Horizons

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"SUFFICIENCY"

1. Creative work name

Horizons

2. Name of artist or designer

Tiffany Shelton

3. Background or significant of the project

His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand had advocated the philosophy of sufficiency economy since the 1970's, highlighting a reasonably comfortable way of living based on the fundamental principles of Thai culture. The three principles aimed at the development are based on moderation, prudence and social immunity. As a means to address current development challenges, which are issues of institutions, human capital, environmental sustainability and the role of the government, the philosophy aims at improving human well-being, from an individual to a country, as a developmental goal. In his royal statement, His Majesty stressed the importance of building stability in the overall economic foundation as an essential component for the country's development. Fundamentally, as Thailand is an agricultural country, His Majesty focused on the country's economy towards agro-economy and food stability. He applied and initiated the essential principles of PSE to help Thai farmers who suffer from the impacts of economic crisis, natural disasters and other unproductive natural conditions.

Thailand continues to rely heavily on agriculture with about 25 million acres of rice cultivation. Rice is the major crop grown compared to any other making up 11.3 percent of the entire area of the country and leaving Thailand as one of the world's biggest rice exporter. The food stability of rice has always sustained people in Thailand and formed a close bond with their way of life for over 5,000 years. It not only feds people throughout the land but also plays a very significant role in the history, culture, society, and economy of the Thai nation.

4. Project Objective

1. To explore abstract expression from shaping an essence of artificial naturalism of rice fields

2. To interpret and visualize characteristics of rice fields through a range of hues, line, and shape

3. To convey a structural grid arrangement with varies treatments in compositions as the basis of rice fields plots seen in Thailand

5. Concept

In life a degree of order and organization helps manage the process of living. Having things neatly placed into routines, physically spaces and aids interaction with others in a fundamental way of life. By visualizing this way of living, lines are used to represent and define boundaries, limits and space, along with evoking the feeling of stability, grounding, and direction. The neutral and systematic intersecting of lines in a grid structure serves as a coincidental armature appearance of Thailand's agricultural rice fields.

As set forth by His Majesty, the focus on the agricultural sector is representational to his essential principles of PSE to help Thai farmers. The painting's many layers, strokes, and blocks of color appear as sufficient non-figurative rice fields found throughout the country. Through a systematic arrangement of comprehensive range of hues, shape, and composition, along with the play between realism and abstraction, a sense of sufficient space is created.

Rice field images were selected at random, giving less control over each composition. The arrangement of color blocking and lines on each frame was also done at random, to obtain a diffuse, undifferentiated overall effect, combined with stimulating detail. The goal was to reduce the subject to geometric abstraction of artificial naturalism and create an arrangement that mimicked the rigid grid of rice fields. The paintings created in this manner convey the idea of a practically endless number of possible compositions.

"The 2nd CA Creative Work Faculty Show Case 2016 – Sufficiency

6. Process of art or design works

1. Select and gather, at random, images online of rice fields in Thailand. Preferred image types would be of aerial view in order to see the plans and plotting of rice fields.

2. Analyze, interpret and visualize the images in terms of line, shape, color, value, space, texture and composition

3. Sketch out non-figurative geometric abstractions of rice fields with acrylic on paper

4. Select 9 compositions and arrange in a grid layout with form relationship consideration.

5. Finalize selection and edit compositions for final design process

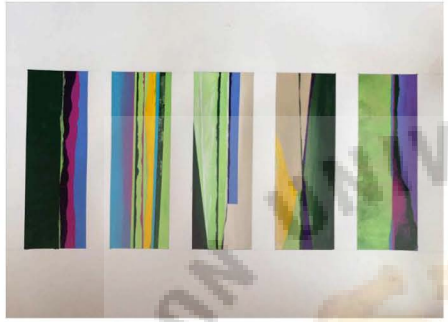
6. Create the final art pieces by hand, mount and frame

7. Material and techniques of art or design works

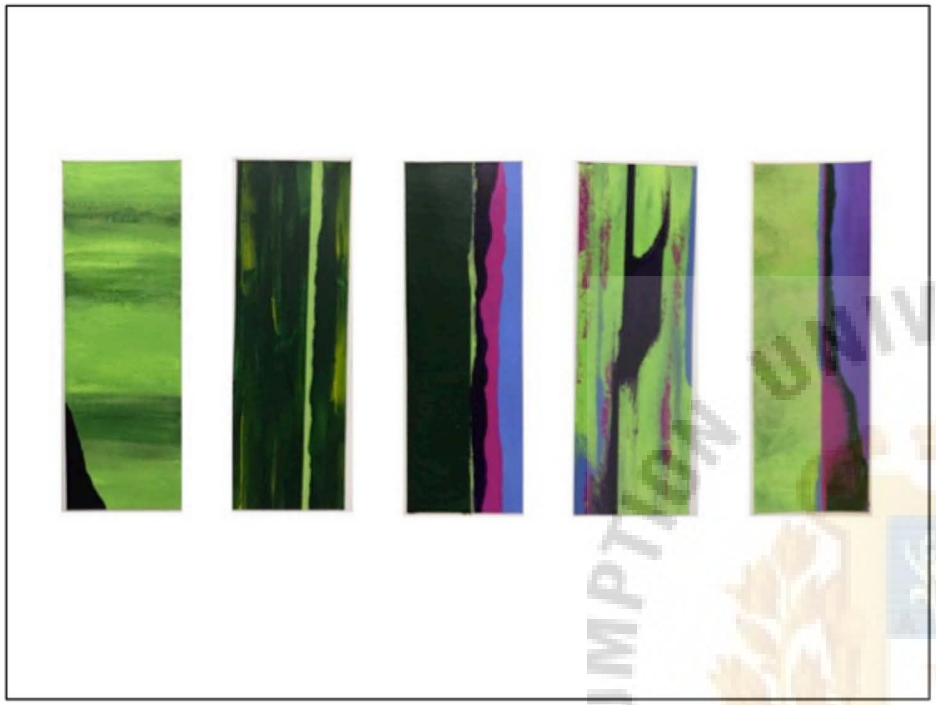
Acrylic on 400 gsm. paper 29 x 59 cm.

8. Picture of art or design works

Sketch Designs



Planned Grid Layout



Mounting and Framing Reference

9. Knowledge after finished produce art or design works

The beautiful landscapes of Thailand's colorful rice fields are a dedication to rice farmers' low-paid and heavy labor. As rice production is an important part of the national economy it is imperative to recognize the determination and solidity given into these cultivations. Consequently, as stated by His Majesty since the 1970's, the focus on Thailand as an agricultural country should be towards agro-economy and food stability. As he applied and initiated the essential principles of PSE to help Thai farmers, I have taken his philosophy and interpreted it into an artistic visual form.

The definition of sufficiency is an adequate amount of something, especially of something essential. Subsequently, minimalism is a tool to rid oneself of life's excess in favor of focusing on what's important. This too can be said of abstract art. In general, abstract art is often seen as carrying a moral dimension, in that it can be seen to stand for virtues such as order, purity, simplicity and spirituality. It is an art that does not attempt to represent an accurate depiction of a visual reality but instead use shapes, colors, forms and gestural marks to achieve its effect. The non-figurative compositions in Horizons were created in such a manner as a means to visualize the pure beauty and essence of the rice fields' value and remove anything that may deem unnecessary.