



REFLECTIONS

THE CENTER FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA



2011-2012 ANNUAL REPORT

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

STEPHEN O'HARROW, PHD



There's good news and bad news. The bad news is that with a federal operating budget cut of 47%, the academic year 2011-12 for this National Resource Center could have turned out to be just one long winter of our discontent. The good news is that, with the generous backing of the offices of the Vice Chancellors for Academic Affairs and Research & Graduate Education here at the Mānoa campus of the University of Hawai'i, we managed to soldier on. In addition, we were able to make up for losses in two key project areas.

Several of our key outreach efforts were able to go forward to a great extent just as planned. These included our project to infuse knowledge of Southeast Asia in the curriculum of the Chicago Public Schools and our project to develop criterion-referenced reading assessment tools for students of the Thai, Tagalog, and Khmer languages. The jewel in the crown of our cultural activities was the Sumatran Randai performances under the able direction of Dr. Kirstin Pauka of the UHM Department of Theatre and Dance. And in support of

students, the Center was able to maintain its Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) scholarship funding at its previous level of \$420,000 *per annum*, one of the highest of any center in the United States.

Let's take a closer look at our three principal outreach tasks.



K-12 Outreach: As a federally-designated National Resource Center under Title VI of the Higher Education Act we are well aware that our federal mandate is to make our resources available nationally, so with this in mind, we decided to work closely with one of the largest K-12 systems in the United States, the Chicago Public Schools. The Chicago Public Schools is possibly the largest single centralized system in the country without any significant curricular access to Southeast Asian Studies – despite being home to two large communities of Southeast Asian origin, Filipino and Vietnamese. To help remedy this deficit, for the last two years CSEAS has hosted intensive, week-long workshops for teachers-trainers ["lead teachers"] from the



Reading Assessment: While oral proficiency interviewing has been applied to the languages of our region, there has been no agreed upon tool with which to assess skill in reading, especially important in tertiary education. CSEAS is working on a four-year project to create the templates needed for Thai, Tagalog, and Khmer language. In this effort we have benefitted from the help of Thai section coordinator Dr. Yuphaphann Hoonchamlong and others of our own Department of Indo-Pacific Languages & Literatures faculty, as well as the expertise of members of the UHM Department of Second Language Studies and the National Foreign Language Resource Center, scholars like Dr. J. D. Brown and Dr. Thom Hundson, but also

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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

CONTINUED...

STEPHEN O'HARROW, PHD



from the continuous participation of the former supervisor of the Southeast Asian language faculty of the Foreign Service Institute, Dr. Prawet Janthart. In year one, they created the basic test template, in year two they went on to create the Draft Thai Reading Proficiency Exam, and in upcoming year three, they will proceed with work on the Tagalog instrument with the collaboration of Dr. Pia Arboleda, UHM coordinator for that language section. During both of our spring workshops on reading assessment, we have also enjoyed working with representatives from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, who helped to provide our efforts with a wider frame of reference.



CSEAS on the Web and Social Media:

On cseashawaii.org, we not only post the results of our own work, but we also act as a dedicated clearing-house for Southeast Asian studies across the nation and across the globe. The website can only be made fully functional because of a collaborative effort of our office staff, including talented graduate assistants Leon Potter, Ronald Gilliam, and Pahole Sookkasikon, all under the capable direction of CSEAS Associate Director Paul Rausch. The success of the website can be measured by the average yearly interest we have garnered from our world-wide audience: over 30,000 identifiably unique viewers *p.a.* Our social media efforts result in our Southeast Asia information reaching hundreds of interested users each day. In

conclusion, we must also thank the Vice Chancellors for Academic Affairs and Research & Graduate Education for helping us to keep the website up and running by providing funds to support the graduate assistant positions.

Once every seven years, each unit in the UHM School of Pacific and Asian Studies is asked to host the Florence Liu Macaulay Distinguish Lecturer. This past spring, in an effort to "cross borders" with our growing Center for South Asian Studies, CSEAS combined its turn at the Macaulay lecture with the Center for South Asian Studies Rama Watumull Collaborative Lecture Series and invited a noted scholar on both areas, Dr. Susan Bayly of Christ's College, Cambridge, to spend a week on the Mānoa campus. This past March, Dr. Bayly favored us with two excellent lectures ["Achieving Cosmopolitan Modernity for Family, State and Nation: Narratives of Personal and Patriotic Attainment in Late-Socialist Viet Nam" & "Nehruvian India and the Life of the Socialist Ecumene"], as well as participating in seminars, and faculty and student discussions about South and Southeast Asian historical anthropology.

The CSEAS director found himself in Viet Nam both in winter and summer, working in December to build campus-wide UHM initiatives in that country and, along with fellow director of Philippines Studies, Dr. Vina Lanzona, this past summer in Viet Nam,

as well as the Philippines, to lay the groundwork for next summer's Chicago Public Schools cohort to spend a month in the field.

This report would not be complete without a word on what has become the success of an initiative started several years ago under Barbara Andaya and masterminded up until last year by Paul Rausch. The School of Pacific and Asian Studies, with the help of our sister centers for East Asian Studies and Pacific Island Studies, has now expanded the initiative, to be called Muslim Societies in Asia and the Pacific (MSAP). It aims to be a clearing-house for resources and information about Muslim societies from South and Southeast Asia through East Asia and on into the Pacific Islands. As of this past academic year, the University of Hawai'i has been fortunate to be able bring on board Dr. Jimmy Weir to head up our MSAP operation. As he starts his second year as director of MSAP, we pledge our continuing cooperation and support for his efforts and wish him and MSAP all the best for expanding horizons and a successful future.

Stephen O'Harrow

Stephen O'Harrow
Director





THE GENTEEL SABAI

INDONESIAN RANDAI AT UH-MĀNOA



The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's Department of Theatre and Dance presented the rare theatre form of *randai* with its production of "The Genteel Sabai," a folk dance-drama from the Minangkabau ethnic group in West Sumatra, Indonesia. Dr. Kirstin Pauka, director and professor of Southeast Asian Theatre at UHM along with guest teachers from Indonesia, brought this exciting theatre form back to Kennedy Theatre's main stage in February 2012. Adapted by Musra Dahrizal and translated into English, *randai* combines beautiful singing, *talempong* music, dancing, acting, and story-telling along with its signature pants-slapping percussion and the Indonesian martial arts form called *silat*.

