



Over the Influence Presents

Verapat Sitipol

“Blessings from the Forest”

20 January to 5 March 2022



Over the Influence is thrilled to present a solo painting exhibition by Thai artist Verapat Sitipol entitled “Blessings from the Forest” in the newly opened Thai gallery space. Highly acclaimed for his vivid renderings of the tropical forest landscape, we are honored to have him as the first Thai artist to debut their artworks at the newly opened Over the Influence Bangkok. The paintings share names of national parks where the artist spends his leisure time. Part cultural immersion and part visual reverence to Thailand’s landscape, this new series presents a new way of seeing the country. The exhibition is on view from 21 January to 5 March 2022.

For the artist it is the natural landscape that is in a constant state of ebb and flow, this interchanging ability to expand and embrace, while simultaneously retreating and withering away to make way for new. The greening forest landscape filled with mountain ravines, flowers, and waterfalls are his daily companions and guides. Like Henry David Thoreau, the naturalist writer whose book “Walden” became a manual for self-discovery and exploration, Verapat’s landscape paintings pay homage to Thailand’s diverse national parks and wilderness.

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The paintings in “Blessings from the Forest” deviate away from old aesthetics and color schemes found previously in the artist’s oeuvre. The compositions are emboldened by thick passionate impastos of bright crimson, tangerine orange, marigold yellows, and lime greens-joyful colors that convey the sheer happiness the artist feels when he is outside in the fresh air away from urban din. Brushstrokes are then enthusiastically layered onto the canvas to create a “nature walk” through a forest unlike anything an individual has had the pleasure to encounter in real life.

Verapat often begins with a black painted canvas, a curious existential detail of starting from nothing and then filling it up with fresh and green life to represent the tenacity of the natural world in adversity. Reminiscent of a composer who is inspired by their surroundings to create a lyrical symphony, Verapat finds sanctuary within the natural landscape, letting the rhythms and textures from the wilderness guide the vibrant narratives of his paintings.

As seen through his eyes, the natural world transcends its weighty physical properties of soil, water, and sky, thus becoming an entirely new and visceral experience that promises to transform audience expectations of the spaces they inhabit.

Artist Bio

Verapat Sitipol (b. 1980) graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in painting from Silpakorn University of Thailand. He lives and works in Kanchanaburi, Thailand. The artist’s abstract painting exposes a powerful relation between line and color. He feels that the exchange between the realistic and the artistic opens up many inspirations for his work. He has exhibited worldwide for over 15 years.

Exhibition Dates:

21 January to 5 March 2022

Location:

Over the Influence Bangkok
81 Tri Mit Road
Talat Noi, Samphanthawong
Bangkok, Thailand

Contact:

Camilla Russell
PR & Marketing Director
camilla@overtheinfluence.com