IMAGINING CAMBODIA

Cambodia Studies Conference
September 13-16, 2012
Northern Illinois University
Conference Schedule

Thursday, September 13

3:00-6:00 PM  Conference check-in (Gallery Lounge, Holmes Student Center)

4:30-6:00 Welcome reception for opening of NIU Art Museum exhibits on Southeast Asia
              (Altgeld Hall, main floor)

             Exhibits:
             
             Music for the Divine: Musical Instruments and Traditions of Burma
             
             Current Views and Actions: Photography and Performance Documentation
             from Phnom Penh featuring work of Cambodian artists Khvay Samnang and
             Lim Sokchanlina
             
             Cambodian traditional music provided by Cambodian Association of Illinois, Chicago

6:00-8:00 Exhibits open for viewing (Altgeld Hall, main floor)

Friday, September 14  Barsema Alumni and Visitors Center

7:30-8:15 AM  Continental breakfast and check-in (Ashelford Hall and Pollock Ballroom)

8:30-10:00 Session I

Panel 1: Re-Imagining Cambodia (Pollock Ballroom)

Discussant: Prof. Lindsay French, Rhode Island School of Design

Jeff Dyer, Mary Grow, LinDa Saphan, Jan Arabas

Panel 2: Youth Culture and Education (Castle Library)

Discussant: Prof. Leang Un, Royal University of Phnom Penh

Chivoin Peou, Soprach Tong, Ann Brooks with Monirith Ly and Bovathana Pen,
Sovachana Pou

Panel 3: Uses of the Past (DeBaise Board Room)

Discussant: Prof. Trude Jacobsen, Northern Illinois University

Catherine Scheer, Darran Jordan, Matthew Trew

9:00-10:00 Film Showing (Stevens Room A)

We Want (U) to Know (Ella Pugliese, Director; Produced by the Khmer Institute for Democracy)

10:00-10:30 Break with refreshments (Ashelford Hall)
10:30-12:00  Session II (Pollock Ballroom)

**Special Topics 1: Modern and Contemporary Buddhism**
Moderator: Prof. Anne Hansen, University of Wisconsin-Madison

_Erik Davis, Linda Chhath, Kobayashi Satoru, John Marston_

12:00-1:30 PM  Lunch (Ashelford Hall and Pollock Ballroom)

1:30-3:00  Session III

**Panel 4: Culture, Memory, Genocide (Pollock Ballroom)**
Discussant: Prof. David Chandler

_Samphoas Huy, Julie Thi Underhill, Andrew Mertha, Michael Mascuch_

**Panel 5: Intimate Contexts (DeBaise Board Room)**
Discussant: Prof. Judy Ledgerwood, Northern Illinois University

_Trude Jacobsen, Melissa Ditmore, Sokroeun Aing, Heidi Hoefinger_

2:00-3:00  Film Showing (Stevens Room A)

_Who Killed Chea Vichea? (Richard Garella, Producer)_

3:00-3:30  Break with refreshments (Ashelford Hall)

3:30-5:00  Session IV

**Panel 6: Diasporic Communities (DeBaise Board Room)**
Discussant: Prof. Carol Mortland

_Remy-Darith Chhem, Chantria Tram and Paul Tom, Linna Teng, Cheryl Yin_

**Panel 7: Contemporary Dance and Theatre (Pollock Ballroom)**
Discussant: Sophiline Cheam-Shapiro

_Santha Leng, Toni Shapiro-Phim, Stephanie Khoury, Celia Tuchman-Rosta_

4:00-5:00  Film Showing (Stevens Room A)

_We Want (U) to Know (Ella Pugliese, Director; Produced by the Khmer Institute for Democracy)_

6:00-7:45  Conference dinner (Ashelford Hall and Pollock Ballroom)

Keynote speech by Professor Emeritus David Chandler, Monash University

_Witnessing Cambodian History_

8:00-10:00  Screening of film, Lost Loves (Cole Hall, open to the public)

Commentary by filmmaker Chhay Bora

_Sponsored by the NIU Southeast Asia Club through generous support from the NIU Graduate School Colloquium Series._
Saturday, September 15  Barsema Alumni and Visitors Center