THEATRE DEPARTMENT ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCY PROGRAM

At the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, students have the unique and exciting opportunity to train in traditional Asian theatre forms with world renowned master artists. The master artists residency training programs essentially bring the "field" to the university, enabling students to maintain a multifaceted and integrative course of study that is truly unique. UH welcomed the following master artists for the 2011-2012 school year:

Musra Dahrizal is a master artist and teacher with extensive experience in the performing arts of West Sumatra where he has taught students of *randai* for many years. Dahrizal is widely respected as a bearer of tradition and as a cultural elder for Minang arts. He is a highly sought after performer of *saluang* (flute), *dendang* (singing), dance and *silat* (martial arts) and is part of an award winning touring *randai* group that is considered a recognized National Treasure of Indonesia.

Jasrial Jamaluddin is a professional and accomplished musician and composer. He has won many prestigious awards and is the leader of one of the most successful traditional Minangkabau music ensembles in West Sumatra. Jamaluddin continues to be an active *randai* performer participating in performances throughout Sumatra and in neighboring Java. Jamaluddin's family has a strong lineage of *randai* performers and as a dedicated teacher and mentor, he continues his father's and grandfather's work by teaching the younger generations the art of *randai* and *silat*.



ADDITIONAL RANDAI EVENTS

SHANGRI-LA
A Center for Islamic Arts and Cultures

EAST-WEST CENTER
COLLABORATION • EXPERTISE • LEADERSHIP

Throughout the first quarter of 2012, the **East-West Center** held numerous events in conjunction with their exhibition "The Minangkabau Procession of Sumatra." This included symposiums, special talks from Southeast Asian experts from the University of Hawai'i, and performance demonstrations by the visiting artists. The series of events concluded with a special film, "Love for Share."

In February, Edy Utama and the students in the *randai* production gave an illustrated lecture demonstration at **Shangri-la Center for Islamic Arts and Cultures**, in Honolulu. The evening focused on elements of Minangkabau culture beginning with dance and musical selections from the *randai* theatre production, "The Genteel Sabai," followed by a talk on the characteristics that make up this unique culture. Emphasis was placed on how the culture is changing due to pressure from the Indonesian government and an increasingly westernized world.





RANDAI REFLECTIONS

ROHAYATI PASENG

(SOUTHEAST ASIA COLLECTION LIBRARIAN & GALOMBANG/CIRCLE DANCER)



I grew up in Indonesia, on the island of Sumatra, the home of *Minangkabau randai*. Yet the first time I saw a live *Randai* performance was in 2006 during the UHM Kennedy Theatre production of *Luck and Loss: Manadin's Gamble*, and it was love at first sight.

Fast-forward, February 2012, the opening night of *The Genteel Sabai Randai* production at Kennedy Theatre, and I was one of the *galombang/circle* dancers walking down the aisle entering the main stage accompanied by *talempong* music and hand clapping. I thought about my father who had recently passed away in Sumatra, and I regretted that I would not

be able to tell him all about this once in a lifetime experience.

It's safe to say that I never worked so hard, physically. In the spring of 2011, I enrolled in Professor Kirstin Pauka's THEA 433: Movement Workshop in which she introduced basic *silek* stands and movements, which are central to the circle dance movements. Then, in the fall of 2011, I took two more classes focusing on *silek* and *randai* movements (THEA 433: Movement/*Silek* Workshop and THEA 426: South/Southeast Asian Acting Workshop), which prepared me for an audition. Finally, I was cast in the production as one of the circle dancers.



The whole process (enrolling in the classes, auditioning,

rehearsing, and performing) took only six months.

Besides me, none of

the dancers had been to Indonesia before, and only one student had participated in the *randai* production in 2006. The rest of us were new to *randai*, but most of the students had a strong background in theater, dance and movement. Their ability to absorb and master the *randai*-style movements was phenomenal, which made me realize the importance of having guest teachers demonstrate the best form of each movement from the first day of our training.

I truly enjoyed being in the production. I learned so much about myself, *randai*, and working with other people. Performing in the *The Genteel Sabai* production was my *merantau*, a journey of self discovery and personal development. *Hup Tuh Tih!*



HAWAII K-12 OUTREACH PROGRAMMING

The much anticipated *Minangkabau randai* theatre production of *The Genteel Sabai* was held in Spring 2012 and was attended by nearly 4,000 people during its UHM Kennedy Theatre run. As a outreach component of the *randai* experience, K-12 schools on O'ahu and on Hawai'i Island were treated to visiting *randai* performers. Teachers at the schools were also provided with lecture and resource guidebooks, teaching modules, and online sources to assist them in introducing their students to Indonesia and *randai*. See educational resource package and audience guides at cseashawaii.org/docs/randai.pdf



SPEAKER SERIES

2011/2012 YEAR-IN-REVIEW



Indonesian *Randai* Theatre at UH: Insights into the Adaptation & Rehearsal Process

Friday, January 20 2012

Presented by Kirstin Pauka, professor, Department of Theatre and Dance, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Professor Pauka and some of her collaborators shared insights into the rehearsal and production process of training and performing *randai* theatre from West Sumatra. This was the third *randai* production Professor Pauka has directed in the Department of Theatre at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. UHM is the only place outside of Indonesia where audiences can see *randai* theatre.



Democratizing Urban Development: Community-Managed Microfinance and Slum Upgrading in Surabaya

Friday, February 17 2012

Presented by Ashok Das, professor, Urban & Regional Planning, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Microfinance has emerged as a powerful poverty alleviation idea and tool in the developing world. A multitude of actors/institutions are involved in microfinance – from community revolving credit associations to formal NGOs and banks. In regards to this, Ashok Das' research aimed to further our understanding on the concepts of microfinance and other urban development initiatives (such as *integrated* microfinance). Using multi-method analysis,

he found that the microfinance performance in CKIP is independent of physical upgrading success.

