

THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LAO STUDIES

ການປະຊຸມນາໆຊາດ ລາວສຶກສາ ຄັ້ງທີ ໔ PROMOTE & DEVELOP LAO STUDIES









Welcome!

The Center for Southeast Asian Studies (CSEAS) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is pleased to welcome all presenters and participants to the Fourth International Conference for Lao Studies (4ICLS). The University of Wisconsin-Madison is becoming one of the main academic institutions in the world with a focus on Lao and Hmong Studies. CSEAS is delighted to be playing a role in hosting 4ICLS in collaboration with the Center for Lao Studies (CLS) from 19-21 April 2013 at the Pyle Center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

We are excited by the excellent response we received for our call for papers for 4ICLS, which will offer a conference program of 125 people making presentations on 38 panels. The 4ILSC will also feature a Lao Film Festival on Saturday and Sunday, the conference banquet and performances on Saturday evening, and a keynote address by Yves Goudineau.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our funders, particularly the Henry Luce Foundation, which has generously supported the 4ICLS, and the Anonymous Fund at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, which provided support to the Lao Film Festival. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the many people who have helped make this important conference possible, especially but not limited to, Mary Jo Wilson, Michael Cullinane, Tony Wilson, David Chambers, Inthava Borihane, Pao Vue, Peter Swift, Ryan Wolfson-Ford, Steve Arounsack, Carol Compton, Larry Ashmun, Noi Sinouthasy, Marcia Harr Bailey, Ounla Thongsavanh, Monsiri Baird, Bounmy Phimmasene, Southep Thikeo, Christine Elliott, Violet Thor, Ryan Nelson, Mee Xiong, Vixay Keopanya, Soumaly Bounket, Anousone Bounket, Jonny Khammanivong, Thongchai and Chim Winichakul, and Kannikar Elbow. Of course, we are also grateful to Vinya Sysamouth and others at the CLS.

We hope you enjoy the conference and your time in Madison, Wisconsin, USA.

Katherine Bowie Director Center for Southeast Asian Studies (CSEAS) University of Wisconsin-Madison lan G. Baird Co-Chair 4th International Conference on Lao Studies University of Wisconsin-Madison



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Promoting and advancing the field of Lao Studies.

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ຮຸງນທ່ານຜູ້ມີກຸງດທັງຫຼາຍ,

ຂ້າພະເຈົ້າ ວິນຍາ ສາຍສມຸດ, ຕ່າງໜ້າສູນລາວສຶກສາ ແລະ ປະທານຮ່ວມ *ການປະຊຸມນາໆຊາດ ລາວສຶກສາ ຄັ້ງທີ ៤* ທີ່ສູນລາວສຶກສາ (Center for Lao Studies) ເມືອງ ແຊແຟຣສິສໂກ ຣັຖຄາລີຟໍເນັງ ສະຫະລັດອະເມລິກາ ແລະ ສູນເອເຊັງອາຄະເນສຶກສາ (Center for Southeast Asian Studies) ທີ່ມະຫາວິທະຍາລັຍວີສຄອນຊິນ ເມືອງແມດີສັນ ຍິນດີຕ້ອນຮັບທຸກໆທ່ານເຂົ້າສູ່ກອງປະຊຸມ ທີ່ຍິ່ງໃຫຍ່ຄັ້ງນີ້. ຈຸດປະສົງຕົ້ນຕໍຂອງ *ການປະຊຸມລາວສຶກສາ* ແມ່ນເພື່ອສ້າງເວທີສາກົນໃຫ້ແກ່ນັກວິຊາ ການ ແລະ ປະຊາຄົມທີ່ສົນໃຈໃນພາກວິຊາລາວສຶກສາ ເພື່ອມີໂອກາດ ເຕົ້າໂຮມ ສເນີ ສົນທະນາ ປຶກສາ ແລກປ່ຽນ ແລະ ຮູນຮູ້ປະເດັ່ນຕ່າງໆກຸ່ງກັບລາວ. ຫົວຂໍ້ທັງຫຼາຍທີ່ນຳມາສເນີໃນກອງປະຊຸມຈະມີການ ກຸ່ງວຂ້ອງກັບປະຊາກອນສີ່ກຸ່ມ, ຄື ໑. ກຸ່ມຊົນຊາດຊົນເຜົ່າຕ່າງໆໃນປະເທດລາວ ໒. ກຸ່ມຊົນຊາດຊົນເຜົ່າ ທີ່ອາສັຍຢູ່ປະເທດໄກ້ຄຸງງ ແຕ່ວ່າມີປະຊາກອນເປັນຕົວແຫຢູ່ພາຍໃນປະເທດລາວ ເຊັ່ນກຸ່ມໄທລື້ໃນປະເທດ ຈີນ ໓. ຊົນຊາດລາວທີ່ຢູ່ປະເທດໃກ້ຄຸງງ ເຊັ່ນລາວພາກອີສານ ແລະ ໒. ຄົນລາວທີ່ຢູ່ຕ່າງແດນ ຫຼື Lao Overseas.

ການປະຊຸມທີ່ໄດ້ຈັດຂຶ້ນຄັ້ງນີ້ກໍໄດ້ຮັບຄວາມສຳເລັດໄປດ້ວຍດີ. ໃນກອງປະຊຸມມີຜູ້ເຂົ້າຮ່ວມຫຼາຍໆທ່ານຊຶ່ງ ມາຈາກ ປະເທດລາວ ໄທ ຍີ່ປຸ່ນ ໂອສະຕາລີ ການາດາ ສະຫະລັດອະເມຣິກາ ແລະ ປະເທດຕ່າງໆ, ທັງໝົດມີກວ່າ ໑໒໐ ຫົວຂໍ້ທີ່ເຂົ້າມານຳສເນີ. *ການປະຊຸມລາວສຶກສາ* ໄດ້ຈັດຂຶ້ນທຸກໆສາມປີ ແລະ ໝຸນວຽນ ໄປຕາມສຖາບັນສຶກສາຕ່າງໆ ທົ່ວໂລກ.

ທາງຝ່າຍຄະນະກັມມະການຂໍຂອບໃຈທຸກໆທ່ານທີ່ໄດ້ເຂົ້າຮ່ວມກອງປະຊຸມຄັ້ງນີ້ ແລະ ຂໍຂອບໃຈມູນນິທິ ແຮນຮີລູສ (Henry Luce Foundation) ແລະ Anonymous Funds ທີ່ໃຫ້ການສະນັບ ສນຸນຮ່ວມມືໃນການປະຊຸມ. ພວກເຮົາຫວັງວ່າຄັ້ງໜ້າ ທ່ານຈະມີໂອກາດເຂົ້າຮ່ວມ *ການປະຊຸມນາໆຊາດ ລາວສຶກສາ ຄັ້ງທີ ໕* ທີ່ຈະ ໄດ້ຈັດຂຶ້ນໃນປີ ຄ.ສ. ໒໐໑໖.

