



THE CITY & THE CITY Divided Senses

EXHIBITION

A COLLABORATION PROJECT BETWEEN
TOKYO AND BANGKOK

5-14 NOVEMBER 2020
AT THE JAM FACTORY GALLERY
OPEN DAILY 11.00-20.00 HRS

PRESENTED BY



FESTIVAL / TOKYO

BIP/M

GRANT BY



• GRANT PROGRAM FOR
PROMOTION OF CULTURAL
COLLABORATION

VENUE PARTNER

TheJamFactory.
Creating Culture

SPECIAL THANKS TO

• THE JAPAN FOUNDATION,
BANGKOK
• CANON THAILAND

THE CITY & THE CITY

Divided Senses

BIPAM x F/T Project

The City & The City: Divided Senses

Partner: Festival/ Tokyo

Directors & Mentors: Kaku Nagashima (F/T), Sasapin Siriwanij (BIPAM)

Participants: Pakhamon Hemachandra, Chanapon Komkham,
Shoumi Sakurauchi, Chisato Sone, Chatchavan Suwansawat,
Shikine Watanabe, Piyawan Sapsamroum

Project Manager: Siree Riewpaiboon

Coordinator & PR: Varissara Borkird

Coordinators: Aki Miyatake, Mei Miyauchi

Publicity Design: Takumi Saito (Allright Graphics)

Bangkok Presentation | The Jam Factory

Graphic Designer: Nuchcha Praphin

Video Documentation: Teeraphan Ngowjeenan

Venue Partner: The Jam Factory

Grant: The Japan Foundation Asia Center

Grant Program for Promotion of Cultural Collaboration

Special Thanks to NOSEstory, Canon Thailand, The Japan Foundation, Bangkok

What is F/T x BIPAM?

BIPAM (Bangkok International Performing Arts Meeting) is an international platform for people involved in the creation of performing arts. The platform aims to propose Bangkok and its dynamic performing art scene as a platform for regional and international exchange and meeting with its annual five-day event that has been held since 2017 in Bangkok, Thailand.

F/T (Festival/ Tokyo) was launched in 2009 and is held every autumn mainly in the Ikebukuro area of Tokyo. The festival features a program of theatre, dance, music, visual art, film, and more by cutting-edge artists from Japan and around the world. Each year, F/T continues its efforts to renew the potential and model of an urban performing arts event as a festival born from the relationship between people and the city.

Sasapin Siriwanij and Kaku Nagashima are both the artistic directors of each platform and are the co-initiator and mentors of this special project. It is an attempt to go beyond, and be more specific than just a country to country collaboration



COLLABORATORS

Pakhamon Hemachandra (Much)

"First, I would like to thank BIPAM and F/T for organising The City & The City. I've always been interested in collaboration work, and this opportunity is even more valuable since it is a collaboration of various disciplines. I'm very thrilled to be working with our Bangkok team and being able to exchange conversations, methods, ideas, and learn new things from them. Also, being able to interact with the Tokyo team via the online platform, especially with a Thai interpreter that allows us to have a mutual understanding. In this project, I had the chance to think about "divided senses" and became more aware of the five senses in our daily life. While I felt that I could understand Bangkok from a different angle, I was able to see various faces of Tokyo by exchanging research information using experiences and digital communication for each sense.

I don't know how the exhibition it turn out in the end, but I believe that our strong desire to collaborate with each other appears in the work."



Born in 1990 in Bangkok, Pakhamon Hemachandra is a Thai performer and independent dance artist. She trained and attained a BA in dance at Victorian College of The Arts, Australia, and then completed an MA in contemporary dance performance at London Contemporary Dance School in 2014. She is interested in working with the body as a instinctive medium, in correlation with objects, space, and time. She has worked as a performer with such renowned choreographers as Ahn Aesoon, Hwang Soohyun, Cabinet K, Stephanie Lake, and Sita Ostheimer, as well as working collaboratively with many artists both in Thailand and overseas. Her works "INMOST" and "Love Thyself" have been presented at many festivals and platforms.

Chanapon Komkham (Time)

"This project has changed my feelings towards Bangkok from a "routine" to an "adventure"; as if I'm travelling all the time. We spent time touching, feeling, and observing our surroundings which allowed us to rediscover our feelings and perspectives about our home city with new lens. This creative journey has been impressive and enjoyable because of the exchange I had with our Bangkok team. We complimented each other very well, filling out the details of the cityscape with our different perspectives.

