of the best economic records in Asia, with an annual growth in GDP of 6.5% for almost 50 years.

The country is [multi-ethnic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demographics_of_Malaysia#Ethnicity) and [multi-cultural](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Culture_of_Malaysia), factors that influence its culture and play a large role in politics. Although Islam is the official religion, freedom of religion is protected by the constitution.

**A. Old** –Kuala selinsing site and excavated art. (old trade route- pottery, Hindu-based jewelry, bronze wares found)

**B. Borrowed** - ?

**C. Used** –Kite making – wau bulan is a large kite associated with the malays- framework is made from split bamboo. Intricate floral patterns, are cut from colored paper and pasted onto the tissue sails. The kites are quite large, with the usual wing-span being 2.5 meters (9 feet). In some examples, the nose-to-tail measurement is around 3.5 meters (12 feet). \* keris (Malay dagger, which has spiritual properties)

**D. New** –Kampung Boy - ***The Kampung Boy***, also known as ***Lat, the Kampung Boy*** or simply ***Kampung Boy***, is a [graphic novel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graphic_novel) by [Lat](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lat) about a young boy's experience growing up in rural [Perak](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perak) in the 1950s. The book is an autobiographical account of the artist's life, telling of his adventures in the jungles and tin mines, his circumcision, family, and school life. It is also the basis for the [eponymous animated series](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kampung_Boy_(TV_series)) broadcast in 1999. First published in 1979 by Berita Publishing, *The Kampung Boy* was a commercial and critical success; its first printing (of at least 60,000 copies) was sold out within four months of its release. Narrated in English with a smattering of Malay, the work has been translated into other languages, such as Japanese and French, and sold abroad.

The book made Lat an international figure and a highly regarded cartoonist in Malaysia. It won several awards when released as *Kampung Boy* in the United States, such as Outstanding International Book for 2007 and the Children's Book Council and Booklist Editor's Choice for 2006. *The Kampung Boy* became a franchise, with the characters of *The Kampung Boy* decorating calendars, stamps, and aeroplanes. A Malaysian theme park is scheduled to open in 2012 with the fictional characters as part of its attractions. *The Kampung Boy* is very popular in Southeast Asia and has gone through 16 reprints. A sequel, [*Town Boy*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Town_Boy), which followed the protagonist in his teenage years in the city, was published in 1981 and a spin-off, [*Kampung Boy: Yesterday and Today*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kampung_Boy:_Yesterday_and_Today), in 1993. The latter reused the setting of *The Kampung Boy* to compare and contrast the differences between Malaysian childhood experiences in the 1950s and 1980s. (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main\_Page)

\*Alternative: Ramili Ibrahim (dancer who irks officials with his male/male *pas de deux* that imitates Hindu-based puppet play

\*Alternative: Multimedia Super Corridor with Cyberjaya and Putrajaya. This is a new modern capital with a twin city being the center of high technology development.

Phillipines

The **Republic of the Philippines** ([Filipino](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Filipino_language): *Republika ng Pilipinas*), is a country in [Southeast Asia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southeast_Asia) in the [western Pacific Ocean](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Pacific_Ocean). Its location on the [Pacific Ring of Fire](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific_Ring_of_Fire) and its tropical climate make the Philippines prone to earthquakes and typhoons but have also endowed the country with natural resources and made it one of the richest areas of biodiversity in the world. An archipelago comprising 7,107 islands, the Philippines is categorized broadly into three main geographical divisions: [Luzon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luzon), [Visayas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Visayas), and [Mindanao](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mindanao). Its capital city is [Manila](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manila).

With an estimated population of about 94 million people, the Philippines is [the world's 12th most populous country](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_population). An additional 11 million [Filipinos live overseas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Overseas_Filipino). Multiple [ethnicities](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ethnic_groups_in_the_Philippines) and cultures are found throughout the islands. In prehistoric times, [Negritos](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Negrito) were some of the archipelago's earliest inhabitants. They were followed by [successive waves](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wave_migration_theory) of [Austronesian peoples](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Austronesian_peoples) who brought with them influences from [Malay](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malay_people), [Hindu](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindu), and [Islamic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islamic) societies. Trade introduced [Chinese](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Culture_of_China) cultural influences.

