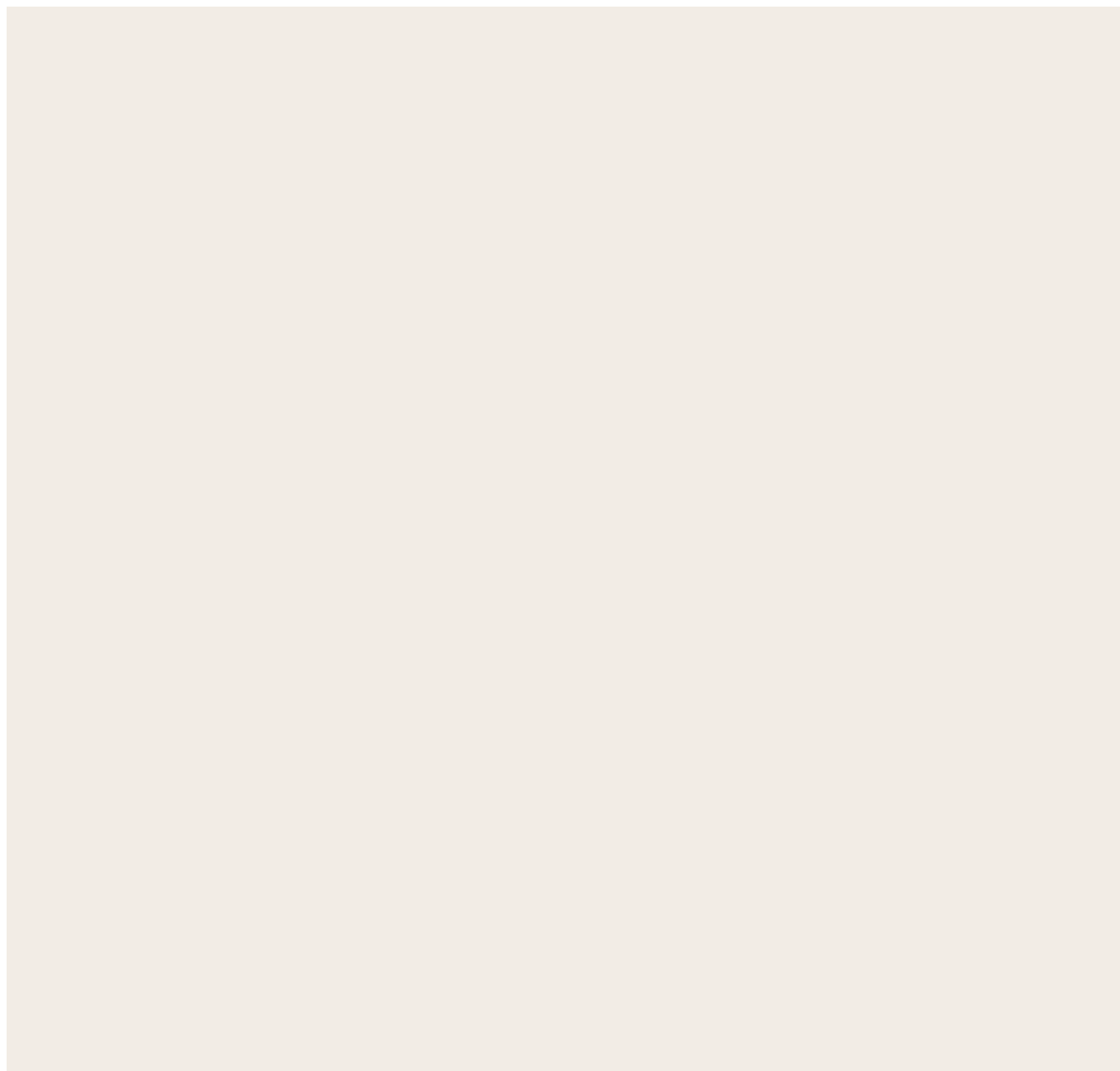


CONRAD

ART

ENCOUNTERS



Whenever you stay at Conrad Hotels & Resorts, you will find a locally curated art collection that allows guests to embrace their interest and passion for art and design while experiencing the destination with purpose and authenticity. Conrad Art Encounters has been created to illuminate the connections between hotels' art, design and location. We invite you to immerse yourself in the Conrad Art Encounters catalog and take a self-guided tour to learn about the stories and context of individual artworks around the hotel.

