

Rirkrit Tiravanija
GO FOR THE GOOD SPIRIT

May 2021







If you have taken leave of your senses, you should try going after them... Rirkrit Tiravanija's imperative "Go for the good spirit", printed on an enamel sign at Klosterfelde Edition, comes up against an overall sense of cluelessness and symptoms of fatigue after more than a year of the pandemic. Like most galleries, the former stationery supply shop on an otherwise busy Potsdamer Straße has been largely vacant for a long time, and the next hard lockdown may be just around the corner. Tiravanija's exhibition explores the question of how spaces that have not served their actual purpose for so long—that is, interpersonal exchange and people encountering art—are affected by this emptiness. How does this alter the art and the space itself? Does an absence of people strengthen or weaken the good and bad spirits that are potentially present?

In 1999, for his exhibition at Helga Maria Klosterfelde on Admiralitätsstrasse in Hamburg, Tiravanija improved the energy of the space by rearranging the desks and placing bamboo flutes, plants, wind chimes, bells and mirrors in suitable places in accordance with Feng Shui principles. A fourteen-page fax, printed now for the Berlin exhibition as an edition on Japanese Kamiko paper, listed all of his suggestions for optimizing the space; these have now once again been applied to the gallery's current spaces.

Interested collectors can hang the accompanying enamel-sign multiple in their home and use the reproductions of the fax instructions to optimize the overall energy in their own spaces. Social practice, a central feature of Tiravanija's work, is carried over into individual and private space at a time, when only very limited collective projects and social gatherings are possible due to the pandemic. For the time being, we are all following suggestion # 7: "During difficult times do breathing exercises in the light of the moon."

Text by Bettina Klein
Translation by Erik Smith



Rirkrit Tiravanija

untitled 2021 (go for the good spirit)

Print on enamel on bent metal

40 x 30 cm

With 14 A4 pages of instructions for energetic improvement by the artist

Inkjet Print on Kamiko paper, 130 g

In custom-made box with orange cloth inlay

Stamped and numbered certificate

Edition of 36

Please note that this work will be shipped
after May 28, 2021



09/09/1999 02:03 3367096

TERRA QUIETA

PAGE 24

1. FOR MORE CLARITY, HANG A BRONZE WIND CHIME EXACTLY NINE UNITS (9 INCHES, 27 CM,) FROM THE CEILING INSIDE THE FRONT DOOR.
(CAN BE HUNG IN UNITS OF 9. i.e 9, 18, 36 ...)
2. FOR HELP WITH INTELLECTUAL MATTERS, PLACE BOOKS IN VIEW OF THE FRONT DOOR.
3. FOR STRESS REDUCTION, HANG TWO MIRRORS FACING EACH OTHER SO THAT WHEN YOU ENTER YOUR OFFICE (OR HOME), YOU HAVE TO PASS BETWEEN THEM.
4. TO IMPROVE FINANCIAL SITUATION, INSTALL A MIRROR IN THE KITCHEN BEHIND THE STOVE SO THAT THE BURNERS ARE REFLECTED IN IT.
(BURNERS REPRESENT WEALTH AND GOOD LUCK)
5. TO IMPROVE THE GENERAL WELL BEING OF THE SPACE, PLACE FLOWERS IN BEDROOM, STUDY AND KITCHEN.



Rirkrit Tiravanija

untitled 2019 (HOPE HAS NO RIGHT ANGLES)

Single-sided nylon applique flag with backliner and brass eyelets

180 x 120 cm

Nickel-plated boat whistle, engraved, with chain

In custom made, embossed linen box with cloth inlay

26 x 48 x 6 cm

Signed, numbered and dated certificate

Edition of 20

This multiple, a flag and a pipe with the inscriptions HOPE HAS NO RIGHT ANGLES alludes to the ideas behind 'The Land'. Like "untitled 2010 (bicycle shower)", "untitled 2007 (jacket turns to tent)" and "untitled 2007 (solar cooker)", it references the special living conditions at the Land Foundation.

In 1998, the artist initiated the Land Foundation together with Kamin Lertchaiprasert as an actual experiment in living such a modest life in harmony with nature. Roughly a twenty-minute drive from the northern Thai city of Chang Mai, The Land is located on rice fields abandoned by farmers due to unfavorable weather conditions. The Land is not a place of art in a stricter sense. The Land seeks to spread and promote an open exchange of ideas on art, ecology, economics, and community spirit—fundamental issues especially in a country like Thailand whose economy is largely dependent on tourism. The project is also a field of experimentation regarding ideas of ownership. Nobody owns The Land. Everyone is welcome and can spend time there, collaborating and contributing their ideas. All that transpires on The Land is based on a bigger idea or might become one. This includes buildings designed by artists such as Tobias Rehberger or Philippe Parreno and François Roche, but also how the ground is cultivated: there are three quarters of water to every quarter of earth (soil), the same ratio in the human body. Tiravanija sees art as a method for inventing and playing out new ways of living. The Land is a utopia that invites us to radically rethink the issues facing us today.



