

"Inson Wongsam is an artist able to associate the local cultural dimension with art harmoniously and has been influenced by Western art from traveling around the world. The first destination was in Florence, Italy, the birthplace of Professor Silpa Bhirasri, for whom Ajarn Inson has had the great respect. With the power of autonomous creation on the basis of munificence, therefore Inson is a person with special personality that is rare in this modern era."



The Dhamma Park Gallery

The Dhamma Park Gallery is located at No. 109/2 Village No. 1, Ban Pa Sang Noi, Pa Sang District, Lamphun Province.
Take the route along Highway No. 106 and enter Pa Sang Ngam Alley 11, 500 meters from Pa Sang Market.

Open for visit on Saturday - Sunday from 10.00 - 16.00 hrs. and Monday - Friday by required appointment in advance.

For more information, please call 0 5352 1609, 0 5352 0639
www.dhammapark.com.



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INSON WONGSAM

*Art
The Autonomous
Spirit*



อินสอน วงศ์งาม

INSON WONGSAM

Inson Wongsam, National Artist in Visual Arts (Sculpture) of the Year 1999



History and works

Ajarn Inson Wongsam was born on 9 September 1934 in Lamphun Province. He is a son of Mother Pao, a weaver and Chao Nan Muen Wongsam, father of descent from Yong governor who migrated to escape the war from the Xishuangbanna region in Yunnan Province, southern part of China to the North of Thailand about more than a hundred years ago. Chao Nan Muen was a high-class craftsman who pioneered the creation of Yong community, Ban Pa Sang, Ban Paen Sub-district, Mueang District, Lamphun Province and had a great influence on the creation of Ajarn Inson's works of art by passing on knowledge about Buddhism, Buddhist art and craftsmanship to Ajarn Inson, including knowledge of woodwork, gold making, mirror writing, etc. All these things are fundamental to creation of art of Ajarn Inson Wongsam.

“
 Father gave advice on working and taught me to follow him because I am the eldest son to set an example to younger siblings. He was fond of astrology and taught me as well, thus making me look at the characteristics of people when we talked together as to their background. When we were contacting someone abroad, then we would know what to do to be able to live. I would see who liked art. At that time, my father asked me to draw the pictures of 12 zodiac signs to make sketches in the calendar about forecasts for selling. I had the opportunities to help with handicrafts relating to sculpture, woodwork, carving and ceramics”

Source: MIX MAGAZINE ISSUE.42

After completing secondary education in Pa Sang, Ajarn Inson Wongsam could pass an entrance exam to study at the Art Education School until finishing. Then he continued to study for a Bachelor's degree at the Faculty of Painting, Sculpture and Print, Silpakorn University and became a student of Professor Silpa Bhirasri. Inson was a diligent and determined person, sent many works to join the national art contests. Sometimes there were about a hundred of pieces. Every morning before attending class, Ajarn Inson brought his created works and sat, waited in front of the room of Professor Silpa for the Professor to give advice and criticize on a daily basis.

“After completing upper secondary education, I wanted to further study in art. Until one day I met with a senior named Thawee Nantakwang. He studied at Silpakorn in Bangkok. He therefore advised me to study at the Art Preparation School (Art College) before continuing to study at Silpakorn University at the age of 18 years. Fortunately, I studied with Professor Silpa Bhirasri, so I have had a passion for art. I was interested in tourism, liked freedom, did not like being responsible for anyone, thus not thinking of getting married. In case of having a girlfriend, we must be responsible, earn support money, have a family, do various things and we would not have time to work on art. Therefore, I chose to live an independent life for a long time and was not much interested in women for fear of falling in love with anyone and not being able to work in art.”

Source: MIX MAGAZINE ISSUE.42



After graduating from the Faculty of Painting, Sculpture and Print, Silpakorn University in 1961, this period coincided with the gathering together of Makkasan artists, Bangkok Art Center. Damrong Wongupparatch, Thavee Ratchaneekorn, Prueang Pliansaisueb, etc. were the main driving force, gave a sum of 800 baht and found sponsors to fund travel for drawing the pictures in all regions of Thailand. Until later, he was strongly inspired by Professor Silpa, therefore thought of traveling around the world. The destination was in Florence, Italy, the birthplace of Professor Silpa. So adventure travel around the world began. When night fell anywhere, he slept there, including the temple, church, at the mountain side, in the middle of the desert and the jungle, etc. went through the heat, cold and hunger, some suffering, happiness, different languages, cultures, traditions, went along the edge of Thai-Myanmar border, across the Indian Ocean, through Pakistan, Iran, the Middle East, arrived in Turkey, Greece, Italy, traveled to Europe, America. He worked on art all the way through for exhibiting and selling to earn money for spending on the way.



Give as much as you can, 2001
 25 x 21 x 207 cm

Sword of the woman is the tongue, 2001
 21 x 24 x 187 cm



Basic of society, 2016,
 200 x 200 cm



lotus in sorrow, 2016,
 200 x 200 cm



Ajarn Inson Wongsam and Wanida Wongsam (Venetia Waalkey)

From traveling far for more than 12 years in foreign countries, therefore Inson decided to return to his hometown of Lamphun Province in 1974 and lived a simple life by creating works continuously and finally receiving the National Artist Award for the year 1999. Thus, Inson and his wife, Wanida Wongsam (Venetia Waalkey) jointly founded the Dhamma Park Foundation and Heritage Park in an area of 16 rai. The inside of the house is a cultural project for peace studies of UNESCO. This place has allowed people to meet and exchange experiences, develop good consciousness for the locality in the form of conservative creation in Lamphun Province.

At present, Ajarn Inson Wongsam lives in the house at The Dhamma Park Gallery and has created works of art continuously, still has the power, imagination, creativity, is a legend in the art industry for young generation followers to use the work approach as an inspiration for creating works of art later.

The Dhamma Park Gallery was founded by Ajarn Inson Wongsam, a national artist in visual arts (sculpture) of the year 1999 and Khun Venetia Waalkey, a British sculptor. The objective is to be an art and Dharma tourist attraction, art exhibition with incorporated Dharma that is easy to understand and fun. The Dhamma Park Gallery is a beautiful, quiet and shady garden that can be used to sit and practice Dharma, including an exhibition of paintings and sculptures in Buddhism to admire. Around the building, there are models of sculptures about Dharma and Buddhism. The masterpiece is "Fountain of Wisdom", which represents the Dharma principles of Eightfold Path. The Thai house shows the history and paintings of Ajarn Inson Wongsam. Besides, it is also another center to learn local communities for natural and environmental conservation.