



Apichatpong Weerasethakul

Vipash Purichanont

Apichatpong Weerasethakul (b. 1970, Bangkok) is an independent film director and artist. After training as an architect at Khon Kaen University, Weerasethakul attended a filmmaking course at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, graduating in 1997. He co-founded Kick the Machine, a production company, in 1999. His fourth feature-length film, *Tropical Malady* (2004), received the Jury Prize at the Cannes Film Festival, and his sixth film *Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives* (2010) won the 2010 Cannes Film Festival Palme d'Or. He has also created multi-screen projection works for gallery setting, such as the large-scale project *Primitive* (2009).

Apichatpong Weerasethakul's first feature film *Mysterious Object at Noon* (2000) demonstrated his artistic approach toward filmmaking that comprises improvisation and collaboration. The artist usually incorporates untold history, haunted memories, and local mysticism into his fictional narratives. His works have influenced many Thai artists and filmmakers, despite facing censorship in the country.



Apichatpong Weerasethakul, 2017
Photo: Yamamoto Naoaki