



# INSIAM DESTINATION GUIDE

Thailand was known as Siam until 1939 and this name is still dominant in many forms, including an area in the Pathumwan district of Bangkok known as Siam Square – just a short walk from the Siam Kempinski Hotel Bangkok.



Things to See

in SIAM

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**EXPLORE** MORE

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## Things to See in SIAM

# The Royal Grand Palace & Emerald Buddha Temple

This is a 'must see' attraction for all visitors to Bangkok. This royal compound embraces a remarkable collection of structures including Wat Phra Kaeo, the temple that houses the famous Emerald Buddha. Built in 1782, the Grand Palace was a royal residence for many generations and is still used for ceremonies and for accommodating Heads of State.

**Dress code:** Visitors must be properly dressed when entering the grounds of the Grand Palace. Men are required to wear shirts with sleeves and long trousers. Ladies must likewise cover their shoulders and wear full length skirts or dresses. Clothing for men and women may be hired for a nominal fee from the office at the main entrance to the compound.

**Opening hours:** Daily from 08:30 to 15:30 hrs

**Admission fee:** THB 500

Location: Na Phra Lan Road, Phra Borom Maha

Ratchawan, Bangkok



#### Wat Pho

#### Temple of Reclining Buddha



Wat Pho, situated close to the Grand Palace, is home to the Reclining Buddha. The temple, built during the reign of King Rama I, is considered to be a place of healing and was famous many centuries ago for its pharmacy and as Thailand's first university – both established by King Rama III. Traditional Thai and foot massages are available at the traditional medical school. Expect to pay a premium compared to massage shops elsewhere in the city. The Reclining Buddha measures 45 metres long by 15 metres high. The soles of the feet, inlaid with precious stones, denote the 108 signs of true faith. The statue's long earlobes signify noble birth and the lotus-bud configuration of the hand symbolises purity and beauty.

**Opening hours:** Daily from 08:30 - 17:00 hrs

**Admission:** THB 100

Location: 2 Sanamchai road, Pranakorn, Bangkok





#### Wat Arun Temple of Dawn



Wat Arun dates back to ancient battles between the former Siam and neighbouring Burma. Having fallen to the Burmese, Ayutthaya was reduced to rubble and ashes, but General Taksin and the remaining survivors vowed to march 'until the sun rose again' and to build a temple at that precise location. Wat Arun, the Temple of the Dawn, is that temple and was later the site of a royal palace and a private chapel. This temple steps provide stunning views as the sun sinks over the Chao Praya River. Access is easy by boat to the temple's jetty.

Opening hours: Daily 08:30 - 17:30 hrs

**Admission:** THB 100

Location: Arun Amarin road, Bangkok

## Jim Thompson's House Museum

Jim Thompson's three decades of dedication to the revival of Thai silk, then a dying art, changed the industry forever. After he disappeared in Malaysia's Cameron Highlands in 1967 but his legacy remains with the Jim Thomson brand synonymous with high quality Thai fabrics. The Jim Thompson House and Museum is a charming complex of six teak houses that contain priceless antiques and works of art. Tours are available in several languages.

Opening hours: Daily from 08:30 - 16:30 hrs

Admission: THB 150

Location: Soi Kasemsan 2, Rama I road, Bangkok





#### Erawan Shrine

The Erawan Shrine is one of the most popular places of prayer in Bangkok. This Brahman shrine sits proudly at Ratchaprasong, close to the BTS Sky Train network (Chidlom station) and many shopping malls. It's a fascinating experience with the clouds of incense, garlands of flowers and Thai performers displaying traditional dance moves. It was erected to appease works after many problems arose during the constriction of a nearby hotel.

Opening hours: Daily 06:00 - midnight

Location: Corner of Ploenchit and Ratchadamri roads

## Shopping in SIAM

#### Siam Paragon &

Siam Paragon is the popular shopping mall located next to the Siam Kempinski hotel with direct access via a connecting walkway. The complex houses international high-end fashion brands, aquarium, a 16-screen Cineplex, supermarket and restaurants offering Thai and international cuisine.