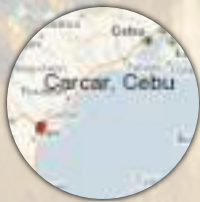


Constitutionalization of Rights in Severely Divided Societies: A Comparative Perspective

Monday, February 27 2012

Presented by Dian Abdul Hamed Shah, a doctoral candidate at the Duke University Law School

The existence of hostility and potential for violent conflict in such societies, as well as the tendency to exclude minorities, pose a significant challenge for fundamental rights, the protection of which is a cornerstone of a liberal democracy. Hamed Shah's session offered a critical insight into the state of human rights in these societies, by explaining several controversial cases that highlight the conundrum between commitments to fundamental rights on the one hand, and maintaining order and preventing conflict on the other.



Landscape Evolution in Cebu, Central Philippines: The Impact of the Sea Level, Social History, and Tectonism on Cultural Landscapes

Tuesday, March 20 2012

Presented by John A. Peterson, assistant vice president for Graduate Studies, University of Guam

Professor Peterson discussed how landscape formation is often discontinuous and punctuated by rapid change, and cultural landscapes may be fragmented and found in chronological and spatial mosaics rather than continuous progressions. He mentioned how specific periods of human occupation in the Carcar area of the central Philippines are discussed relative to these effects. In doing so, Peterson laid out the contexts for human settlement which situated the complex mosaic of the present geography of Cebu.



Upland Agriculture Under the Khmer Rouge: An Incomplete Project of Rule in Cambodia

Friday, March 9 2012

Presented by Jonathan Padwe, assistant professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Khmer Rouge agricultural planning, as it was implemented in Cambodia's northeast highlands, provides a useful illustration of the assiduousness with which modern lowland states have sought to extend national structures of power and control to the highland peoples on their peripheries. Prof. Padwe's talk explored the nature of that incompleteness, and its significance for our understanding of the Khmer Rouge regime.



SPEAKER SERIES

CONTINUED...

2011/2012 YEAR-IN-REVIEW



Myanmar's Old and New Capitals, Rangoon and Naypyidaw: A Slide Presentation

Friday, March 16 2012

Presented by Donald Seekins, emeritus professor of Southeast Asian Studies, Meio University, Okinawa, Japan

In November 2005, Myanmar's military government, the State Peace and Development Council, decreed the relocation of the country's national capital from Rangoon (Yangon) to an entirely new city that was officially named *Naypyidaw*, or "the Abode of the King." Using photography, Donald Seekins provided audiences with a side-by-side comparison of the stark contrasts between Rangoon (the old) and Naypyidaw (the new).



Achieving Cosmopolitan Modernity for Family, State and Nation: Narratives of Personal and Patriotic Attainment in Late-Socialist Viet Nam

Tuesday, March 20 2012

Presented by Susan Bayly, Ph.D, Univ. of Cambridge, Florence Liu Macaulay Distinguished Lecturer

This lecture presented the key concerns of Susan Bayly's recent research in Viet Nam for a joint project on the *Social Life of Achievement in Contemporary Viet Nam and Indonesia*, just launched in collaboration with her Cambridge University colleague Dr. Nicholas Long. By acknowledging that Viet Nam and Indonesia are two of Asia's most distinctive 'transition tiger' economies, Bayly

noted that what can count as achievement thus ranges extraordinarily widely from the ability to contribute to the so-called "global knowledge economy" in exceptionally disciplined and productive ways, to the capacity to outshine other competing nations in the cultivation of psychic gifts and spiritual knowledge, and a sensitive but increasingly active realm of achievement-related initiatives in both countries.

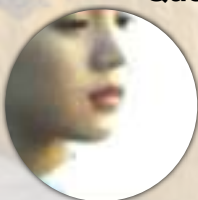


Nehruvian India and the Left of the Socialist Ecumene

Thursday, March 22 2012

Presented by Susan Bayly, Ph.D, University of Cambridge, Rama Watumull Collaborative Lecture

Building on her longstanding research interests between the 'post-colonies' of India and Viet Nam, Susan Bayly's second lecture focused on Nehruvian post-coloniality and the notion of socialist ecumene. Her main concern was with the diversity and dynamism of what has sometimes been a simplistically represented arena of late-socialist and post-colonial Asian life: Nehruvians, and their fascinating counterparts in the Vietnamese context.



Questions of Modernity in South and Southeast Asia: Thinking Across Regions, Disciplines, & Temporalities

Friday, March 23 2012

Presented by Susan Bayly, Ph.D, Univ. of Cambridge, Florence Liu Macaulay Distinguished Lecturer

In her final talk as the Florence Liu Macaulay Distinguished Lecturer, Susan Bayly asked how might research focus on questions of the forging and experience of modernity in Viet Nam/Southeast Asia and India/South Asia productively allow for interactions across regional specialisms, and between historical and anthropological research perspectives? Drawing on her past work, Dr. Bayly reflected on her attempts to unite perspectives from the study of colonialism/post-colonialism, and socialism/postsocialism.



SMASH IT! Badminton Brown Bag Seminar & Coaching Clinic

Thursday, April 12 2012

Presented by Andy Gouw, Board Member, USABadminton Organization.

As the final CSEAS Speaker Series of the academic year, the Center teamed up with the UHM Nongkrong Yuk! Indonesian Club as they welcomed USA Badminton Coaching Director and World's Master Champion, Andy Gouw, to Hawai'i. In his talk, Coach Gouw reflected upon the intersections of modernity and badminton, as well as Indonesia's famed sports hero Liem Swie King.



