

Contributors

Chris BAKER has a PhD in history from Cambridge University and taught Asian history and politics there before moving to Thailand where he has lived for over 30 years. With Pasuk Phongpaichit he has written *Thailand's Boom and Bust* (1998), *A History of Thailand* (2005, 2009), *Thaksin* (2004, 2009), and translated works by Pridi Banomyong, Chatthip Nartsupha, King Rama V, Nidhi Eoseewong, and the Communist Party of Thailand, as well as the great folk epic, *The Tale of Khun Chang Khun Phaen* (2010).

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Paul BROMBERG is the serving editor of the *Journal of the Siam Society* and a contributing editor to *Arts of Asia* magazine. He writes and lectures regularly about Thai art and antiques. He has been living in Asia since 1985, and resident in Bangkok since 1997. He read Modern Chinese Studies at the University of Leeds, and also studied at Fudan University, Shanghai, and Xiamen University, Fujian Province, China. He was a contributing author to *Royal Porcelain from Siam: Unpacking the Ring Collection*, published by Hermes Publishing, Oslo, 2013.

Patricia CHEESMAN was born in Singapore and educated in England. She has been a lecturer on Lao-Tai textiles in the Thai Art Department at Chiang Mai University since 1984. She has conducted in-depth field research on the traditional textiles of Laos and Thailand over the past 40 years and has published numerous books and articles. She has been a guest lecturer at universities, research institutes and museums in England, Australia, Laos, USA, Taiwan and Thailand, and is a consultant to the Bank of Thailand Textile Museum, Thai Ministry of Education, National Palace Museum, Taiwan, and the Lao Women's Union.

Wesley CLARKE is a Registered Professional Archaeologist with over forty years' field experience in the American Midwest and, more recently, Southeast Asia. He earned a MA in Southeast Asian Studies at Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, and is currently the resident archaeologist and collections manager at The Castle Museum in Marietta, Ohio. His Southeast Asian research interests include the socio-temporal definition of the Dvāravatī culture in central Thailand and the social functions of aesthetic principles and objects in the first millennium CE.

Volker GRABOWSKY is Professor of Thai Studies and head of the Department of Languages and Cultures of Southeast Asia at the University of Hamburg. He has done extensive research on the history and culture of Tai polities in Northern Thailand, Laos and southwestern China. He is currently doing research on Tai and Lao manuscript cultures. With Foon Ming Liew-Herres and Renoo Wichasin he has written *Chronicle of Sipsòng Panna: History and Society of a Tai Lü Kingdom, Twelfth to Twentieth Century* (2012).

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PAISARN Piemmettawat is the managing director of River Books Press, Bangkok, where he has worked for over 26 years and has gradually honed his photographic skills over the last 17 years. In both capacities, he has travelled extensively in Southeast Asia. Prior to his most recent book about the photographer John Thomson, he has contributed the photography to the following books: *Ancient Sukhothai: Thailand's Cultural Heritage*; *Ancient Luang Prabang*; *The Grand Palace and Old Bangkok*; *Ancient Vietnam: History, Art and Archaeology*; *Royal Hue: Heritage of the Nguyen Dynasty of Vietnam*; *The Roots of Thai Art*; *Sacred Sites of Burma, Banteay Chhmar - Garrison-Temple of the Khmer Empire*; and *Riverside Recipes - Thai Cooking at Chakrabongse Villas*.

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VITTHYA Vejjajiva graduated with B.A., LL.B. degrees from Gonville and Caius College, University of Cambridge before becoming a Barrister-at-Law at Grays Inn, London and then obtaining a Master of Law degree from Harvard University. He worked for the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 1963 to 1992, becoming Thai Ambassador respectively to Canada, the European Community, Belgium and the United States. He subsequently served as Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs before his retirement. He is presently a Member of the Council, Red Cross Society of Thailand, a Member of the Board of Trustees, Chumbot-Pantip Foundation and serves on the boards of several publicly listed companies.

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Karl E. WEBER graduated from Heidelberg University, Germany, in ethnology (1965) and sociology (1966). Formerly with the South Asia Institute, Heidelberg University, he was professor at the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand, from 1978 until 2002. He conducted research in South and Southeast Asia, notably in Nepal, Pakistan, and Thailand.

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