



3 SONGS

An exhibition by

Korakrit Arunanondchai

CLEARING, New York

September 7 - October 31, 2021

In *3 SONGS*, birth, decreation, and death are thresholds of a heightened consciousness from which Korakrit Arunanondchai generates his storytelling and formal inquiries. By layering the timescales of video, painting, and installation, Arunanondchai is able to recall personal experiences while probing their socio-historical contingencies. The intricate codependency of these forms asks fundamental questions regarding existence and meaning, especially when understood outside of a Western ontological framework.

The coffin entered the flaming box
The morning after, coral-like bones rest on the table top
While the monk sings, the bones return to the bottom of the ocean

When did the Spirit leave the body?

In his video *Songs for dying*, departing from the loss of his own grandfather, Arunanondchai unfolds the medium which carries the idea of self and the community into the space of the unknowable. Ghosts, shamans, and a dying sea turtle are not only metaphors but also the very flesh from which processes of becoming and decomposition must pass through. In these stories rich in mythological references and symbols, the artist simultaneously takes up social and political realities of life in Thailand characterized by military rule, monarchy and pro-democracy protests. Songs shape the arc of the exhibition, which leads the audience through a polyphonic narrative in which events are testified to the emotional and transcendent impulses of peoples, nations, and beings living under the symbols of higher powers.

Song 1: A blue hallway; stuffed rabbit

Song 2: Three paintings with collaged flowers collected from the funeral; artist-made shaman costume

Song 3: *Songs for dying*, HD video, 2021, 30:18 min; compressed earth; 3 benches

Songs for dying
Production credits

Bangkok:

Camera Operator: Akapol Sudasna, Abhichon Rattanabhayon

Huahin:

Director of Photography: Pasit Tandaechanurat

Camera Operator: Parin Intarasorn, Akapol Sudasna

Camera Assistant: Kantidarak Chaengtin, Teethat Yimsukpaitoon

Lighting & Grip: Piyapong Chatuthipsakul Data Wrangler: Ekkaphob Sumsiripong

Performer: Donruedi Chana, Note Panayanggool, Korakrit Arunanondchai

Line Producer: Cattleya Paosrijaroen, Tanade Amornpiyalerk

Production Assistant: Kanich Khajohnsri, Kolap Kansorn

Art Director: Narong Srisophab Prop Master: Wissanu Nobnorb

Art runner: Chavapol Petkanpoom, Wisit Sratongoil

Van Driver: Thanakit Sutham, Nipol Khemthong, Yutthana Suksaman

Koh Tao:

Director of Photography: Andres Gutierrez Fiskeseth, Korakrit Arunanondchai

Jeju:

Line producer and Camera A: CHE Onejoon

Camera B: Seo Jongwook

Camera Assistant: Yoon Kyujong Research Seong Nae Kim

Color & Post Production: White Light

Sound Composition and Mixing: Akritchalerm Kalayanamitr, Korakrit Arunanondchai

Music: Koichi Shimizu, Zsela, Aaron David Ross, Bonventure, Wuttipong Leetrakul, Note Panayanggool, Kawita Vatanajyankur, Jink Sridumrongruk, Praewa Chirapravati Na Ayudhya

***Songs for dying* was commissioned by the 13th Gwangju Biennale, Kunsthall Trondheim and Han Nefkens Foundation.**

Korakrit Arunanondchai (born 1986 in Bangkok, Thailand) lives and works in New York and Bangkok. He received his BFA from RISD, Rhode Island, in 2009, and his MFA from Columbia University, New York, in 2012.

Solo exhibitions of his work have been held at MoMA PS1, New York; Palais de Tokyo, Paris; Secession, Vienna; SMAK, Ghent; Kiasma, Helsinki; Museion, Bolzano; Kunsthall Trondheim, Norway; Serralves Museum, Porto; and UCCA, Beijing.

His work has been included in numerous group exhibitions, including the Whitney Biennial, New York; Venice Biennale; Istanbul Biennial; Gropius Bau, Berlin; Kunstverein Hamburg; Kasseler Kunstverein; Baltic Triennial, Vilnius; Belgrade Biennial; Dhaka Art Summit; Mori Art Museum, Tokyo; Gwangju Biennial, South Korea; Benaki Museum, Athens; Berlin Biennial; Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin; ICA, London; and Sculpture Center, New York.

His solo exhibition, *3 Songs* is currently on view at C L E A R I N G, New York. Later this year he will have a solo exhibition at Migros Museum, Zurich

Arunanondchai's work belongs to the collections of Whitney Museum, New York; Centre Pompidou, Paris; Tate Modern, London; S.M.A.K., Ghent; Museion, Bolzano; Migros Museum, Zurich; Kiasma, Helsinki; Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris; Astrup Fearnley Museum, Oslo; K11, Hong Kong/Shanghai/Beijing; Rubell Museum, Miami; Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin; Zabludowicz Collection, London; Aishti Foundation, Beirut; and Vanhaerents Art Collection, Brussels.