



# មហោស្រពអមតៈ AMATAK FESTIVAL

ចាប់ពីថ្ងៃទី 15 ដល់ថ្ងៃទី 17 ខែសីហា ឆ្នាំ 2014  
 នៅសាកលវិទ្យាល័យភូមិន្ទវិចិត្រសិល្បៈ និងនៅសារមន្ទីរជាតិភ្នំពេញ  
 ចាប់ផ្តើមកម្មវិធី ចាប់ពីម៉ោង 2.00រសៀល រហូតដល់ម៉ោង 8.00យប់



# PROGRAM

COMMONSENSEFUND



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# MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC PRODUCER



Dear Arts Enthusiasts,

Cambodian Living Arts (CLA) is proud to present you the Amatak Festival, where tradition meets creativity!

After 15 years of working with Master Artists to spread the knowledge of traditional art forms across the country, a new generation of artists has now grown up, and we are actively working with them to help independent, self-sustaining performance troupes emerge from these classes.

This new generation of youth has blossomed in their own right, who will thrive as independent, self-sustaining artists and realize their own goals of transforming Cambodia through its artists and the arts.

The Amatak Festival will feature 10 recently formed ensembles, presenting a dynamic and creative blend of art forms, which showcase their traditional roots. They have created new and exciting pieces to premiere.

Please take advantage of the two stages at the Royal University and Fine Arts campus and the Plae Pakaa Theater at the National Museum. There will also be an opportunity for audience members to take part in an open stage, and become a new artist too!

We hope you enjoy the festive and creative spaces, and take part in the exchange of ideas during discussions, workshops, and the open stage.

As arts audiences, you play an essential role in the ongoing growth of a vibrant cultural sector in Cambodia. Thank you for being here and please continue visiting art events!

SUON BUNRITH  
Artistic Producer

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 16TH**



## DISCUSSION

**New teaching contexts – challenges or opportunities?**

2pm – Royal University of Fine Arts, room A3

As more schools and institutions offer art classes, the traditional teaching model is evolving. For centuries, Master Artists transmitted their knowledge to small groups of students who had dedicated their lives to the arts. Today, how do teachers need to adapt their methods to a globalizing and modernizing Cambodia?

LIMITED  
SPACE



## WORKSHOP

**Folk dances all over the place**

2pm – Royal University of Fine Arts, room Y2

Always dreamed to crush dye or to fish with style? Come and learn folk dances of the Suoy, Phnornng or other Cambodian minorities presented by performers from Children of Bassac, one of Cambodia's most renowned dance troupes!

LIMITED  
SPACE



## WORKSHOP

**Harp's not hard!**

2pm – Royal University of Fine Arts, room A4

Based on 20 years of research in Asia on ancient instruments, in 2013, French ethnomusicologist Patrick Kersale rebuilt several extinct Angkorian instruments, used from the 7th to 13th centuries, including Cambodia's iconic *Pin* harp! Come and learn from professional musicians how to play this instrument that until recently was a symbol of Cambodia's rich but lost heritage – and now, may come to symbolize its revival.

LIMITED  
SPACE



## WORKSHOP

### Mohaory, why note?

2pm – Royal University of Fine Arts, room Y3

For this exceptional occasion, the Dantrei Mangkol troupe from Kandal province is joining forces with *Mohaory* singers from the capital city, to bring to you the opportunity to learn everything you have ever wanted to know about *Pin Peat* and *Mohaory* orchestras for royal parties and village ceremonies!

LIMITED  
SPACE



## WORKSHOP

### Hidden artistic treasures

2pm – Royal University of Fine Arts, room A1

CLA-founder Arn Chorn-Pond's Khmer Magic Music Bus, an initiative to bring Cambodian arts to people in the countryside who wouldn't otherwise have access to it, comes back to the capital city with a couple of awesome musicians of *Thon*, a typical art form from Northern Cambodia, and a Master of the *Ken*, an instrument that was thought to be lost until just last year! You never heard that music yet, but you will surely remember it your whole life!

