



Montien Boonma

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Montien Boonma (1953-2000) was a Thai artist who was very influential in the development of contemporary art in the 1990s. Montien Boonma received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Silpakorn University in 1978, and went on to study sculpture at L'École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris. After graduating in 1988, the artist taught mixed media sculpture at Chiangmai University. Montien Boonma became internationally recognized with his participation in regional exhibitions such as "New Art from Southeast Asia 1992" at Tokyo Metropolitan Art Space and Fukuoka Art Museum (1992) and "the First Asia-Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art" at Queensland Art Gallery (1993).

Montien Boonma's practice marked a transition from modern to contemporary art in the Thai context. He used rural farming objects, construction material, and traditional herbal medicine in his sculptural practice. The artist's application of Buddhist concepts and traditional techniques into his art-making paved the way for his students and younger Thai artists.



Montien Boonma, 1991



Exhibition view of solo exhibition "Montien Boonma: The Pagoda & Cosmos Drawn with Earth,"
The Japan Foundation ASEAN Culture Center Gallery, Tokyo, 1991



Exhibition view of Montien Boonma's Archive at Montien Atelier 1



Exhibition View of Montien Boonma's Archive at Montien Atelier 2

Related Links

Online Documentation

- Navin Rawanchaikul and Gridthiya Gaweewong, "Dearest Montien: A Tribute Montien Boonma," *Art Asia Pacific* (Jul / Aug 2014), <http://artasiapacific.com/Magazine/89/DearestMontien>.
- Katharine P. Burnett, "Montien Boonma: Temple of the Mind," *CAA.reviews*, November 4, 2004, <http://www.caareviews.org/reviews/698>.
- Usnisa Sukhsvasti, "The Making of Montien Boonma," *Bangkok Post*, May 8, 2013, <https://www.bangkokpost.com/life/arts-and-entertainment/348936/the-making-of-montien-boonma>.

Exhibition

- "Montien Boonma: Temple of the Mind" (National Gallery of Australia, 23 July - 10 October 2004), <https://nga.gov.au/boonma/index.cfm>.
- Rama IX Art Museum Foundation, "Montien Boonma: 1953 - 2000," <http://www.rama9art.org/montien/>.
- Asia Society, "Montien Boonma: Temple of the Mind," <http://sites.asiasociety.org/arts/boonma/index.html>.

Catalogue

- The Japan Foundation Asian Art Archive, "Contemporary Thai Artist: Montien Boonma: The Pagoda & Cosmos Drawn with Earth" (1991), https://www.jpf.go.jp/e/publish/asia_exhibition_history/09_91_boonma.html.

Visit

- Montien Atelier, <https://www.facebook.com/MontienAtelier/>.

Related Keywords

New Art from Southeast Asia 1992, Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art