



Sopheap Pich

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Sopheap Pich (b. 1971, Battambang, Cambodia) is one of the most celebrated contemporary artists in Southeast Asia. Pich is known for creating timeless, minimalist sculptures and wall reliefs using regionally ubiquitous materials such as bamboo, rattan, and aluminium. "Materials hold infinite possibilities," Pich says, placing absolute trust in the power of materiality to convey social and political histories, collective traumas, or personal memories that Cambodians experienced during the radical era under the Khmer Rouge. Through his painstaking and labor-intensive process, Pich's artistic practice serves as a fundamental act of connecting the past, present, and future.

Pich and his family fled the country when he was eight years old. He pursued his academic career in art, studying painting at the Art Institute of Chicago. Although his student years led him to contemplate his background, Pich's works refrain from overtly discussing autobiography and political issues. His reliance on materials speaks for itself, evoking time, space, and memories. His confidence in the forms and shapes of his sculptures gave him the autonomy to manifest his unique visual expressions. Through the manipulation of materials with his own hands, he revitalises abundant materials by infusing them with a second life. Pich brings awareness to the democratisation of art through the use of ordinary, rustic materials. His artistic approach can be associated with post-war Arte Povera in Italy or the Japanese Mingei movement advocated by Sōetsu Yanagi, which expressed beauty arising from society and the lives of common people. Pich dedicates time and effort to his collection activities. Around his studio or near the Mekong River, he equally divides the harvested bamboo and rattan, meticulously washing and boiling them. As a result, the materials become more pliable, expanding the ability of free manipulations. Pich weaves and creates grid-like structures reminiscent of a net by repeatedly crossing the rattan using wire. This repetitive and meditative process eventually reveals sculptures where a sense of volume and transparency gently coexist.

## Exhibition History

### Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2026 upcoming solo exhibition, Axel Vervoordt Gallery, Belgium
- 2025 High Line, New York, USA  
"Sopheap Pich: Cambodian Metal" Axel Vervoordt Gallery, Hong Kong
- 2023 "Every Turn a Refuge" Tomio Koyama Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2022 "Sopheap Pich: Walking the Woods" Tina Keng Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan
- 2019 "RECLAIM" Tomio Koyama Gallery, Tokyo, Japan  
"The World Outside" Tyler Rollins Fine Art, New York, USA
- 2018 "Expanses" Tyller Rollins Fine Art, New York, USA
- 2017 "desire line" Tomio Koyama Gallery, 8/ ART GALLERY/ Tomio Koyama Gallery, Tokyo, Japan  
"Hidden Nature: Sopheap Pich" The Crow Collection of Asian Art, Dallas, USA

- “SOPHEAP PICH: FROM STUDIO TO FINE ART” Gallery of the French Institute in Cambodia, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- 2016 “Rang Phnom Flower” Tyler Rollins Fine Art, New York, USA  
“ELEMENTAL” H Gallery, Bangkok, Thailand
- 2015 “Structures” Tyler Rollins Fine Art, New York, USA
- 2014 “Sopheap Pich: A Room” Indianapolis Museum of Art, USA
- 2013 “Collection+ Sopheap Pich” Sherman Contemporary Art Foundation, Sydney, Australia  
“Reliefs” Tyler Rollins Fine Art, New York, USA  
“Compound” Brookfield Place Winter Garden, New York, USA  
“Cambodian Rattan: The Sculptures of Sopheap Pich” Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA
- 2012 “In Spite of Order” H Gallery, Bangkok, Thailand
- 2011 “Compound” The Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, USA  
“Morning Glory” Tyler Rollins Fine Art, New York, USA
- 2010 “Fragile” French Cultural Center, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- 2009 “The Pulse Within” Tyler Rollins Fine Art, New York, USA
- 2008 “Strands” The Esplanade, Singapore  
“Recent Works From Kunming” TCG/Nordica, Kunming, China
- 2007 “Flow” Sala Artspace, Phnom Penh, Cambodia  
“Tidal” H Gallery, Bangkok, Thailand
- 2006 “Moha Saen Anett” Gallery Dong Xi, Vestfossen, Norway
- 2005 “Chomlak, sculptures and drawings” The Arts Lounge of Hotel de la Paix, Siem Reap, Cambodia  
“Sculptures and Drawings” Amansara Resort, Siem Reap, Cambodia
- 2004 “Pdao” French Cultural Center, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- 2003 “Excavating the Vessels” Java Café and Gallery, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- 2002 “Recent Works” The Brewery Studio, Boston, USA
- 1997 “Empty Wooden Cigarette Boxes From Cambodia” the Augusta Savage Gallery, Amherst, USA

## Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2025 “The Roots know more, He Art Museum (HEM), Shunde, Foshan, Guangdong Province, China  
T2 Collection “Collecting? Connecting?”, WHAT MUSEUM, Tokyo, Japan
- 2024 Setouchi Triennale, Shidoshima Island, Japan  
“Mountains of Seas”, Lahore Biennale 03, Lahore, Pakistan
- 2023 “After Rain” Diriyah Contemporary Art Biennale 2024, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia  
“WORLD CLASSROOM: Contemporary Art through School Subjects” Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan  
“MOT Collection: Membrane of the Time / Breathing” Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan
- 2019 “Home Is a Foreign Place” The Met Breuer, New York, USA  
“SUNSHOWER: Contemporary Art from Southeast Asia 1980s to Now” Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Art, Taiwan  
“MOT Collection Part 1 & 2: Please to meet you. New Acquisitions in recent years” Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Japan
- 2018 “Minimalism: Space. Light. Object” National Gallery Singapore, Singapore  
“We the People: New Art from the Collection” Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo,

- USA  
 “Two houses: Politics and histories in the contemporary art collections of John Chia and Yeap Lam Yang” Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore, Singapore  
 “SOPHEAP PICH / KHVAY SAMNANG / SHOOSHIE SULAIMAN” Tomio Koyama Gallery, Tokyo, Japan  
 “In Search of Southeast Asia through the M+ Collections” M+, Hong Kong  
 “Trees of Life – Knowledge in Material” NTU Centre for Contemporary Art Singapore, Singapore  
 “Angkor: Exploring Cambodia’s Sacred City” Asian Civilization Museum, Singapore
- 2017 “Drawing: The Beginning of Everything” Albright-Knox Art Gallery, New York, USA  
 “Sunshower: Contemporary Art from Southeast Asia 1980s to now” Mori Art Museum, The National Art Center, Tokyo, Japan  
 “Buddha’s Smile” National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia  
 “Viva Arte Viva” the 57th Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy
- 2016 “Flora and Fauna” Ackland Art Museum, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA  
 “For the Love of Things: Still Life” Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, USA  
 “Histories of the Future” The National Museum, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- 2015 “Drawn from Nature” Asia Society Texas Center, Houston, USA  
 “Renaissance” Lille3000, France  
 “I Want Justice,” United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, USA  
 “Selected works on exhibition” Minneapolis Institute of Art, USA  
 “First Look: Collecting Contemporary at the Asian” The Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, USA
- 2014 “The Art of Our Time: Masterpieces from the Guggenheim Collections” Guggenheim Museum Bilbao, Spain  
 “Re: Collection” Museum of Arts and Design, New York, USA  
 “No Country: Contemporary Art for South and Southeast Asia” Centre for Contemporary Art, Singapore  
 “Medium at Large” Singapore Art Museum, Singapore  
 “TRANSMISSION” Jim Thompson Art Center, Bangkok, Thailand
- 2013 “The 5th Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art” Moscow, Russia  
 “Dojima River Biennale 2013” Dojima River Forum, Osaka, Japan  
 “Collecting Art of Asia” Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, USA  
 “Connect: Phnom Penh: Rescue Archaeology – Contemporary Art and Urban Development in Cambodia” IFAGalerie, Berlin, Germany  
 “Gentle Matter” Richard Koh Fine Art, Singapore
- 2012 “dOCUMENTA (13)” Fridericianum, Kassel, Germany  
 “Encounter: The Royal Academy in Asia” Asia Institute of Contemporary Art, Lasalle College of the Arts, Singapore  
 “Invisible Cities” MASS MoCA, North Adams, USA  
 “DEEP S.E.A.,” Primo Marella Gallery, Rome, Italy.
- 2011 “2011 Asian Art Biennial” National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, Taichung, Taiwan  
 “Here / Not Here: Buddha Presence in Eight Recent Works” Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, USA  
 “Singapore Biennale 2011” Singapore
- 2010 “Classic Contemporary: Contemporary Southeast Asian Art from the Singapore Art Museum Collection” Singapore Art Museum, Singapore
- 2009 “The 6th Asia-Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art” Queensland Art Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia  
 “Truly Truthful” Art Asia Miami 2009, Miami, USA  
 “The 4th Fukuoka Asian Art Triennale” Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, Fukuoka, Japan