FILM SERIES

2011/2012 YEAR-IN-REVIEW



The academic year 2011-12 marked the seventh season of the Center's weekly Southeast Asia Film Series. The film series, done in conjunction with our course on Southeast Asian cinema (ASAN 491S), serves as an academic forum to introduce our local community to Southeast Asian filmmakers and their films that are rarely seen outside of the region. This past year more than 650 people attended the free screenings of subtitled films, a number of which were translated and subtitled by students from the University of Hawai'i. The films selected each year are typically purchased on DVD in Southeast Asia using Center funds or are given to the Center in support of our educational mission. Most of the screened films are then donated to the UH Southeast Asia Library Collection as a resource for use in the classroom and for other community educational needs. Films screened as part of the CSEAS Wednesday Night Film Series and a growing collection of Vietnamese films on DVD can be found on our website archive here: http://www.cseashawaii.com/wordpress/category/film/film_series_archive/vietnam-film_series/



CSEAS & THE VIETNAMESE FILM ARCHIVE - HANOI

For the past five years, CSEAS has devoted many hours to translating and subtitling rare Vietnamese film produced primarily in the north from 1959-2004 in a project partnership with the Vietnam Film Archive (VFA). The fruit of this labor was eighteen feature films that have now been subtitled in English. DVD copies of the films, the translations, and the spotting sheets were presented to the VFA's director, Madame Nguyen Thi Lan, in the summer of 2011. The VFA is now in the process of digitizing the master 35mm prints of the films and adding the new subtitles. CSEAS will continue our partnership with the VFA as they identify more films to subtitle in order to enrich their archive for foreign researchers.



THE CINEMA OF SOUTHEAST ASIA

The fall 2011 semester featured the course *Cinema of Southeast Asia* (ASAN 491S). Taught by noted film scholar Dr. Wimal Dissanayake, the course focused on the overall theme of culture and modernity as reflected in, and shaped by, the cultural dimensions of the cinema of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, and Singapore. Through these film cultures students explored the interplay between tradition and modernity, religion and secularism, localism and globalism, individual and collective, and art and consumerism as they find articulation in the cinema of the region.

CSEAS BUILDS UH SOUTHEAST ASIA FILM COLLECTION

For the past six years, the CSEAS has been purchasing feature film from Southeast Asia on DVD, 95% with English subtitles. In 2011-12, CSEAS contributed 115 films from across Southeast Asia to bring the total collection contribution since 2005 to more than 600 feature films, compilation disks of shorts films, and a number of documentaries in support of instructors and outreach efforts dependent on access to digital media. With the retirement of the University of Hawaii's moving images librarian, the acquisition of feature film resources is now the responsibility of individual departments making access to film resources a real challenge for educators at UH interested in using film in the classroom. It is our hope that our ongoing effort allows our collection to stay relevant to its users.



cseashawaii.org

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FILM SERIES

CONTINUED...
2011/2012 YEAR-IN-REVIEW



WHAT THEY ARE SAYING ABOUT THE FILM SERIES...

Last evening's joint event was very thought provoking. All of us learned about Indonesia in more depth from the film, the panel and members of the audience. Let's have more of these! Understanding different cultures can only bring more peace and harmony to the world in my opinion. Thank you for hosting it!

The wide genre selected shows the talents of the movie makers/actors abroad. Paul gives thoughtful comments to help our understanding of the history & countries' diversity.

Thank you for showing these films and doing such critically important work!

The SEA Film Series has been a tremendous opportunity for me to learn about different cultures. Please keep the SEA Film Series "alive"!



REEL RELIGION: A FILM COLLABORATION BETWEEN CSEAS & UGM

This past fall, in a collaborative effort between the Center for Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and the Center for Religious and Cross Cultural Studies at Gadjah Mada University in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, a group of graduate students got 'reel' with their approach to religious studies in a new class called "Religion and Film in Southeast Asia".

Co-taught by lecturers Kelli Swazey (UH '12) and Syamsul Ma'arif, the course used films on loan from the Center for Southeast Asian Studies film archive to look at how religion is characterized and displayed through the medium of film in contemporary Southeast Asia. The seven films shown in class were used to illuminate some of the dominant narratives about religion (and responses to them), as well as to compare cultural and political contexts in the region. Students were introduced to the theory of "national cinema" and explored the role government plays in national film industries, focusing on the influence of political context on the portrayal of religion through various forms of media.

"One of our goals in this class was to promote the critical analysis of media as a force that helps to create the context through which religious life unfolds," Swazey explains. "In recent years, there has been a surge of religiously-themed films produced for Indonesian audiences, reflecting contemporary concerns with the role of religion and religious identity in public life. We hope that this course introduced students to methods of analysis they can incorporate into their work as scholars, journalists and religious practitioners who are engaged in reflection on the role of religion in Indonesia today."

Three film reviews were written by students in the Master's program at the Center for Religious and Cross Cultural Studies (CRCS) at Gadjah Mada University, the only academic study center focusing on religious studies at a non-religiously affiliated university in Indonesia. <http://www.crcs.ugm.ac.id/> The reviews can be found online at <http://www.cseashawaii.org/wordpress/category/film/sea-film-reviews/>.

Viet Nam photo by @fiftyfeet on Flickr





SONG OF THE WEEK

2011/2012 YEAR-IN-REVIEW



The Great
Spy Experiment
(Singapore)

In 2012, we continued to feature prominent and upcoming musicians on the CSEAS website. The Song of the Week, our newest program that launched one year ago, continues to shine as one of the most visited sections of our website. For the 2011-2012 school year,

CSEAS included a more diverse section of artists and countries using technology developed by Grooveshark. Throughout the year, we featured over 20 new artists from Myanmar, Philippines, Malaysia, Viet Nam, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia, and Cambodia. This year we added more genres from classical to heavy metal, whereas in the past we focused solely on popular music. Here we showcase some artists from our program:



Taufik Batisah (Singapore)

Genre: Pop

Taufik started out as a singer in a local group called Bonafide & won the 1st season of Singapore Idol.



Ros Sereysothea (Cambodia)

Genre: Romantic Ballad

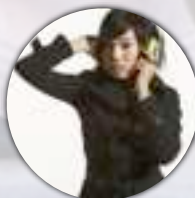
Ros was a talented singer and actress during Cambodia's cultural renaissance prior to the rise of the Khmer Rouge.