The arrival of [Ferdinand Magellan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ferdinand_Magellan) in 1521 marked the beginning of an era of [Spanish](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spain) interest and eventual dominance. Manila emerged as the Asian hub of the [Manila–Acapulco galleon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manila_galleon) [fleet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_treasure_fleet). Missionary work led to widespread [Christianity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christianity). As the 19th century gave way to the 20th, there followed in quick succession the short-lived [Philippine Revolution](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philippine_Revolution), which gave way for the short-lived [First Philippine Republic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Philippine_Republic), the [Spanish-American War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish-American_War), and the [Philippine-American War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philippine-American_War). In the aftermath, the [United States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States) replaced Spain as the dominant power. Aside from the period of [Japanese occupation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_occupation_of_the_Philippines), the United States retained sovereignty over the islands until the end of [World War II](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_II) when the Philippines gained [independence](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philippine_independence). The United States bequeathed to the Philippines the English language and a stronger affinity for Western culture. Since independence the Philippines has had an often tumultuous experience with [democracy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Democracy), with popular "[People Power](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/People_power)" movements overthrowing a [dictatorship](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ferdinand_Marcos#Dictatorship) in one instance but also underlining the institutional weaknesses of its [constitutional republic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitutional_republic) in [others](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/EDSA_II#Criticism).

**A. Old** – *Duakson- Balul* figures –ifegawa

\**anting-anting*, which are medallions or objects used by people to protect them from evil spirits

**B. Borrowed** –Spanish saints: Isrador the laborer (a common santos figure)

\* St. Augustine’s Church- Catholic church, often built like a fortress against Muslim raiders in the past, with the tower built apart from the main church because of the danger of it toppling onto the church in earthquakes.

**C. Used** –Bontac baskets –

\*Ukkil motifs (Islamic graves)

\*[Singkil](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Singkil) (dance)using long bamboo poles found in tinikling this dance showing off lavish Muslim royalty. In this dance, there are four bamboo sticks arranged in a [tic-tac-toe](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tic-tac-toe) pattern in which the dancers exploit every position of these clashing sticks. Dancers can be found trying to avoid all 4 bamboo sticks all together in the middle. They can also try to dance an entire rotation around the middle avoiding all sticks. Usually these stick dances performed in teamwork fashion not solo. The Singkil dance is identifiable with the use of umbrellas and silk clothing.

[Kut-kut](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Kut-kut&action=edit&redlink=1) is an art technique used between the 15th and 18th centuries. The technique was a combination of European and Oriental style and process mastered by indigenous tribes of Samar island

**D. New** - E-jeepneys (painted taxis) are locally fabricated and assembled in the Philippines by PhUV Inc., the business arm of the Motor Vehicle Parts Manufacturers Assn. of the Phils. (MVPMAP). It is equipped with either a 5 kW, 72-volt electric motor or a 7 kW, 84-volt one, either with or without transmission, with front end (hood & fender) or none, side or rear entry and front-facing or center-facing rear seats. It is the first electric vehicle granted an orange license plate by the Land Transportation Office (LTO) to operate on Philippine roads.

\* India and Illustrada ("Native Woman and Educated Woman")- ? is about the meeting  of indigenous and western cultures in the Philippines,but particularly the power of the Church. Look at the woman kissing the priests hand, the symbolism of the Crown of Thorns, the indigenous image in the back pieced by the sword of conquest, the Hispanization of the "educated" woman

**Singapore**

**The**  **Republic of Singapore**, is a [Southeast Asian](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southeast_Asia) [city-state](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/City-state) off the southern tip of the [Malay Peninsula](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malay_Peninsula), 137 kilometres (85 mi) north of the [equator](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equator). An [island country](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Island_country) made up of 63 islands. The country is highly urbanized with very little primary rainforest remaining, although more land is being created for development through [land reclamation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Land_reclamation).

Singapore had been a part of various local empires since it was first inhabited in the second century AD. It hosted a trading post of the [East India Company](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/East_India_Company) in 1819 with permission from the [Sultanate of Johor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Johor). The British obtained sovereignty over the island in 1824 and Singapore became one of the British [Straits Settlements](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Straits_Settlements) in 1826. [Occupied](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_Occupation_of_Singapore) by the Japanese in [World War II](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_II), Singapore declared independence, uniting with other former British territories to form Malaysia in 1963, although it was separated from Malaysia two years later. Since then it has had a massive increase in wealth, and is one of the [Four Asian Tigers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Four_Asian_Tigers). Singapore is the world's fourth leading [financial centre](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Financial_centre), and its [port](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Port_of_Singapore) is one of the five [busiest ports in the world](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World%27s_busiest_port). The economy heavily depends on the industry and service sectors.