LIMITED  
SPACE



## PERFORMANCES ON THE GO

4-5pm – Royal University of Fine Arts, Saklapei stage

A blend of several different bands will offer you a dynamic hour-long performance, along with the Soul Fighters and their crazy shaped wind instruments made of buffalo horns and other unusual materials. The Roar Skor band will have you clapping your hands with their *Chhayams* and other drums, while the Smot Meas troupe will present their new creation, adapted from the popular folk tale, *Sovanna Sam*, sung with Smot poetry and narration. The Red Scarf musicians will then play *Thon*, a lively and unknown music form from Northern Cambodia. Finish your afternoon with fun and improvisation with the Chapei Chen group, which will create lyrics on the spot accompanying themselves with the strings of the *Chapei Dang Weng*.



## OPEN MIC

5-6pm - Royal University of Fine Arts, Saklapei stage

Poet, singer, radio presenter and *Kantrim* music researcher, Young Yorn is pulling one more skill out of his hat and will host the festival's open mic! Always dreamed of becoming a star? Want to declare your love in style? Wish to try out that new song you composed? There can be no bad reason for participating in our open mic, so bring your happiness and your instruments and come up on stage!



## PERFORMANCE

### Kandol Kesei, Yike Opera

### The Soul Fighters, wind instruments

6:30-8pm – National Museum of Cambodia, Plae Pakaa theater

Led by award-winning director Uy Ladavan, the acclaimed Yike Amatak troupe returns with a brand-new show, *Kandol Kesei*. This emblematic folk tale brings up the question of how much compassion and love one can have for their cruel counterparts. The story has been adapted for *Yike* theater for this special occasion. The Soul Fighters will introduce the evening with a 20-min performance of unusual wind instruments accompanied by giant drums and dancing fighters.

TICKET  
REQUIRED

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 17TH**



**DISCUSSION**  
**Youth & the arts**

2pm - Royal University of Fine Arts, room A5

One thing is certain, Cambodia's population is young. What role will the youth play in supporting, empowering or increasing knowledge of the arts? People of all ages are invited to participate in this discussion!

LIMITED  
SPACE



**DISCUSSION**  
**Women & the arts**

2pm – Royal University of Fine Arts, room A3

What challenges do women encounter in the arts sector and is that an issue that society needs to address? These are questions that you may not have considered if you're not a woman struggling to gain acceptance in the arts, but this is definitely a topic that you should come and express your opinion about! This program will include a special theater performance whose ending will be left to the audience to decide!

LIMITED  
SPACE



**WORKSHOP**  
**Yike, the mysterious Opera**

2pm – Royal University of Fine Arts, room Y2

*Yike* is a style of story-telling Opera unique to Cambodia and experts and teachers differ in their theories on its origin. *Yike*, which features dance, singing, acting and music, is a demanding and beautiful art form. Learn the basics and add some pep to your story-telling!

LIMITED  
SPACE



**WORKSHOP**  
**To be or Smot to be**

2pm – Royal University of Fine Arts, room A1

*Smot* is a chanted form of poetry that tells stories about the life of the Buddha or religious principles. The lyrics are written in Pali language, and *Smot* is recognized as one of the oldest and most endangered art forms in the country. Master Koeut Ran and her students have come from Kampong Speu province to reveal all of *Smot's* secrets– don't miss this very rare opportunity!

LIMITED  
SPACE



**WORKSHOP**  
**The art of acting**

2pm – Royal University of Fine Arts, room Y3

Embark on a journey with members from *Passage of Life* and *Nary's Journey*, theater pieces that have been created as part of Cambodian Living Arts' Plae Pakaa program of performances. The comedians will introduce you to the art of acting, a skill that can be useful in your everyday life. Or, you just might end up developing a passion for the arts, which will elevate your thinking for the rest of your life.

LIMITED  
SPACE



**WORKSHOP**  
**Chapei, what's that?**

2pm – Royal University of Fine Arts, room A4

Grab a *Chapei* and sing about whatever comes to mind. Sound easy? The Community of Living Chapey will show you how to create lyrics about people and society that you can sing along with, accompanied by simple melodies on the long-neck *Chapei Dang Weng* guitar.

