

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SUNDARAM TAGORE CHELSEA PRESENTS
FIRST NYC SOLO SHOW BY BANGKOK MIXED-
MEDIA ARTIST KAMOLPAN CHOTVICHAI**

Exhibition title: *Kamolpan Chotvichai: Fragility of the Self*

Exhibition dates: May 4 to June 4, 2016

Opening reception with the artist: Wednesday, May 4, 6 to 8 pm

Venue: Sundaram Tagore Chelsea, 547 West 27th Street, New York, NY 10001

Contact us: press@sundaramtagore.com / 212-677-4520



Desolation, 2015, C-type print and hand-cut canvas, 44.1 x 43.7 inches/112 x 111 cm

April 18, 2016—Sundaram Tagore Chelsea is pleased to present the first New York solo exhibition of work by Kamolpan Chotvichai, an emerging Thai artist based in Bangkok.

The artist addresses issues of identity and gender in photo-based self-portraits. Challenging the formal limitations of paper and canvas, she meticulously hand-cuts images of her body, creating sinuous ribbons along various parts of her anatomy. Based on an understanding of Buddhist teachings, Chotvichai obliterates her identity, eliminating her face and literally strips away her physical form, in the process relinquishing attachment to her body.

In contrast to the often socially and politically charged contemporary art coming out of Southeast Asia, Kamolpan's emotionally wrought black-and-white images are free of cultural iconography or social commentary. Her work is informed by her cultural heritage, not defined by it. Although her practice incorporates elements of Buddhist philosophy, her succinct visual language is entirely modern. She executes these dimensional works with an almost scientific precision and unparalleled technical mastery.



Phassa (Touching), 2015, C-type print and hand-cut canvas, 39 x 44.1 inches/99 x 112 cm

Her artistic process is composed of multiple steps. She begins by sketching each composition before translating her concepts and postures into photographs. Before printing and mounting the portraits, she distorts her image in an intentional manner. Wielding an ordinary utility knife, she carefully slices areas of the canvas into strips. Through this process, she transforms two-dimensional photographs into three-dimensional sculpture-like works.

Born in Bangkok in 1986, Kamolpan Chotvichai received a Master of Fine Arts degree at Silpakorn University, Bangkok. She is the recipient of numerous awards and scholarships, including a Gold Medal at the 58th National Exhibition of Art (2012), Bangkok.

This year, her work was prominently featured in Thailand Eye at Saatchi Gallery, London, the first major survey of contemporary Thai art in the United Kingdom. Her work was shown alongside renowned Thai artists such as Rirkrit Tiravanija, Navin Rawanchaikul and Udomsak Krisanamis and was chosen for the cover of the book accompanying the exhibition. Thailand Eye is currently on view at the Bangkok Art and Culture Centre, where it will remain through June 2016.

In 2015, Kamolpan Chotvichai was the youngest artist to participate in Frontiers Reimagined, an exhibition of global art and Collateral Event of the 56th Venice Biennale. The show was mounted at the Museo di Palazzo Grimani and named one of the five best exhibitions at the Biennale by The Art Newspaper.

For more information, email press@sundaramtagore.com or call 212-677-4520.

NEW YORK

Chelsea: 547 West 27th Street, New York, NY 10001 • tel 212 677 4520
Madison Avenue: 1100 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10028 • tel 212 288 2889
gallery@sundaramtagore.com

SINGAPORE

5 Lock Road 01-05, Gillman Barracks, Singapore 108933 • tel +65 6694 3378
singapore@sundaramtagore.com

HONG KONG

Fourth Floor, 57-59 Hollywood Road, Central, Hong Kong • tel +852 2581 9678
hongkong@sundaramtagore.com



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