**Opening hours:** Daily from 10:00 - 22:00 hrs **Location:** 991 Rama 1 road, Pathumwan, Bangkok

**BTS:** Siam station



#### Central World Plaza



Central World Plaza is another large complex offers that provides exciting shopping experiences with shops, restaurants, movie theatres, supermarket, beauty salons and much more.

Opening hours: Daily 10:00 - 22:00 hrs Location: Ratchaprasong intersection **BTS:** Chidlom & Siam stations





#### MBK 🚨



MBK is probably Bangkok's most legendary shopping mall. It's popular with both tourists and local residents because of the bargain prices. The eight floors contain some 2,000 shops that sell literally anything and everything from clothing, fashion accessories and leather products to luggage, furniture, computers, smart phones and IT accessories.

Opening hours: Daily 10.00 - 22.00 hrs

Location: Phayathai road, Bangkok **BTS:** National Stadium station

#### Siam Square

Wander around Siam Square for up-and-coming Thai and Asian brands that offer a great mix of unusual designs at attractive prices. This is a popular chilling spot with students from nearby Chulalongkorn University. Visit in the late afternoon or early evening to catch the vibe of Siam Square.

**Opening hours:** Daily 10.00 to 22.00 hrs

Location: Rama 1 road, Bangkok **BTS:** Siam Interchange station





#### Chatuchak Weekend Market



Chatuchak Weekend Market has reached landmark status as a must-visit place for tourists. Its sheer size and diverse collections of merchandise will bring any seasoned shoppers to their knees. This is a market where you can literally 'shop until you drop'. The 35-acre site is home to more than 8,000 market stalls. On a typical weekend, more than 200,000 visitors come here to sift through the plethora of goods on offer. It's sensible to wear comfortable footwear and lightweight clothing.

Opening hours: Weekends 09.00 - 18.00 hrs Location: Kampangphet road, Bangkok

**BTS:** Mo Chit station

MRT: Kampang Phet station

#### Asiatique Riverfront Night Market

Asiatique combines successfully two of the most popular shopping experiences in the city: a night bazaar and a mall. Just a short (complimentary) boat ride from Sathorn pier Asiatique features more than 1,500 shops and a multitude of bars and restaurants housed in replica warehouse complex. Entertainment options include the Calypso cabaret.

Opening hours: Daily 17.00 - midnight

Location: Charoen Krung road Soi 72-74, Bangkok BTS: Saphan Taksin station and then take the Asiatique

shuttle boat



## Dine in SIAM

## Sra Bua by Kiin Kiin Thai Restaurant

Inspired by the award-winning Kiin Kiin restaurant in Copenhagen and its owner Henrik Yde Andersen this Michelin one star restaurant is famous for its modern interpretations of classic Thai dishes created from traditional recipes and authentic ingredients. Choose 'The Journey' menu to experience the outstanding culinary skills of Chef Chayawee and his team.

Classification: Fine dining

**Opening hours:** Lunch 12:00 - 15:00 hrs Dinner 18:00 - 23:00 hrs

**Prices:** \$\$\$\$

Location: Siam Kempinski Hotel Bangkok, Rama I road



#### Saneh Jaan Thai Restaurant

Thai dishes crafted from ancient recipes that once impressed the royal family are the draw here but don't discount the lovely setting, complete with vaulted ceilings and contemporary Thai touches. Dishes are a mix of classics and hard-to-find recipes such as hot and spicy soup, red curry with grilled pork, and sweet and sour coconut dip with crabmeat. For your dessert, try the khao moa rang - a rare creation made with young green rice grains.

Classification: Fine dining

Opening hours: Lunch 11:30 - 14:00 hrs Dinner 18:00 - 22:00 hrs

**Price:** \$\$\$\$

Location: The Glasshouse at Sindhorn, Wireless road





#### Ma Maison Thai Restaurant



Ma Maison is a modern venue that combines an elegant ambience with traditional Thai fayre. Situated on the sprawling lawns of the Nai Lert Park Heritage Home, this restaurant provides a luxurious experience and prides itself on its family recipes passed down from generation to generation. Don't be fooled by the French name. This restaurant devotes itself to sharing the recipes of the Nai Lert family. Signature dishes include pork crackling noodles and a rich chicken massaman.

