

CONVERSATION PIECE

LATTHAPON KORKIATARKUL

30 April – 3 July 2021

During the pandemic chaotic time, Nova Contemporary is pleased to present Latthapon Korkiatarkul's solo exhibition *Conversation Piece*. To support the government's policy, the viewing will be by appointment.

In *Conversation Piece*, Korkiatarkul continues his meticulous approach to provoke the social cultural constructed definite conceptions of things, the existing definite motivation and logical form, through art. Applying humble materials such as graphite, dust, and paper, Korkiatarkul makes his very attempt by applying the fundamental drawing techniques to phenomenologically manifest the intrinsic yet elusive relationships and value within and beyond an artwork.

Korkiatarkul believes everything has a space behind it; therefore, he delves into pursuing the behind, indefinable and oblique; he acknowledges all substances coming along with the time and space during the art creation, such as dust, cat furs, pencil shavings; he reckons the light and wind to be part of the work. After all, he strives for total liberation. The works ultimately achieve a democratic presentation without compositional hierarchy. In *Conversation Piece*, Korkiatarkul includes most of his creation-process on paper to explicitly exhibit his exploration to traverse the gap/space in between the categories and to quest the existing definite motivation and clear form in art. He purposely chooses paper, an intimate medium rather than canvas, to transform this seemingly two-dimensional plane into an ambiguous three-dimensional object to subvert the very ideas of drawing, painting, and sculpture.

The exhibited works are rendered with obsessive attention to detail and in a reduced palette to the condensation of the sublime. The size of each exhibited work is Korkiatarkul's conscious choice to invite the viewer to bodily engage with the work, to dialogue with it. *Painting, 2021*, acrylic on paper, the minor compositions remaining in places, lies on the white plinth. Those minor compositions, mediating the transience of time, annihilate the totality of the phase.

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Drawing, 2020, a large-scale work, graphite on paper, exemplifies the Artist's minimal but ferocious production to transform the two-dimensional plane into a three-dimensional object. In the end, the graphite, which is usually in a position of supporting, turns to be the main spontaneously reflecting in its very genuine colour. Painting, 2021, oil, ink, acrylic, ink on paper, Korkiatarkul distills the process of painting and changes its sequence. He soaks the paper in linseed oil first before painting it with the colour; he also paints the back of the work. The oil extinguishes the texture of the paper, which eventually hardens the paper and forms a reflective luminous surface to allow the painting to embrace the light and environment around the painting. --, 2020, expressively abstract in disguise, the Artist leaves the residue of the paint, transforming the open space beneath into a secular space to reveal vital aspects of the painting process, the emotional and affective dimensions of existence.

About the artist Korkiatarkul is a contemporary Thai artist. Born in 1988, and lives and works in Bangkok Thailand, he initially established a multi-faceted artistic practice, which seeks to challenge the social constructed conceptions and value of objecthood and materiality and discuss the delicate power relation in a definite structure by using humble substances and daily objects such as dust and banknotes. He has since become known for the open-end approach and process-based works, sublime yet visceral, in a variety of mediums. Korkiatarkul's works were exhibited in various exhibitions such as Bangkok University Gallery, 2019, Bangkok Art Biennale 2018, Sovereign Asian Art Prize, The Rotuncia, Hong Kong, 2016, Center of Academic Resources, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok 2015, Politic of Me exhibition at Bangkok Art and Culture Centre 2012, and Brand new Art Project 2012 at Bangkok University Galley 2012.

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