Beyond the hotel, the Conrad Art Encounters catalog will guide you through the vibrant local art scene to some of the best art venues nearby as well as how you can support local creators.

CONRAD[®]
KOH SAMUI

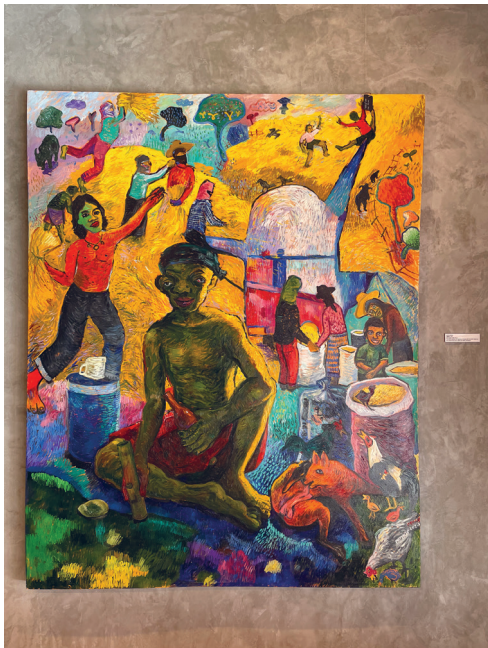
JEWELS OF THE ISLE

In the Gulf of Thailand, the island of Koh Samui offers a blend of tropical splendor, pristine beaches, and vibrant local life. Conrad Koh Samui's art collection and in-house gallery, SILAPA (meaning "art" in Thai), adds an extra layer of cultural experience to time spent on this stunning island. The art collection offers an introduction to the themes, materials, and techniques of local artists and artisans, and SILAPA's boutique provides a platform for emerging artists to sell their work and connect with new audiences. The visual motifs of Conrad Koh Samui's art collection include aspects of rural and family life in Thailand, as well as sacred and meaningful symbols in Thai culture, such as elephants and buffalo.



1. Parinya Saenkan, *Buffalo No.1*, 2022

A former artist in residence at Conrad Koh Samui, Parinya Saenkan often draws inspiration for his paintings from daily village life in Isaan, northeastern Thailand. There is a long tradition of Thai farmers using water buffalo to plough and fertilize farmland, but the animals seen in this picture are symbols of abundance and the idea of having plenty – here on earth and in the afterlife.



2. Parinya Saenkan, *Milling*, 2020

In keeping with the recurring theme of agriculture in Parinya Saenkan's paintings, *Milling* celebrates a cross-generational harvest, with Thai landscapes, food production, and family life intermingling. Tending the farm is part of the daily rhythm at Conrad Koh Samui, where sustainability initiatives include an on-site organic farm.



3. Somsak Chuayn, *Chin Clay Studio works*, 2001

Based in the northern Thai city of Chiang Mai, Somsak Chuayn creates ceramic and papier-mâché artworks, as well as sculptures from repurposed firewood, under the name Chin Clay. Many of his ceramics depict Thai wildlife and livestock in charmingly stylized forms.



4. Pongsak Tipasathein, *Sparkling Lucky Elephants*, 2020

The artist Pongsak Tipasathein worked with a group of visual arts students from Khon Kaen University, alongside local residents, to create these exuberant elephant-themed artworks. In Thailand, as in many parts of Asia, elephants symbolize strength, loyalty, and longevity. Elephant statues are considered sacred gifts that bring good luck and fortune, and are produced in a vast range of materials. In this case, crystals have been applied by hand to resin elephant figures, lending a wonderful sparkling effect.



