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Thai, American Artists To Create Art On the Spot for Cal Poly Exhibit

SAN LUIS OBISPO – The third and final leg of an international exhibition of brand new art created by artists from Thailand and the United States will be on display May 11 through June 2 in the University Art Gallery.

“PAC III: Thai-American Art Exchange 2006” will showcase work created on the spot by several visiting artists. On Thursday, May 11, the public is invited to an artist’s lecture at 4 p.m. in Room 228 in the Dexter Building and an opening reception in the gallery (Room 171, also in Dexter) from 5 to 7 p.m.

The event is the culmination of a two-year collaboration between artists to create new work for exhibitions in Thailand, Vietnam and the United States. A full-color 125-page catalog accompanies the exhibition.

The project began in 2004 with artists from the three countries conducting workshops and holding group exhibitions, two of which have been held in Bangkok and Hanoi.

The artists will arrive in San Luis Obispo at the end of April and will participate in a workshop specially designed to produce new artwork in response to the unique environment of the Central Coast. The artists are Vichoke Mukdamanee, Vichai Sithiratn, Saravudth Duangjumba, Sakchai Uthitho, and Montri Sangmusikganon from Thailand, and James Elniski from Chicago.

The exhibition is sure to be full of surprises, said Christine Kuper, coordinator of the University Art Gallery. “For an exhibit in 2003, Thai artists created a 360-degree drawing and a large light-box installation that illuminated clear-cast sculptures of the Buddha.”

The University Art Gallery is open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and Wednesday evenings 7 to 9.

Partial funding for the exhibition is provided by Cal Poly's College of Liberal Arts, the Art and Design Department, Cal Poly Arts, and the Instructionally Related Activities program. For more information, call the gallery at 756-6038.

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