LIMITED  
SPACE



## PERFORMANCES ON THE GO

4-5pm – Royal University of Fine Arts, Saklapel stage

A blend of various bands will offer you a dynamic hour-long performance, with the Roar Skor band and their *Chhayams* and other dancing drums. The Red Scarf band is then coming back for a second night of *Thon* music from Northern Cambodia. Kandal's Dantrei Mangkol troupe of *Pin Peat* is joining forces with the best of *Mohaory* singers from Phnom Penh to offer a beautiful music performance, which will conclude with *Chapei Dang Weng* melodies and witty lyrics and improvised on the spot by the Chapei Chen group.



## OPEN MIC

5-6pm - Royal University of Fine Arts, Saklapel stage

Poet, singer, radio presenter and *Kantrim* music researcher, Young Yorn is pulling one more skill out of his hat and will host the festival's open mic! Always dreamed of becoming a star? Want to declare your love in style? Wish to try out that new song you composed? There can be no bad reason for participating in our open mic, so bring your happiness and your instruments and come up on stage!



## PERFORMANCE

**Children of Bassac & The Khmer Magic Music Bus  
Dance & music**

6:30-8pm – National Museum of Cambodia, Plae Pakaa theater

Ieng Sithul's internationally acclaimed troupe, Children of Bassac, has prepared new dances from Cambodia's ethnic minorities, which they will reveal exclusively for the Amatak Festival! CLA-founder Arn Chorn-Pond's Khmer Magic Music Bus will then take the stage to get you dancing and jumping to original songs from Cambodia's heartland. They'll be joined by *Thon* and *Ken* musicians from the countryside, with a few surprises along the way!

TICKET  
REQUIRED

## /// PRACTICAL INFORMATION //////////////////////////////////////



### Discussion programs

All discussion programs are open to anyone who wants to share their opinions, or to anyone simply interested in listening to the debate.



### Workshops

All workshops are open to anyone, children or adults, from beginner to expert levels.



### Space is limited!

Space is limited! Priority will be given to participants who have booked their seat in advance: to reserve your place, please email [events@cambodianlivingarts.org](mailto:events@cambodianlivingarts.org) or call 023 986 032.



### Ticket is required!

To enter the Plae Pakaa theater you need a ticket, which you can get **for free** at any the following locations:

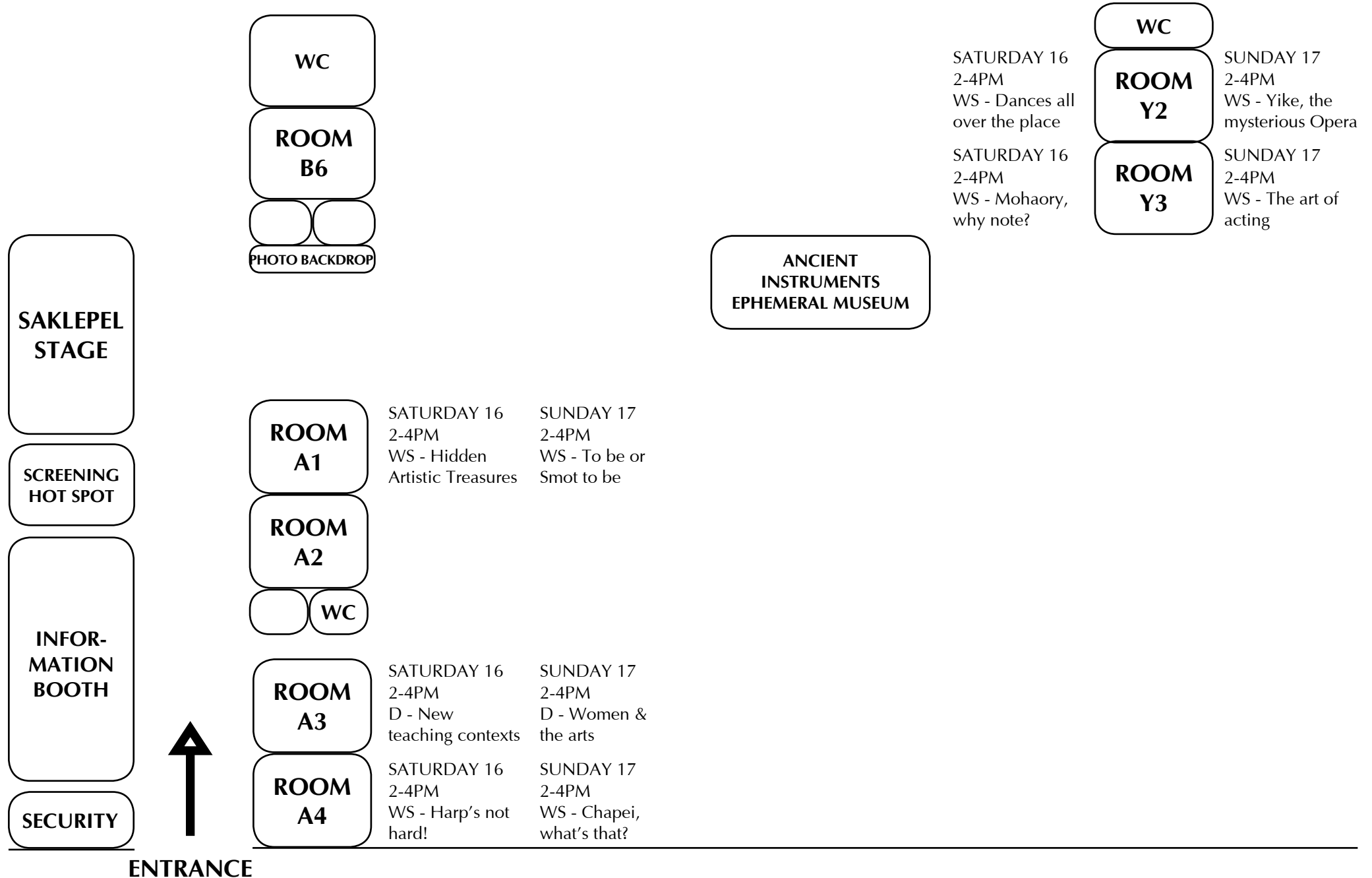
- the Plae Pakaa booth at the entrance of the National Museum – Thursday to Saturday 9am-7pm
- the CLA center, 128-G9 Sothearos Blvd, Monday-Friday 8am-12pm & 2-5pm, starting Monday 11th
- the Amatak Festival information booth at the Royal University of Fine Arts, Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th August, 2-6pm.

One person can get 4 tickets maximum.

## /// INFORMATION BOOTH //////////////////////////////////////

To receive more information about the Amatak Festival, please visit our information booth at the Royal University of Fine Arts, Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th August, 2-6pm.

/// EVENTS AT THE ROYAL UNIVERSITY OF FINE ARTS - MAP //////////////////////////////////////



# /// ABOUT CAMBODIAN LIVING ARTS //////////////

This festival is being organized by Cambodian Living Arts (CLA). CLA is a non-profit organization based in Cambodia that focuses on the arts. CLA implements a series of programs with the intention of creating a self-sustaining environment where individuals and communities can be empowered through the arts. CLA's Community Arts program offers participants the opportunity to learn the country's traditional arts, while its Capacity Building program assists motivated students in receiving training to improve their skills as arts professionals. CLA's Creative Industries program creates regular, well-paid work for arts professionals in the arts sector, while raising awareness about Cambodian arts.



Stay connected with us on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/Cambodianlivingarts](http://www.facebook.com/Cambodianlivingarts)



Stay connected with the festival on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/amatakfestival](http://www.facebook.com/amatakfestival)

Learn more on the web: [www.cambodianlivingarts.org](http://www.cambodianlivingarts.org)

## OUR OFFICE

#128-G9, Sothearos Blvd  
Sangkat Chamkamorn  
Tonle Bassac  
Phnom Penh



ANNIVERSARY

សិល្ប៍ខ្មែររស់រវើក  
CAMBODIAN LIVING ARTS