7:30-8:15 AM  Continental breakfast (Ashelford Hall and Pollock Ballroom)

8:30-10:00  Session V

Panel 8: Contemporary Society (DeBaise Board Room)
Discussant: Prof. Leakhena Nou, California State University-Long Beach

Sovathana Sokhom, Napakadol Kittisenee, Jordan York

Panel 9: Economics and Social Change (Castle Library)
Discussant: Prof. Kenton Clymer, Northern Illinois University

Say Sok, Alan Potkin, Courtney Work

Panel 10: Ethnic Minority Groups (Pollock Ballroom)
Discussant: Prof. Jefferson Fox, East-West Center

Ian Baird, Neal Keating, Peter Swift

9:00-10:00  Film Showing (Stevens Room A)

Who Killed Chea Vichea? (Richard Garella, Producer)

10:30-12:00  Session VI  O'Connell Theater, Stevens Building

Special Topics 2: Modern Choreography
Moderator: Toni Shapiro-Phim, Bryn Mawr College

Chankethya Chey, Sophiline Cheam-Shapiro, Charya Burt

12:30-2:00 PM  Lunch  Barsema Alumni and Visitors Center (Ashelford Hall and Pollock Ballroom)

2:00-3:00  Session VII

Panel 11: Teaching Cambodia, Teaching Khmer (Castle Library)
Discussant: Prof. Kheang Leang, Northern Illinois University

Channy Sak-Humphry, Meng Vong

Panel 12: Archaeology/Angkorian History (Pollock Ballroom)
Discussant: Prof. Emeritus David Chandler, Monash University

Alison Carter, Ian Lowman, Sophy Song

Panel 13: Peace, Conflict and Reconciliation (DeBaise Board Room)
Discussant: Prof. Craig Etcheson

Suyheang Kry, Chloé Pellegrini, JoAnn DiGeorgio-Lutz and Adam Haney

2:00-3:00  Film Showing (Stevens Room A)

We Want (U) to Know (Ella Pugliese, Director; Produced by the Khmer Institute for Democracy)
Friday Keynote Speaker

Professor Emeritus David Chandler, Monash University

David Chandler is an Emeritus Professor of History at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia. Between 1960 and 1962, he served in the US Embassy in Phnom Penh. He taught at Monash from 1972 until his retirement in 1997. He has held visiting appointments at Cornell University, Georgetown University, the University of Michigan, the University of Paris, and the University of Wisconsin. His books include A History of Cambodia (4th edition, 2008); The Tragedy of Cambodian History (1991) and Voices from S-21: Terror and History in Pol Pot’s Secret Prison (1999). He has been a consultant for Amnesty International, the Documentation Center of Cambodia, the Living History Forum (Stockholm) UNHCR, the US Department of Defense and the World Bank.

3:00-3:30 Break with refreshments (Ashelford Hall)

3:30-5:00 Session VIII

Panel 14: Constructing Modern Spaces (Castle Library)
Discussant: Prof. Nora Taylor, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Claire Ashbrook, Anne Hansen, Anthony Irwin, Luke Schmidt

Panel 15: Decentralization and Civil Society (Pollock Ballroom)
Discussant: Prof. Kheang Un, Northern Illinois University
Sedara Kim, Sivhuoch Ou, Sokbunthoeun So, Seiha Heng

Panel 16: Media and Film (DeBaise Board Room)
Discussant: Mychelle Balthazar, Tulane University
Ella Pugliese, Rich Garella

4:00-5:00 Film Showing (Stevens Room A)
Who Killed Chea Vichea? (Richard Garella, Producer)

6:00-7:30 Dinner honoring Dr. Chinary Ung (Ashelford Hall and Pollock Ballroom)
Biographical presentation on Dr. Chinary Ung by Adam Greene

8:00-10:00 Performance of works of Dr. Chinary Ung (Boutell Hall, open to the public)

Sunday, September 16

7:30-8:30 AM Continental breakfast (Regency Room, Holmes Student Center)
9:00-10:00 Travel to Chicago
10:00-1:00 Cambodian American Heritage Museum (CAHM) and Killing Fields Memorial