Classification: Fine dining

**Opening hours:** Lunch 11:30 - 15:00 hrs / Dinner 18:00 - 22:00 hrs

**Price:** \$\$\$

Location: Nai Lert Park Heritage, Ploenchit Road





To find one of the oldest beef stew restaurants in Bangkok, head to Ekkamai by taxi or BTS SkyTrain. This venue is famous for its stewed beef and noodles. Sukiyaki, stir-fried beef in oyster sauce, and garlic pork with rice are other popular dishes.

**Classification:** Street food

**Opening hours:** 09:30 - 20:00 hrs

**Price:** \$ (cash only)

Location: Ekkamai Soi 18-20, Sukhumvit 63 Road









Baan Pad Thai



#### Go-Ang Chicken Rice

This humble chicken and rice stall has drawn a devoted fan base of local and international foodies for more than 50 years. The aromatic rice is cooked with chicken oil and perfectly matches perfectly the flavour of the chicken.

Classification: Street food

**Opening hours:** Lunch 06:00 - 14:00 hrs / Dinner 17:00 -

02:00 hrs

**Price:** \$ (cash only)

Location: New Petchburi Road

Baan Phad Thai is named after one of Thailand's most popular dishes. The secret to its success is the combination of 18 to 20 ingredients used in making each dish. The organic, home made tofu and the fresh crab are also noteworthy at this restaurant where locals and tourists eat side by side.

Classification: Street food

**Opening hours:** 11:00 - 21.30 hrs

**Price:** \$ (cash only)

Location: 21-23 Soi Charoen Krung 44 Road

## Happening in SIAM



# King Maha Vajiralongkorn's Birthday

28 July 2023

Known as Rama X, King Vajiralongkorn has been the reigning monarch of Thailand since 2016. He is the only son of King Bhumibol Adulyadej and Queen Sirikit. When he ascended to the throne at the age of 64, he became the oldest Thai monarch to assume this esteemed position.

On H.M. King's Birthday, which falls on 28 July, the nation comes together to honour and celebrate their beloved king. It is a day of great significance, and as a result, most government offices, banks, and businesses will be closed, allowing people to actively participate in the celebrations. Most shops may remain open.

#### Asahna Bucha

#### 1 August 2023

This public holiday in Thailand commemorates the Lord Buddha's first sermon over 2,500 years ago in India. It is typically held in July or August, determined by the waxing moon. The sermon took place at a deer park and symbolized the Dharma, represented by the Wheel of Life. Asahna Bucha is a day of merit-making and temple visits for Thai Buddhists, with candle processions and donations. The following day, Wan Khao Phansa, marks the start of the three-month "Phansa" period, known as "Buddhist Lent."





#### Khao Phansa Day

#### 2 August 2023

The day after Asahna Bucha is Wan Khao Phansa, which marks the start of the three-month Phansa period, also known as "Buddhist Lent." During this retreat, monks confine themselves to the temple and nearby areas, a tradition stemming from ancient times to protect crops. In Thailand, monks stay at the same temple instead of traveling. This period emphasises spiritual contemplation and practice.