ຂໍສແດງຄວາມນັບຖືແລະເ**ຄົາ**ຣົບຢ່າງສູງ

ດຣ. ວິນຍາ ສາມສມຸດ

Vinya Sysamouth, Ph.D.

Co-Chair, 4th International Conference on Lao Studies

Executive Director, Center for Lao Studies

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Center for Southeast Asian Studies





The Center for Southeast Asian Studies is a U.S. Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center for Southeast Asia, a unit in UW-Madison's College of Letters and Science, and a member of the campus consortium of internationally-oriented programs known as the International Institute.

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Visit us on the web for news, events, and more information: http://seasia.wisc.edu



Who We Are

Established in 1973, the Center for Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is one of only eight Southeast Asian Studies National Resource Centers in the United States. Some sixty courses with significant Southeast Asia content are offered in various departments and colleges on our campus each academic year and regular instruction is offered in Filipino, Hmong, Indonesian, Thai and Vietnamese. We have also been chosen to host the Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI) from 2000-2014, which offers intensive instruction each summer in the languages listed above, and additionally Burmese, Khmer, and Lao. Faculty and student research are supported by extensive library holdings, with particular strengths on Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand.

Degree Programs

BA in Asian Studies (Concentration in Southeast Asia)

This degree requires students to take at least four semesters of a Southeast Asian language and to complete thirty credits of coursework on Southeast Asia in at least two academic disciplines. Students majoring in Southeast Asian Studies are encouraged to incorporate a study abroad experience into their academic program.

Undergraduate Certificate in Southeast Asian Studies

The certificate requires the completion of fifteen credits of Southeast Asian Studies courses. Up to six credits of a Southeast Asian language can be counted for the certificate, if those courses are at the intermediate (3rd semester) or higher levels.

MA in Southeast Asian Studies

The MA in Southeast Asian Studies requires 1) at least four semesters proficiency in a Southeast Asian language; 2) twenty-four credits of coursework (including at least two seminars) on Southeast Asia in at least two academic disciplines; and 3) the successful completion of an oral examination administered by three core faculty members based on a paper produced for one of the seminars.

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Center for Southeast Asian Studies



Our Faculty

Affiliated with our Center are faculty from a wide variety of academic discplines, including humanities and the performing arts, social sciences, applied sciences, as well as the Business School and the Law School. Their regional specializations include Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. Our Center supports a wide variety of both individual faculty research and interdisciplinary research through grant-writing, grant administration, organizing conferences, and publications support. Please see our faculty list for more information: http://seasia.wisc.edu/People/facstaff.htm

Fellowships

The Center for Southeast Asian Studies administers graduate and undergraduate fellowships for the study of Southeast Asia and Southeast Asian languages. Funded by the United States Department of Education, the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships are intended to develop a cadre of linguistically competent specialists in the study of Southeast Asia in a range of disciplines.

Using funds from its endowment, the Center also offers fellowships and travel grants to support the research efforts of graduate students working on Southeast Asia in any department at UW-Madison.

School and Community Outreach

The mission of our outreach program is to share resources, support international and global awareness, and inspire critical thinking about the complexities of our world. We provide resources and expertise on Southeast Asia to K-12 teachers (including K-12 teacher workshops), postsecondary educators, businesses, the media, and the community at large. Please contact our Outreach Coordinator, Dr. Mary McCoy, for more information.

Events

Southeast Asian Studies events showcase local and international scholars, artists, and activists. Our Friday Forum lecture series offers recent research about Southeast Asia, in many disciplines, to our academic community and to the public. We host academic conferences, and play a key role in bringing music and dance performances, art and textile exhibitions, radio broadcasts, special lectures, and film festivals to the public.

Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI)

Since summer 2000, the Center for Southeast Asian Studies at UW-Madison has hosted SEASSI. SEASSI is an eight-week summer intensive language training program for undergraduates, graduate students and professionals. Each language course is equivalent to two semesters of study, with full academic year credit. Instruction is given in small individualized groups taught by a team consisting of a coordinator (usually a linguist specializing in Southeast Asian language pedagogy) and teachers who are native speakers of that language. More information about SEASSI can be found at: http://seassi.wisc.edu. Every summer, SEASSI offers instruction in:

Burmese	७ ७०००		
Filipino	Wikang Pilipino		
Hmong	Hmoob		
Indonesian	Bahasa Indonesia		
Khmer	ಣಾಣಕ್ಟು		
Lao	ພາສາລາວ		
Thai	ภาษาไทย		
Vietnamese	Tiếng Việt		

Our Web Resources

The Center for Southeast Asian Studies hosts and contributes to a growing number of web-based resources to support the learning of Southeast Asian languages and the pursuit of research about Southeast Asia. These include:

- SEAiT (Southeast Asian Images and Texts) http://uwdc.library.wisc.edu/collections/SEAiT
- SEALANG Library (online searchable dictionaries and reading sources for Malay, Balinese, Maranao, Magundanao, Javanese, Indonesian, Vietnamese, Mon, Karen, Shan, Khmer, Lao, Burmese and Thai) http://sealang.net/library/
- *Thai Reader* (online textbook for learning to read Thai) http://readingthai.wisc.edu/
- *Warung Sinema* (online site for students to practice Indonesian listening comprehension)

http://warungsinema.wisc.edu/

- *In Our Image* (forthcoming, an online resource for text, audiorecordings, and videorecordings pertaining to the U.S. colonial and post-colonial presence in the Philippines)
- Ayo Membaca (forthcoming, a set of multimedia lessons for learning to read Indonesian)

CENTER FOR LAO STUDIES | ສູນລາວສຶກສາ

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The Center for Lao Studies (CLS) is proud to be a co-host of the Fourth International Conference on Lao Studies (ICLS) with the Center for Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. The main objective of the conference is to provide an international forum for scholars to present and discuss various aspects of Lao Studies.

The Center for Lao Studies, a 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation, was formed in 2006 as a result of the First International Conference on Lao Studies. CLS was created in response to a void in Lao Studies at the time; in university settings, Lao Studies tended to fall under the umbrella of bigger fields of studies and under various administrative structures, such as Centers for Southeast Asian Studies or Centers for Asian Studies. Lao Studies has rarely if ever been the main focus of these fields —Lao specialist faculty is small in number, Lao language is not taught, and research and publications on Lao-related topics are rare. The Center for Lao Studies has been committed to filling this void by working with academic institutions and community organizations around the world to initiate exceptional programs.