Rirkrit Tiravanija
untitled 2019 (HOPE HAS NO RIGHT ANGLES)
Details



Rirkrit Tiravanija

untitled 2016 (unfortunes fortunes)

A set of 24 coloured wooden sticks each 90 cm

25 stamps: each 8 x 10 x 7 cm

With fortunes or Fluxus performance instructions

On a custom made shelf: 57,5 x 86,5 x 12 cm

Paper, ink

In custom made linen bags

2 wooden wall mounts: each 19 x 9 x 10 cm

Signed and numbered certificate

Edition of 16

Rirkrit Tiravanija has created a large scale Mikado (pick a stick) game. Its aim is not points but fortunes and fluxus-performances which are hidden behind the Chinese numbers printed on the 24 sticks. After having drawn a stick, the player is entitled to disclose a specific fortune or performance-instruction by picking one of the 24 custom made stamps from a board and printing it on a sheet of paper. The artist invites the visitors to try their luck and offers a stage for individual interpretations of the different fluxus-performances. The edition, consisting of 24 wooden sticks, each 90 cm long, and a wooden board with 24 custom made stamps containing fortunes and fluxus instructions, is published in an Edition of 16.



Rirkrit Tiravanija
untitled 2016 (unfortunes fortunes)
Details



Rirkrit Tiravanija

untitled 2013 (NO THING)

A set of 2 traditional thai kites

Bamboo, paper, string and glue

Two baskets and stones in site specific installation

Dimensions kite one: 170 x 240 cm, kite two: 77 x 88 cm

Signed, numbered and stamped certificate

Edition of 5

The installation "Untitled (NO THING)," 2013, is a variation on "Untitled (THE STATE OF THINGS)," 2013; in place of the rug, stones are set in front of the two kites and spell out the words "NO THING." The stones make reference to the ground on which the kites will always land. At the same time, through the semantics of the phrase "No Thing," they paradoxically deny their own being as things. This paradox is typical of East Asian thought, which tends to focus "not on substance but rather on relationships" (Byung-Chul Han). The string is attached to the stones in one place, preventing the kites from flying away.



Rikrit Tiravanija

untitled 2007 (jacket turns to tent)

Jacket with integrated tent on the back, synthetic Material,

Each embroidered, custom made map collaged on linen

Tent: ca. 105 x 145 x 203 cm

Jacket length: 78 cm, width: 55 cm

Sleeve length: 58 cm

Map: 45,5 x 51,5 cm

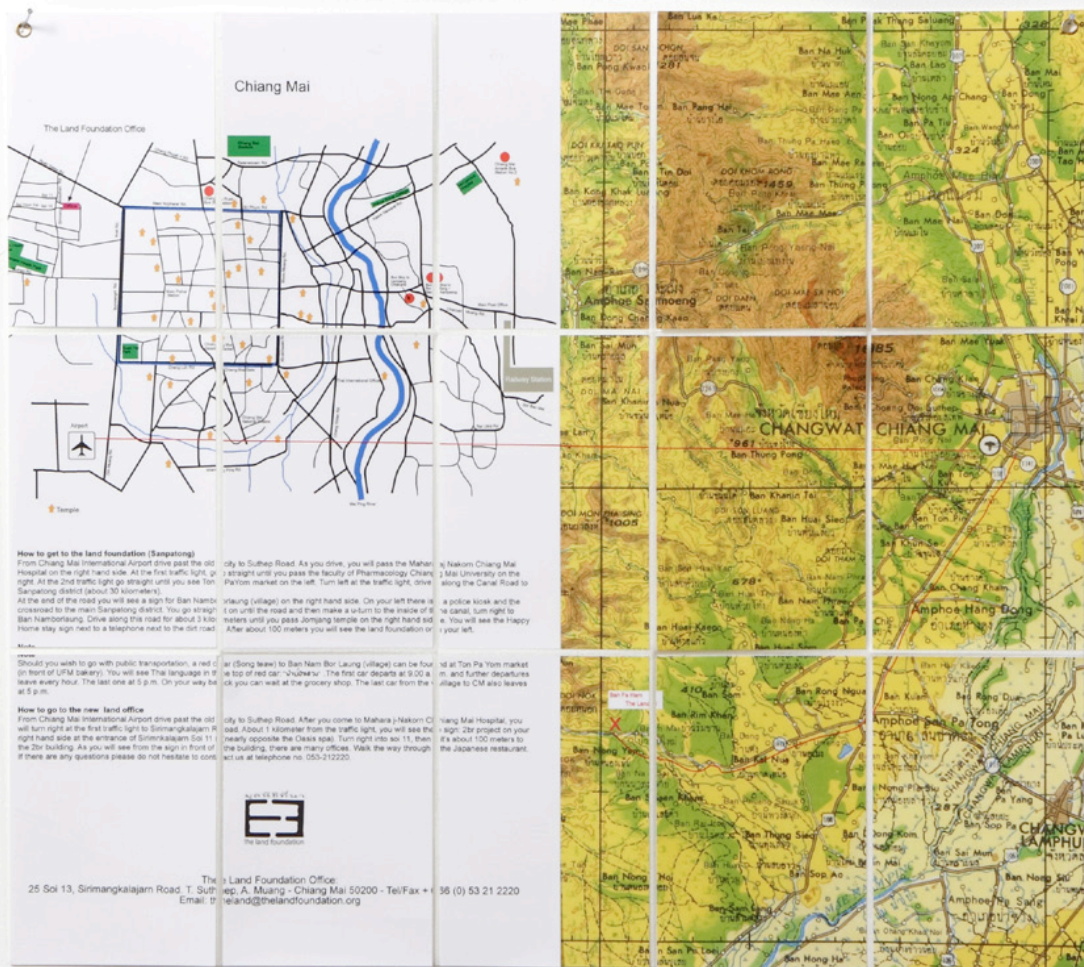
Signed, numbered and stamped certificate