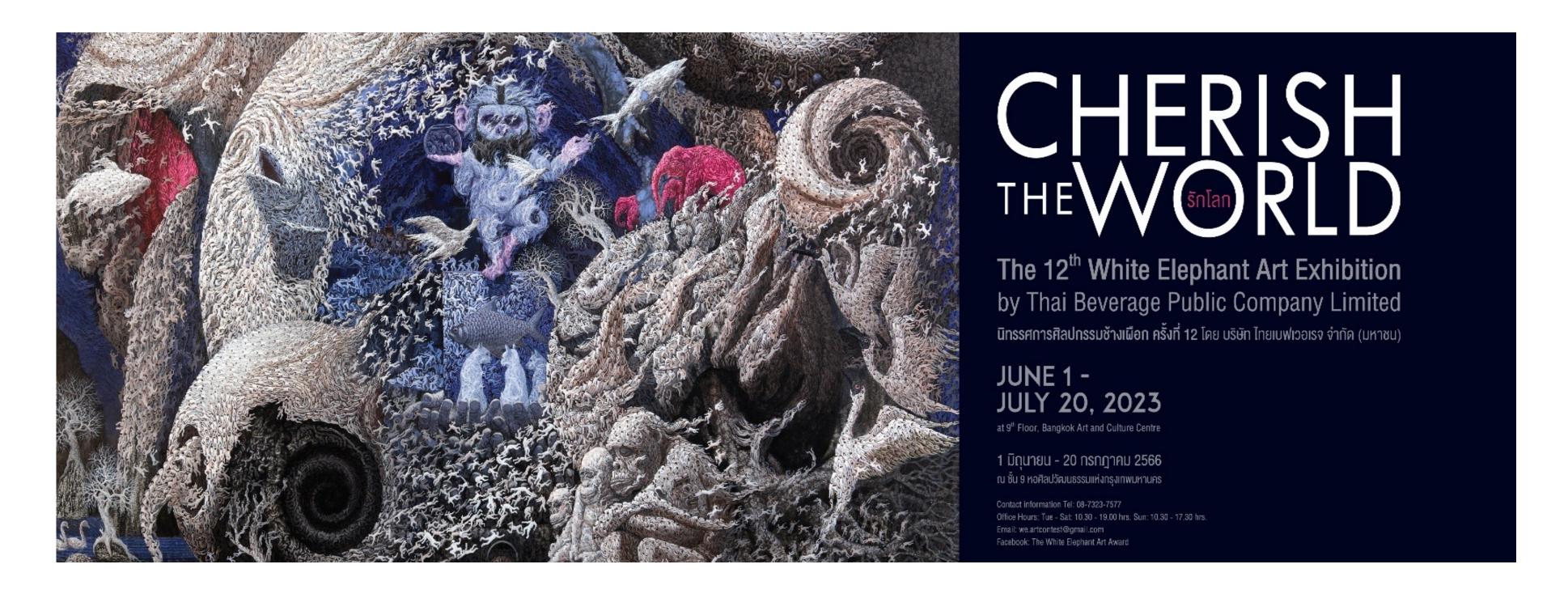
#### Queen Mother Sirikit's Birthday and Thailand Mother's Day

12 August 2023

This annual public holiday in Thailand honours the Queen Mother, Her Majesty the Queen Consort of Bhumibol Adulyadej (King Rama IX) and celebrates the birthday of King Vajiralongkorn's mother. Queen Mother Sirikit is renowned for her charitable work and has been the honourary president of the Thai Red Cross since 1956. This day is also recognised as Thailand's Mother's Day, symbolising the nation's respect for motherhood.



### Art & Exhibition, Live Shows & Concerts



## The 12th White Elephant Art Award Exhibition "Cherish the World"

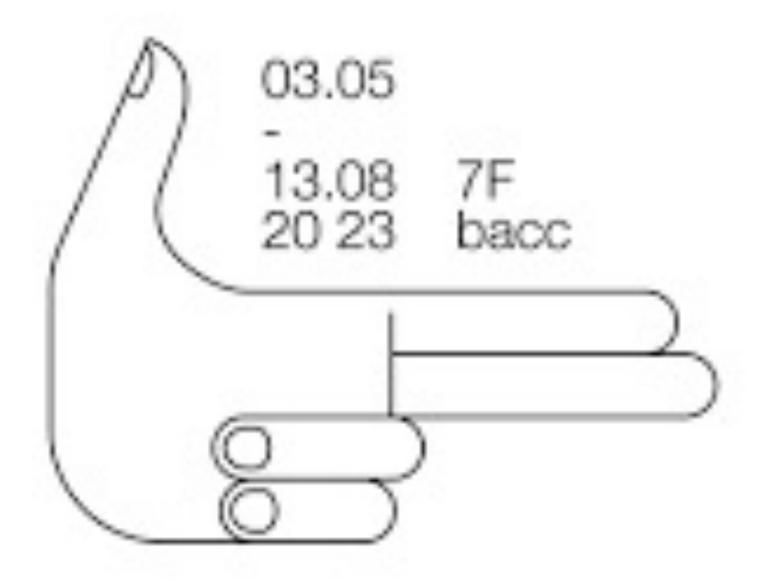
The 12th White Elephant Art Award exhibition "Cherish the World" by Thai Beverage Public Company Limited presents realistic and figurative painting, sculpture and mixed media artworks that received awards from the 12th edition of the competition in 2023. The exhibition is composed of 21 award-winning artworks and 36 selected artworks. To conclude, there are 57 works of art exhibited this year.