Conference concludes at 1:00 p.m. in Chicago. Transportation will be provided from CAHM to O’Hare International Airport or back to DeKalb.
Sessions & Presenters

Session I
Panel 1: Re-Imagining Cambodia

Classical Cambodian Wedding Music and the Future of Tradition
Jeff Dyer, Northpoint Expeditionary Learning Academy & Cambodian Living Arts, USA

Re-Constructing Local Knowledge: Revitalizing the Wooden House in Cambodia
Mary L. Grow, Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture, USA

Beyond Angkor Wat’s Sunset: Cambodia’s Contemporary Arts Scene
LinDa Saphan, Manhattan College, NY, USA

Cambodian Diaspora Artists in the US
Jan Arabas, Middlesex Community College, MA, USA

Panel 2: Youth Culture and Education

Urban Youth in Contemporary Cambodia: Social Transformation and the Self
Chivoin Peou, Royal University of Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Influence Foreign Culture to Cambodian Youths

Keep Trying: Women’s Narratives of Staying in School in Cambodia
Ann Brooks with Monirith Ly, Texas State University, USA and Bovathana Pen, Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand

Cambodia: Progress, Opportunities and Challenges of Education
Sovachana Pou, Paññāsāstra University of Cambodia

Panel 3: Uses of the Past

“Chä” Varman VII, Grandfather of the Bunong: a “Minority” Perspective on Cambodian History
Catherine Scheer, Centre Asie du Sud-Est, France

Angkor One Million – Archaeology, Heritage and Popular Culture in Contemporary Angkor
Darran Jordan, AECOM, Australia

Derailing the Bamboo Train: Colonialism, Development, and the Railroad in Battambang Province, Cambodia
Matthew J. Trew, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA
Session II
Special Topics 1: Modern and Contemporary Buddhism

**Nuon Chea’s New Buddhism**
Erik W. Davis, Macalester College, MN, USA

**Performing Dhamma: Maha Ghosananda’s Model for Ethical Social Engagement**
Linda Chhath, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

**Profile Analysis of Religious Figures in Rural Buddhist Temples: A Case Study in Kampong Thum Province**
Kobayashi Satoru, Kyoto University, Japan

**Buth Savong and the New Proliferation of Relics in Cambodia**
John Marston, El Colegio de México, México

Session III
Panel 4: Culture, Memory, Genocide

**Cultural Genocide under the Khmer Rouge Regime**
Samphoas Huy, Rutgers University, USA

**The Memory and Postmemory of Genocide: Cham Oral History as Cultural Survival**
Julie Thi Underhill, University of California, Berkeley, USA

**Surrealpolitik: the Experience of Chinese Experts in Democratic Kampuchea, 1975-1979**
Andrew Mertha, Cornell University, New York, USA

**The New Face of Kampuchea: Publicity, Propaganda and the Look of Modern Cambodia, 1953 to 1979**
Michael Mascuch, University of California, Berkeley, USA

Panel 5: Intimate Contexts

**Debt Bondage in Cambodia’s Past and Present**
Trude Jacobsen, Northern Illinois University, USA

**Commercial Sexual Contracts**
Melissa Ditmore, Sex Workers Project, New York, USA

**Family First? Constraints on Decision-Making for Women at the Commune Level in Cambodia**
Sokroœun Aing, HBF (Heinrich Böll Foundation) Asia, Cambodia

**Professional Girlfriends and Transnational Partnerships in Cambodia**
Heidi Hoefinger, Goldsmiths College, University of London, UK
Session IV
Panel 6: Diasporic Communities

“Voices of the 1.5 Generation”; Reconciliation through Oral History Performance
Paul Tom and Chantria Tram, Voices of the 1.5 Generation, Canada

Khmao Euy Khmao: Colorism Amongst Cambodian Americans
Linna Teng, Evergreen State College, WA, USA

“I would like to announce that I am looking for...”: Cambodians in Search of Long Lost Relatives
Cheryl Yin, University of Michigan, USA

Panel 7: Contemporary Dance and Theatre

Classical Dances of Cambodia: Between Ritual Requirements and Social Contingencies
Santha Leng, CERLOM Center for Study and Research on World Oralités, France

