**General presentation Landing page:**

The Toot Yung Art Center opened in 2010 in Bangkok as a tiny hub for emerging contemporary Thai artists. It has since then evolved, morphed and moved around.

Now thriving to its full potential, it is permanently established in Chiang Mai, Mae Rim, since March 2018 under the benefactor Udom Dansakchai, who built and designed the space.

Created by French artist and curator Myrtille Tibayrenc, a graduate of the the Ecole des Beaux Arts of Dunkerque and Marseille, with the support of her husband, Thai sculptor Haritorn Akarapat, the Toot Yung Art Center supports dialogue between nations and disciplines.

The promotion of Thai contemporary arts is the core of Toot Yung. The 100 m2 of exhibition space proposes highly curated exhibitions every 3 months, with a special focus on Thai artists from all regions of the country. Occasionally, the center invites foreign artists to develop special projects hand in hand with local craftsmen, musicians, designers Etc. Toot Yung Art Center’s ambition is to bring the best of Thailand to the world and the best of the world to Thailand.

Following the pace of the main gallery, The Design gallery features local and foreign designers shifting traditional crafts to modern, unique art pieces, inspired by local artistries and culture.

The original airy architecture of the center provides indoor and outdoor potential spaces for special cultural events such as concerts, conferences, diners, performances or fashion shows.

**Why Chiang Mai**

Established more than 700 years ago as the capital of the ancient Lanna Kingdom, Chiang Mai is now considered to be the cultural capital of the country. Hosting not only some of the most beautiful temples and traditional crafts, it has recently become a hub for some of the top contemporary artists in the country. In 2016 the now famous contemporary art museum MAIIAM opened its doors attracting a large number of art aficionados and lifting Chiang Mai as a must stop for contemporary art lovers.

The Toot Yung art center established away from the bustling touristic city center is nested in a peaceful and rural area along the river Ping. The space has been designed to be an oasis of calm and beauty where art collectors and amateurs can take the time to explore the center’s wide collection of contemporary Thai art. Represented artists such as Haritorn Akarapat, Pakitsilp Varamissara, Tawan Wattuya or Montri Toemsombat are permanently present in the center’s stock. Toot Yung also invites international artists and designers to work closely with local craftsmen to develop unique pieces shedding light on the region’s savoir-faire and high-end materials such as tek wood, silver or silk.

**Expertise**

Myrtille Tibayrenc/ Director of the Toot Yung Art Center

Arriving in Thailand in 2006 after periods of living and working in Bolivia, Chile and the US, French national Myrtille Tibayrenc created the Toot Yung art center in 2010, focusing on local emerging artists. She has worked closely since their beginnings with now reckoned artists such as Tawan Wattuya, Tada Hengsapkul, or Pakitsilp Varamissara. Director of the Ratchaprasong Art Maze 2016 and a co-director of the biannual Bukruk Urban Arts Festival (2013-2016) she also specializes in public art projects. A former staff member of Alliance Francaise Bangkok, she earned her masters degree at Ecoles des Beaux Arts of Dunkerque and Marseilles (France). Alongside her activities as curator and gallerist she developed her own work as a painter and exhibits regularly in Asia and abroad. Her works are visible at the Toot Yung Art Center where her studio is nested in a small stilt wooden house.