

TWISTING TRADITIONS

BY LORIASHTON

Lanna lovers devote their energies promoting, preserving and moving with the modern times by creating contemporary expressions of their traditional culture. Lanna, 'land of one million rice fields', refers to the ancient kingdom in the far north in today's Thailand that comprised the eight provinces that surround the Lanna capital of Chiang Mai. Stretching from the far borders of Myanmar and Laos, this mountainous region remained for centuries in isolation.

From Bangkok and other points south, the journey to the Lanna region through jungles filled with tigers, snakes and wild elephants was prohibitive. Not until 1921, when a railway line was completed connecting Chiang Mai and Bangkok, did the former Lanna kingdom slowly open to the world.

Centuries of seclusion allowed the artisans of the northern region to develop and perfect their traditions of fine craftsmanship. Today, these traditional art forms are being improvised by international designers and a younger more fashionable Thai generation who have learned the time-honoured techniques and combine them with new exciting ideas learned in design schools or in time spent abroad where they have become responsive to the international market. The results are fresh, fiery crafts that are contemporary in their cutting edge designs.

Astonishing interpretations are created using locally sourced materials as the base for new home, office, resort and garden decor products. Here is a selection of some of Chiang Mai's finest Lanna pieces, and where to find them.



HQ PaperMaker & HQ Art Gallery

Fine handmade and machine milled decorative papers are created in stunning hues and patterns. A vast collection of quality mulberry (saa, kozo, unryu), recycled, flower petal, screen-printed and acid-free art papers. Their gallery features talented artists using HQ paper as their canvas.

3/31 Samlan Road,
T. Phrasing, Chiang Mai
Tel: 053 814 717-8, Fax: 053 814 719
Email: sales@hqpapermaker.com
www.hqpapermaker.com
www.hqartgallery.com

Orient Design Image

ODI, a specialist-creator of unique lifestyles through interior design consultation and product sourcing, also offers its own line of handcrafted decorative accessories of indigenous materials, and specialises in spun bamboo products.

221 Soi 3 Moo 4 Baan Pong
T. Ta Wang Tan
Hang Dong, Chiang Mai
Tel: 053 817 121, Fax: 053 816 839
Email: odicnx@csloxinfo.com



Sop MoeiBaan Celadon

This innovative company, while maintaining traditional techniques, produces sophisticated shapes in unique styles of celadon stoneware – wood ash glazes. Vibrant shades of soft greens, blues and natural tones transpire. For modern living most are dishwasher safe.

7 Moo 3 Chiangmai-Sankampaeng Road
(2.5km from the Super Highway /Sankampaeng intersection)
Chiang Mai
Tel: 053 338 288, 053 384 889-90 Fax: 053 338 940
Email: info@baanceladon.com
www.baanceladon.com

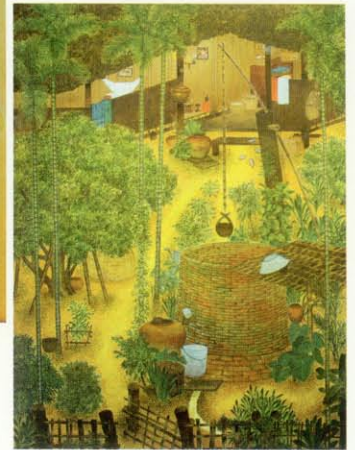
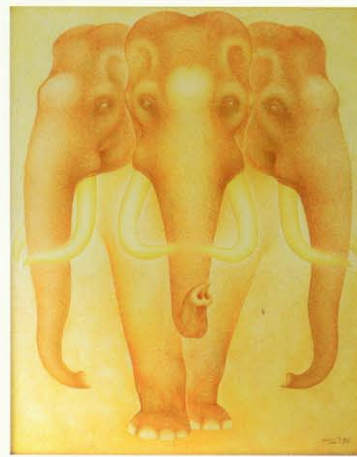


Royal Orchid Collection

Preserving the beauty of nature is literally this company's business. Handcrafted jewelry and decorative gifts are created incorporating real orchids, roses, leaves and flora. Immersed in fine silver, peppercorns may be transformed into wearable art or adorn your dinner table.

Central Airport Plaza
At Eaze 2nd floor Northern Village
Chiang Mai

Mfgr: Siam Royal Orchid Co., Ltd.
Chiang Mai
Tel: 053 245 598
Email: siamroy@cm.ksc.co.th
www.siamroyal.com



Chiang Mai Art Space

Four artists/partners have joined forces to exhibit their art and the works of other artists at this gallery. Original sculptures, wood carvings, large and small canvasses in oils, acrylic and mixed media showcase the diversity of Thai talents.

92 / 4 Sridonchai Rd.,
Changklan, Chiang Mai
Tel: 08 1289 6415
Email: artingarden@hotmail.com



Sop Moei

Home décor, hand woven textiles and baskets are made in the mountain villages by Pwo Karen tribes people. The textiles have ethnic origins while designed in natural fibers to reflect today's contemporary look.

150/10 Charoenrat Rd., Chiang Mai
Tel/Fax: 053 306 123, 053 328 143, 053 328 161
Email: sma@sopmoeiarts.com
www.sopmoeiarts.com

With a multitude of ch
that sell high end art a
export and will create!



This Story written by Art & Culture
Email: info@artandcultureasia.com

บทความนี้ เขียน โดย อาร์ทแอนด์คัลเจอร์