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Subject: ANA info
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Womanifesto Residency Program 2009

Following our first successful artist-in-residence program in 2008, we are seeking support for the residency program (to be conducted annually) for the year 2009.

Established with the aim of continuing the on-going dialogue with a particular site and community first started at Womanifesto Workshop 2001, the program is held in a unique environment and location, where diverse visions and life efforts of the elders and a younger generation of people have come together to ensure continuity of a way of life that has and continues to include engaging various art forms.

In the program, also established are workshops that involve local schools (up to 20 schools) and occupational colleges (from Ubon Ratchathani and Kantaralak) and University Art Schools (from Ubon Ratchathani, Maha Sarakham, and the N E region) that are rarely exposed to this form of art and culture discourse, along with bringing into focus the diversity of the richness of the cultural ways of the local community itself that includes Lao, Khmer, Suay, and Yao people.

Promoting artistic creation through interaction, the residency will be held for a period of 6 weeks (October/November 2009) on Boonbandarn Farm, Si Saket, N E Thailand.

For this 2nd residency program, six women artists will be invited from the Asian region as follows: one each from Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Myanmar and India.

The program will focus on inviting artists working in the following disciplines: visual arts, craft, music, performance (including theater, dance), poetry/writing, architecture.

The focus is also on linking practitioners from the region with traditional and contemporary cultural practices in Thailand, particularly in the region of Isarn, and to highlight our shared cultures, increase cultural awareness, and promote discussions about and an exchange and interaction between the traditional and contemporary.

The program aims for artists to interact with the local communities and art forms such as Morlam, Pagnya (oral poetry form), crafts, vernacular architecture forms, and a rural way of life.

We request ANA to be one of the partners for financial assistance, to conduct the residency in 2009. We are also seeking funding from other organizations.

About Womanifesto

Womanifesto is a non-profit artist-led initiative established in 1995 in Bangkok, Thailand. Further information at

www.womanifesto.com

Email: info@womanifesto.com

Main organizers of Womanifesto Residency Program:

Nitaya Ueareeworakul and Varsha Nair.

Biographies:

Born in Udonthani, Thailand, Nitaya Ueareeworakul has a BFA from Faculty of Fine and Applied Art, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok. Nitaya lives in Kantaralak, N E Thailand. She is founding member of Border Art Group based in Kantaralak, and co organiser of Womanifesto Residency Program 2008.

Born in Kampala, Uganda, Varsha Nair has a BFA from Faculty of Fine Arts, Maharaja Sayaji Rao University, Baroda, India. Since 1997, she has also co-organized various art events and projects; the last three projects for Womanifesto: Womanifesto Workshop 2001, Procreation/Postcreation 2003 and No Man's Land 2006, were conceptualized by her. Varsha has lived in Bangkok, Thailand, since 1995.