

MEDIA RELEASE

Gallery 4A Asia-Australia Arts Centre
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14 June – 26 July 2008

Roop-Rote-Ruang (Taste-Touch-Tell) VIPOO SRIVILASA

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for program information, hi-res images or media interviews.



ROOP-ROTE-RUANG (TASTE-TOUCH-TELL) Vipoo Srivilasa

Melbourne-based artist VIPOO SRIVILASA works mostly in ceramics, exploring similarities between the cultures of his native Thailand and Australia, his adoptive home. Using blue and white porcelain, he creates complex narratives through highly decorated images applied to the surfaces of ceramic forms. His work requires an intimacy in which the key elements of the drama are often found in unusual places within the forms themselves.

Vipoo Srivilasa's upcoming project *Roop - Rote - Ruang (Taste - Touch - Tell)* will take the form of both an exhibition at Gallery 4A and a series of dinner parties, hosted by the artist, at various private residences in Sydney. The gallery exhibition will focus on environmental issues such as coral reef damage. This will include a series of blue and white, intricately decorated ceramic hands. Visitors will also participate in the creation process by building their own pieces of coral from clay provided in the gallery. Those coral pieces will gradually come together to form a coral reef, growing larger as more people participate in the project.

Over dinner, Srivilasa will present a new set of ceramic dinnerware to his guests. The work will unfold as the meal is consumed. Images will gradually be exposed on bowls or plates and the full narrative will reveal itself as the dinner comes to its conclusion.

Through each element of *Roop- Rote - Ruang*, Srivilasa allows his audience to experience his work on many levels. He embraces the Buddhist concept of 'ayatana', or the six channels of awareness. This means that sight (eyes), taste (tongue), smell (nose), hearing (ears), touch (hand) and mindfulness are all engaged. The artist is interested in creating opportunities for sharing between complete strangers and creating different, social ways of exploring complex ideas of his cross-cultural experience.

Vipoo Srivilasa was born in Bangkok, Thailand and arrived in Australia in 1997. Since arriving in Australia he has developed a practice that is ceramics-based but with a strong social context, which can be seen in the many workshops he has developed with children. The artist will be conducting a floortalk on Saturday, 21 June at 2pm to discuss his work.

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body.

GALLERY 4A IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE ARE CURRENTLY TAKING RESERVATIONS FOR DINNER WITH VIPOO SRIVILASA.

Please note that the dinners are ticketed at \$150 per person. To make a booking please call 02 9212 0380 or email info@4a.com.au with your preferred dinner date and number of seats. Early bookings are recommended as seats are strictly limited. Seats are not guaranteed until confirmation is received from us. Maximum 12 seats per dinner. Special dietary requirements cannot be accommodated.

DINNER DATES: WED 11 JUNE/ THURS 12 JUNE/ FRI 20 JUNE/ SAT 21 JUNE

