

inside ut
a
group
show

Participating Artists

Inside/Out: A Group Show

Phnom Penh – This September, The Insider Gallery hosts the launch of the exhibit Inside/Out, a group show born from 7 Cambodian based artists' mutual respect for each other's work. The diverse collective is comprised of three men and four women: three internationally recognized Cambodians and four foreigners, all living and working in Cambodia.

Inside/Out is a malleable idea – each artist found a unique and fresh way of interpreting and translating this onto paper, canvas, and clay to elucidate and illuminate the context of their experience in Cambodia. Physical, mental, social, spiritual - as eclectic as the group, inspired from the Inside/Out.

Inside/Out is a group show that depicts major issues in Cambodia: how are we affected by environmental changes (Chhim Sothy), landmines (Dina Chhan), the silence surrounding violence against women (Frederikke Tu), and body image (Bernadette Vincent). As well as the more hidden side of daily life a tourist might never see (Marcel Wanders) and the spiritual heritage of Cambodia (Ouk Chim Vichet).

Inside/Out runs until October 25th at the Insider Gallery by InterContinental Phnom Penh. The Insider Gallery is open from Monday – Saturday, from 10 am – 6:00 pm, and by appointment.



IN

The Artists

SIDE

OUT



Chhan Dina

About the Artist

Dina Chhan was born in 1984 and currently she works and lives in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

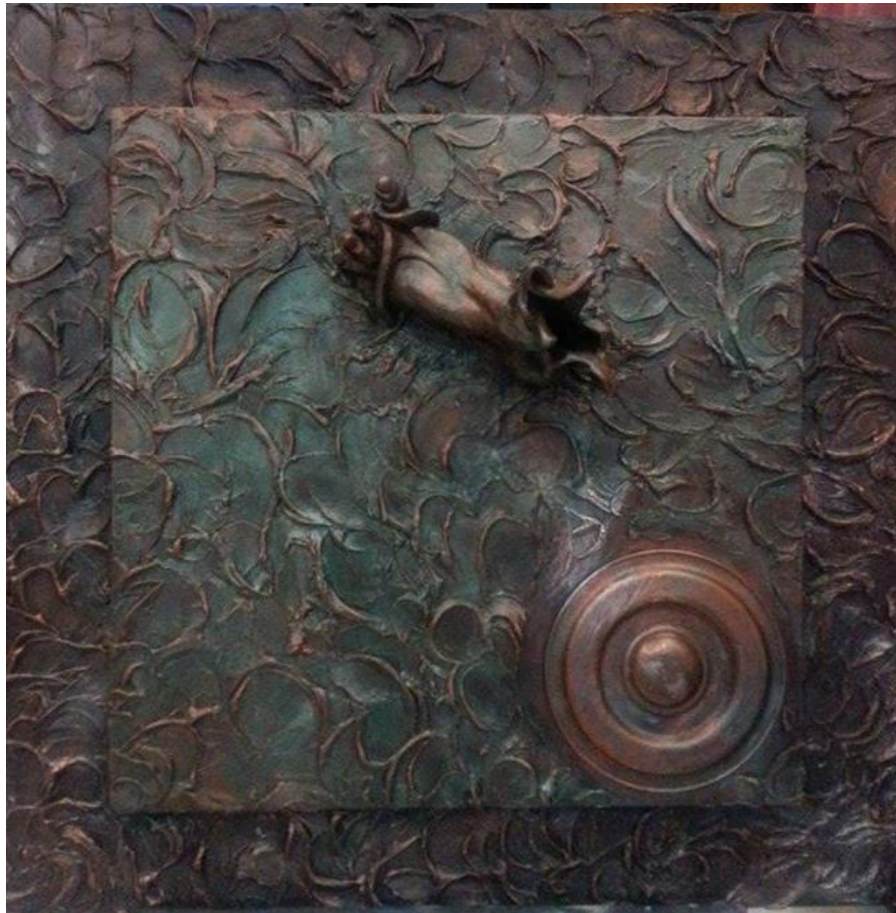
Her love of art gives her the energy and enthusiasm to teach visual art to children and teenagers in a number of orphanages and the International School Phnom Penh. She has exhibited work in Cambodia, Columbia, France, Singapore and U.S.A. She specialises in painting and sculpture.

For a duration Dina lived in a refugee camp in Poipet. Huge issues still exist with unexploded ordinance and land-mines in this region along the border between Thailand and Cambodia. Her experiences in Poipet influence her artwork to this day. She was the only female Cambodian artist to partake in the United Nations mine action program in Cambodia. Along with 9 other Cambodian artists she visited some of Cambodia's most mine-affected provinces to observe how Cambodia is addressing the explosive remnants of war. She presented her interpretation of the issues through sophisticated sculpture. Dina plans to continue depicting dynamic and engaging works of art, capturing the energy of life in Asia. She hopes to open a workshop and gallery in Phnom Penh in the future.

Artist Statement

Dina works in a range of media including painting and sculpture. Themes of life, music and everyday activities have captured the artist's imagination over the past ten years. Most of her work of late is abstract in nature.