What makes the Center for Lao Studies stand out is our devotion to exclusively developing and promoting the field of Lao Studies. We achieve this through **four main objectives**:

- 1. Promote Lao Studies in Academia through the International Conference on Lao Studies (ICLS) and Summer Study Abroad in Laos Programs (SAIL);
- 2. Collaboration between Academia and the Community established through the Lao Oral History Archive (LOHA), cosponsoring of the International Lao New Year Festival (ILNYF), and through partnerships with institutions, universities and non profit organizations in the U.S. and abroad;
- 3. Promote Research and Publication of the peer-reviewed Journal of Lao Studies (JLS), manuscripts from the International Conferences on Lao Studies, and other scholarly publications that advance and preserve the languages and cultures of the indigenous peoples of Laos; and
- 4. Serve as a Resource Center for scholars, students, community members and the public on all things Lao.

Lao Studies encompasses the study of all Lao disciplines related to and representing the five major groups:

- 1. All ethno-linguistic groups of Laos (e.g., Mon-Khmer, Hmong-Mien, Lao-Tai);
- 2. Lao Isan and other ethnic Lao groups in Thailand (e.g., Lao Song, Phuan, Phu Tai);
- 3. Ethnic Lao living in Cambodia;
- 4. Cross-border ethnic groups in Thailand, Vietnam, China, Burma and Cambodia (e.g., Akha, Hmong/Miao, Khmu, Iu-Mien, Lao Phuan, Tai Leu, Tai Dam, Tai Daeng, Shan); and
- 5. Overseas Lao (e.g., Lao American, Lao French).

As a nonprofit organization, we rely on the generous support of our members and friends. Please consider becoming a member of CLS by joining today. Your annual membership dues will help maintain many of our unique programs and projects for many years to come. For more information about the Center for Lao Studies and to become a member please visit us at www.laostudies.org.







4th International Conference on Lao Studies

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Pyle Center, 702 Langdon St., Madison, Wisconsin, USA 53706

Schedule

Friday April 19, 2013

9:00-10:10 Opening Ceremony/Welcomes, Room 325/326

lan Baird, Co-Chair, 4th ICLS and Assistant Professor, UW-Madison Vinya Sysamouth, Co-Chair, 4th ICLS and Executive Director, Center for Lao Studies Guido Podestá, Associate Dean of the Division of International Studies, UW-Madison Prany Sananikone, Chair of the Board of Center for Lao Studies (CLS) and UC-Riverside Yang Dao, Former Senator in Laos, retired, Minnesota Carol Compton, retired, UW-Madison John Hartmann, Professor, Northern Illinois University

10:10-10:40 Break

10:40-11:00 Special Remarks, Room 325/326

Pinkaew Laungaramsri, Chiang Mai University, "In Memory of Pattana Kitiarsa" Bruce Shoemaker, "Sombath Somphone and Recent Events in Laos"

11:00-12:30 Keynote Speech, Room 325/326

Yves Goudineau, EFEO, Vientiane, "The Invention of a Multiethnic Heritage in Laos"

12:30-1:30 Lunch Break

1:30-3:30 **Panel A** 1(Wat Pathumwararam) Room 325 2 (Heritage Tourism) Room 326

- 3 (Education) Room 335
- 4 (Lao Literature) Room 309
- 5 (The Ongoing Impact of Sombath Somphone) Room 313

3:30-4:00 Break

4:00-6:00 Panel B

- 6 (Nam Theun II and other Hydropower Dams) Room 313
- 7 (Agriculture and Development) Room 325
- 8 (Culture and Change) Room 335
- 9 (Lao History) Room 326
- 10 (Music) Room 309

6:00-7:00 Dinner Break

7:00-10:00 Center for Lao Studies (CLS) Membership Appreciation Reception at the Pyle Center, Room 325/326

Saturday, April 20, 2013

8:30-10:10 Panel C

- 11 (Mining) Room 335
- 12 (Hmong History) Room 325
- 13 (The Lao in Thailand) Room 313
- 14 (Weaving, Pottery and other Handicrafts) Room 309
- 15 (Religion) Room 326

10:10-10:30 Break

10:30-12:10 Panel D

- 16 (Luang Phrabang History) Room 325
- 17 (Rubber/Cash Crops) Room 326
- 18 (Education for Sustainable Development in Laos) Room 309
- 19 (Isan Cultural Maintenance) Room 313
- 20 (Spirits, Relics, Rituals and Spirit Cults) Room 335

12:10-1:30 Lunch Break

1:30-3:30 Panel E

- 21 (Lao Film) VandeBerg Auditorium, Room 121
- 22 (Special Panel: Voices from Laos: Clearing Bombs, Saving Lives) Room 325/326
- 23 (Health) Room 335
- 24 (Jatakas and Moral Teachings) Room 313

3:30-3:50 Break

3:50-5:30 Panel F

25 (Engaging Local Communities in relation to Biodiversity) Room 325

26 (Ethnic Identities) Room 313

27 (Lao Writing) Room 326

28 (History of Development: Pre-1975) Room 335

29 (Syntax and Lexicon) Room 309

5:30-6:15 Business Meeting, Room 309

7:00-10:00 pm Conference Banquet at the Lussier Family Heritage Center, 3101 Lake Farm Rd., Madison, Wisconsin, 53711.

Food: Catered by the Lao Buddhist Temple Association in Madison, Wisconsin

Drink: Drink tickets are not for sale at the banquet but can be purchased in advance at the conference registration desk at the Pyle Center.

Entertainment: Natasinh, Lao Classical Dance and Music Group of Iowa; and the REPLAY and Hmong American Student Association (HASA) Dance Crew

April 21, 2013 (Sunday)

9:00-10:40 Panel G

30 (Lao Biodiversity and Natural Resource Management) Room 325

31 (Tourism) Room 335

32 (Ethnic Minorities in Laos, Round table) Room 313

33 (Tai Dialects) Room 326

10:40-11:00 Break

11:00-12:40 Panel H

34 (Resettlement, Agriculture and Economic Zones) Room 313

35 (Migration) Room 325

36 (Phonology) Room 326

37 (People from Laos in America) Room 335

38 (Music and Song) Room 309

12:40-1:00 Closing Comments, Room 325/326

On Sunday afternoon the Lao Buddhist Temple at 2805 Warner Lane, Madison, Wisconsin 53713 (608-442-8618) will be selling noodle soup (*feu*) and other Lao food at the temple as a fund-raiser.









