

International Performance Meeting - In-salt-a(x)tion 2023

Videodokumentation https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OmScfkj6_6s



"learning to do nothing" seems to have worked well for us over Christmas and New Year. 10 days of practice on Ko Jum, a small island in the Andaman Sea, has brought us to a small mastery. A good basis for the International Performance Meeting at Nan Fest in Asiatopia house in Nan <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nan>. Six artists collaborated for 10 days. Chumpon from Nan, Thailand; Padungsak Kochsomrong from Chiang Mai, Thailand; Boat Sutasinee Kansomdee, Chiang Mai, Thailand;; Beate Linne, Germany; Graciela Ovejero Postigo, Argentina; Andreas Hoffmann, Germany

Asiatopia House, Nan

Asiatopiahouse in Nan is a wonderful place built by the artist couple Chumpon and Noi. They have created a place of inspiration through their charismatic personalities. It is a place where people feel welcome, through an interplay of designed nature, architecture, and approachability.

Chumpon, as a person and artist, represents a moving, creative force of contemporary art in Thailand and is one of its most important representatives. Asiatopiahouse was deliberately built in a rural structure. It gives artists the opportunity to live and work temporarily in a village in Thailand where people grow rice and orchids. The artists can participate in village life and spend their time in a quiet environment.



Fotos: Yeon Jeong,
Boat, Monika Weber



In-salt-a(x)tion

In-salt-a(x)tion is a performance art project whose common denominator is salt. Nan province has been known for centuries for its salt production. In Bo Kluea , 2 hours north of Nan city are the ancient salt wells. The salt water is extracted through draw wells and poured wok pans. Over an open fire, the water evaporates and can be skimmed into baskets.

We know this process from medieval salt production in Germany, for example, from Schwäbisch Hall.

The examination of the element salt has accompanied me since the beginning of the 1990s.

In the exhibition catalog for my exhibition "Body Pieces-Salt Pieces" 1998 Isabella Fehle wrote the following

..... In the history of mankind, peoples ascribed to salt a significance that went far beyond its natural properties. The noblest spice of man was especially valued as an offering. Because of its preservative properties, salt was believed to have magical functions, giving life force to ward off demons. For example, we know the blessing of the house and livestock with salt, salt as a symbol of friendship. While Judaism considers it almost as a bonding agent between God and man, Christianity in the New Testament elevated it to the sign of life and as a symbol of spiritual powers, which can also be seen from the designation of the apostles, "salt of the earth".

Salt protects organic substances from decay. Thus, the ancient Egyptians believed in the protective power of salt against death and in its close connection with life. Salt, according to "Plutarch", possesses divine power through its ability to preserve the bodies of the dead. Salt successfully fights against death and prevents the destruction of the mortal shell. In this context of meaning we have to see the works of Andreas Hoffmann.....".



Bilder: Kunstverein Engen, Deutschland, 2020, A. Lobe

Today, 2 salt springs are in operation in Bo Kluea, Nan for the production of salt. The others are used for ritual purposes.



The artists were able to experience the production of Bo Kluea's salt together on site and transport it from there to the Asiatopiahaus.



From the confrontation with the material, the rural agrarian culture, the vegetation, the atmosphere of the place, the artistic access emerged. Solo performances flowed into group actions on the basis of stimulus and reaction. The result is a 90 -minute performance.





Foto: Wichaya
MuRf Pattanaiem



19.01.2023



Back home!!!!

Newsletter Asia Trip December 2022

After 3 years of pandemic, it was possible for the first time again to plan a trip to Asia and to go without major restrictions. It felt strange. The naturalness of traveling from one country to another was gone. Boarding a full plane, all the people without masks, that was also foreign. Getting off the plane in Thailand, seeing all the people with masks, again, that was foreign. Knowing that in Thailand people put on the mask, not to protect themselves, but to protect others, that is also foreign. Arriving in Chiang Mai, being picked up by friends, seeing the streets and squares, experiencing the people, that was not foreign, but very familiar.

We are the first guests in Art space "Artanyway" of Toi (Padungsak Kochsomrong). He has created a small paradise together with Air. Outside the city, in the middle of the rice fields. A place where art can be created or where doing nothing can be learned.



"New Normal" performance art meeting 2022

Chiangmai Performance Art Group has been a partner in be a pArt lab since January 2021. Since that time we have had 10 online performance events in which the group has participated. A large part of this group we only knew from be a pArt online events. The first time we had a live meeting and a live event. What a difference! The online events in the be a pArt format were a wonderful way to maintain and expand international contacts during the pandemic. It cannot match or replace the quality of a live performance. The real encounter and the real touch in its multiple sense opens completely different dimensions of these artistic actions.

**Be a pArt meets Chiangmai Performance Art Group
Performance Art Event" at the Museum of Somthing (MOS) December 19, 2022,**



During the pandemic, the two partners were able to develop online performances over 2 years. This experience could now be tested live. The concept of solo and group performances is deepened and artistically developed through the real live act. These experiences form the basis for further online "Be a pArt" projects for a sustainable collaboration and as a learning and experience field for Young Thai Women Artists. This performance art meeting also forms the basis for the Be a pArt lab performance as part of the exhibition project Rand und Zentrum, as part of the state-wide exhibition project Trüffelsuche of the Künstlerbund Baden-Württemberg, at Sudhaus Galerie peripherie, Tübingen on 31.03.23.



5 Thai artists, 1 German artist and 2 German artists online.

Boat Sutasinee Kansomdee, Thailand

Padungsak Kochsomrong, Thailand

Tanyalak Meechumna, Thailand

Warattaya Chaisin, Thailand

Joy Mayjer, Thailand

Andreas Hoffmann, Germany

Paul Siemt, Germany

Klaus Möller, Germany

Performance im Museum of Something (MOS)





Performance video
<https://youtu.be/MEwXGLQAwkE>

Photo:
 Boat Sutasinee
 SOS Museum Of Something
 Pare Patcharapa Inchang
 Andreas Hoffmann