

FIAF CONGRESSES 2024

NEWSLETTER NO.1





MS. WANPEN NICROVANACHUMRUS
PRESIDENT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the staff of the Thai Film Archive (Public Organization), it is with great pleasure that I extend a warm welcome to all delegates to the 2024 FIAF Congress at the Thai Film Archive. This date has particular significance for us, as in 2024 we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Thai Film Archive. The FIAF community has played a pivotal role in the realization of the Thai Film Archive, closely collaborating with and assisting its founder, Dome Sukvong. Since its successful establishment, the Thai Film Archive has regarded the FIAF community as the international standard and model for film archiving.

Hosting the FIAF Congress provides an excellent opportunity for FIAF affiliates to witness the fruitful outcomes of collaborative efforts within the FIAF community, particularly in assisting a country in establishing its film archive from its inception. Moreover, this marks the second time a FIAF Congress will be held in Southeast Asia since the 2004 FIAF Congress in Hanoi by the Vietnam Film Institute. I am optimistic that the regional film archives and the FIAF Congress will mutually benefit from this gathering.

I am looking forward to welcoming each of you in person to the Thai Film Archive during April 21-26, 2024.



INTRODUCTION

THAI FILM ARCHIVE

The Thai Film Archive (Public Organization) is a state agency tasked with the responsibility to collect, preserve and give access to the country's audio-visual and film-related materials. The Archive functions in part as a museum and library, and in part as a cinematheque.

The Thai Film Archive was founded in 1984 as the National Film Archive of Thailand. The department was attached to the National Museum and was allowed to use an old, abandoned factory of the Royal Mint in the compound of the National Gallery on Chaofah Road as its office.

In 1987, The Fine Arts Department transferred the National Film Archive to the jurisdiction of the National Archive. The National Film Archive began its public service by organizing screenings, exhibitions, and lectures, and giving access to researchers and the general public. That same year the archive applied to be an Associate member of the International Federation of Film Archives (FIAF).



INTRODUCTION

The National Film Archive of Thailand moved from its original building on Chaofah Road to its present location, a new compound on Phuttamonthon Sai 5 Road, in Salaya, Nakornpathom, a suburb on the outskirts of Bangkok in 1997.

In 2009, after eight years of campaigning, the National Film Archive was reorganized, becoming the Thai Film Archive (Public Organization). In Thailand, a Public Organization is a form of governmental administrative model that allows more managerial freedom to agencies whose missions require special expertise in order to improve efficiency. The archive also became a full member of FIAF in 2011

Today, the Thai Film Archive (Public Organization) is devoted to its mission to preserve film and film-related materials, as well as those created and stored in digital format, and to provide access to the public and encourage the use of film as an educational tool to young and senior citizens.