Panels

Session A (1:30-3:30 pm, Friday, April 19, 2013)

1. Wat Pathumwanaram: A Lao Cultural Transplant in Bangkok's Siam Square (Room 325)

Chair and Discussant: Ian Lowman, University of Wisconsin-Madison

- 1. John Hartmann, Northern Illinois University, "Preserving the Past: *Siang Miang* as the Essence of Lao Humor and Poetic Genius"
- 2. Alan Potkin, Northern Illinois University, "Interactive Digital Applications for Archiving the Iconography, Architecture, Historical Landscapes, and Interior Murals at Wat Pathumwanaram (Bangkok)"
- 3. Catherine Raymond, Northern Illinois University, "Lao Influence in a Highly Prestigious Thai Monastery: The Case of Wat Pathumwanaram"

2. Heritage Tourism (Room 326)

Chair: Yves Goudineau, EFEO Vientiane

- 1. Nicholas Roberts, James Cook University, "The Human Use and Experience of Caves in the Lao PDR: Some Preliminary Considerations for Heritage Management"
- 2. Rie Odajima, Waseda University, "Poverty and Nationalism in Making a National Symbol: A Case Study of the Champasak World Heritage Site"
- 3. Weeranan Damrongsakul, Mahidol University, "Displaying Ethnic Identity through a World Heritage Site: Ban Chiang as a Case Study of the Tai Phuan in the Northeast of Thailand"
- 4. Thom Gatewongsa, Mahasarakham University, "The Representation of 'Nation' Showed through the History and the Exhibition of the Lao National Museum"

3. Education (Room 335)

Chair: Marcia Harr-Bailey, Fordham University

- 1. Leena Neng Her, Kennesaw State University, "Education, Development, and Modernity: Ethnic Minority Status and Schooling in Laos"
- 2. Amy Bowers, Global Association for People and the Environment (GAPE), "Quality vs. Quantity: Planning Supplemental Infrastructural Support Activities in Rural Schools of Laos"
- 3. Christine Elliott, University of Wisconsin-Madison, "Literacy Activities of Lao University Students"
- 4. Larry Ashmun, University of Wisconsin-Madison, "Laos Online: A Resources' Overview"
- 5. Suwaree Sripoona, Loei Rajabhat University, "Learning Management Method for ASEAN Studies in Lao PDR"

4. Lao Literature (Room 309)

Chair: Robert J. Bickner, University of Wisconsin-Madison

- 1. Smai Wanna-udorn, Mahasarakham University, "Phra Lak Phra Lam: The Representation of Cultural Ecology in Lao Society"
- 2. Soraya Thunyapakob, Mahasarakham University, "Nang Phom Horm Legend: Narration of the Memory of Tai Loei and the Identity of the Ethnic Lao"
- 3. Panita Noilublao, Mahasarakham University, "The Phadang-Nang Ai Tale Type: Its Popularity and Reproduction"
- 5. SSomphone's Ongoing Impact in Laos Round Table (Room 313)
- 1. Jacqui Chagnon
- 2. Carol Ireson-Doolittle, Williamette University
- 3. Bruce Shoemaker

Session B (4:00=6:00 pm, Friday, April 19, 2013)

6. Nam Theun II and other Lao Hydropower Dams (Room 313)

Chair and Discussant: Bruce Shoemaker

- 1. Alan Potkin, Northern Illinois University, "Missing the Boat at the Nam Phit Turbinated Outfall"
- 2. Nicholas R. Zeller, University of Wisconsin-Madison, "Doing a Dam Better? Understanding the World Bank's Eco-Governmentality in Lao Hydropower Development"
- 3. Tania Lee, International Rivers, "Cracks in the Walls: Reflections on Dams as a Poverty Alleviation Strategy in Laos"
- 4. Philip Hirsch, University of Sydney, "Dams, Land and Livelihoods in Lao PDR: Converging Agendas?"

7. Agriculture and Development (Room 325)

Chair and Discussant: J. Lin Compton, University of Wisconsin-Madison

- 1. John H. Barnett, Emporia State University, "Laotian Agriculture, Aquaculture and Forestry Policies 1986-2012: A Discussion"
- 2. Miles Kenney-Lazar, Clark University, "State Strategies of Agricultural Modernization and Shifting Cultivation in Laos"
- 3. Charlotte Moser, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), "Participation of Women Fishers in Village Fishery Management on the Sekong River, Lao PDR"
- 4. Vorada Savengseuksa, University of Washington, "Developing a Strategy Framework for Improved Non-Government Organization Work in the Lao PDR for Sustainable Development"

8. Culture and Change (Room 335)

Chair and Discussant: Linda S. McIntosh, Traditional Arts & Ethnology Centre

- 1. Tara Gujadhur, Traditional Arts and Ethnology Centre, "Interpreting the Ethnic Diversity of Laos: A Museum Perspective"
- 2. Jacob Cawthorne, University of Melbourne, "Taoism in Lao: An Investigation of Present-Day Kim Mun Ritual"
- 3. Yukino Ochiai, Kagoshima University Museum, "Lessons in Museum Interpretation: An Ethnobotanical Case Study in Laos"
- 4. Khampanh Keovilaysak, Global Association for People and the Environment (GAPE) "Brao People's Livelihood Change"

9. Lao History (Room 326)

Chair: Thongchai Winachakul, University of Wisconsin-Madison

- 1. Ian Lowman, University of Wisconsin-Madison, "Understanding Vat Phou: An Early Khmer Pilgrimage Site"
- 2. Ivan Polson, "The Last King of Ubon Ratchathani"
- 3. Nutkritta Nammontree, Mahasarakham University, "The Story of Chao Anuwong in the Korat Community and its Dynamics in Conveying the Meanings of Thai-Lao Relations"
- 4. Patrice Ladwig, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, "Re-Materializing Empire and Colonial Rule as Mimesis: The Reconstruction of Sacred Lao Monuments and the Patronage of Buddhism in French Indochina"

10. Music (Room 309)

Chair: Larry Ashmun, University of Wisconsin-Madison

- 1. Terry E. Miller, Kent State University, "One Hundred Fifty Years of Musical Memory: Khap Phuan Singing Among the Thai Phuan of Lopburi Province, Thailand"
- 2. Priwan Nanongkham, Kent State University, "Thet Phawet: Aesthetic and Legitimacy in Lao Vocal Buddhist Music"
- 3. Gregory Green, Cornell University, "Self-Teaching the *Khaen*: A Practical Resource Review and Discussion of Implications for the Future"

4. S. Steve Arounsack, California State University, Stanislaus, "Transnationalism and Lao Music: A Comparative Analysis between the Homeland and the United States"

Session C (8:30-10:30 am, Saturday, April 20, 2013)

11. Mining (Room 335)

Chair and Discussant: Mike Dwyer, Bern University

- 1. Nigel Chang, James Cook University, "Ancient Miners, Modern Miners and their Communities: the Archaeology and Cultural Heritage of Vilabouly District, Savannakhet Province, Lao PDR"
- 2. Marc Mouscadet, Institut National des Langues et Civilisation Orientales, "Mining in Laos During the Colonial Time 1893-1949, France's Modest Legacy"