Momo Latif (Malaysia)

Genre: Classic Pop

Momo acted in many films with P. Ramlee and was also a popular singer from the 1930s to 1970s.



Endorphine (Thailand)

Genre: Rock

One of the most popular rock bands in Thailand whose name arose from a desire for listeners to be happy while listening.



Lay Phyu (Myanmar)

Genre: Pop Rock

Lay's first album was popular among young Burmese. He is also known for raising funds for cyclone victims.



Trinh Cong Sorn (Viet Nam)

Genre: Singer-Songwriter

Trinh wrote 600+ songs until his death in 2001. He is considered one of the three most salient figures of Vietnamese music.



Sheila on 7 (Indonesia)

Genre: Alt. Rock

A popular band from Yogyakarta. Their self-titled album ranked 33rd on the Rolling Stone "150 Greatest Indonesian Albums."



Techy Romantics (Philippines)

Genre: Electronica

Their initial album release led audiences to discover that electronic music could be both dancable and deeply personal.



MUSIC ON THE CSEAS KIOSK

Last year CSEAS launched our very own interactive kiosk in the fourth floor hallway of Moore Hall. This kiosk provides up-to-date information about our programming and other campus events related to Southeast Asia. Our Song of the Week program is also featured on the kiosk with the ability to listen to the current song with one's personal headphones. In addition to featuring a new song each week, the kiosk also allows visitors to watch music videos from the chosen artist. Next time you are in Moore Hall, bring your own headphones and sample free tunes from Southeast Asian artists!



Timor Leste photo by @ajgeddes on Flickr

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UPDATED RESOURCES

2011/2012 YEAR-IN-REVIEW



The weekly e-announcement acts as a major outreach tool for CSEAS, serving not only the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and the greater Hawai'i community, but other national resource centers, libraries, and international institutions. Scoring consistently above the industry standard for open and click rates (i.e., measuring the number of people who open the newsletter and those who then access individual articles), the e-announcement continues to develop into a premiere Southeast Asian information resource for over 900 weekly subscribers. Furthermore, the online newsletter features sections dedicated to employment opportunities, news and events, educational programs, photo galleries, fellowships and grants, and other exciting opportunities for individuals and organizations seeking information related to Southeast Asia. In a continuing effort to build and diversify resource offerings, a listing of Southeast Asian film review sites has now been added to the e-announcement and has become a much-accessed feature.

NEW SITE FEATURE: PHOTOGRAPHY

This past year, CSEAS started something new by introducing a section on photography both on our website as well as our weekly e-announcement. We decided to bring in photographs as a way to diversify our media library and tap into a highly prized medium within numerous cultures. Photography is important as it tells a different kind of story. There is something innately special about the ways in which still images capture past and current events, multilayered memories, as well as shared emotions. For example, some of the themes we explored were Rohingya Muslims fleeing Myanmar's religious violence; the journey and rise of **Daw Aung San Suu Kyi** in Myanmar and her return back into the world; hunger-inducing images of street food in Bangkok, Thailand; as well as a look back at the changing face of Laos and Viet Nam through an engineer who helped build colonial Indochina's infrastructure. Each photo captured something special and told a unique narrative about the historical and current face of our ever-changing and beloved region in the world. By freezing such diverse moments, the photography we showcased highlighted various facets of Southeast Asian identity, culture, and politics which helped add a human face to the people with whom we study and interact.



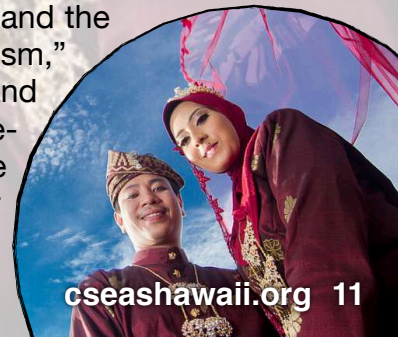
Textiles
from
Burma

WEEKLY BOOKSHELF SPOTLIGHT ON



goodreads

CSEAS continues to grow its database of Southeast Asian texts and titles through our partnership with Goodreads, a social cataloguing website for readers and book enthusiasts. We currently feature over 500 titles that range from themes such as "Agent Orange, the Viet Nam War, and the aftereffects of biological warfare," "Anna Leonowens and Siam," "Sex Tourism," "Feminism, Literature, and Activism," as well as many other thought-provoking and insightful titles that deal with the vibrant region and its people. With such a wide-range of topics and interests, our bookshelf spotlight has become a great resource for our students and faculty at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa as well as other institutions across the nation and overseas. <http://www.goodreads.com/uhcseas>





MUSLIM SOCIETIES IN ASIA & THE PACIFIC

NEWS &
UPDATES



With the January 2012 launch of their weekly newsletter and the February 2012 launch of (msaphawaii.org), MSAP jumped off to a strong start in the spring semester under the direction of Dr. Jimmy Weir. Outreach formed the bulk of MSAP educational efforts with some notable projects included here.

★ *Mystical Poetry Night*, March 2, 2012. 20 UHM students and faculty presented versions of their favorite Islamic poetry and song. MSAP co-sponsored with the Islamic Student Association of UHM.

★ *Sharia Law Forum*, March 12, 2012. 3 Presenters - David Forte, professor of Law at Cleveland State University, Topic - *Sharia in the United States: Realities and Challenges*; Tamara Albertini, professor of Philosophy, Topic - *Islamic Law and Islamic Ethics: A Difficult Relationship*; Azeema Faizunissa, PhD candidate in Sociology, Topic - *Women's Rights under Sharia Law in Pakistan*; with commentary and moderation by James



Frankel, professor of Religion, Richardson School of Law, UHM. MSAP co-sponsored with the Federalist Society of UHM.

★ *2 Lectures on the Bangladeshi Diaspora*, March 12-13, 2012. Presented by Dr. Nazli Kibria, professor of Sociology from Boston University on her recent book *Muslims in Motion: Islam and National Identity in the Bangladeshi Diaspora*. MSAP co-sponsored with the Center for South Asian Studies and Ethnic Studies Department, UHM.