**Date:** 1 June 2023 - 20 July 2023

**Time:** 10:00 - 20:00

**Admission fee:** Free

Location: Main Exhibition Gallery, Floor 9, Bangkok Art and Culture Centre



### in a Cogitation

EARLY YEARS PROJECT #6
An incubating Project For Young Artists
โครงการประเพาะและสร้างแค่ใชช่าย
ศิลปินกุ่นใหม่ ครั้งที่ 6





#### Early Years Project #6: In A Cogitation

The Bangkok Art & Culture Centre is proudly presenting the sixth edition of its Early Years Project exhibition. The project, an initiative that seeks to foster a network of up-and-coming and young artists, offers participants valuable opportunities to develop their creativity, artistic approaches, and skills through collaborations with organisations and groups within and beyond the art scene – ultimately paving the way to a full-fledged artistic career.

For the sixth edition of the Early Years Project, held under the theme "In A Cogitation." The theme is selected from eight finalists who nominated concepts of exhibition. The judges have merged and adapted the title into "In A Cogitation". The title reflects individually conceptual processes, critical thinking and analytical skills that lead to contemporary artistic practices. Based on this theme, young artists "cogitate" phenomena and question factors that caused those situations. The significant characteristics of EYP6 artists are that they study from the data analysis process, in conjunction with information analysis to support the creation of artworks, which also ingeniously reflects attitude, vision, and behaviour, towards the contemporary world.

**Date:** 3 May - 13 August 2023

Time: 10:00 - 20:00 | Tuesday - Sunday (Closed on Monday)

Admission fee: Free

Location: Main Gallery, Floor 7, Bangkok Art and Cultural Centre

## "ART-THAI-TIME" Bhirasri Institute of Modern Art Revisited

The Bhirasri Institute of Modern Art (BIMA) came into being in 1974 after years of campaigning by art patrons and artists who were determined to see his vision realised after Feroci's demise in 1962. BIMA was named in memory of Feroci, using his Thai name, Silpa Bhirasri. The Institute operated until 1990, during which time it hosted numerous ground-breaking exhibitions, as well as music, theatre and film programmes. It became known for its innovative and experimental approach and gave Bangkok a contemporary art meeting venue for its time. All this was unfolding behind the backdrop of Thailand's social and political changes of the 70s and 80s, which are reflected in the works of artists from that period. The BIMA, with its interdisciplinary approach to the arts, became a model that was followed in the establishment of the Bangkok Art and Culture Centre.

The exhibition, which aims to see how both institutions have performed when compared to Bhirasri's vision, will be archival in its set-up, highlighting past exhibits that include theatre and music. It will also serve to examine the role of art institutions, patrons and artists' networks in making it possible to spearhead progress in the advancement of the arts in the country. And together, the role played by foreign cultural institutions, banks and independent galleries who made important contributions towards it.