Artwork Inside Out



Past the Landmine – Chhan Dina
Sculpture/Mixed Media 80 cm x 80 cm
\$ 1600



Chhim Sothy

About the Artist

Chhim Sothy was born in Kandal Province in 1969. He is old enough to remember the worst of times in Cambodia but young enough that his training and career are situated firmly this side of the Khmer Rouge nightmare. His art, likewise, embodies, an ability to refer equally comfortably to traditional Khmer temple motifs, modernist European painterliness and to the contemporary cross-cultural cross-media melting pot.

The breadth of Chhim Sothy's Oeuvre will be immediately apparent to anyone who has seen "The Life of The Streets" after seeing his exhibition of mythological paintings last month at the Department of Plastic Arts building in Phnom Penh. This unique fluency of style resonates strongly with the complex cultural tensions of Phnom Penh in recent times. Chhim Sothy graduated from the Royal University of Fine Arts in 1996, and the Chantiers Ecoles de Formation Professionnelle in Siem Reap in 1997. He works for the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts in Phnom Penh. He has exhibited widely in Cambodia as well as being represented at the 2008 Chinese International Art Biennale, and at exhibitions in Indonesia, Laos, Singapore, Paris, Manila, Vietnam, Thailand and the United States.

Artist Statement

I want to express my reactions to the change in Phnom Penh in my lifetime: from 'Year Zero' of the Khmer Rouge until now. So much has changed. On one hand, there is construction, development, excitement, and the benefits of new ways of thinking. On the other hand, there is hardship - the cyclo drivers with nowhere to sleep, the people who have missed out on the benefits. This division now runs through society.

Statement Inside Out

The mermaid on the green background represents the cold nature and prosperity of us humans. The lotus stands for the ecology we have to preserve. The mermaid “Sovannmachha” is inspired by the Reamker story. She is surrounded by fish to depict the dependency of Cambodians on fishery. We need to preserve the natural resources for the next generation of Cambodians. I am very happy when I see nature preserved and I don't want to see the forest, land and environment destroyed. For this reason I used a lot of green and gold to depict the brightness of nature, inside and outside.

Artwork Inside Out



Mother of Nature – Chhim Sothy
Mixed media on canvas 128 cm x 152 cm
\$ 2500



Anna Sudra

About the Artist

I am a complete mutt. Born and raised in Kenya by Swiss and Polish parents, I later moved to the States where I became a naturalized American. Since then I have lived in both Mongolia and Cambodia, teaching art to middle and high school students. Making art myself, traveling the world, and helping young people realize their creative ability fulfills me on so many levels. I have a BFA from Massachusetts College of Art and Design and an MA in Arts in Education from Harvard Graduate School of Education. With a background in illustration, drawing has always been central to my practice. However, being an educator as well as an artist, I avoid influencing my students with my own background in drawing and painting. Teaching them different media and techniques has in return broadened and challenged my own work.

Artist Statement

In my pieces you can see my fascination with the human form and my interest in mixing and combining different media. My most common mediums include charcoal, ink, watercolor, oil paint, and printmaking. So I suppose you could say that like me, my works are mutts too.

Statement Inside Out

“Inside/Out” spoke to me about our “Heritage” and what makes us who we are inside and out. I explored the theme from the essence- our DNA/genetic make up, something inside us that decides what and who we look like from the outside. Being of mixed heritage myself and in a time of immigration and globalization, heritage and family trees are no longer so straight forward, but rather tangled and twisted. I was born the second piece “Uprooted”. In it I delved further into the idea of heritage versus where we feel we are from and who we have become.

Artwork Inside Out



“Uprooted” – Anna Sudra
Mixed Media 93cm x 57cm
\$450



Ouk Chim Vichet

About the Artist

Ouk Chim Vichet completed his Degree in Sculpture in 2006 from the Royal University of Fine Arts (RUFA) and is now teaching in the department of Sculpture and Urbanization at RUFA. He is one of the rare Cambodian artists producing contemporary sculptures in metal or stone. He started sculpting in 2003 while taking a class given by British sculptor Sasha Constable as part of her Peace Art Project to turn decommissioned weapons into art. He has since worked on several projects with Sasha, including Battambang city's "Naga for Peace and Development" monument in 2007 and a contemporary stone sculpture initiative launched last year. Born in 1981, he now teaches at the royal University of Fine Arts in Phnom Penh.

His large "Apsara Warrior" sculpture made of AK-47 rifle parts was acquired through a private donor by the University of Michigan Museum of Art in the United States where it is on display. His work has been sold to private clients in Europe, Asia, United States and Australia. Some of his stone sculptures are on exhibit this month at Hotel de la Paix in Siem Reap city.

Artwork Inside Out



វង់ចាំ - Ouk Chim Vichet

120 cm x 100 cm

\$ 2200



Frederikke Tu

About the Artist

Frederikke Tu is a Danish artist, designer and animator currently living in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. For the past nine years she has also been the founder and creative force behind “Ojolie.com”, using her watercolor paintings and animation to tell stories that are fundamental to everyone’s lives.