Political History as Theater
Toni Shapiro-Phim, Bryn Mawr College and the Philadelphia Folklore Project, USA

Entertaining Spirits, Strengthening Communities: Ritualized Performances of Khmer Literary Classics in Today’s Rural Cambodia
Stéphanie Khoury, Research Center for Ethnomusicology, CREM, University of Paris Ouest Nanterre, France

Traditional or Contemporary?: Re-Envisioning Cambodia through Classical Dance
Celia Tuchman-Rosta, University of California Riverside, USA

Keynote Speech

Witnessing Cambodian History
Professor Emeritus Davis Chandler, Monash University

Session V
Panel 8: Contemporary Society: Politics, Economics and Religion

How Does Intangible Human Capital Impact Economic Growth in Less Developed Countries (LDCs): Cambodia as a Case Study
Sovathana Sokhom, Claremont Graduate University, CA, USA

Re-imagining Khmer Religious Landscape
Napakadol Kittiseonee, Spirit in Education Movement (SEM), Cambodia

Deported Khmer Americans and Their Stories
Jordan York, Northern Illinois University, USA
Panel 9: Economics and Social Change

Social Control and Fishing Lot Management in Cambodia
Sok Say, Deakin University, Australia

The Reclamation and Development of Boeung Kak Lake in Phnom Penh
Alan Potkin, Northern Illinois University, USA

The Sruk and the Prai: Zones of Entanglement
Courtney Work, Cornell University, NY, USA

Panel 10: Ethnic Minority Groups

The Legal Designation of “Indigenous Peoples” and Communal Land Titling in Cambodia: Assessing the Implications over a Decade after the 2001 Land Law
Ian G. Baird, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

The Road to Delcom: Imagining Human Rights in Two Kuy Villages
Neal Keating, The College at Brockport, SUNY, USA

Changing Ethnic Identities among the Kuy in Cambodia: Assimilation, Reassertion, and the Making of Indigenous Identity
Peter Swift, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

Session VI Special Topics 2: Modern Choreography
Chankethya Chey, Sophiline Cheam-Shapiro, Charya Burt

Session VII
Panel 11: Teaching Cambodia, Teaching Khmer

Traditional Khmer Folklore (Tales of the Hare) in a Digital Media Era
Chhany Sak-Humphry, University of Hawaii, Manoa, USA

Infixes /-m-/ and /-n-/ in Khmer Language
Meng Vong, Royal Academy of Cambodia, Cambodia

Panel 12: Archaeology/Angkorian History

Imagining the Cambodian Iron Age: The View from an Analysis of Stone and Glass Beads
Alison Carter, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

Kambujadeśa/Khmer Country: A Case for the Pre-Modern Nation
Ian Lowman, University of California, Berkeley, USA

Glass Beads from Cambodian Archaeological Sites
Sophy Song, École des hautes études en sciences sociales, France
Panel 13: Peace, Conflict and Reconciliation

The Need for a Peace and Conflict Impact Assessment (PCIA) Type Tool in Cambodia’s Development Strategy
Suyheang Kry, University of Massachusetts-Lowell, USA

32 Years after the Khmer Rouge: The Politics of Reconciliation in Cambodia
Chloé Pellegrini, TAPOL

Academic Space and the Cambodian Genocide
JoAnn DiGeorgio-Lutz and Adam Hane y, Texas A&M University-Commerce, USA

Session VIII
Panel 14: Constructing Modern Spaces

Ornamentation and Space: Buddhism in Modern Khmer Architecture
Claire Ashbrook, University of Virginia, USA

Friendship and Intimacy in Buddhist Monastic Spaces
Anne Ruth Hansen, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

(re)Constructing Modern Siamese Identity at Wat Rachathiwat
Anthony Lovenheim Irwin, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

Re-imagining Wat Suthat in the 3rd Reign: The Artistic Tradition that Established the Center of the Universe in Bangkok
Luke Schmidt, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

Panel 15: Decentralization and Civil Society

The Illusion of Civil Society in Cambodia
Sedara Kim and Sivhuoch Ou, Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI), Cambodia

Democratic Decentralization Reform in Post-Conflict Cambodia: Devolution of Power
Sedara Kim, Cambodia Development Resource Institute, Cambodia

