

PRESS RELEASE

“Enjoy the variety of traditional Thai dances at Thai Pavilion”

Thai Pavilion proudly presents special events of traditional Thai dance performances inside Thai Pavilion and at Event Space Global Common 6 during May 13th – 15th, 2005.

Ram Sat Chatri (Drama Dance)

Chatri is a form of dance drama that is popular in the southern parts of Thailand, especially Petchaburi Province. According to the tradition, the *chatri* is the prototype of all forms of Thai dance drama, which are its modifications in successive periods. It is the custom that leading male dancer of the troupe must perform a prelude, which is known as the *ram sat* to the accompaniment of pipe and drums. This preliminary dance is actually the ceremony of paying homage to the dancer teachers.



Fon Malai Fon Paen (Garland Dance)



Fon Malai is a dance from the northern part of Thailand. It depicts young girls bringing garlands of fragrant flowers to worship of the Buddha. These garlands are also offered to esteemed elders or to sweethearts as a token of respect, love and happiness.

Fon Paen is a type of regional *fon* from the north. It follows the song “Lao Paen” a tone which is played by a solo instrument, unaccompanied and, as in the case of all solo musical compositions, exploited by the musician to display

his skill.

Rabam Kraidabhiniaharn (Glory Dance)

This rabam dance first appeared in the historical play “*Kierisak Thai*” staged at the Silapakorn Theater in 1943. The dancers represent gods and angels who have gathered in a joyful dance to honor the *Kridabhiniaharn* (power and glory) of the Thai nation. The scattering of fragrant flowers bestows salutation and blessings on the audience. The text of the accompanying song also carries a message of good wishes.

Fon Pootai Thangwai (Thai Tribe Dance)

Pootai is the name of a Thai tribe in the northeastern part of Thailand. This dance is usually performed on festive occasions of the Pootai people. It is danced to the tune of music whose orchestra consists of klong ching (drums of the Pootai) accompanied by various other drums and mouth organs. Among the musical instruments, the klong-ching is the most important because it sets the tempo of the dance. Moreover, the beater of klong ching can display many interesting tricks in beating the drum. Thangwai literally means arranging to dance for sacred an occasion. It is



performed as a token of respect to the holy spirits, and usually is part of a ceremony of thanks offering to the local deities.

Rabam Dok Bua (The Lotus Dance)

The lotus is traditionally used in sacred worship in Thailand, and therefore is regarded as a flower of good luck. The use of this flower in a dance is an indication of respect for the audience and of bestowing happiness and health on them.

Ram Manohra (Manohra Dance of Sacrifice by fire)

Manohra dance featuring the sacrifice by fire is a solo dance excerpt from the story called Prince Suthon and the Kinnari Manohra, Manohra is a half bird half woman creature Kinnari, wife of Prince Suthon. While the prince is engaging in a war at the front, the unscrupulous court advisors conspire to misleading the king to believe that he is in a desperately ill situation. The only means to eradicate the evil spell is by sacrificing his daughter in-law, Manohra, by fire.

Rabam Wichanee (Fan Dance)

Rabam Wichanee is a fan dance. The dancers are all female, holding a small fan known in Thai as a *wichanee* or *pachanee*. The dance movement is accompanied by sweet, lyrical music and singing. Since the weather is very warm in Thailand, the *rabam wichanee* is an art which is derived from a natural habit of the people.

Fon Lep (Nail Dance)

The nail dance is popular among the peoples of Northern Thailand. It is called *Fon Lep* because it is a dance in the northern style, called a *fon*, and the dancers wear long brass fingernails.

Performance Schedule :

Date	Time	Detail	Place
May 13th, Friday	13:00	Rabam Dok Bua (Lotus Dance)	Event Hall, Thai Pavilion
		Ram Manohra (Manohra Dance)	
		Fon Malai Fon Paen (Garland Dance)	
	16:00	Rabam Wichanee (Fan Dance)	Event Space Global Common 6
		Ram Manohra (Manohra Dance)	
		Fon Pootai Thangwai (Tribe Dance)	
	18:00	Rabam Dok Bua (Lotus Dance)	Event Hall, Thai Pavilion
		Ram Manohra (Manohra Dance)	
		Fon Paen (Northern Dance)	
May 14th, Saturday	11:00	Rabam Wichanee (Fan Dance)	Event Hall, Thai Pavilion
		Ram Sat Chatri (Drama Dance)	
		Fon Lep (Nail Dance)	
	14:00	Rabam Kridabhiniharn (Glory Dance)	Event Space Global Common 6
		Ram Sat Chatri (Drama Dance)	
		Fon Malai Fon Paen (Garland Dance)	
	17:00	Rabam Kridabhiniharn (Glory Dance)	Event Hall, Thai Pavilion

		Ram Sat Chatri (Drama Dance)	
		Fon Pootai Thangwai (Tribe Dance)	
May 15th, Sunday	11.00	Rabam Wichanee (Fan Dance)	Event Hall, Thai Pavilion
		Ram Manohra (Manohra Dance)	
		Fon Paen (Northern Dance)	
	14:00	Rabam Dok Bua (Lotus Dance)	Event Space Global Common 6
		Ram Manohra (Manohra Dance)	
		Fon Lep (Nail Dance)	
	17.00	Rabam Wichanee (Fan Dance)	Event Hall, Thai Pavilion
		Ram Manohra (Manohra Dance)	
		Fon Paen (Northern Dance)	

All visitors are most welcomed to join our special events.