Singapore is a [parliamentary republic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parliamentary_republic) with a [Westminster system](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Westminster_system) of [unicameral](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unicameralism) parliamentary government. The [People's Action Party](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/People%27s_Action_Party) (PAP) has won every election since self-government in 1959. The [legal system of Singapore](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Law_of_Singapore) has its foundations in the [English common law](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_common_law) system, but modifications have been made to it over the years, such as the removal of [trial by jury](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jury_trial). The PAP's popular image is that of a strong, experienced and highly-qualified government, backed by a skilled [Civil Service](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Singapore_Civil_Service) and an [education system](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Education_in_Singapore) with an emphasis on achievement and [meritocracy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meritocracy); but it is perceived by some voters, opposition critics and international observers as being authoritarian and too restrictive on individual freedom.

Some 5 million people live in Singapore, of whom 2.91 million were born locally. Most are of [Chinese](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinese_Singaporean), [Malay](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malays_in_Singapore) or [Indian](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indians_in_Singapore) descent.

**A. Old**

**B. Borrowed** – new public art

**C. Used** – Merlion symbol

**D. New** – houses / urban public art?

[Royston Tan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royston_Tan) (film) – produces movies which challenge these policies, including a movie called *Cut* in reference to censorship of the arts

**Thailand**

The **Kingdom of Thailand** and formerly known as **Siam** ([Thai](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thai_language): สยาม; [RTGS](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Thai_General_System_of_Transcription): Sayam), is a country located at the center of [Southeast Asia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southeast_Asia).

The country is a kingdom, with most recorded reigns in the world; a [constitutional monarchy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitutional_monarchy) with King [Rama IX](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bhumibol_Adulyadej), the [ninth king](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Kings_of_Thailand) of the [House of Chakri](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chakri_Dynasty), who has reigned since 1946, making him the world's [longest-serving](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_longest_reigning_current_monarchs) current [head of state](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Head_of_state) and the [longest-reigning](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_longest_reigning_monarchs_of_all_time) [monarch](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monarchy_of_Thailand) in [Thai history](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Thailand).[7] The king is officially titled Head of State, the Head of the Armed Forces, an Upholder of the Buddhist religion, and the Defender of all Faiths.

Thailand has approximately 64 million people. The largest city is [Bangkok](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bangkok), the capital, which is also the country's center of political, commercial, industrial and cultural activities. About 75% of the population is ethnically [Thai](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thai_people), 14% is of [Chinese](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thai_Chinese) origin, and 3% is ethnically [Malay](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thai_Malays). The primary religion is [Buddhism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buddhism), which is practiced by around 95% of all Thais.

Thailand experienced rapid economic growth between 1985 and 1995 and is a [newly industrialized country](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newly_industrialized_country) with [tourism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tourism_in_Thailand), due to well-known [tourist destinations](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tourist_destination) such as [Ayutthaya](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ayutthaya_Historical_Park), [Pattaya](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pattaya), [Bangkok](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bangkok), [Phuket](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phuket_Island), [Krabi](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Krabi), [Chiang Mai](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chiang_Mai), and [Ko Samui](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ko_Samui), and exports contributing significantly to the economy. Thailand had a successful 8 yr leader Prime Minister Thaksin (from ) however curruption accusation led him into exile and there is recently deep division between red/yellow shirts in Thailand- those that support Thaksin ideas versus those who don’t.

**A. Old** - Cave of Bodhisaattra Tham Prha Phothisat Buddha on left, (teaching position), --often has pulled back penis to androgynize, and webbed hands for better swimming/flying -- Shiva in Center (muffled harir) Vishnu (often with miter) standing –crossed hands=authority

\*alternative old- Crown from Wat Ratchaburana

**Thai prime minister orders investigation of golden crown allegedly taken from temple**

Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra on Tuesday ordered an investigation into how an antique crown \_ allegedly stolen from a Buddhist temple and now on display at a U.S. museum \_ can be returned to Thailand. The pure gold, 5-kilogram (11-pound), 19-centimeter- (7.5-inch-) tall crown, currently on exhibit at the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, reportedly disappeared in 1957 when a temple in central Thailand was robbed by antiques thieves, local television station ITV reported Monday. According to Thai art historians quoted Tuesday in local media, thieves in 1957 broke into the temple in Ayutthaya province, 70 kilometers (44 miles) north of Bangkok, and stole royal gold antique urns, accessories and other artifacts. There were no laws at the time prohibiting the trade of Thai antiques. Prime Minister Thaksin ordered the culture and foreign ministries to check the veracity of the television report and if it was accurate, see how the crown could be returned to Thailand. "We may have to buy it back. I told the culture and foreign ministers to discuss if this is possible," Thaksin told reporters. In the past, similar reports of major artifacts taken abroad have became the object of intense public and media interest, with the government engaging in negotiations for their return. In 1988, the Art Institute of Chicago returned a 1,000-year-old stone carving of a Hindu god, which had vanished from northeastern Thailand in the 1960s and later was displayed at the museum. The case triggered a surge of nationalist sentiment, including some lyrics in a hit song by a Thai pop singer decrying its theft and the reluctance of the institute to return it.