★ *Lecture and Performance of Sufi Music from South Asia*, March 14, 2012. Performed by Ustad Ghulam Farid Nizami and his son, master musician and teacher from Pakistan at the Center for Korean Studies at UHM. MSAP also assisted with 2 additional performances in Honolulu, at the Doris Duke Theatre and Shangri La Center for Islamic Arts & Culture. MSAP co-sponsored with Shangri La and Lovers of South Asian Cultures.

★ *Teaching about Islam, Religions and the World*, March 23-24, 2012. Presented by Ms. Susan Douglas, facilitator from the Prince Al-

Waleed Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding (ACMCU) of Georgetown University. Ms. Douglas conducted two 6-hour workshops for high school and college teachers. MSAP co-sponsored with the Pacific and Asian Affairs Council (PAAC), Islamic Society of UHM, and the College of Education, UHM.



★ Audio Podcast of a lecture *Mystical Landscapes-Places of the Mind: Emptiness and Plenitude in Islamic Philosophy and Mysticism* by Tamara Albertini, associate professor of Philosophy, Univ. of Hawai'i at Mānoa, April 13, 2012. Available at msaphawaii.org

★ Audio podcast of an Introduction to a Workshop on "Teaching About Islam and World History" by Susan Douglas, from the Prince Al-Waleed Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding (ACMCU), Georgetown University, March 22, 2012, UHM. Available at msaphawaii.org.

MSAP WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR

Dr. James (Jimmy) Weir is the new MSAP director. He has a BA in English literature and philosophy from Emory University, an MA in international education from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, and a PhD in cultural anthropology from the Graduate Center at City University of New York. His dissertation, "'We Went to the Hills': Four Afghan Life Stories", focuses on Afghan life narratives examining the popular experience of the past three decades of Afghan history. He has over eight years experience implementing programs and conducting research primarily in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bosnia, and Viet Nam.



Brunei photo by @ursolog on Flickr

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CENTER FOR PHILIPPINES STUDIES

NEWS &
UPDATES



Dr. Vina A. Lanzona, associate professor of History, assumed the directorship of the Center for Philippines Studies (CPS) in fall 2011. The CPS Fall Colloquium Series began with a lecture by the newest faculty member in Philippines and

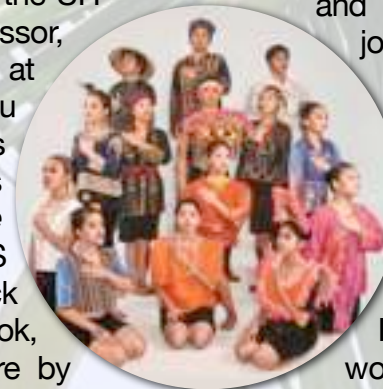
Asian Studies, Dr. Patricio "Jojo" Abinales. In addition, CPS hosted distinguished scholar Vicente Rafael from the University of Washington, writer and journalist Criselda Yabes, and Walden Bello, a Congressman representing *Akbayan* (Citizen's Action Party) in the Philippines House of Representatives. CPS also supported the DVD launch of poet laureate, Dr. Ruth Mabanglo. The semester ended with a reflection on Jose Rizal's 150th birth anniversary with scholars Dr. Jose

David Lapuz, Prof. Lilia Santiago and Dr. Belinda Aquino.

In the spring semester, CPS welcomed the UH Arthur Lynn Andrews Visiting Professor, Resil B. Mojares, professor emeritus at the University of San Carlos in Cebu City, Philippines. Professor Mojares opened the Spring Colloquium Series with his lecture, *Isabelo's Archive: The Formation of Philippines Studies*. CPS also co-sponsored local author Zack Linmark's launching of his latest book, *Leche*, a community event and lecture by CPS grantee Cecilia Noble on Florentino Das, a lecture by visiting National University of Singapore Professor Oona Thommes Paredes, and lectures by Dr. Jerry Finin and UHM graduate students and CPS awardees Miguel Llorca, Charissa Fabia and Matthew Nelson.



In early April, "Turmoils, Dinners and Muslims: A mini-conference on the Philippines South," featured three leading scholars of the Visayas and Mindanao. Dr. Mojares was joined by Dr. Michael Cullinane of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Willy Torres from the Asia Foundation, who discussed contemporary issues in Mindanao.



In late April, a series of dance workshops and major dance performances were held in Honolulu. CPS hosted the *House of Dance, Philippines*, a team of young dancers, dance educators and choreographers from the Philippines. They staged a major concert entitled *ETHNISYNCRACIES*. The production told the story of the evolution of Philippine culture, its indigenous roots, its foreign influences, and its intrinsically hybrid nature.

CSEAS K-12 EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

This semester CSEAS launched **KADAGATAN**, a site that incorporates Filipino culture and core values in teaching tropical marine ecology. Its aim is to engage students about environmental stewardship and to inspire them to take action in sustaining the well-being of their environment. This curriculum focuses on Filipinos and their intimate relationship with the sea, but the concepts covered in three modules are universal. Through standards and inquiry-based lessons and virtual activities, students will be taken on a journey, beginning with the center most region of the Philippines, the Visayas. Our thanks go to

Elena Clariza, Philippines Collection librarian, UH, with assistance from Dr. Patrician Halagao, College of Education, UH for developing these educational modules. <http://manoa.hawaii.edu/cseas/teaching/>

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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

YOUNG SCHOLARS & THEIR RESEARCH



Nor Ismah is a Master's student in the Asian studies department and an IFP-Ford Foundation fellow. Her current focus of study is on Islam, women's writing, and contemporary print media in Southeast Asian countries, particularly Indonesia and Malaysia. In 2011, she conducted research with funding from the STAR foundation entitled "The Regeneration of Young Women Writers from Pesantren Tradition: Self Initiative, Learning Environment, and the Education System." This research was significant in studying the development of young women writers' talents from a *pesantren* education and environment. Nor enjoys working with this community because the new generation of writers highlights the emerging youth Muslim lifestyle as an alternative within secular youth lifestyles in Indonesia.