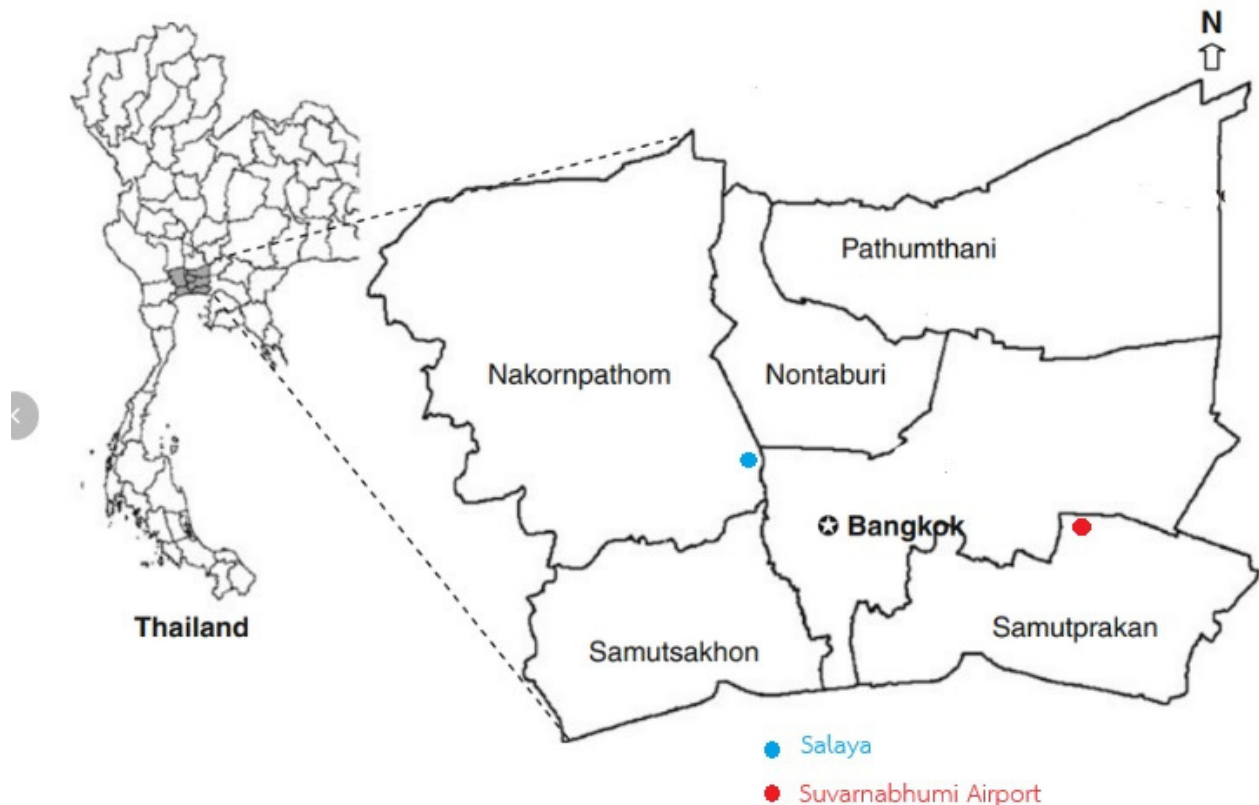
INTRODUCTION

SALAYA

Salaya, where the Thai Film Archive (Public Organization) is located, is a small sub-district of the Phutthamonthon district, Nakhon Pathom province, to the west of Bangkok.

Despite its proximity to Bangkok, Salaya maintains a serene and green small-town atmosphere with a modest cost of living. It is a popular destination for tourists (mostly from Bangkok) who visit on weekends or holidays. Salaya boasts numerous tourist attractions, including naturally chic cafes and restaurants.

Normally, the journey from Bangkok's city center to Salaya typically takes around an hour. However, it's important to note that during rush hours, when traffic is heavy in Bangkok, the journey time may extend beyond the usual duration.



INTRODUCTION

TOURIST DESTINATIONS

Phuttamonthon is a Buddhist park in Salaya. Its highlight is the 15.87 metre (52.1 ft) statue of Gautama Buddha by Corrado Feroci, a Tuscan-born Thai sculptor, who is considered the father of modern art in Thailand. This 990 acres park was established in 1957 (the year 2500 in the Thai Buddhist Era).



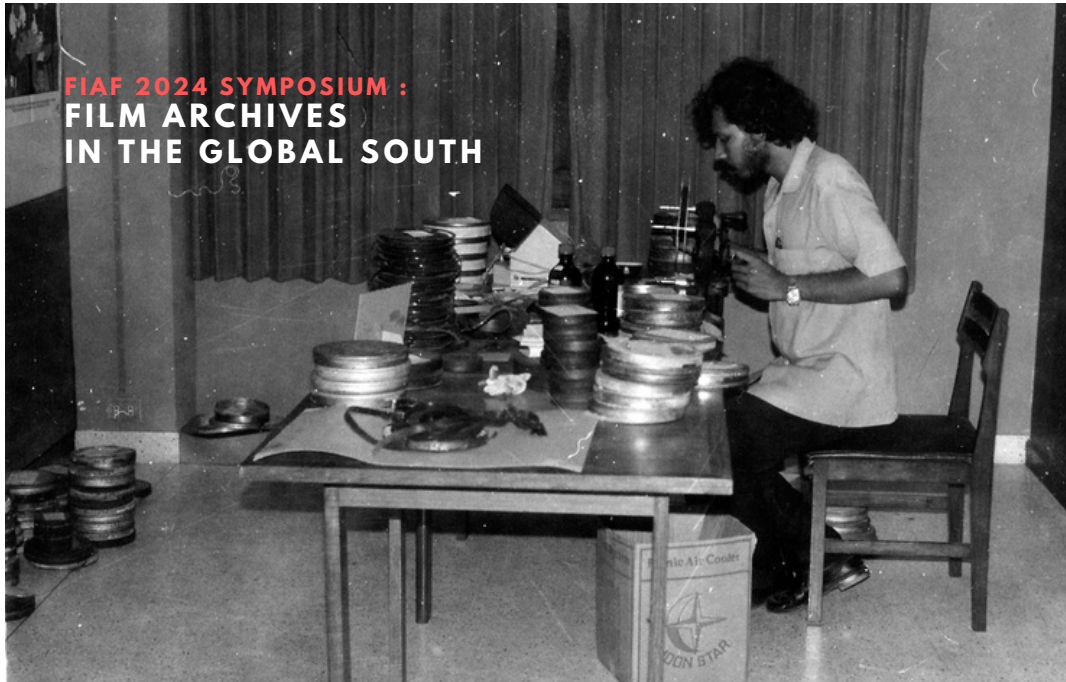
Mahidol University, Salaya campus, is situated on a site of 520 acres. The campus has been developed into a "green campus" providing a favorable environment for learning. The campus is home to the Sireeruckhachati Nature Learning Park and Prince Mahidol Concert Hall.