\*alternative old- **Ayuthhaya (SukoThai Kingdoms)** 1351-1767 (ruins)

Current rulers in Thailand, the Chakri, trace nation’s heritage to Sukhothai

Ram Kamheng (1279-98) of Sukhothai seen as model Thai ruler, open to concerns of people (bell hung outside palace for contact with ruler. Sukhothai is center of classical culture featuring: Buddhist art, Tai script, pottery, religious literature (Three Worlds Cosmology or Traibhumikatha) by Lu Thai of 14th century

\*alternative old-Ayuthhaya & Ban chian pottery

**B. Borrowed** - ?

**C. Used:** manuscript *vesantra jataka* (Wessanthon) - Illuminated Manuscript

\*alternative used Emerald Buddha (Phra Phuttha Moradok)

**D. New** – sculptural installations of Mon Buthiam

**Vietnam**

The **Socialist Republic of Vietnam** is the easternmost country on the [Indochina](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indochina) Peninsula in [Southeast Asia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southeast_Asia). Vietnam is the [13th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_population) most populous country in the world.

The Vietnamese became independent from China in AD 938 after their victory at the [battle of Bạch Đằng River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_B%E1%BA%A1ch_%C4%90%E1%BA%B1ng_River_(938)). Successive dynasties flourished along with geographic and political expansion deeper into Southeast Asia, until it was colonized by the French in the mid-19th century. [Efforts to resist the French](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Indochina_War) eventually led to their expulsion from the country in the mid-20th century, leaving a nation divided politically into two countries. Fighting between the two sides continued during the [Vietnam War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vietnam_War), ending with a [North Vietnamese](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_Vietnamese) victory in 1975.

Emerging from this prolonged military engagement, the war-ravaged nation was politically isolated. In 1986, the government instituted economic and political reforms and began a path towards international reintegration.[7] By 2000, it had established diplomatic relations with most nations. Its economic growth has been among the highest in the world in the past decade.[8] According to [Citigroup](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Citigroup) the high growth will be continued and based on [Global Growth Generators](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/3G_(countries)) countries Index, Vietnam got the highest Index among 11 countries.[9] These efforts resulted in Vietnam joining the [World Trade Organization](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Trade_Organization) in 2007. These economic reforms also introduced inequality in many spheres of life in Vietnam such as income distribution and women's rights.

**A. Old-** Dong Son culture

Drums- to be suspended and played like gongs

Over 500 found across the region –association with hig- class burial

Not done in section molds like Shang Dynasty-tops of drums have central solar or star image or rippling splash (replete with: lots of anthropomorphic forms (birds, deer, frogs mating etc.) – could also be feathered warriors and examples of head hunting, frogs indicate coming of floods

Most famous is Ngoc du Drum + Heger drums of copulating frogs

Even today- bronze drums can be part of bride price- dentilated motifs have been associated with faraway peoples but nothing proven yet

**B. Borrowed** - Confucian Temple in Vietnam is called Văn Miếu. The earliest recorded Confucian Temple in Vietnam is the Temple of Literature or [Van Mieu](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Van_Mieu) in Hanoi, established in 1070. After 1397, with the construction of schools throughout Vietnam under the [Tran](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tran), Confucian temples began to spread throughout the country.

**C. Used** - Phin Ca Phe Vietnamese Drip Coffee Filter -  It will make you look traveled, sophisticated and appear to care about the environment. By donating a mere $2 minimum you can get yourself a Phin Ca Phe Vietnamese Drip Coffee

**D. New** - Djamnakay- new “fused” religions in Vietnam and their temples/diasporal temples

Alternative new : Vientiane, the Royal Palace in [**Louangphrabang**](http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/348602/Louangphrabang), built by King Sisavang Vong in the first decade of the 20th century-locked and forgotten (in Laos?) 1940s restless with French Colonialism