

Pinaree Sanpitak

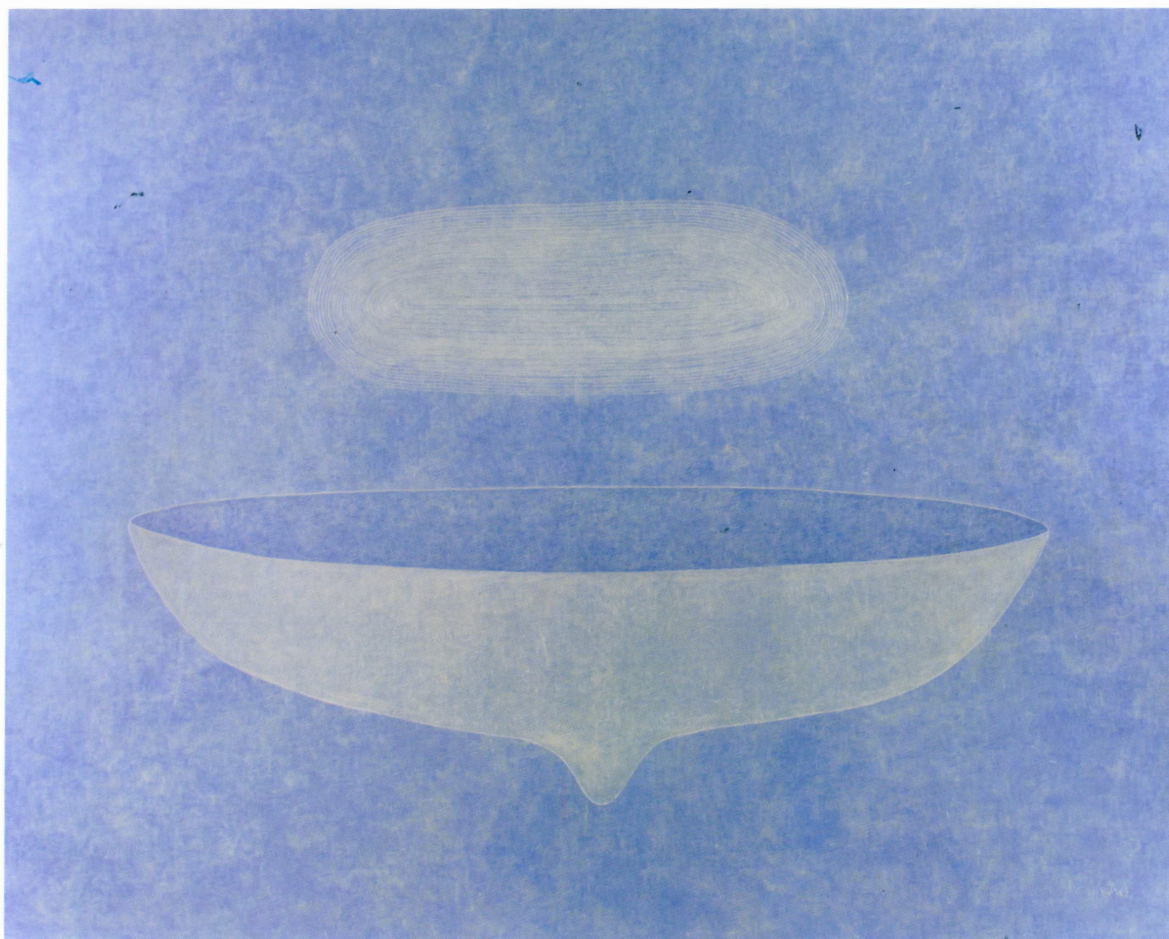
(Thai, born 1961)

Through her paintings, sculpture, textiles and performances, Pinaree Sanpitak explores women's experiences in Southeast Asia. During the course of her career, the female body has been her primary inspiration, often abstracted to basic forms and taking on a meditative quality. In particular, she has worked with symbolic representations of breasts in various media, using repeated forms that recall bells, offering bowls and Buddhist temple *stupas* or shrines. She began working with the breast form when her son was born in 1994. Sanpitak uses the breast form as a monument to womanhood, whether it is depicted singular and upright or elongated and inverted.

Her body of work does not fit into a set category, but her paintings have a pared-down, minimalist quality that is perhaps derived from her time learning about Buddhism and studying in Japan. Buddhism's practice of mindfulness or being aware of one's thoughts and actions may serve as an inspiration for the self-reflective and meditative qualities of her paintings. *Brilliant Blue* is one of a series of monochromatic paintings of breast and cloud-like formations. The painting conveys a sense of tranquility and weightlessness that is both otherworldly and based in the natural world. Although Sanpitak is an advocate for feminist causes, her work is more introspective and personal in nature.

Krich, John. "Pinaree Sanpitak: A Body of Work." *The Wall Street Journal*. 16 January 2014.

Rollins, Tyler. "Ma-Lai: Pinaree Sanpitak." Gallery brochure. New York: Tyler Rollins Fine Art, 2015.



Pinaree Sanpitak
(Thai, born 1961)

Brilliant Blue, 2008
Acrylic on canvas
78 x 98 1/2 in.

Courtesy of the artist and
Tyler Rollins Fine Art, New York