



# IN THE SERPENT'S BELLY

Chatchawan Amsomkid



# IN THE SERPENT'S BELLY

Solo Exhibition by

**Chatchawan Amsomkid**

7 June – 6 July, 2014



Published 2014 by  
Thavibu Gallery Co., Ltd.  
JTC Jewelry Trade Center, Suite 433  
919/1 Silom Road, Bangkok 10500, Thailand  
Tel. 66 (0)2 266 5454, Fax. 66 (0)2 266 5455  
Email. info@thavibu.com, www.thavibu.com

Layout by Wanee Tipchindaichai, Copydesk, Thailand

Copyright Thavibu Gallery  
All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, without prior permission in writing from the publisher.

# FOREWORD

**Jørn Middelborg**

Thavibu Gallery

Thavibu Gallery has the pleasure of presenting the current catalogue and exhibition, IN THE SERPENT'S BELLY, by the Thai artist Chatchawan Amsomkid. The exhibition takes place in Bangkok, Thailand, on 7 June – 6 July 2014.

The exhibition is his second solo show of sculptures at Thavibu Gallery and can be considered part of the ongoing 3D@thavibu where the focus is on three dimensional works.

I take this opportunity to thank Chatchawan Amsomkid for his collaboration.

# IN THE SERPENT'S BELLY

**Heide Park Charoenporn**

Thavibu Gallery

Chatchawan Amsomkid was born in 1976, graduated with a Master of Fine Arts from King Mongkut's Institute of Technology, Ladkrabang, and is currently an Associate Professor at the same institution.

He has been featured in several group exhibitions, as well as picking up the bronze (2007, 2009) and silver prizes (2008) in the Mixed Media category of the annual National Exhibitions of Art, Thailand. He has had two solo exhibitions at Thavibu Gallery in 2010 and at Jamjuree Gallery in 2011. *In the Serpent's Belly* is his third solo exhibition.

The inspiration behind the sculptures in this exhibition stems from the artist's curiosity of what is the root of corruption and the disastrous effects it has on a country and society. Corruption carries a heavy price tag. It is much more than a one-time transaction with a short-term cost on the parties or organizations involved. Its consequences are far-reaching. Unchecked, corruption becomes a way of life that can paralyze industries, financial organizations, damage economies, destroy governments, and ruin societies.

The snakes featured in the exhibition are symbolic of greed, the root cause of corruption, that permeates all aspects of life if left unchecked. A snake's physicality enables it to devour a prey much bigger than itself, which is likened to endless greed that feeds corruption, and vice versa.

Not taking heed on whether its victim is a digestible creature or an indigestible non-life object, Chatchawan's snakes blindly devour a piggy bank, lunch box, food cover, thermos, aquarium, TV set, and fish bowls. Such actions are metaphors of the greed-induced corruption that permeates all aspects of human life.

Nail heads of various sizes nailed into fiberglass and natural authentic ruby gems were incorporated in creating the sculptures, giving them a disturbingly life-like appearance.

Chatchawan hopes to take his viewers on a journey of the evils of corruption and how it is, indeed, a global threat. He hopes it will remind the audience how corruption is a roadblock to economic development and that it aggravates inequality and injustice, and ultimately undermines stability in all aspects of society. His ultimate question is.....are you corrupt?

# PLATES



**Greed, 2013** | Fiberglass, iron nails and rubies | 280 x 74 x 60 cm







**The Piggy Bank, 2013** | Fiberglass, iron nails and rubies | 120 x 54 x 17 cm



**The Lunch Box, 2013** | Fiberglass, iron nails and rubies | 66 x 25 x 24 cm



**The Thermos, 2013** | Fiberglass, iron nails and rubies | 94 x 62 x 52 cm



**The Fish Bowl (1), 2014** | Fiberglass, iron nails and rubies | 68 x 53 x 38 cm



**The Fish Bowl (2), 2014** | Fiberglass, paint, iron nails, and rubies | 70 x 33 x 29 cm





**The Aquarium, 2014** | Fiberglass, paint, iron nails and rubies | 107 x 73 x 33 cm







**The TV Set, 2014** | Fiberglass, paint, iron and rubies | 136 x 65 x 38 cm





**WELCOME, 2014** | Fiberglass and iron nails | 75 x 61 x 13 cm

# CHRONOLOGY

## Chatchawan Amsomkid

Born 1976 in Bangkok  
2008: Master of Fine Arts (Sculpture) from King Mongkut's Institute of Technology, Bangkok  
2000: Bachelor of Fine Arts (Sculpture) from King Mongkut's Institute of Technology, Bangkok



### Selected Art Exhibitions

#### Solo Exhibitions

2014 *In the Serpent's Belly* at Thavibu Gallery, Bangkok

2011 *Animal Sanctuary* at Jamjuree Art Gallery, Bangkok

2010 *Breed* at Thavibu Gallery, Bangkok

#### Group Exhibitions

2009 The 55th National Exhibition of Art, Bangkok [Bronze Medal]

2008 The 54th National Exhibition of Art, Bangkok [Silver Medal]

2007 The 53rd National Exhibition of Art, Bangkok [Bronze Medal]

2006 An art exhibition on the Auspicious Occasion of the 60th Anniversary Celebrations of His Majesty's Accession to the Throne

2004 The 10th Anniversary of the Department of Fine Arts Exhibition, Bangkok







B1G1 - Thavibu Gallery has partnered with Buy 1 Give 1 Free, which implies that when you buy an artwork from Thavibu Gallery you will automatically give a donation to a charity in the B1G1 network. Donation from one painting purchased provides one blind person with accommodation and shelter for one month. [www.b1g1.com](http://www.b1g1.com)



[www.thavibu.com](http://www.thavibu.com)

Thavibu Gallery

JTC Jewelry Trade Center, Suite 433

919/1 Silom rd, Bangkok 10500

Tel +662 266 5454

Fax +662 266 5455

Email: [info@thavibu.com](mailto:info@thavibu.com)

[Facebook.com/thavibu.gallery](https://www.facebook.com/thavibu.gallery)

Twitter: [@thavibu](https://twitter.com/thavibu)

Free iPad and iPhone App