Decentralised Governance in Hybrid Polity: The Case of Cambodia 2002-2010
Sokbunthoeun So, Seiha Heng and Sedara Kim, CDRI, Cambodia

Panel 16: Media and Film

We Want (U) To Know – A Participatory Film Project
Ella Pugliese, Film Director, Germany

Who Killed Chea Vichea?
Richard Garella, Producer, Loud Mouth Films, PA, USA and Thailand
Chinary Ung, Composer

Chinary Ung was born in Cambodia in 1942 and came to the United States in 1964 to further his studies in music. He received training in New York City, where he was a clarinet student of Charles Russo at the Manhattan School of Music. A few years later he became a composition student of Chou Wen-chung, at first, privately, and later as a doctoral student at Columbia University. In the 1980s, he was president of the Khmer Studies Institute. He obtained a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in music composition with distinction from Columbia University in 1974. He is a master Roneat Ek performer, the native Cambodian xylophone of the Pinpeat tradition, which often accompanies the court dance, dance drama, and ritual ceremonies. He is presently Professor of Composition at the University of California at San Diego.

Ung has received many honors including those from the Koussevitzky, John F. Kennedy/Friedheim Award, National Endowment for the Arts, American Academy of Arts and Letters. He was the first American to receive the coveted international Grawemeyer Award (1989), sometimes called the Nobel Prize for composers. He has received three Cultural Preservation Awards from numerous Cambodian-American communities and is currently an advisor of the Killing Fields Memorial and Cambodian-American Heritage Museum in Chicago. Following this performance of his music at Northern Illinois University, where Ung taught briefly, the New Juilliard Ensemble will perform a large-ensemble version of his chamber orchestra work, Rain of Tears, later in September. He is currently a music advisor for the Season of Cambodia, a festival of Cambodian Arts and Culture, New York City, April/May 2013.

Ung will be a guest of honor for the Thailand Asian Composers League in July 2013 at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok. Recently, Ung and his wife, Susan, received a joint fellowship from the Asian Cultural Council to establish a Composers Institute in Cambodia, a project which will begin next year.

Recent commissions include Aura for Southwest Chamber Music, Oracle from the Da Capo Chamber Players, Rain of Tears for the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra funded by a grant from the Joyce Foundation of Chicago, Spiral XIV: “Nimitta”, for a Minneapolis based ensemble, Zeitgeist. He has written several works in collaboration with his wife, Susan Ung who specializes in viola with vocalization. Spiral IX is for baritone, viola and percussion, Spiral XI, for viola/voice solo and Spiral XII is for a large ensemble with Cambodian dancers, was commissioned by the Los Angeles Master Chorale and was premiered at Disney Hall in November, 2008. His work Akasa, for viola, cello, pipa, percussion and piano was premiered at the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival and La Jolla Summerfest in 2011. His viola concerto will be premiered this February by the Boston Modern Orchestra Project.

During his 70th birthday year, 2012/13, numerous ensembles/institutions will offer celebratory concerts in cities in Southeast Asia and US, including a performance by the New York New Music Ensemble of his epic work, Aura, for two sopranos and ten instrumentalists, which Ung will conduct at Le Poisson Rouge, in NYC this April. This October Ung will be a distinguished guest composer at the Chengdu Contemporary Music Festival at Sichuan Conservatory of Music, China, where his works will be performed by artists from various countries.

Bridge Records has released three volumes of his works. Volume 1 is a new recording of older, revised works and in 2009 was cited by The New York Times to be in the top 10 classical music recordings of that year. Volume 2 was recorded by Da Capo Chamber Players, cited to be the top 5 CDs by National Public Radio. The recently released Volume 3 includes Spiral IX and Spiral XI, two ambitious works with extensive vocalization by instrumentalists. His works are also recorded on New World Records, CRI, Oodiscs, Norton Recordings, Koch International, Mark Custom, Argo, Cambria, ALM Records, Naxos (Canada), Atoll (New Zealand), and Klein Records (Germany). The music of Chinary Ung is published exclusively by C. F. Peters Corporation.
Acknowledgments

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