12. Hmong History (Room 325)

Chair: Leena Her, Kennesaw State University

- 1. Mai Na M. Lee, University of Minnesota- Twin Cities, "The Women of Dragon Capitol (Long Cheng) and the Rise of Vang Pao"
- 2. Phimmasone Michael Rattanasengchanh, Ohio University, "The Hmong Discrepancy"
- 3. David Chambers, University of Wisconsin-Madison, "Building a Temple: Thai and Hmong Spatialities and Identity on the Landscape of Wat Tham Krabok"
- 4. Ian Baird, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Paul Hillmer, Concordia University, "Veterans from Laos: War, Remembrance, Ritual and Rank"

13. The Lao in Thailand (Room 313)

Chair and Discussant: Saowanee Alexander, Ubon Ratchathani University

- 1. Taylor Easum, New York University, "What's the Laos News? On the Usage of 'Lao' in Northern Siam and Beyond"
- 2. Thaveesilp Subwattana, Mahasarakham University, "The Characteristics of "Lao""
- 3. Udom Buasri, Mahachulalongkorn University, "Jao Kote and Conflict Resolution in Traditional Isan Society"

14. Weaving, Pottery, and other Handicrafts (Room 309)

Chair: Tara Gujadhur

- 1. Junladit Obpahat, Loei Rajabaht University, "The Development Strategy for Handicraft of Phi Ta Khon Mask in Dansai Community."
- 2. Nagisa Ito, Graduate University of Advanced Studies, "Why Do They Weave? Textile Culture of Lao-Tai Females in Hua Phan Province"
- 3. Phisutthilaksana Boonto, Mahidol University, "Lao Song Identity in Western Thailand through Sin Ta-Mee, Ikat Woven Skirt Reproduction"
- 4. Choetkiat Kunlabut, "Communities of Arts: A Case Study in the Southwestern Part of Lao PDR"
- 5. Carol J. Ireson-Doolittle, Willamette University, and Geraldine Moreno-Black, University of Oregon, "Fashioning Lao Identity: Textiles, Representation and the Lao Handicraft Festival"

15. Religion (Room 326)

Chair: Anne Hansen, University of Wisconsin-Madison

- 1. Dipti Mahanta, Mahachulalongkorn University, "Monastic Leadership in the Making: Venerable Sali Kantasilo's Insightful Unifying of *Gantha-dhura and Vipassana-dhura*"
- 2. Supeena Insee Adler, University of California- Riverside, "City Pillar, Spiritual Pillar: When the Spirit and Human Realms Meet in Sisaket Province, Northeast Thailand"
- 3. Jeffrey C. Parker, Whitworth University, "Treatment of Christians and Christianity in Laos and the Influence of Vietnam and the United States"
- 4. Saimai Chaisirin, Mahasarakham University, "The Change of Traditional Funeral Rites of Phu Tai People in the Nong Phue Community, Nanai Sub-district, Phannanikom District, Sakon Nakhon Province, Thailand"

Session D (10:30 am-12:10 pm, Saturday, April 20, 2013)

16. Luang Prabang History (Room 325)

Chair and discussant: Ryan Wolfson-Ford, University of Wisconsin-Madison

- 1. Volker Grabowsky, University of Hamburg, "A Buddhist Archive in Luang Prabang"
- 2. Bounleuth Sengsoulin, University of Hamburg, "The Lao Sangha of Luang Prabang and its Social Role in the Post-1975 Period"
- 3. Khamvone Boulyaphonh, University of Hamburg, "Pha Khamchan Virachitto (1920-2007) and Preservation of the Lao Culture Heritage in Luang Prabang"

17. Rubber/Cash Crops (Room 326)

Chair and Discussant: Miles Kenney-Lazar, Clark University

- 1. Vong Nanhthavong, University of Bern (Switzerland), "Impact of Cash Crop Development on Food Security in Rural Areas: A Case Study from Northern Lao PDR"
- 2. Ian Baird and Pao Vue (Pao will present), University of Wisconsin-Madison, "Developing Small-Scale Rubber in Laos: The Varying Roles of Different Types of Hmong Social Networks"
- 3. Karen McAllister, McGill University, "Idle Lands and Idle Hands: The Evolution of Local Resistance to a Chinese Rubber Concession in Luang Prabang Province, Northern Laos"

18. Education for Sustainable Development in Laos: Happiness, Holistic Education, Service-Learning, Youth Volunteers, and a College (Room 309)

Chair: Christine Elliott, University of Wisconsin-Madison

- 1. Christina McMellon, University of Edinburgh, "Using Collaborative Ethnography to Explore How Young Lao Volunteers in Vientiane Understand and Experience Happiness"
- 2. Chanthalangsy Sisouvanh, Cavendish University, "Student Volunteers for Social Change: Sixteen Years of PADETC Youth for Development"
- 3. Marcia J. Harr Bailey, Fordham University, Somchit Phankham, Arsomsilp Institute for the Arts, & Chanthalangsy Sisouvanh, Cavendish University, "Progress through Service: Introducing the Mekong College for Holistic Development"
- 4. Marcia J. Harr Bailey, Fordham University, "Hand in Hand Working Together: The Service Ethic of Lao Buddhist Undergraduate Students"

19. Isan Cultural Maintenance (Room 313)

Chair and discussant: Leedom Lefferts, Smithsonian

- 1. Saowanee T. Alexander, Ubon Ratchathani University, and Duncan McCargo, University of Leeds (Saowanee will present), "Revisiting Isan Identity: A Linguistic Perspective on Dual Identities in Northeast Thailand"
- 2. John Draper, Khon Kaen University, "The Isan Culture Maintenance and Revitalization Programme: Summary Report of the First Year with a Special Focus on Multilingual Thai-Isan (Thai Lao)- English Signage"
- 3. Gerald W. Fry, University of Minnesota, and Tatpicha Nunta, Khon Kaen University, "The Divergence of Lao and Isan Cultures: Transcending Cultural Misrepresentations and Distortions"

20. Symbols, Relics, Rituals, and Spirit Cults (Room 335)

Chair: Supeena Insee Adler, University of California-Riverside

- 1. Pathom Hongsuwan, Mahasarakham University, "Long Life to the Mekong River: Meaning and Symbols in the Invention of Tradition in Border Communities of Thai-Laos"
- 2. Malinee Klangprapan, Mahasarakham University, "Implication of Lord Buddha's Relics at Phra That Phanom Stupa"
- 3. Tomoko Nakata, Kobe City University of Foreign Studies, "Buddhism and Spirit Cults in a Multiethnic Village in Southern Laos"
- 4. Channipha Doungwilai, Khon Kaen University, "Phra Chao Ong Tue Myths: Their Role as Sacred Narrative in the Communities along the Thai-Lao Borderland"

Session E (1:30-3:30 pm Saturday, April 20, 2013)