Cahayani Agustiningrum is a 2011-2012 Fulbright FLTA at University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and president of the Indonesian Club. The Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) program, a Fulbright Scholars programs, is aimed to reinforce foreign language teaching in the United States and to provide the opportunity for both native-speaking teaching assistants and Americans to learn about each other's cultures and customs. Within this program, the Fulbright brings selected English teachers from all over the world to various universities in the United States every year in order to teach their native languages and to promote their cultures. In addition to her teaching duties, Cahayani is the president of the Nongkrong Yuk! Indonesian Club. This club aims to introduce the diversity of Indonesia through art performance, food, music, conferences, and sports.



Lan Nguyen is a Master's student in Asian studies and is currently finishing her thesis entitled: *From Caretaker to Cadre: Feminine Representation in Vietnamese National Cinema*. Lan spent last December and January conducting field research throughout Viet Nam. In addition to her field research, Lan presented parts of her work at the 2011-12 University of Hawai'i School of Pacific and Asian Studies (SPAS) Graduate Student Conference and this past March, she presented on her film research at the Association of Asian Studies Conference held in Toronto, Canada. She plans to elaborate on her thesis topic at the PhD level upon the completion of her MA degree.

2011-2012 CSEAS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Academic Year 2011-12 FLAS Awardees: Jessica Austin, Khmer; Vannet Bun, Khmer; Alexander Kuestner, Indonesian; Chiara Logli, Indonesian; Jason Lowe, Thai; Lisa Manirath, Thai; Joshua Mika, Khmer; Lan Tuyet Nguyen, Vietnamese; John Palomino, Thai; Julius Paulo, Tagalog; Leon Potter, Thai; Mishalla Spearing, Khmer; Charmaine Wong, Khmer

Summer 2012 FLAS Awardees: Jessica Austin, Khmer; Robert Findlay, Thai; Genevieve Greer, Thai; Kenory Khuy, Khmer; Jason Lowe, Thai; Leon Potter, Thai; Tani Sebro, Thai; Oriana Fillaci, Javanese; Isabella Le, Vietnamese; Huy Nguyen, Vietnamese

The John Fee Embree Endowed Scholarship: Kelli Swazey, PhD candidate, Department of Anthropology

The Albert G. Moscotti Fellowship for Graduate Studies of Southeast Asia: Nor Ismah, MA student, Asian Studies

Indonesia photo by @suicidalnurul on Flickr





STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

CONTINUED...

YOUNG SCHOLARS & THEIR RESEARCH



Kriengkrai "O" Sakulprasertsri, Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA), Thai Language Program University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, 2011-2012



I graduated from the Faculty of Education, Chulalongkorn University, with a BA in Education (first class honor) before coming to Hawai'i as a FLTA. Currently, I am a teacher of English in the Foreign Language Department at Sri Ayudhya School, Bangkok, Thailand. I have to admit that teaching Thai was very difficult because although we speak Thai, we do not really realize how difficult it is to explain Thai language usage and structure. However, I had a chance to explore Thai language more and also teach in a real classroom. I found that I had improved my teaching skills as well as gained a better understanding of language and culture due to the FLTA opportunity. Not only did I have an opportunity to teach Thai, but I also had a chance to take some courses in the Second Language Studies Department that really broadened my horizon to new experiences in different learning environments, which I hope to adapt to my classroom in Thailand.

During my time in Hawai'i, I made a lot of new friends. With the hospitality of these new friends, I would like to thank them for being good hosts by bringing me around to explore the island. Not only foreign friends, but I also met a lot of wonderful Thai students that study at the UHM and formed a group of students called "Thai Students Association in Hawaii." Their aim is to get Thai students together to create events to promote Thai culture. Two of the events that we were very proud of included a fundraiser at the East-West Center to help people who were affected by the terrible flooding in Thailand, and a second was the creation of Thai Movie Night, also for the flood relief in Thailand. These events made me proud to be Thai and reminded me of the old saying that "Thai people will never abandon each other whenever we have to face serious challenges."

Those are my precious experiences that I gained while I was an FLTA at UHM. I am grateful for the support from Fulbright and all the people who supported me while I was in Hawai'i.

CSEAS STUDENT WINS KI MANTLE HOOD PRIZE



Ben Fairfield, East-West Center degree participant and CSEAS student member, was awarded the Ki Mantle Hood Prize for the best student paper presented at the 2012 ethnomusicology chapter conference in Los Angeles. The prize was announced at the annual national meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology in New Orleans on November 3, 2012. The title of his paper, "I am *Tehnaku*, the Reification and Textuality of Suwichan's Karen Harp," examines the impact of print advocacy by one culture carrier on the *tehnaku* harp tradition and cultural identity of the Karen people.



Myanmar photo by @tothecrazy1s on Flickr

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FACULTY UPDATE

UPDATES FROM UH-MANOA FACULTY



Dr. Patricio "JoJo" Abinales, Professor of Asian Studies

Professor Abinales joined the Asian Studies Program faculty in the fall of 2011, and taught an undergraduate course on "State and Society in the Philippines," a graduate seminar on "Selected Readings on Philippine Politics," and another graduate seminar on "Southeast Asian Perspectives." Before coming to Hawai'i, he was visiting scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, in Washington DC., from September 2010-May 2011, and before that professor at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University. Dr. Abinales is in his second year as member of the Southeast Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies. He continues to be one of the Southeast Asia editors for the leading Asian journal *Critical Asian Studies* and editor for the Ateneo de Manila University Press' *Governance and Social Change Series*. In late 2011, his essay "Between State and Revolution: Autobiographical Notes on Radical Scholarship during the Marcos Dictatorship" was published as part of the edited volume *Decentering and Diversifying Southeast Asian Studies: Perspectives from the Region* (Institute for Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore). This year his essay "Let them Eat Rats! The Politics of Rodent Infestation in the Postwar Philippines," was published in *Philippine Studies* (Vol. 60, No. 1, 2012) while another piece, "The Philippines: Students, Activists and Communists in Movement Politics," will be coming out in late 2012 as part of the volume *Between Protest and Passivity: Understanding Student Activism in Asia*, (University of Minnesota Press, 2012). Professor Abinales presented two lectures this year: "Let them Eat Rats! Pestilence and Politics in Postwar Philippines," Center for Philippine Studies Fall Symposium series in September 2011; and "When will *Datuk* Leonard Wood return to save us from the Filipinos? Southern Philippine Muslims and their Peculiar Pro-American Sympathies," delivered at the International Cultural Studies Certificate Program Spring Speaker Series in April 2012.