- “Forever Until Now: Contemporary Art from Cambodia” 10 Chancery Lane Gallery, Hong Kong
- 2008 “Sh Contemporary: Best of Discovery” Shanghai Exhibition Center, China  
 “Strategies from Within” Ke Center for the Contemporary Arts, Shanghai, China  
 “The Mekong Project” Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos.  
 “The Drawing Room” Rubies, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- 2006 “Paint Around the Dog” with Jack Bauer, Lake Studio, Phnom Penh, Cambodia  
 “2+3+4 Cambodian/Vietnamese Exchange” Java Café and Gallery, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- 2005 “Visual Arts Open” Elsewhere and New Art Gallery, Phnom Penh, Cambodia  
 “Transit” with Michèle Vanvlasselaer, Java Café & Gallery, Phnom Penh, Cambodia  
 “Première Vue” Passage de Retz, Paris, France  
 “Je/Jeu” French Cultural Center, Yangon, Myanmar
- 2004 “Guide” French Cultural Center Siem Reap, Cambodia  
 “Continuity” Shinta Mani Angkor, Siem Reap, Cambodia  
 “Guide” French Cultural Center, Phnom Penh, Cambodia  
 “Meik Sratum” Silapak Khmer Amatak, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- 2001 “Subject Picture” The Optimistic, Chicago, USA
- 2000 “Just Good Art 2000” Hyde Park Arts Center, Chicago, USA  
 “Memory: Personal and Social Testimonies” the Augusta Savage Gallery, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, USA
- 1999 “Altered Object” Hyde Park Arts Center, Chicago, USA  
 “Young Talents II” Contemporary Arts Workshop, Chicago, USA  
 “MFA Thesis Exhibition” G2, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, USA  
 “Yellow / Face” Gallery Pilson East, Chicago, USA  
 “Cows on Parade” a collaborative project with J. Zakin and S. Biggers for The Chicago Park District, the Field Museum Campus, Chicago, USA
- 1998 “Presidential Dinner Exhibition” The Art Institute of Chicago, USA
- 1995 “Recent Paintings” Gallery Del Sol, Miami, USA  
 “BFA Thesis Show” The Augusta Savage Gallery, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, USA

## Public Collections

Ackland Art Museum, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA

Albright-Knox Art Gallery, USA

Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, USA

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, USA

Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France

Cirva, International Glass and Visual Arts Research Centre, France

The Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, USA

The Ford Foundation, NY, USA

MAIIAM Contemporary Art Museum, Chiang Mai, Thailand

Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA

Mori Art Museum, Tokyo Japan

Mori Building Co., Ltd., Tokyo, Japan  
Museum of Arts and Design, New York, USA  
Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan  
M+ Museum, Hong Kong  
National Museum of Art, Osaka, Japan  
National Gallery Singapore, Singapore  
National Museum of Art, Osaka, Japan  
Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, USA  
Sherman Contemporary Art Foundation, Sydney, Australia  
Singapore Art Museum, Singapore  
Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, USA  
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, USA  
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, USA