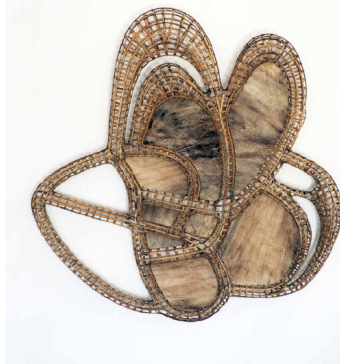
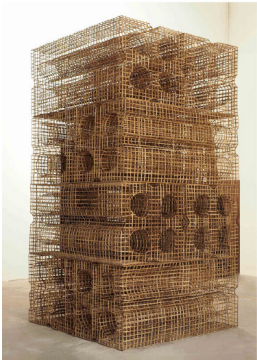


SOPHEAP PICH



Sopheap Pich is widely considered to be Cambodia's most internationally prominent contemporary artist. Born in Battambang, Cambodia, in 1971, he moved with his family to the United States in 1984. After receiving his BFA (University of Massachusetts at Amherst, 1995) and MFA (The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, 1999), he returned to Cambodia in 2002, where he began working with local materials – bamboo, rattan, burlap, beeswax and earth pigments gathered from around Cambodia – to make sculptures inspired by bodily organs, vegetal forms, and abstract geometric structures. Pich's childhood experiences during the genocidal conditions of late 1970s Cambodia had a lasting impact on his work, informing its themes of time, memory, and the body. His sculptures stand out for their subtlety and power, combining refinement of form with a visceral, emotive force.

In 2013, Pich presented a highly acclaimed solo exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, entitled *Cambodian Rattan: The Sculptures of Sopheap Pich*. The museum's first solo show given to a contemporary Southeast Asian artist, the exhibition "can be regarded as a cameo retrospective, since its 10 works accurately reflect the range of the artist's motifs from 2005 to late 2012," according to *Art in America*. It included several large bio-morphic rattan sculptures which had been shown in the artist's two previous solo exhibitions at Tyler Rollins Fine Art, *The Pulse Within* (2009) and *Morning Glory* (2011). Also featured were works from Pich's geometric series, *Wall Reliefs*, which were debuted in a room sized installation at Documenta (13) in Kassel, Germany (2012), and subsequently shown in *Reliefs*, his third exhibition at Tyler Rollins Fine Art (2013). While using the same locally sourced materials seen in his earlier, more free-flowing works, Pich's grid-based *Wall Reliefs* reflect the artist's increasing interest in abstraction and conceptualization. They consist of bamboo grids covered with strips of burlap salvaged from used rice bags that had been patched by previous owners with old fabrics and colorful bits of plastic twine, with added layers of encaustic. Pich explains: "These grid works, reduced to their bare materials and shapes, represent for me a kind of distillation of emotion, of remembrance, of reflections on what has influenced me, or the places I have been." Works from this series have been acquired by numerous major museums, including: the Centre Pompidou, Paris; the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; and M+, Hong Kong.

For the 2017 Venice Biennale's main exhibition *Viva Arte Viva*, Pich presented a new body of works on paper alongside a floor-standing sculpture. Each of these "drawings" was created by dipping a stick of bamboo in a mixture of earth pigments and gum Arabic, then repeatedly pressing it on watercolor paper. The passage of time is recorded as the ink slowly fades from the sticks after repeated pressings. A subtle tension exists between the precise linearity of the impressions of the sticks and the irregularities caused by the natural texture of the bamboo, variations in the surface of the work table, and changes in pressure of the artist's hand. New, larger format works on paper were featured in *Expanses* (2018), the first of a two-part solo exhibition at Tyler Rollins Fine Art, where they were shown together with *Ordeal*, a large-scale sculpture recently exhibited at the Asian Civilisations Museum in Singapore. This was followed by *The World Outside* (2019), an exhibition of floor-standing and wall-hanging sculptures, mainly organic in form, that make use of a diverse array of natural materials, including goat hide, stone, antler, and naturally curved bamboo stalks, as well as Pich's characteristic strips of rattan and bamboo. Each of the works in some way embodies a sense of a hidden mystery that is revealed through an intimate encounter with a physical object in the natural world. Currently on view at the National Gallery Singapore is *Cargo*, two shipping container sized sculptures that were included in the recent landmark global survey exhibition, *Minimalism: Space.Light.Object*.

SOPHEAP PICH

Born 1971 in Battambang, Cambodia. Lives and works in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