Dr. Michael Aung-Thwin, Chair, Asian Studies Program and Professor of Asian Studies

Professor Michael Aung-Thwin is the chair of the Asian Studies Program. Aung-Thwin's teaching covers South and Southeast Asian history, with principal research focus on Medieval Myanmar. Together with his son, Maitrii (who is associate professor of History at the National University of Singapore), they collaborated on a book entitled: *A History of Myanmar Since Ancient Times: Traditions and Transformations* (London, Reaktion Books, 2012). Professor Aung-Thwin also joined with Dr. Kenneth R. Hall as editors of *New Perspectives in the History and Historiography of Southeast Asia: Continuing Explorations* (London, Routledge Press, 2011). Articles published during the coverage of this report included "A New/Old Look at 'Classical' and 'Post-Classical' Southeast Asia," in *New Perspectives in the History and Historiography of Southeast Asia: Continuing Explorations*, pp. 25-55; and "Ava and Pegu: A Tale of Two Kingdoms," *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*, vol. 42, no. 1 (2011), pp. 1-16.

MEET THE CSEAS STAFF



Stephen O'Harrow
Director



Paul Rausch
Assistant Director



Ronald Gilliam
Online Development



Leon Potter
Research & Development



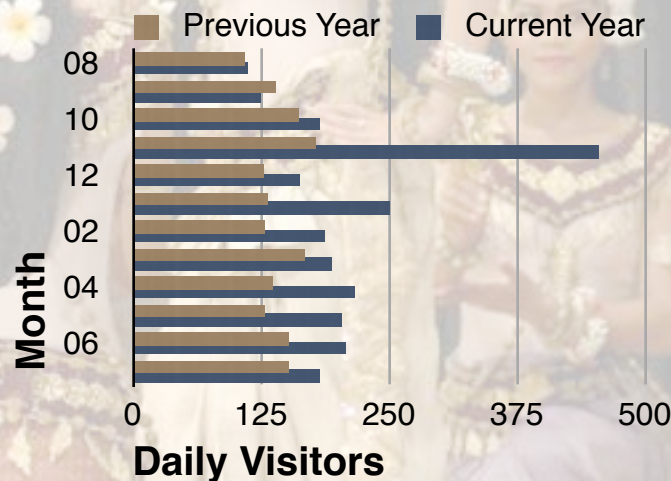
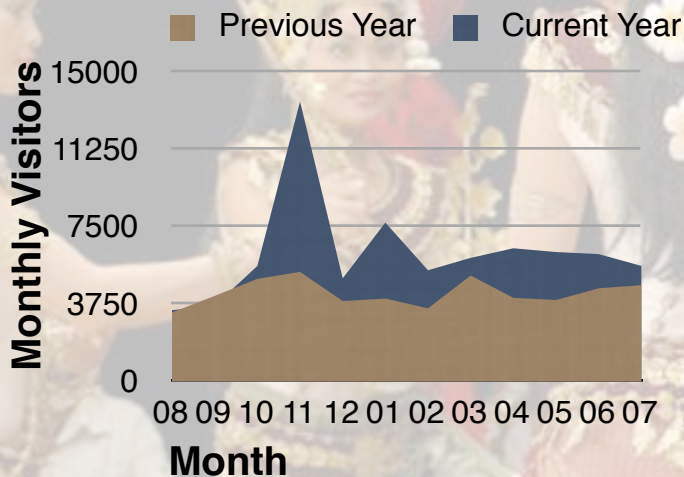
Pahole Sookkasikon
Public Relations





The online developments at cseashawaii.org continue to thrive as 2012 brought forth many record-breaking feats. Since launching the site in January 2010, cseashawaii.org has been visited by more than 100,000 unique individuals with a yearly growth of 20,000 unique individuals each year. These numbers demonstrate that our online strategies are recruiting Southeast Asian studies enthusiasts at a rate higher than we ever expected! The month of November 2011 had the most significant increase where the site had over 13,500 unique visitors at a rate of 450 visits each day. A large percentage of these visits were redirected from our social networking sites. Our social networking initiative also experienced record-breaking numbers as our Facebook fans increased 65%, our tweets doubled, and we saw our LinkedIn job board more than quadruple in members. Even more impressive is our publication archive of over 600 books on various topics related to Southeast Asian studies. Each week, we feature around 10 new publications and add them to corresponding bookshelves where users can search by category.

The following two graphs display the number of unique visitors to the cseashawaii.org website for the 2011/2012 fiscal year, which runs from August to July.



661
Likes



4,251
Tweets



150+
Opportunities



4,425
Photos



600
Publications



THE CSEAS WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENT WINS AWARD

For the third consecutive year, CSEAS received the 2011 All Star Award from Constant Contact. Each year, a select group are honored with the All Star Award for their exemplary marketing results and for 2011, the Center for Southeast Asian Studies ranked among the top 10% of Constant Contact's customer base. The entire team is proud to be recognized by Constant Contact for achieving strong results from our weekly announcement. We plan to continue our use of Constant Contact's tools in order to showcase our weekly findings on the best news, publications, conferences, jobs, and scholarships related to Southeast Asia.

Sign up for our weekly announcement at cseashawaii.org or by texting **CSEAS** to **22828** to join by mobile. SMS rates may apply.





THE CENTER FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES

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2011-2012 ANNUAL REPORT
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