Artist Statement

“I started painting with watercolors as a child and my long history with the medium has influenced the way I work with color and light in other mediums, including oil and acrylics. I am very sensitive to the harmony of color in nature and this intuitively guides my use of color in my work. I draw my themes from how I experience and connect with the world and nature, both how I figuratively see the world and also the way it influences me on a more abstract and imaginative level.

Statement Inside Out

As a young child I experienced the emotional impact of domestic violence, but we never spoke of it inside the family, or to anyone outside the family. Having lived in Asia for over a decade, I have been moved by the prevalence of violence against women in the region. These works explore the taboo and silence surrounding violence against women in Cambodia. Violence against women is both shockingly familiar, and at the same time kept private, with major external ramifications and costs.

75% of Cambodian women felt women should keep silent about abuse in order to keep their families together.

83% of men and 81% of women in Cambodia reported doing nothing when they knew about abuse.

Source: United Nations Development Program in Cambodia

Artwork Inside Out



Proh douc meas, srey douc somley / Men Are Gold,
Women Are Cloth – Frederikke Tu
75x100 cm \$900



Bernadette Vincent

About the Artist

Bernadette has been living in Cambodia for almost 6 years and the country and its people have been permeating her work. She likes to mix medium, painting, drawing, photography, photo transfer and more. The idea being to create an emotion and hoping that someone somewhere will be moved by what she/he sees.

Artist Statement

“Telling stories is my passion, whether using photography, painting, drawing, writing, theatre, dance, or a mixture of it all. Images are very powerful but also allow our imagination to take off on its own... I have had the privilege of traveling and living in many countries, and realize what I knew all along, we are all the same, full of sad, happy, strange, extraordinary and ordinary stories waiting and wanting to be told...I found beauty in the most improbable places, kindness in lost souls, intimacy among strangers, but most of all strength, the kind of strength that shines through the ordinary life of extraordinary people. In some ways, I found a mirror that reflected the image of someone I didn't know yet and that I'm still striving to discover. “

Statement Inside Out

"How do we see ourselves in our head, in a mirror, in a photo or a drawing? How do we reconcile all those body images? How do others see ourselves? What color are we, what do we project, what do we hide? Just a modest attempt at looking Inside Out."

Artwork Inside Out



Part 1 : "I and me + Part 2: "Mine" – Bernadette Vincent
\$ 400 (separately \$250)
Each artwork are limited prints, only 5 prints of each.



Marcel Wanders

About the Artist

Marcel Wanders is a Dutch artist, and ESL-teacher currently living in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. When he was about 16 years old he started painting with oils, and it has been his favorite medium ever since.

Artist Statement

The basis of my work has always been the interaction of Tonal Value and Color, based upon natural light. I have always been interested in Impressionism, but also other figurative styles, such as Realism and Expressionism. Like other Minerva artists (Groningen – The Netherlands) I like to keep busy with catching the light and looking for subtle shades. I manifest myself as a painter of atmosphere and always try to get the most out of the picture's composition and pictorial elements.

Statement Inside Out

Inside/Out means for me knowing something very well, but also being inside or outside. Which activities do we perform inside our homes and which activities are we performing outside our homes. What is private and what is public, as well within Cambodia, comparing the countryside to the city as well as what tourist from other countries might look at it. Do they see only well-known tourist attractions or do they see something from the inside of the country ?

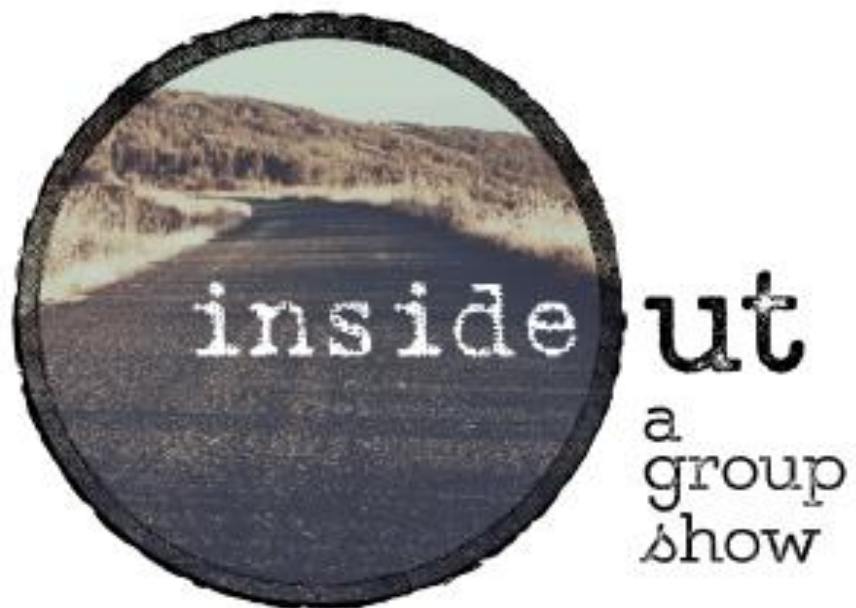
Artwork Inside Out



Cuisine - Marcel Wanders

120 cm x 120 cm

\$ 1850



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Thanks for Looking