5. Various artists, *Thangka*

Thangka is a term for traditional Tibetan Buddhist artworks, painted on cotton or silk appliqué and usually depicting Buddhist deities. The term translates loosely as “thing that one unrolls” – these fabric paintings are rolled up, like scrolls, when not on display. Conrad Koh Samui owns six of these intricate works by unknown artists. They serve as a guide to Buddhist spiritual practices, from death rituals to meditation.

Beyond the hotel

SMALL GALLERIES TO STEP INTO

To see and support more art and craft by local creatives, guests at Conrad Koh Samui can visit several locally owned and run art galleries on the island.

6. Modern Thai Art Gallery

Established in 1987 in Fisherman's Village, on the island's north coast, Koh Samui's first-ever art gallery showcases oil paintings by local artists, with subjects including the Buddha, Thai temples and monks. Modern Thai Art Gallery can provide reproductions of its core collection pieces to order.

55 M. 1 T. Bophut, Koh Samui, Surat Thani 84320

7. Chujai Art Gallery

With a name that translates as "determined" or "cheerful," this small gallery in the northwest of Koh Samui was founded by a pair of local artists. It showcases paintings with a playful psychedelic feel.

71 M. 5 Soi Muangthong, Mae Nam, Koh Samui, Surat Thani 84330

8. Wat Phra Yai

The local landmark of a 12-meter-tall, gold-painted Buddha towers over this temple, one of Koh Samui's key visitor attractions (and known simply as Big Buddha Temple to many). It is in fact a relatively new addition to the island, built in 1972. Stop by to experience the temple itself, the local bazaar hosted in the temple grounds, or simply its vantage point for spectacular sunset views.

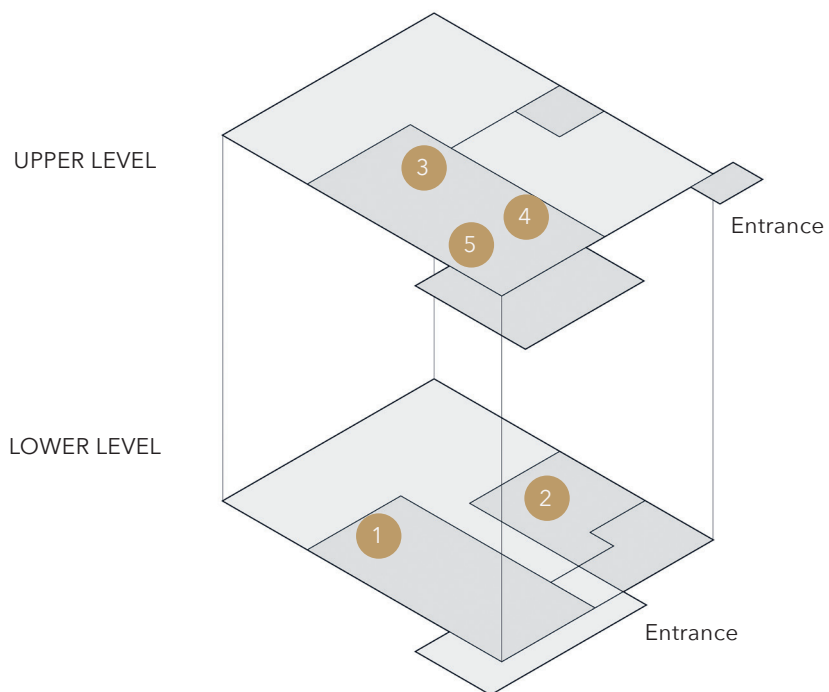
Ko Fan Island

9. Joo Seng Huad Art Gallery

This intimate, atmospheric art space offers visits by appointment and a chance to support the work of young artists.

87 M. 3 Nathon, T. Angthong, Koh Samui, Surat Thani 84140

Within the hotel



Beyond the hotel

