

Recent Books from Thailand – August 2008
Mary Martin Booksellers Pte Ltd

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Art

From Surface to Origin: Journeys Through Recent Art from India & Thailand
Bangkok: Gallery Souflower, 2008
160p,; 28cm
ISBN: 9789741367498
\$ 25.00

Here There Now: Contemporary Art from India / Brian Curtin
Bangkok: Gallery Souflower, 2007
147p,; 27cm
ISBN-13: 9789747046632
\$ 35.00

Spiritual Spaces: An Art Exhibition to Celebrate Thavibu Gallery's 10 Anniversary
Bangkok: Thavibu Gallery Co. Ltd, 2008
57p,; 31cm
\$ 40.00

General

Thai Signs & Other Writings / Rungrat Luanwarawat & Lucius Heijstee
Bangkok: Orchid Press, 2008
107p,; 18cm
ISBN-9789745241046
\$16.95

History

The Language of Paper: A History of 2000 Years / Therese Weber
Bangkok, Singapore: Orchid Press, Marshall Cavendish, 2008
206p,; 29cm
Includes bibliographical references and index
ISBN: 9789745240933 (Thailand)
ISBN-13: 9789812616289 (Singapore)
ISBN-10: 9812616284 (Singapore)
1. Papermaking – History. 2. Paper – History. 1. Title
\$ 50.00

Paper technology originated in China some two millennia ago, from where it spread east, to Korea and Japan, and west, along the Silk Road, to Central Asia, eventually reaching Europe in the 13th century. As the technology propagated, paper effected profound changes in each society it touched, becoming one of the most important of all cultural media, a status that it retains to the present.

Paper accrues value as religious and symbolic markings are added to its surface; fortune papers transport messages to the gods, paper is given the value of money in the form of banknotes, and the dream of flying was first realised in hot-air balloons made of paper. Paper can even be employed as architectural elements, as textiles for garments, and as a medium for artistic expression. In one or many of these manifestations, paper effects the lives of all on earth today.

In this cultural history of paper, acclaimed paper artist Therese Weber travels to the few remaining places where traditional methods of papermaking have been preserved. Commencing there Weber takes the reader on a fascinating and colourful journey of discovery of a commodity that many may take for granted, but few fully understand.

 A Biography of King Naresuan the Great / H. R. H. Prince Damrong Rajanubhab
 Samutprakan: Toyota Thailand Foundation, 2008
 213p,; 24cm
 ISBN-13: 9789740697169
 \$ 35.00

For much of his long and scholarly career as a historian, Prince Damrong was intrigued by the life of Naresuan. This northern prince led the Thai armed forces during a turbulent period in the late sixteenth century, succeeded to the throne of Ayutthaya and is portrayed as the greatest of Thai kings. The author begins the biography with a brief description of his subject's family and then turns to the first but unsuccessful Burmese attempt to conquer the kingdom in 1949. He continues quickly through the second and third invasions from Burma in the 1960s, which brought the Thai under Burmese control. The greater part of the book concentrates on the hard-fought restoration of independence, beginning in the mid-1580s, and the ensuing struggle to secure the kingdom against further foreign aggression.

 On Both Sides of the Tenasserim Range: History of Siamese-Burmese Relations / Sunait Chutintaranond & Than Tun
 Bangkok : Institute of Asian Studies, 1995
 106p,; 21cm
 ISBN-9746311395
 \$ 20.00

 The Writings of Prince Damrong Rajanubhab: A Chronology with Annotations / Kennon Breazeale
 Thailand: The Foundation for the Promotion of Social Science & Humanities Textbooks Project, 2008
 60p,; 21cm
 ISBN: 9789740697411
 \$ 10.00

Law

Finishing the Interrupted Voyage: Papers of the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Workshop on the 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage 18-20 November 2003, Hong Kong SAR, China / Lyndel V. Prott

Bangkok : UNESCO, 2006

167p,; 24cm

1. Underwater archaeology. 2. Cultural heritage. 3. Law.

4. Conventions. 5. Asia and the Pacific.

ISBN: 9781903987117

\$ 30.00

Literature

Siranee: A Tale of two Thai sisters and a consul / J.C Shaw

Chiang Mai: Trisila Company Ltd, 2008

232p,; 21cm

ISBN: 9789747313864

\$ 18.00

This is the tale of two sisters born into a poor faming family in a northern Thai village. The elder sister, Tari, became Miss Thailand and a Miss Universe finalist, the younger, Siranee, ran away from home and ended up singing in a second rate night club. David, a don at Oxford, fell in love with Tari and subsequently became the Honorary British Consul at Chiang Mai. This is their story – some of it, certainly David’s consular cases, true.

People of Esarn: The Damned of Thailand & The Kingdom in Conflicts – The Recent Karma and the Effects / Pira Canning Sudham

Bangkok: Asiashire, 2008

240p,; 21cm

ISBN: 9748912345

\$ 20.00

Official Publications

The 2007 Basic Information of ICT Industry (Non-Municipal Area): Whole Kingdom

Bangkok: Statistical Forecasting Bureau, National Statistical Office, 2007

136p,; 30cm

ISBN: 9789741128518

\$ 30.00

Religion – Islam

Muslims and Tolerance: Non-Muslim Minorities under Shariah in Indonesia / Pramono U. Tanthowi

Chiang Mai: Silkworm Books, 2008

54p,; 22cm

ISBN-9789749511121

\$ 12.00

Sociology

Ladyboys: The Secret World of Thailand’s Third Gender / Susan Aldous, Pornchai Sereemongkonpol

Bangkok: Maverick House Publishers, 2008

291p,; 20cm

ISBN: 9781905379484

\$ 26.25

The book features some of Thailand's celebrity ladyboys and others whose lives have never been publicly revealed; among them cabaret performers, a champion Muay Thai fighter, a male airhostess, a magazine columnist and a prostitute.

But Ladyboys is no ordinary book. It is a collection of authentic stories about journeys of self-discovery by those who have struggled with gender identity while trying to maintain normal lives and careers.

Ladyboys explains what it means to search for genuine acceptance, and the high price to be paid for revealing your true inner self. This book will leave you amused, saddened, entertained and informed. It will change your perception of ladyboys and transsexuals forever.

Love Entrepreneurs: Cross-culture relationship deals in Thailand / Phil Nicks

Singapore: Monsoon Books Pte Ltd, 2008

296p,; 20cm

ISBN: 9789810592110

\$ 17.95

The biggest threats to potentially harmonious relationships in Thailand are unrealistic expectations and cultural differences; both threats are examined closely by Phil Nicks, enabling you to radically improve your chances of success in love.

Women Studies

The Impact of the Armed Conflict in Mindanao, Philippines on Women and Women Workers / Jurgette Honculada

Bangkok: Committee for Asian Women, 2008

84p,; 21cm

\$ 9.00