



BIOGRAPHY

HTEIN LIN

Born in 1966 in Ingapu, Ayeyarwady Region, Myanmar

EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 Recently Departed, an installation included in the touring exhibition of SE Asia contemporary conceptual art 'Context, Context, Contestation', Secretariat, Yangon
Skirting the Issue, Solo Show, 10 Chancery Lane Gallery, Hong Kong
A Show of Hands, Albright-Knox Gallery, Buffalo, NY (upcoming)
Solo Show, River Gallery, Yangon (upcoming)
Solo Show, Shinwa Gallery, Ginza, Tokyo (upcoming)
- 2018 Pure Gold: Upcycled! Upgraded! Group Show, curated by Volker Albus/Goethe Institute (Dhamma Seat), Yangon Secretariat
Performance, Zero Platform Performance Art Festival, Goethe Institute, Yangon
Installation (Thabeiq-hmauq - monks bowls) included Asia-Pacific Triennale, Brisbane
Curator of 'Sound Weaving' by Tun Win Aung/Wah Nu, National Museum, Yangon
Curator of 'Seven Decades', a major group exhibition at the Secretariat, Yangon
Group Show 'Our Turn Now', Gallery de la Retour, Isle de La Sorgue, France
Group Show: Speaking Out – 9 Myanmar Artists, Gallery Route One, Point Reyes, and Abrams Claghorn Gallery, Berkeley, CA
Mangrave, Installation in Bearing Points, at Dhaka Art Summit
- 2017 Htein Lin: Recovering the Past, Yavuz Gallery, Singapore
Solo Show, Gallery de la Retour, Isle de La Sorgue, France
'Artists Beyond Boundaries' group show, American Center, Yangon
'Sunshower', Southeast Asia Group show at Mori Gallery, Tokyo and Fukuoka Art Museum
After Darkness Comes the Light, group show at Asia Society, New York (first overseas display of 'A Show of Hands')
Group Show, 'Allegory', Galeri Petronas, Kuala Lumpur
Group Show, 'Myanmar 2050', River Gallery, Yangon
Group Show, 'Voices of Transition – Contemporary Art from Myanmar', Lunn and Sgarbossa, London
Group Show, 10 x 10, Article 25, London
- 2016 Gangaw Village group show, Yangon
Group Show '[Silent for a While – Contemporary Art from Myanmar](#)' 10 Chancery Lane Gallery, Hong Kong.
Group Show, 10/10 Exhibition, Celebrating River Gallery's First Decade 2006 – 2016, Yangon
Speaker, Living Arts in Post-Conflict Contexts: Practices, Partnerships & Possibilities, Forum organized by Cambodian Living Arts, Phnom Penh
Asian Performing Arts Market, Setouchi Triennale 2016, Takamatsu/Seto inland Sea, Japan
Nominated for Sovereign Art Prize 2016
Ongoing additions to A Show of Hands (multimedia project, including public participation)
Solo Show 'Picking up the Pieces' (installations), Goethe Villa, Yangon
Solo Show, 'Signs of the Times', River Gallery, Yangon
The Fly (video) in 'Body Luggage' Migration of gestures', Kunsthau Graz, Austria / Space02
Rise and Pass Away (video/installation), SEAsia+ Triennale, Jakarta, October-November
Soap Blocked, Singapore Art Museum (SAM), Singapore Biennale
Nominated by SAM for Benesse Foundation award
'Mangrave' (Sculpture) included in group show Mangroves: Forests of the Tide, Gallery 65, Yangon
- 2015 Group Show at 20th anniversary of River Gallery, Yangon, Myanmar
Htein Lin's 1999 prison soapblock carving (in the permanent collection of the ICRC museum) is currently included with pieces by inter alia Yves Klein, Ai Wei Wei, Magritte, Rauschenberg, and Dan Flavin in the exhibition '[Experiments with Trust: Gandhi and images of nonviolence](#)' at ICRC Museum, Geneva curated by Josef Helfenstein, now Director, Kunstmuseum Basel and at the time, the Director of the Menil Collection, Houston, where the exhibition was first shown in 2014)

