

Taiki Sakpisit

Spirit; Vanished

7 Dec - 31 Dec 2024

Opening Reception 7 Dec 2024, 8pm

Press Release

Queensway Television is pleased to present *Spirit; Vanished* by artist and filmmaker Taiki Sakpisit. The artist resculpted materials collected across several trips to Northeastern Thailand in 2022, drawing from familiar sights to create a fresh new journey into another realm.

Comprising of scenes captured from various sites, the work presents itself as a reflection of reality as we understand in different ways. From the holy well of Kham Chanot, the ancient cave Tham Phaya Nak, drawings on temple walls, recorded television footages, a slaughterhouse and a spirit medium in trance, the artist weaved together motifs and moments that seemingly bridge our world to the next.

One of such is the Naga, the half-human half-serpent mythical being central to the Thai beliefs and folklores. Commonly associated with the underworld, the holy well and the ancient cave are both said to be portals to the lair of the Naga in the underworld. Myths and legends passed down from generations continue to perpetuate the psyche of Thai people, just as how regular television programming functions as a vehicle of delivery to propagate carefully-crafted messages and imagery to the mentality of the masses.

These are contrasted against shots of a spirit medium in the state of trance, as the artist sought to capture the precise moment when the medium entered an altered state of consciousness. The audience seemingly also enters a different state of mind as scenes of a slaughterhouse appears upside-down in slow transitions, marking a shift into a different dimension. Be it imperceptible changes taking place over time or a sudden shift in conditions, one is no longer the same as what one was before.

In revisiting these recordings made when conducting research for *The Spirit Level*, the artist traces his own consciousness from the time of these trips, while simultaneously embarking on a different journey as his present self. Through sound and imagery, Sakpisit invites the audience alongside this trip, presenting this video as the portal into an alternate realm.

Artist Biography

Taiki Sakpisit is a filmmaker and visual artist based in Bangkok, renowned for his innovative approach to storytelling and his profound exploration of Thailand's complex history. Through the lens of cinema, Sakpisit unpacks the nation's turbulent past, infusing his experimental films with a subtle yet resounding political commitment. His works delve into the underlying tensions, conflicts, and anticipations of contemporary Thailand, meticulously crafted through precise and sensorially overwhelming audio-visual assemblage.

Utilizing a diverse array of sounds and images, Sakpisit creates immersive experiences that challenge conventional narratives and provoke thought. His recent works have been showcased at the 14th Gwangju Biennale, the Museum of Contemporary Art Busan, the 2024 Bangkok Art Biennale, and the 14th Mercosur Biennial.

For more information please DM us on Instagram @queenswaytelevision, or e-mail dd@dddd.pictures