



HÔTEL DE LA PAIX

SIEM REAP

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WITNESS THE RENAISSANCE OF CAMBODIAN STONE CARVING AT HÔTEL DE LA PAIX **Cutting edge Arts Lounge gallery hosts Contemporary Stone Carving Project**

Guests staying at Siem Reap's renowned Hôtel de la Paix this summer will have a unique opportunity to see the dawn of an exciting new phase in the long history of Cambodian stone sculpture, as the hotel's innovative gallery cocktail bar, the Arts Lounge, hosts an exhibition by the Contemporary Stone Carving Project in conjunction with Phnom Penh's Royal University of Fine Arts.



From 8 June – 8 August 2010 Hôtel de la Paix will showcase works by graduates and students from RUFA which draw on the legacy of the ancient Angkor Empire, channelling that tradition of awe-inspiring monumental stonework into a new and unprecedented contemporary era reflecting modern day Cambodia. The exhibition addresses issues facing today's Cambodians, from freedom of speech to sexuality and the role of women in society, as well as referencing and celebrating Khmer culture and heritage.

Initiated by British artist Sasha Constable, a former artist in residence and design consultant for the World Monument Fund, the Contemporary Stone Carving Project aims to revive and carry the tradition of Cambodian stone carving into the modern era. Made possible with the support of Friends of Khmer Culture and the Royal University of Fine Arts, the exhibition will see sale proceeds split between the artists; the funding of equipment and materials for the sculpture department at RUFA; and supporting the Krousar Selapak workshop set up by Constable and graduates of RUFA in November 2008.

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Located in the centre of Siem Reap, close to the cultural and historic heart of Cambodia, every aspect of style and service at Hôtel de la Paix is informed by Khmer culture, from seasonally inspired local cuisine at signature restaurant Meric, to Spa Indochine's traditional treatments using local herbs and flowers. Committed to nurturing the burgeoning Cambodian art scene, the Arts Lounge is the cultural and social heart beat of the hotel, offering an ever-changing exhibition space dedicated to showcasing the rich heritage of Khmer culture and offering a living laboratory for its creative future.

Kuoni (tel: 01306 747 008; www.kuoni.co.uk) offers seven nights at Hôtel de la Paix from £1,561 per person, including deluxe room accommodation on a bed and breakfast basis, return flights departing from London Heathrow with THAI Airways, including airport lounge access on departure from the UK; and private return hotel transfers in Siem Reap. This price is based on two sharing and is valid for travel throughout July 2010.

For further information visit www.hoteldelapaixangkor.com or call tel: +855 63 966 000.

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Notes to editors:

Located in the heart of Siem Reap, close to the cultural and historic heart of Cambodia, Hôtel de la Paix is a luxury boutique hotel within easy reach of colourful markets and vibrant nightlife; and just a few kilometres from the breathtaking temple complexes of Angkor Wat, often referred to as the eighth wonder of the world and recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Khmer culture is celebrated in every aspect of style and service at Hôtel de la Paix, from the Meric Restaurant, with its seasonally inspired local cuisine to the Arts Lounge, which pays tribute to Cambodian artists; and Spa Indochine, which offers signature traditional treatments. Each of Hôtel de la Paix's 107 spacious, beautifully appointed en suite rooms features chic interiors and contemporary furnishings complimented by intricate wall mountings and handcrafted lamps, creating a balance between modern design and traditional detailing.

Hôtel de la Paix is operated by Ativa Hospitality, an experienced, Asian-based management company specialising in the development and management of independent deluxe boutique hotels. Ativa Hospitality currently manages properties in Thailand and Cambodia with project developments in Vietnam, Laos and India. For further information visit www.ativahospitality.com.

For further press information, or to discuss opportunities to visit Hôtel de la Paix, contact:

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