21. Lao Film (VandeBerg Auditorium, Room 121)

Chair and Discussant: Steve Arounsack, University of California-Stanislaus

- 1. Anysay Keola and Xaisongkham Induangchanthy, "Current Trends, Challenges, and the Way Forward for Filmmaking in Laos"
- 2. Anousone Sirisackda, "Filmmaking in the Lao PDR"
- 3. Scott Christopherson, St. Edwards University, "Laos Third Cinema: The Creation of a Lao National Cinema seen through the Lens of Three Films and Teshome Gabriel's Three Stages of Progression"
- 4. Nakhone Keodara, "Roses and Red Ants"
- 5. Kenji Saykosy, "Lao Warrior, Kenji's Story"

22. Special Panel: Voices from Laos: Clearing Bombs, Protecting Lives (Rooms 325/326)

Channapha Khamvongsa, "40 Years On: Ending a Legacy of War in Laos"
Thoummy Silamphan, "Healing the Wounds of a Forgotten War: Survivor Assistance in Laos"
Manixia Thor, "Clearing the Path to Peace: UXO Clearance in Laos"
Douglas A. Hartwick, "The State of the Sector: An Ambassador's Perspective"

23. Health (Room 335)

Chair: Gerald Fry, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

- 1. Anousavanh Sanaphay, Khon Kaen University, "Home Delivery Traditions in Southern Lao PDR: Challenges for Achieving MDG 4 & 5 Targets"
- 2. Monica Ruiz-Casares, McGill University, "Alternative Child Care and Wellbeing in Xayaboury and Luang Prabang"
- 3. Bethany G. Elkington, University of Illinois at Chicago, "Ethnobotany and TB in the Lao PDR"
- 4. Monica Ruiz-Casares, McGill University & Manivone Thikeo, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, "The Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire: Reflexions of its Translation into Lao"
- 5. Karen Haisten, Indian River State College, "Treatment and Prevention of Malaria in Lao PDR"

24. Jatakas and Moral Teachings (Room 313)

Chair and Discussant: Katherine Bowie, University of Wisconsin-Madison

- 1. Pisit Kobbun, Ubon Ratchathani University, "The Jatakas in Tales and Buddhist Arts in Lao Culture"
- 2. Leedom Lefferts, Smithsonian Institution, "'Buddhist Storytelling' in Northeast Thailand and Laos"
- 3. Buppha Sueakham, Rajamangala University of Technology Isan, "Moral Teaching Strategies in Lao Proverbs"

Session F (3:30-5:30 pm Saturday, April 20, 2013)

25. Engaging Local Communities in Biodiversity Conservation in Lao PDR (Room 325)

Chair and Discussant: William Robichaud, Saola Working Group

- 1. Santi Saypanya, Wildlife Conservation Society, Troy Hansel, Wildlife Conservation Society, Arlyne Johnson, Wildlife Conservation Society, Annalisa Bianchessi (Rare), & Brooke Sadowsky (Rare), "Combing Social Marketing with Improved Law Enforcement to Conserve Tigers and their Prey in Nam Et Phou Louey National Protected Area, Lao PDR"
- 2. Jeong Eun (Anya) Lim, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, "People and Tigers: Finding Solutions to Human-Carnivore Conflict in Nam Et-Phou Louey National Protected Area, Northern Lao PDR"
- 3. Arlyne Johnson, Wildlife Conservation Society, Jutta Krahn, Wildlife Conservation Society, & Senvilay Seateun, National University of Laos, "Cooking up a Storm? Wildlife Management and Household Food Security in Rural Northern Lao PDR"

26. Ethnic Identities (Room 313)

Chair: Pinkaew Laungaramsri, University of Chiang Mai

- 1. Guido Sprenger, University of Heidelberg, "The Connectivity of Folklorized Culture: New Codes for Identity in Northern Laos"
- 2. Somsonge Burusphat, Sujaritlak Deepadung, Sumittra Suraratdecha, Narong Ardsamiti, Patama Patpong, Jitjayang Yamabhai, and Pichet Setaphong, Mahidol University, "Community-based Ethnic Tourism Development and its Impact on the Linguistic and Cultural Maintenance of Thai Song Dam"

3. Junladit Obpahat, Loei Rajabhat University, "Thai and Lao Cultures for ASEAN Identity"

27. Lao Writing (Room 326)

Chair: Gregory Green, Cornell University

1. Khanungchai Viriyasoonthorn, Mahasarakham University, "Lao Isan Worldviews from Idioms"

2. Nilobon Nakphalangkul, Mahasarakham University, "Discourses of Isan in Laos' Short Stories"

3. Chairat Polmuk, Cornell University, "Detecting the Mystery of the First Lao Novel, Phra Phouttahoup Saksit"

28. History of Development: Pre-1975 (Room 335)

Chair: Bill Sage

- 1. Frederic C. Benson, "Indochina War Refugees in Laos (1954-1975) Reports and Documents"
- 2. J. Lin Compton, University of Wisconsin-Madison, "Matching Government Support with Local Initiative: IVS Rural Development Work in Laos in the '60s"
- 3. Maria Carmen Domingo-Kirk, City College of San Francisco, "Towards an Understanding of Theravada Buddhism- Theory and Practice"

29. Syntax and Lexicon (Room 309)

Chair: Garry Davis, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

- 1. Carol J. Compton, University of Wisconsin-Madison, "Lexical, Syntactic and Poetic Aspects of Lao Four-word Phrases"
- 2. Douglas Cole, University of Iowa, "Affected Experiences in Lao: The "thuk" Construction"
- 3. Charles Zuckerman, University of Michigan, "The Sounds of Others: Reflections on Reported Speech in Laos"
- 4. Dutchat Jitbanjong, Mahasarakham University, "The Evidence of the Language and Account Connected with a Background of the Saek Ethnic Group in Laos and Thailand"

Session G (8:30-10:30 am Sunday, April 21, 2013)

30. Lao Biodiversity and Natural Resource Management (Room 325)

Chair: Jeong Eun (Anya) Lim, University of Wisconsin-Madison

- 1. William Robichaud, Saola Working Group, IUCN Lao Programme, "Saving a Lao Unicorn: Saola and the Extinction Crisis in Southeast Asia"
- 2. David Pick, Florida Atlantic University, "Survey of the Lepidoptera (Butterflies and Moths) of Laos"
- 3. Chris Hallam, Wildlife Conservation Society, "Integrating Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Scientific Knowledge to Improve Conservation Planning for Gibbons (*Hylobatdae*) in Lao PDR" (to be presented by Arlyne Johnson)

31. Tourism (Room 335)

Chair: Prany Sananikone, University of California-Irvine

- 1. Shih-chung Hsieh, National Taiwan University, "On the Development of Radical Tourism in Sipsong Panna and Formulated Ethnic Performances of the Tai-Lue"
- 2. Michael Kleinod, Humboldt-University of Berlin, "Linking Ways of Nature Worship-Tourism to Sacred Forests in Laos"
- 3. Masao Nishimura, Waseda University- Tokyo, "Tourism Development and its Impact on the Lao-Cambodian Border Region"
- 4. Warinart Pitukwongwan, Mahidol University, "Chiangkhan's Cultural Landscape and the Change of Tai People Ideology towards their Careers"

