



KORAKRIT ARUNANONDCHAI

Painting with history in a room filled with people with funny names 3

2015

Video, single channel, 16:9 format, colour and sound (stereo), 24 min 55 sec

Collection of Singapore Art Museum

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Did You Know?

1. Korakrit was born in Thailand in 1986. In 2005, at the age of 18, he moved to America. It was during this period that Korakrit learnt to be an artist.
2. Korakrit's *Painting with History* video series, which began in 2013, is a semi-autobiographical narrative. It explores the artist's ruminations about the history of painting, cosmology, techno-futurism, the nature of time and memory, and his place within it all. The video series is characterised by the same range and dualism as the artist's choice of themes; Korakrit's artworks are both ironic and sincere, attend to history while privileging narrativization, and address both indigenous spirituality and technology-driven globalism.
3. Did you notice the central character in this work? The "Denim Painter" is a recurring character who is seen in many of the artist's works. He wears denim and also uses it as a material in his paintings. The character can be interpreted as a fictional representation of Korakrit as an artist.



Let's Talk!

1. What was your first reaction to this artwork? Why did you react this way?
2. There can be multiple layers of meaning in a work of contemporary art. What do you think are some of the central themes or concepts? What do you think the artist is trying to convey through this work?
3. Through his works, Korakrit suggests that denim culture emerged with the importation and appropriation of western culture. Do you agree? Why or why not?
4. Imagine you are describing this work to someone who has not seen it before. How would you describe the work?
5. The artwork is made up of several components, including a sculpture, painting, drone mask, vitrine and video. How would the meaning of the work change if any of these components were removed from the work?
6. Korakrit belongs to a generation of Southeast Asian artists who are well-connected internationally and have spent most of their lives overseas. Using specific examples, examine how artists like Korakrit negotiate their transnational identities through their works.



About the Artist:

Korakrit Arunanondchai (b.1986, Bangkok) is a video and multimedia artist whose works engage with subjects of spirituality, history, authenticity and self-representation. He is engaged in multiple strains of global artistic discourses such as post-painterly abstraction and post-Internet art. Working across the mediums of film, painting, music, performance and design, his immersive and psychedelic multimedia installations have captured the interest and imagination of an international art audience. Korakrit earned his BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design and his MFA from Columbia University, where he studied under Rirkrit Tiravanija. He has held solo exhibitions at Serralves (2020), Vienna Secession (2019) and Jim Thompson Art Centre (2016), among other venues. He has also participated group shows like the Whitney Biennial (2019) and Venice Biennale (2019). His works are in the collections of institutions such as the Foundation Louis Vuitton, K11, Kiasma Helsinki, SMAK Ghent, Tate Modern and Whitney Museum.



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