EDUCATION

- 1999 MFA in painting: The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, IL, USA.
1995 BFA in painting: The University of Massachusetts at Amherst, MA, USA.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 *The World Outside*, Tyler Rollins Fine Art, New York, NY, USA
2018 *Expanses*, Tyler Rollins Fine Art, New York NY, USA
2017 *Hidden Nature: Sopheap Pich*, The Crow Collection, Dallas, TX, USA.
Sopheap Pich: from studio to fine art, Institut francais du Cambodge, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
2016 *Rang Phnom Flower*, Tyler Rollins Fine Art, New York, NY, USA.
2015 *Structures*, Tyler Rollins Fine Art, New York, NY, USA.
2014 *Sopheap Pich: A Room*, Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, IN, USA.
2013 *Cambodian Rattan: The Sculptures of Sopheap Pich*, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY, USA.
Reliefs, Tyler Rollins Fine Art, New York, NY, USA.
Compound, Brookfield Place Winter Garden, New York, NY, USA.
Collection+ Sopheap Pich, Sherman Contemporary Art Foundation, Sydney, Australia.
2011 *Morning Glory*, Tyler Rollins Fine Art, New York, NY, USA.
Compound, Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA, USA.
2010 *Fragile*, French Cultural Center, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
2009 *The Pulse Within*, Tyler Rollins Fine Art, New York, NY, USA.
2008 *Strands*, The Esplanade, Singapore.
2007 *Recent Works From Kunming*, TCG/Nordica, Kunming, China.
2006 *Moha Saen Anett*, Gallery Dong Xi, Vestfossen, Norway.
2005 *Chomlak, sculptures and drawings*, The Arts Lounge of Hotel de la Paix, Siem Reap, Cambodia.
Sculptures and Drawings, Amansara Resort, Siem Reap, Cambodia.
2004 *Pdao*, French Cultural Center Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
2003 *Excavating the Vessels*, Java Café and Gallery, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
2002 *Recent Works*, The Brewery Studio, Boston, MA, USA.
1997 *Empty Wooden Cigarette Boxes From Cambodia*, the Augusta Savage Gallery, Amherst, MA, USA.

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 *Home is a Foreign Place: Recent Acquisitions in Context*, The Met Breuer, New York, NY USA.
2018 *Minimalism: Space.Light.Object*, National Gallery of Singapore, Singapore.
Angkor Wat: Exploring Cambodia's Sacred City, Asian Civilisations Museum, Singapore.
2017 *Viva Arte Viva*, Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy.
Drawing: The Beginning of Everything, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY, USA.
Buddha's Smile, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia.
SUNSHOWER: Contemporary Art from Southeast Asia 1980s to Now, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan.
Flora and Fauna, Ackland Art Museum, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC, USA.
2016 *For the Love of Things: Still Life*, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY, USA.
Histories of the Future, National Museum, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
2015 *Drawn from Nature*, Asia Society Texas Center, Houston, TX, USA.
Renaissance, Lille3000, Lille, France.
First Look: Collecting Contemporary at the Asian, The Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, CA, USA.
"I Want Justice", United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, DC, USA.
Selected works on exhibition, Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis, MN, USA.
2014 *The Art of Our Time: Masterpieces from the Guggenheim Collections*, Guggenheim Museum Bilbao, Bilbao, Spain.
No Country: Contemporary Art for South and Southeast Asia, Centre for Contemporary Art, Singapore.
Re: Collection, Museum of Arts and Design, New York, NY, USA.
Medium at Large, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore.
TRANSMISSION, Jim Thompson Art Center, Bangkok, Thailand.
2013 *Moscow Biennale*, Moscow, Russia.
Dojima River Biennale, Dojima River Forum, Osaka, Japan.
Collecting Art of Asia, Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, MA, USA.
2012 *Encounter: The Royal Academy in Asia*, Asia Institute of Contemporary Art, Lasalle College of the Arts, Singapore.
Invisible Cities, MASS MoCA, North Adams, MA, USA.
dOCUMENTA (13), Kassel, Germany.
2011 *Asian Art Biennial*, Taipei, Taiwan.
Singapore Biennale, Singapore.
Here / Not Here: Buddha Presence in Eight Recent Works, Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, USA.
2010 *Classic Contemporary: Contemporary Southeast Asian Art from the Singapore Art Museum Collection*, Singapore Art Museum.

- 2009 *Asia-Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art*, Brisbane, Australia.
Fukuoka Asian Art Triennale, Fukuoka, Japan.
2008 *Strategies from Within*, Ke Center for the Contemporary Arts, Shanghai, China.
The Mekong Project, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos.
2006 *Paint Around the Dog*, with Jack Bauer, Lake Studio, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
2+3+4 Cambodian/Vietnamese Exchange, Java Cafe and Gallery, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
2005 *Visual Arts Open*, Elsewhere and New Art Gallery, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
Première Vue, Passage de Retz, Paris, France.
Je/Jeu, French Cultural Center, Yangon, Myanmar.
2004 *Guide*, French Cultural Center, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
2001 *Subject Picture*, The Optimistic, Chicago, IL, USA.
2000 *Just Good Art 2000*, Hyde Park Arts Center, Chicago, IL, USA.
Memory: Personal and Social Testimonies, the Augusta Savage Gallery, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, USA.
1999 *Altered Object*, Hyde Park Arts Center, Chicago, IL, USA.
Young Talents II, Contemporary Arts Workshop, Chicago, IL, USA.
MFA Thesis Exhibition, G2, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago.
Yellow/Face, Gallery Pilsen East, Chicago, IL, USA.
Cows on Parade, a collaborative project with J. Zakim and S. Biggers for The Chicago Park District, The Field Museum Campus, Chicago, IL, USA.

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

- M+ Museum of Visual Culture, Hong Kong.
Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan.
Singapore Art Museum, Singapore.
MAIAM Contemporary Art Museum, Chiang Mai, Thailand.
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY, USA.
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY, USA.
Museum of Arts and Design, New York, NY, USA.
Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, MA, USA.
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, WA, USA.
Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY, USA.
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA, USA.
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, DC, USA.
The Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, CA, USA.
The Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH, USA.
The Ford Foundation, New York, NY, USA.
Ackland Art Museum, Chapel Hill, NC, USA.
Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France.
Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia.
Sherman Contemporary Art Foundation, Sydney, Australia.