32. Ethnic Minorities in Laos Round Table (Room 313)

Ian Baird, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Mai Na Lee, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
Bruce Shoemaker
Leena Her, Kennesaw State University
Guido Sprenger, University of Heidelberg
Yves Goudineau, EFEO
Vanina Bouté, IRASEC - Research Institute on Contemporary Southeast Asia
Khampanh Keovilaysak, GAPE

33. Tai Dialects (Room 326)

Chair: Carol Compton, University of Wisconsin-Madison

- 1. Mudjalin Luksanawong, Mahasarakham University, "The Relationship of the Five Tai Dialects in Sakon Nakhon, Thailand: A Study of Basic Words"
- 2. Sasithorn Onlao, Mahasarakham University, "The Grouping of Tai Language in Nam Paw Basin, Khamkeut District, Bolikhamxai Province, Lao People's Democratic Republic"
- 3. Banyat Salee, Mahasarakham University, "Language Usage of Lao Diaspora in Cambodia"

Session H (11:00 am-12:40 pm Sunday, April 21, 2013)

34. Resettlement, Agriculture and Economic Zones (Room 313)

Chair and Discussant: Phil Hirsch, University of Sydney

- 1. Pinkaew Laungaramsri, Chiang Mai University, "Civilizing Mission, Commodifying Sovereignty and the Making of Neo-liberal Subject in the Special Economic Zone of Northern Lao Borders"
- 2. Lamphay Inthakoun, Clark University, "Land Policy, Forest Access, and Rural Livelihood Transformation in Northern Laos"
- 3. Michael B. Dwyer, University of Bern, "All-Around Secure Localities: Focal Site Development in Laos' Postwar Political Forest"

35. Migration (Room 325)

Chair: David Chambers, University of Wisconsin-Madison

- 1. Sutida Tonlerd, Ubon Ratchathani University, "History of Lao Labor and its Effect on Thai Society from 1991-2012 A.D."
- 2. Suchada Thaweesit, Mahidol University, "Displaced Laotians in Northeastern Thailand"
- 3. Nicole Reichert, Max-Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, "Laotian Migrants in East Germany: Life between Official State Discourse and Individual Migration Histories"
- 4. Vanina Bouté, IRASEC Research Institute on Contemporary Southeast Asia, Bangkok (CNRS-MAEE) and University of Picardie, "Migration and the Emergence of New Social Stratifications in Northern Laos"

36. Phonology (Room 326)

Chair: Carol Compton, University of Wisconsin-Madison

- 1. Garry W. Davis, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, "The Story of Lao <r>: Filling in the Gaps"
- 2. Varisa Kamalanavin, Thammasat University, "The Tonal System of Lao Khrang in Nong Mamong District, Chainart Province, Thailand, and its Foreign Accent Rated by Luang Phabang Speakers"
- 3. Nonglak Sungsuman, Ubon Ratchathani University, "A Phonological System of Tai Bo Dialect Bolikhamsai and Khammuan Province, Lao PDR"

37. People from Laos in America (Room 335)

Chair: Vinya Sysamouth, CLS

- 1. Youd Sinh Chao, American Biblical Counselors Association, Mien Christian Mission Fellowship, "How Intercultural Communication Impacts Mien and other Southeast Asian Marriage and Family Relationships"
- 2. Akarath Soukhaphon, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, "Lao Place- Making in Milwaukee, WI"
- 3. Phitsamay Sychitkokhong Uy, University of Massachusetts Lowell, "The Education Experiences of Lao and Khmer High School Students: The Influence of Families, Friends, and Teachers on Academic Achievement"
- 4. Buasawan Simmala, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, "Coping Strategies with Cross-Cultural Adjustment Challenges of Lao and Vietnamese International Graduate Students in the United States"

38. Music and Song (Room 319)

Chair and Discussant: Terry Miller, Kent State University

- 1. Chalermsak Pikulsri, Khon Kaen University, "Changes in Music of Khmu Tribe in Lao People's Democratic Republic"
- 2. Maneerat Ragphuan, Mahasarakham University, "Identity of Dialects in Northeastern Thailand in Country Song between 1998-2010"
- 3. Autthapon Intasena, Mahasarakham University, "Representations of the Mekong River in the Song Called 'Song Fung Kong'"









Fourth International Conference on Lao Studies Film Festival, 2013

Schedule

VandeBerg Auditorium, Room 121, Pyle Center

Saturday, April 20, 2013

9:30 am Happy Laos Film, 17 min.

10:00 am Tai Dam Courtship Games, Documentary, RT: 9 min.

10:15 am *Hmong New Year,* Documentary, RT: 14 min.

10:30 am Roses and Red Ants: Great Men Unleash Terrible Destruction, Documentary

(trailer, in production), RT: 10 min

10:45 am Caring for the Beyond, Two Lao Buddhist Festivals for the Deceased,

Documentary, RT: 30 min.

11:30 am At the Horizon, Horror, RT: 1 hr 45 min.

Ends @ 1:15 pm

Sunday, April 21, 2013

9:00 am Lao Warrior Action, (trailer, in production), RT: 10 min. (including short

performance by Kenji Saykosy)

9:30 am Laos Free, Animation, RT: 9 min.

9:45 am *Surviving the Peace: Laos,* Documentary, RT: 24 min.

10:15 am Portraits from Luang Prabang, Director: Adri Berger, RT: 20 min.

10:45 am Chanthaly, Drama, RT: 1 hr 45 min.

Ends @ 12:45 pm

Feature Films

At the Horizon

Drama, RT: 1 hr 45 min. Director: Anysay Keola

Assistant Director: Xaisongkham Induangchanthy

Sin, a wealthy boy in his early twenties born into a powerful family, is spoiled by his parents. He has never realized the importance of self-dependence and is widely regarded as irresponsible, arrogant, and pompous. Sin's life would intersect with Lud, a mute middle-aged mechanic. Lud lives a modest life with his wife and daughter. The story pivots around Lud's imprisonment of Sin. This drama reveals the epic collision of revenge, corruption, and forgiveness. Both characters move towards the point of no return.

Chanthaly

Horror (rough cut), RT: 1 hr 45 min.

Director: Mattie Do

Raised alone by her overprotective father and sequestered in their home in Vientiane, Chanthaly suspects that her dead mother's ghost is trying to deliver a message to her from the afterlife. A change in her medication—intended to treat her hereditary heart condition—causes the hallucinations to cease. Chanthaly must decide whether or not to risk succumbing to her terminal illness in order to hear her mother's last words.

Shorts (20-30 min)

Happy Laos Film

17 min.

