



Silpa Bhirasri

Vipash Purichanont

Silpa Bhirasri (born Corrado Feroci, 1892-1962) was a sculptor and art professor from Florence, Italy, who played significant role in introducing modern art to Thailand. The artist came to work as a court sculptor in 1923. After the Siamese Revolution of 1932, Silpa Bhirasri joined the newly established School of Fine Art, which evolved into Silpakorn University in 1943. Apart from teaching, Silpa Bhirasri made sculptural reliefs and sculptures for numerous public monuments, including *the Democracy Monument* (1939-1940) and *Victory Monument* (1942).

Silpa Bhirasri was a versatile artist who could adapt to the court's appreciation of realism prior to the revolution, and Khana Ratsadon's nationalist and fascist aesthetics afterward. Although he preferred European academicism over modernism, the artist encouraged his students to pursue modern styles such as Cubism and Surrealism. His series of writings and lectures while at Silpakorn University became a foundation for the development of aesthetics and art historical discourse in the country.



A Statue of Silpa Bhirasri in Silpakorn University, Bangkok

Related Links

Books

- Shilpa Bhirasri, *Contemporary Art in Thailand by Professor Shilpa Bhirasri* (Bangkok: Fine Arts Department, 2001), <https://aaa.org.hk/en/collections/search/library/contemporary-art-in-thailand-by-professor-shilpa-bhirasri-63988>.

Websites

- Wikipedia, *Silpa Bhirasri*, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silpa_Bhirasri.
- Rama IX Art Museum Foundation, *Silpa Bhirasri (Corrado Feroci): 1892-1962*, <http://www.rama9art.org/silpa/index.html>.

Related Keywords

Silpakorn University