Interacting with the Tokyo side via digital platforms, whether it's images, sounds, or texts, allowed me to understand the issues that exist in Tokyo. Through our exchanges of thoughts and practice, I was able to compare our contexts and contemplate my understanding of Tokyo and Bangkok with more depth."



Born in 1995, Chanapon was raised in Bangkok. He completed his bachelor's degree in painting from the Poh-Chang Academy of Arts and a master's degree in visual arts from Silpakorn University. He is currently working as a visual artist whose various approaches include painting, photography, sound art, video art, installation art, and mixed media from found objects. Chanapon has continued to show his works since 2017 in group exhibitions, performance art showcases, and experimental sound art events. His works are inspired by surrounding landscapes that he experiences through his senses. He often combines established art processes with the coincidental elements of nature and found objects to portray how art is inseparable from everyday life. He is preparing for his first solo exhibition in May 2021.

Shoumi Sakurauchi

"I'm writing this comment about 500km away from Tokyo. Even if I come this far, I feel that the cityscape is not much different from that of Tokyo. When I saw the video sent by the Bangkok team about 4600km away from Tokyo across the sea, I felt their cityscape is surprisingly similar, apart from written characters that are mixed in the scene.

All we can do while still not being able to meet is imagine. A lively and enthusiastic Bangkok, a minimal and smart Tokyo. We confront the five senses of our cities so that when we actually meet each other one day, we can truly convey what is Bangkok and Tokyo. I hope you can imagine something in this theatre or even after you leave."



Born in 1992 in Tokyo, Shoumi Sakurauchi has been a member of the theatre company offuton since its launch in 2011. After graduating university, he worked as a sound engineer for fringe theatres in Tokyo, while also serving as a joint lighting, music, and stage manager from 2016 under the catch-all credit of "sound & other." In order to consider how the crew or creative team should be involved with a theatre work, he enrolled at the Komaba Agora's Murinkan theatre school in 2017. Since 2019, he has been a member of the directing department at Seinendan. From 2020, he launched his own projects tackling existing stage plays with young directors, and also works as a producer.

COLLABORATORS

Chisato Sone

"It's been 6 years since I moved from Kansai to Tokyo. I'm still not used to the subway and often make mistakes, and there are countless stations I've never got off. I think "living" is the act of "knowing what you touch every day" - so that begs the question; is my body really living in Tokyo?"

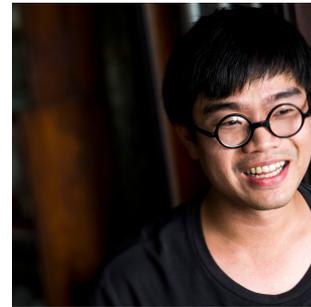
During the exchange with Bangkok, I told myself not to view the other city in stereotypes. It was very exciting for me to pick up images and throw some away as we re-trace the outlines of our city and to discover unknown memories of Bangkok which have never lived in"



Born in 1991 in Hyogo, Chisato Sone is attached to the directing department of Seinendan. After graduating from Osaka University, she worked in R&D for an IT recruiting corporation while studying at Komaba Agora's Murinkan theatre school. Today she works as a director, theatre venue producer, and dramaturge. Her acting roles include "Curry and the Villagers" (2013) and "Night Never Gets Darker" (2018), and her directing credits include "Right to Play" (2019) and "Recitations" (2019). She is a recipient of a 2019 Creative Environment Innovation Program grant from The Saison Foundation.

Chatchavan Suwansawat

"The first thing that impressed me about this project was the process of collaboration and exchange of opinions among the Bangkok team. Despite having different backgrounds, it was easier to communicate than I expected because everyone is interested in the form of daily life. And because we aim to produce a cross-field artistic work, it naturally demolishes ego and rivalry. Unlike the architectural approach, we focus more on feelings rather than conditions. Even I can't physically be in Tokyo, I did get the chance to authentically understand Japanese people and Tokyo through our exchange with the Tokyo team. Sharing our worlds through digital platforms; whether it's via images, sounds, words - has connected us more than I thought. The outcome is still vague, but I'm very excited and I'm sure it will be an intriguing hybrid creation."



Chatchavan was born in 1991 in a community near the Chao Phraya River in Bangkok. After graduating with a degree in architecture from Silpakorn University, he has worked as a full-time architect. He also writes a regular column about urban vernacular design, especially everyday architecture and design found in Bangkok, for The Cloud; an online magazine focusing on arts and culture. He has exhibited his installation artwork in a public library around his neighborhood as part of the Low Fat Art Festival (2019) and is a member of a group called Young Thon that aims to develop urban space in West Bangkok. He has launched his own architecture firm; Everyday Architect & Design Studio, and studies the core ideas of design in Bangkok through daily drawings in his journal of the designs that he comes across.