There is no doubt that Laos is changing...or indeed that some change is good and some change is bad. In this time of rapid development it seems important to pause and consider the things that are important in life and whether the change is taking us in the right direction. What is happiness and what makes us happy? Why is thinking and talking about happiness important? This community-based project brings together interviews with over 100 people across five provinces of Laos, talking about the things that make them happy.

Caring for the Beyond, Two Lao Buddhist Festivals for the Deceased

Documentary, RT: 30 min.

Directors: Patrice Ladwig and Gregory Kourilsky

In Lao Buddhism the relationship between the living and the dead is expressed and perpetuated in rituals. The 'Festival of rice packets covering the earth' and the 'Festival of rice drawn by lots' are part of the annual ritual cycle of Lao Buddhists and are performed in the 9th lunar month at new moon and full moon respectively. This ethnographic documentary focuses on the

preparation in the household of Buddhist laypeople and the performance of the rituals in two temples. It takes a detailed look at the objects of exchange that constitute links between the living, the monks and the dead and documents how care for the deceased is expressed in the cultural idioms of a localized Buddhism.

Surviving the Peace: Laos
Documentary, RT: 23:30 min.
Executive Producer: Brian Storm

Surviving the Peace: Laos takes an intimate look at the lives of those affected by these unexploded bombs and profiles the dangerous, yet life-saving work that MAG, staffed by Lao nationals, has undertaken in the country. The film follows the tragic story of one UXO accident survivor and the devastating effect such an accident will have on his family and future generations. MAG staff highlight the effect unexploded ordnance has had on the economic development of this country.

Portraits from Luang Prabang

Director: Adri Berger, RT: 20 min.

The film incorporates interviews with local people to create a 'window' on Luang Prabang in Laos from a different perspective. Many visitors see the traditional arts and culture of Luang Prabang when they buy souvenirs, go to a show or visit museums. However they don't often get to see how these traditions are kept alive by the people who work as local artisans and in small village industries. This film goes behind the scenes and depicts a vital part of life in Luang Prabang. We created simple 'moving' portraits (vignettes) of the people who are the heartbeat of this small heritage town in SE Asia.

Mini Films (Approximately 10 min. or less, works in-progress, trailers)

Roses and Red Ants: Great Men Unleash Terrible Destruction

Documentary (trailer, in production), RT: 10 min

Director: Nakhone Keodara

The dust from bombed megalithic stone urns-covered Plain of Jars and cratered battlefields of sleepy Laos settled nearly four decades ago. Yet around one third of the country remains contaminated with about 80 million unexploded cluster bombs that litter villages, school grounds, rice fields, roads, and other populated areas; close to a million displaced Laotians still live in fear, afraid to talk about what they left behind. They are scattered across five continents far away from their homeland. Roses & Red Ants is a fascinating and never-been-told tale of a country that time has forgotten: an epic documentary (in production) about four Princes and a soldier fighting a Civil War for the sovereignty of Laos. Roses & Red Ants will follow a unique Lao American student across sweeping landscapes of America and on globe-trotting scavenger expeditions to excavate the farthest reaches of the minds and deepest chambers of the hearts of its survivors. His is a quest to memorialize the struggle of a people. In the background, Roses & Red Ants is about a Laotian peasant revolution—to rid itself of over half a century of colonial repression (France) and 200 years of its local neighbors' domination (Thailand, Vietnam and Burma).

Laos Free

Animation, RT: 9 min.

Director/Producer: Cory Sheldon

Laos Free is an animated film that is part narrative and part info-graphic. It tells some of the history between Laos and the United States, how the bombing came to be during the Vietnam conflict and what the situation is like today. As a 'war' that was deliberately hidden, it is sadly no surprise that the bombing in Laos is little known to the citizens of the country that is responsible for the bombing. To the people of Laos, however, it is painfully a part of everyday life.

Hmong New Year

Documentary, RT: 14 min.

Producers: Traditional Arts and Ethnology Centre (TAEC)

A 14-minute video follows Hmong New year's celebrations in the village of Ban Nasamphan near Luang Prabang town in 2012. The video follows a community as they make rice cakes, bless the community, and make offerings to the spirits for the coming year. Filmed by Hmong and Lao staff of the Traditional Arts and Ethnology Centre, the video shows how New Year traditions endure today.

Tai Dam Courtship Games

Documentary, RT: 9 min.

Producers: Peter Livermore for the Traditional Arts and Ethnology Centre (TAEC) Traditionally, informal rituals and games were an important part of courtship for Laos' ethnic minority groups. In this short video, we see Tai Dam teenagers in Xe Village in Houaphan Province play *lin mak khone*, make rice cakes and traditional alcohol, and shyly get to know one another.

Lao Warrior

Action (trailer, in production), RT: 10 min.

Director: Kenji Saykosy

Lao Warrior is a movie based on the true story of Kenji's life as he and his family fled from a small village in Laos during the Vietnam War, eventually making their way to the United States. The story follows Kenji as he adjusts to a new culture, a new language and all of the problems one face growing up in America. As Kenji overcomes his fears, racism, bullying and the shock of his new life, he grows and becomes an incredible martial artist with good friends and a meaningful life. When things seem at their best, Kenji must face new challenges as his world collides with a powerful, corrupt mob boss bent on controlling the city through terror and violence. Can Kenji stop a human trafficking ring, underground fighting and a murderous enemy from the past?

For further questions, please contact the Film Festival Chair at sarounsack@csustan.edu







Music at Conference Banquet, Saturday, April 20, 2013

Natasinh, Lao Classical Dance and Music Group of Iowa and REPLAY-HASA

6:00 pm Playing of traditional Lao music to welcome banquet guests by

Natasinh, Lao Classical Dance and Music Group of Iowa

Dance of Welcoming the New Year, Natasinh Dancers and Musicians

7:00 pm Master of Ceremonies opens the Banquet Program

7:30 pm Performance by REPLAY-HASA (Hmong American Student Association) Dance Crew

- 1) Traditional Hmong Dance: Lom Zem Xyoo Tshiab by Nta Lis (New Year Fun)
- -This dance is a partner dance about having fun during the New Year festivities.
- 2) Modern/Hip Hop Dance: Mix of songs including "Scream" by Usher, "Party Rock Anthem" by LMFAO and various other songs and artists.

8:30 pm Program of Lao Dance and Music by Natasinh

1) Souriya, the Sun Dance Natasinh Dancers and Musicians

2) Dok Champa Dr. Yang Dao on harmonica with Natasinh

Musicians

3) Lamvong Natasinh Musicians and banquet guests

4) Khene and lam performance Natasinh performers

5) The Dance of Hanuman, the monkey general from Phra Lak, Phra Lam
(the Lao version of the Ramayana) Natasinh performers

6) The Dance of Lao Ethnic Unity Natasinh, Lao Classical Dance and Music Group of Iowa

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