Don Wai Floating Market is the famous riverside market near Salaya. This market is a vibrant local community that extends a long walk into the inner. The pathway is flanked by old wooden shophouses along the riverbank. It offers many products, number of which are produced locally or fruit obtained from plants in the area.

Please note, FIAF Conference delegates will be enjoying lunch at the Don Wai Floating Market on Friday, April 26, 2024.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS



In 2023, out of the 173 FIAF members and associates, 41 affiliates were located in what is being referred to as the "Global South", spreading predominantly across Latin America, Asia, and Africa. Despite struggling with developmental and economic challenges, alongside political and social instability, these collections are significant for their cultural diversity, local history, and poignant reflections of societal and political issues experienced by the vast majority of the world's population.

As they continue their work on the preservation of the world's audiovisual memory, film archives of the Global South have become important centers for developing specific strategies, approaches and concepts of preservation beyond hegemonic models. More than that, these developments may expand preservation practices to areas and contexts that were previously ignored or considered unreachable through traditional methods and ideas, highlighting the resourcefulness and ingenuity of archival practices in the often under-resourced contexts of the Global South.

In order to expand our understanding of film archiving practice and shed light on these vital perspectives, the 2024 FIAF Congress will serve as an invaluable platform for film archivists and academics to convene, explore, and address the multifaceted issues surrounding film archiving in the Global South.

FIAF CONGRESS 2024 @ BANGKOK

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Proposals on, but not limited to, the following topics are invited:

- Transnational or cross-cultural film preservation
- Transnational collaboration and solidarity
- Postcolonial or decolonial perspectives in film archiving
- Non-traditional archival practices in the Global South
- Film archiving in non-institutional or under-resourced settings
- Film archives facing economic, political, social or environmental challenges
- Film archives and sustainability
- Funding for sustainability
- Collections at risk
- Vinegar syndrome
- Censorship

and more

The Scientific Committee looks forward to receiving your suggestions for the following two presentation formats: individual contributions or pre-constituted panels.

We particularly encourage submissions from regions of the world often underrepresented at FIAF Congresses, in particular those situated in the Global South.

The deadline of the submission is **January 8, 2024**. The Symposium Scientific Committee will announce the final selection of papers for the Symposium on January 31, 2024. Any questions or comments should be directed by email to fiaf2024@fapot.or.th.

**TO SUBMIT THE PROPOSAL,
PLEASE SCAN**



SIDEBAR ACTIVITIES



Thailand Biennale Chaing Rai : The Open World December 9, 2023 –April 30, 2024

The third edition of the Thailand Biennale is scheduled to be hosted in Chiang Rai, situated at the northernmost part of the country, under the theme “The Open World”. Artistic directors Rirkrit Tiravanija and Gridthiya Gaweewong, with curators Angkrit Ajcharyasophon and Manuporn Luengaram, will collaborate in exhibiting works from Thai and international artists from the Mekong region to the Amazon and beyond. The works address topical issues such as history, cultural diversity, and nature and ecology, and will be displayed across key venues in Chiang Rai such as art galleries, exhibition halls, museums, temples, and historic sites.

Songkarn Festival April 13-15, 2024

You may have heard about the famous water festival through various media outlets. Recently, UNESCO officially recognized the Thai Songkran Festival as an intangible cultural heritage of humanity. This might be a wonderful opportunity for you to experience this vibrant celebration.

The Songkran Festival is the traditional Thai New Year. It is a festive and joyous occasion celebrated with various cultural activities, including the famous water fights that symbolize the cleansing of the past and the welcoming of the new year.



SAVE THE DATE

FIAF Congress 2024

21 - 26 APRIL 2024

@ Thai Film Archive

Contact : fiaf2024@fapot.or.th

The logo for FIAF (International Federation of Film Archives) consists of the lowercase letters 'fiaf' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. A small red square is positioned above the letter 'i'.