Thawan Duchanee is one of the foremost representatives of Thai and Asian art. He developed a unique style of artistry using black and red tones, based on the styles of traditional Buddhist art to explore the darkness lurking within humanity. Thawan received the Artist of the Year gold medal from the Siam Architects’ Association and was named a Thai National Artist in 2001.

(His pictures initially shocked many people as being blasphemous to the Buddhist religion and some of his early exhibitions were attacked. But many leading Thai intellectuals supported his work.)

Chalermchai Kositpipat was born into a Sino-Thai family. His early murals mixed traditional Thai Buddhist temple art with contemporary images, which was controversial. He was the first visual arts honoree for the inaugural Silpathorn Award, created in 2004 to honor living Thai contemporary artists at mid-career.

Rirkrit Tiravanija is a contemporary artist residing in [New York](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_York), Berlin, and Chiang Mai.[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rirkrit_Tiravanija#cite_note-2) He was born in [Buenos Aires](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buenos_Aires), [Argentina](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina) in 1961. His installations often take the form of stages or rooms for sharing meals, cooking, reading or playing music; architecture or structures for living and socializing are a core element in his work.

Bangkok-raised artist Korakrit Arunanondchai engages a myriad of subjects such as history, authenticity, and self-representation through the lens of a cultural transplant. His work seeks to find a common ground in artistic experiences through a pastiche of styles and mediums. He has had several solo exhibitions at CLEARING gallery in New York and Brussels.

Thawan Duchanee, Chalermchai Kositpipat, and Rirkrit Tiravanija are the top three modern Thai artists. They are inspiring artists who made a break through on Thai art by mixing traditional art with modern one. They paved a new path for the next generation of Thai art. It would be interesting to hear these speakers' stories. What inspired them, how they came up with these ideas, and their processes.