Shikine Watanabe

"After each rich sharing with the Bangkok team, I watch each connection getting cut off through my screen while waving goodbye and rushing to also cut myself out so I don't end up being the last two. Just a click on a button, but it somehow feels like a big burden. Silence. At that moment, I start to anticipate for the next fun moments - just like preparing for the arrival of winter; the air around me somehow reminded me of the same atmosphere of seasons changing.

I want everybody to try residing in a body state that feels Tokyo unconsciously, and indulge in how that body repeatedly regenerates itself. Thank you."



Born in 1986 in Tokyo, Shikine Watanabe is a structural designer and stage design. Following a period working at a design firm, he is now the head of the Fukushima-based nonprofit Nomado, a member of the Kyoto-based Kitayamasha, and, since 2017, a participant in Group Nohara. Starting during his time at university, he has been involved with supporting disaster zones through self-construction and with overseas workshops. Having restored an old Japanese house to live in, he examines the landscapes and appearances left behind, and the things lost within everyday life. His recent stage designs include for Hachisu Kikaku's "Happy days" (2019) and Nuthmique's "The City Thereafter."

COLLABORATORS

Piyawan Sapsamroum (Ning)

"It was such a pleasure to be the translator bridging 2 cities that I have a significant bond with; Tokyo being the destination for work and many journeys, and Bangkok - my beloved hometown and final destination. With every exchange, I try my best to convey those messages as precisely as possible. However, exchanging our five senses via online platforms can be overwhelmingly abstract. My mission as a translator for this project is to use the tools of "language" that I possess, and support both teams at my best, despite the limitation of equipment, time, and my own skills. There were indeed times I thought language alone can not convey the 100 percent meaning. It is such a challenging project that truly reflects how we've been viewing our city and how we communicate. I appreciate this opportunity from the bottom of my heart."



Born in 1986 in Bangkok, Piyawan (Ning) Sapsamroum graduated from Chulalongkorn University with a degree in Japanese language and then completed a master's degree in modern Japanese literature, specializing in magic realism. She works widely in the arts as an interpreter, translator, moderator, and coordinator. She was involved in the programming for Bangkok Street Show (2013-2015), the biggest street performance festival in Bangkok. She is serving as the Thai-Japanese translator and interpreter for this project.

Development process

Visit our website for detailed activity logs!

www.bipam.org/all-blogs/categories/the-city-and-the-city

	BANGKOK	TOKYO
8.17	Orientation Researching each other's own cities with the keyword "five senses"	
9.7	Exchange Meeting 1 Each team took very different approaches of research in each city / online exchange	
	Deep into the city Using five senses to explore the physical nature of the city	Deep inside the body Exploring the senses of the body within the city *Shared senses of smell, touch, and taste through sight and hearing
9.15	Online Session 1.1 Individual research + Online exchange	
	Feedback and questions to Tokyo team	Shared research (sight and hearing) using deep into the city approach
9.27	Online Session 1.2 Online exchange of ideas for each other's final presentation	
	Shared research using deep inside the body approach	Shared ideas for the final presentation: Superimposing three layers: Tokyo as city body, human body, and life.
10.1	Exchange Meeting 2 Online exchange of ideas for each other's final presentation	
	Placing the five senses found in the city mixed up in the space	Superimposing the physiological sensations of those who live in Tokyo
	→ How do we show elements of each other's cities in each final presentation?	
10.16	Online Session 2.1 Shared ideas for exchanging the elements of each city for final presentations Shared circumstances of protests ongoing in Bangkok	
	The five senses shared from Tokyo are in a distorted state that cannot be clearly understood or perceived: considering adopting that approach	Considering incorporating elements of Bangkok in visuals and performances (eating)
10.30 -11.1		Final presentation at Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre (Theatre West)
11.3	Online Session 2.2 Feedback to the final presentation of Tokyo Share the aim of the Online Public Talk on the 7th November	
11.5 -11.14	Final presentation at The Jam Factory (Bangkok)	

• This log is current as of October 18, 2020.

• Exchange Meeting: Exchange and communication meetings scheduled from the beginning of the program

• Online Session: Shorter sessions that were added after the program began

• Online exchange: Communication during Exchange Meetings and Online Sessions via Facebook and dropbox

Notice:
After final presentations, online virtual tours will be conducted to share with each other about their presentations in each city. The footage of the exchanged virtual tours will be posted on the official BIPAM website as soon as it is completed.