តំបុត្រិះថ្លៃ 15 មករា ដល់ 17 ខែមានី ឆ្នាំ 2014

15th PROGRAM

COMMONSENSEFUND

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CHENLA MEDIA
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 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?

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, Phnomg or other Cambodian minorities presented by performers from Children of Bassac, one of Cambodia’s most renowned dance troupes!

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.
**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 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, Saklapel 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, 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**

**Kandol Kesei, Yike Opera**
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!

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 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 of 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.
SATURDAY 16
2-4PM
WS - Hidden
WS - Dances all over the place
SATURDAY 16
2-4PM
WS - Mohaory, why note?
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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

Stay connected with the festival on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/amatakfestival

Learn more on the web: www.cambodianlivingarts.org

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