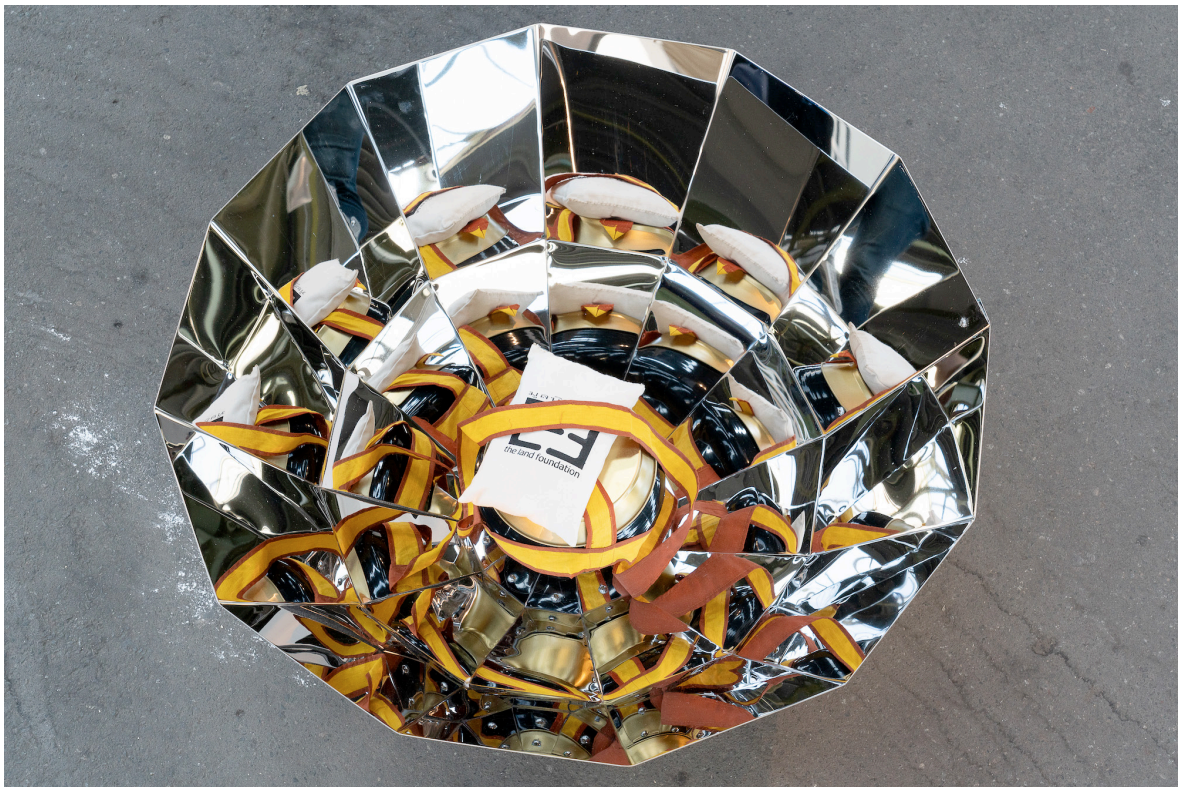
Edition of 10

This multiple, a green synthetic jacket not only transforms into a tent, but also features a map showing the way to the The Land Foundation. The collector is invited to visit and be part of the project.



Rikrit Tiravanija
untitled 2007 (jacket turns to tent)
Tent





Rikrit Tiravanija

untitled 2007 (solar cooker)

Stainless steel solar cooker, buddhist rice pot, rice

Harvested at The Land, Chiang Mai, Thailand, in custom made linen bag

Solar cooker: ca. 44 x 90 cm

Rice pot: ca. 20 x 22 cm

Signed, numbered and stamped certificate

Edition of 10

This multiple comes with a Buddhist rice pot and rice grown at The Land Foundation.

The first multiple published by Rirkrit Tiravanija with Klosterfelde Edition in 1993 consists of a backpack including cooking utensils and ingredients for a traditional Thai meal, only to be completed with fresh vegetables. The accompanying map, consisting of photocopies, is a personal archive of information related to cooking.



Rirkrit Tiravanija
Untitled (rucksack installation), 1993
 Map with index