- The Storyteller, Solo show (including premiere of 'A Show of Hands), curated by Nathalie Johnston Goethe Villa, Yangon
 'Happyland' (paintings and video performance) Tasneem Gallery, Barcelona
 Kamarado, Group show by the Clark House Initiative, [Stedelijk Museum Project Space, Amsterdam](#)
- 2014 Dhaka Art Summit, February 'A Show of Hands' (performance courtesy of Samdani Foundation), paintings shown by Tasneem Gallery
 Beyond the Itch, solo show, River Gallery 2, Yangon
 Rosary Bowl/Mastery of the Mind (installation) and paintings included in group show of Myanmar contemporary art at Pagodas, Longyis and Nats' 'at the Staatliche Museum Funf Kontinente (Munich), Germany
 Panellist and performance, Contemporary Dialogues festival organised by Fluxkit, Pun and projects and Institut Francais Yangon
 Performance 'Give us back our land', opening of exhibition 'Blank Mind' by Soe Naing, A-hla Thit gallery, Yangon
 Private group exhibition at Art Basel 2014 Miami, (in association with Pall Mall Art Advisors and Quintessentially)
 Capturing Only Merit, installation in group show, Peoples Park, Yangon
- 2013 Art of Transition conference, Yangon
 Htein Lin and Ernesto Leal, El Fragmento Eliminado, Tasneem Gallery, Barcelona
 Nominated artist, Absolut Art Award
 Returned to Yangon, and commenced A Show of Hands project
 Advisory Committee, Artraker Fund, 2013, and judge for 1st award
- 2012 Video Lounge, India Art fair, courtesy Tasneem Gallery
 Installation: The Triple Gem, Singapore Fringe Festival
 Asia House group show, London
 Workshops and performances in Rangoon and Mandalay, Burma
 Shanghai Contemporary Art fair (courtesy Tasneem gallery)
 Visiting artist, Charleston College, South Carolina, USA
 Prison paintings, video (Rises and Passes Away) and performance, Freedom Film festival, Copenhagen
- Clark House Mumbai at ISCP New York, USA
 I C U Jest, collateral exhibition (installation and performance) by the Clark House Initiative at the 1st Indian Biennale, Kochi India
- 2011 Burmese Group Show, Karin Weber Gallery, Hong Kong
 Brighton Festival, UK
 Prison paintings, Chimay, Belgium
 Solo Show, North Wall Arts Centre, Oxford
 Nominated artist, Signature Art Prize. Asia-Pacific Breweries Foundation/Singapore Art Museum
 TAMA Tupada Performance Art Festival, Philippines
 Exhibition of prison paintings for Human Rights Day, Prague
 '[When I was a Lousy Millionaire](#)' (translated extract from forthcoming autobiographical account of experiences of detention in the jungle)
- 2010 Installation: The Scale of Justice, Singapore Fringe Festival
 Let Me out of Hell, Burmese Theatre Workshop, London and Marseille
 Curator, Burmese Arts Festival, Free Word Centre, London
 Thavibu Gallery (with artist Chaw Ei Thein), Bangkok
 ArtAsia Miami, Karin Weber Gallery
 Regular performer, ArtEvict, London
- 2009 Beyond Burma II Group show, Menier Chocolate Factory, London, UK
 Outside In: Alternative Narratives in Contemporary Art, University Museum and Art Gallery, Hong Kong (group show including prison paintings)
 Group show at Karin Weber gallery, Hong Kong
 Missing Asia, Observing Europe, Tasneem Gallery, Barcelona, Spain (solo show)
- 2008 'Beyond Burma' Group show, Chocolate Factory, London
 'Twenty Years On', Suwunnabhum Gallery, Chiang Mai
 'The Cell', [Karin Weber Gallery](#), Hong Kong
 'Out of Burma', Quest Gallery, Bath (solo show)
 'Recycled', Coningsby Gallery, London (solo show)
 'Recovering Lives', School of Art Gallery, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia (group show)

'Crossings, Contemporary Asian Art' [Olson Gallery](#), Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, USA (group show)

Museum of Resistance, Deportation, the War, Rights and Freedom, Museo del Carcere Le Nuove, Turin, Italy (solo show - exhibition of prison paintings)

Featured artist, Himal magazine

2007 Artist in Residence, www.rimbundahan.org nr Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Paintings completed secretly while in prison on cotton cloth using a variety of media and techniques were exhibited in a solo show 'Burma: Inside Out' at Asia House, London (see www.hteinlin.com for media coverage including Economist, Int. Herald Tribune/NY Times, Sunday Times, BBC, CNN, C4 News).

Venice Biennale 2007 collateral event: Migration Addicts group show (curated by DDM warehouse Shanghai)
Asian Attitudes, Poznan National Museum, Poland (group show)

OTHER CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING CURATION AND WRITING

In Myanmar

Curator of 'Seven Decades' Group show, Secretariat building Pyinsa-ratha Artspace, Yangon

Co-director, "My Yangon My Home " Yangon Art and Heritage Festival, a festival of community art projects to explore heritage, culture and art in Yangon

Autobiography: 'Ma-Pa – the ABSDF Northern Branch Affair', Yangon (published in Burmese - see online 'When I was a Lousy Millionaire' (2012) for English taster)

Curator, Bo Aung Kyaw Centenary event and book, Mezaligon

Judge, 2015, 2016 Yangon Film School-Goethe Institut Documentary Competition

Juror, Yangon Human Rights film festival, June 2014; group performance at opening

Contributes articles, radio dramas, poetry, short stories and illustrations for magazines in Burma, Burmese vernacular radio stations and international media

Meditation discipline guide for warders and prisoners, Insein Jail

Elsewhere

Advisory Committee, INDEX on Censorship (2012-2018)

Judge, Murals, Koestler Trust Prison Art prize (UK) 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014

Selection Panellist for the first Artventure/Article 19 'Freedom to Create' prize, 2008

Consultant, 'This Prison Where I Live' (about Burmese actor and political prisoner Zargana), Rex Entertainment Films, 2010

Participated in NYU seminar: Imagining the Future: New Worlds, New Arts, New Models, co-curators Anna Deavere Smith and Gideon Lester, Abu Dhabi, April 2011

Established kaungkin.com to showcase the best of Burmese writing and art (in Burmese) live and online, in Burma and in London

Adviser to Writers and Scholars Education Trust on arts capacity strengthening in Burma, 2012/2013, including convenor of the 'Art in Transition' seminar in Yangon, March 2013

Founding member of Burmese Theatre Workshop, a London-based drama co-operative performing original plays in English (2008/9)

Coach to young Burmese actors and comedians. Judge for awards to graduates of documentary and short film courses in Burma

Regular contributor on the arts to Sone-Nan-Tha magazine (2013-4)

Awareness raising work with Amnesty and other human rights groups

Educational work with primary and secondary schools, exploring themes of capture and imprisonment, and using printing techniques with found objects.

WORKS IN MUSEUMS AND PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

M+ contemporary art museum, Hong Kong; ICRC Museum, Geneva; Singapore Art Museum; Staatliche Museum Funf Kontinente, Munich. Two of Htein Lin's paintings on cloth were purchased for the US Embassy Yangon.

Other works are in private collections in Belgium, Cambodia, France, Netherlands, India (including a specially commissioned piece, Night Shift, for Lekha Poddar, 2014), Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, US and UK. His works are included in the Artists' Pension Trust – Beijing collection.