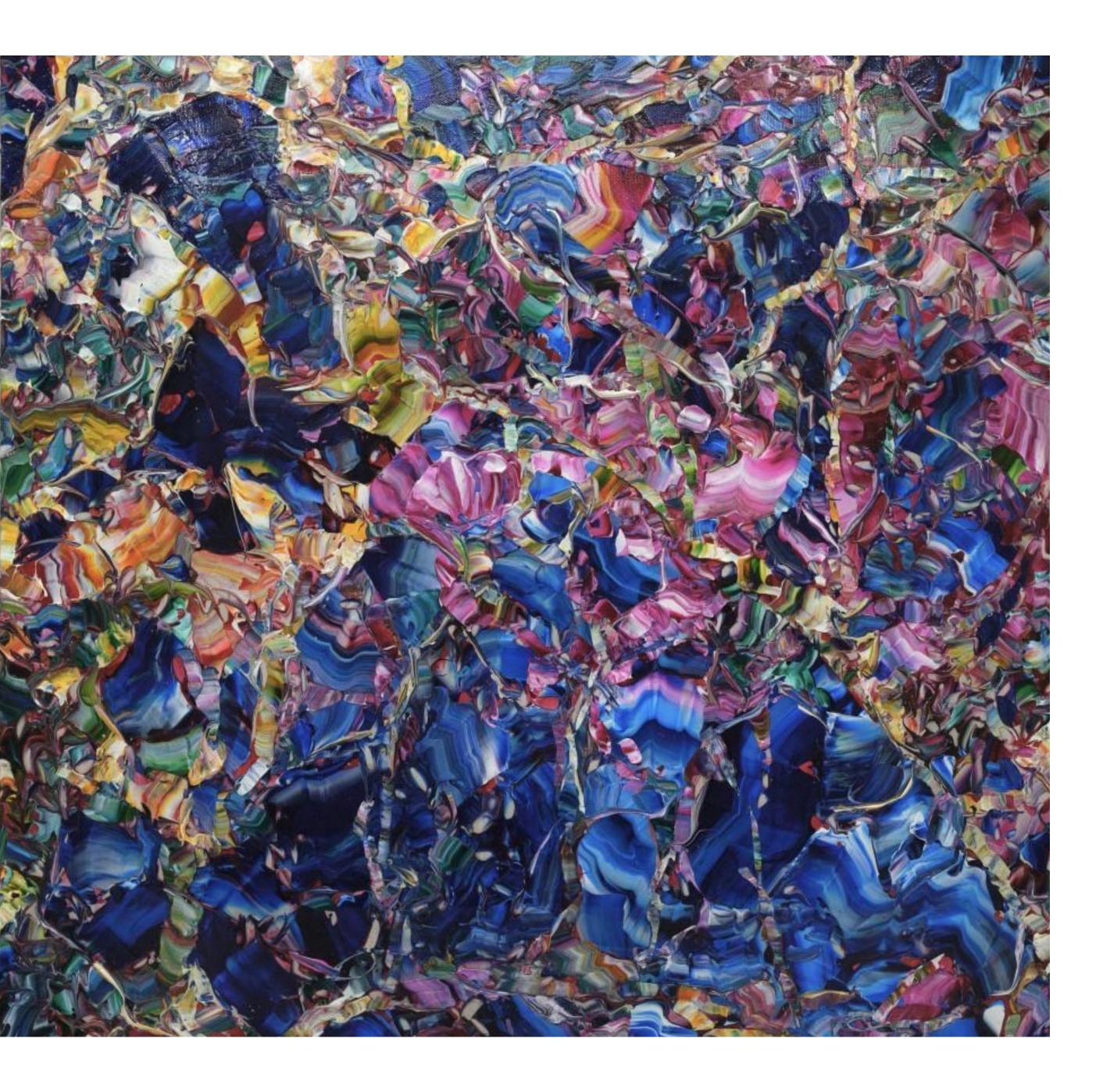
**Date:** 9 May - 20 August 2023

Time: 10:00 - 20:00 | Tuesday - Sunday (Closed on Monday)

**Admission fee:** Free

Location: Main Gallery, Floor 8, Bangkok Art and Cultural Centre





#### Elevated Marblesque

In this exhibition, Elevated Marblesque, Ishiguro provides further development to his ongoing series by literally elevating the painting into two levels, stretching a sense of transformation and building rock layers towards the audience. The surface, reaching outwards towards viewers, gives the density and materiality that Ishiguro seeks to capture, suggesting a sense of topography, contour, elevation and height of the earth: an overview of our physical, chemical and biological atmosphere and surroundings.

**Date:** 20 May - 19 August 2023

Time: 10:00 - 20:00 | Tuesday - Sunday (Closed on Monday)

**Admission fee:** Free

Location: Floor 1, Art Centre Building

## The World of STUDIO GHIBLI's Animation Exhibition Bangkok 2023

THE WORLD OF STUDIO GHIBLI'S ANIMATION EXHIBITION BANGKOK 2023 will gather 10 of the most iconic scenes from the Studio Ghibli films: "My Neighbor Totoro," "Howl's Moving Castle," "Spirited Away," "KiKi's Delivery Service," "Princess Momonoke," "Castle in the Sky," "Porco Rosso," "Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind," "Ponyo on a Cliff by the Sea" and "Pom Poko."

Over 1,890 sq m at CentralWorld Live will come to life with iconic scenes from the movies recreated in 3-D installations. Prepare yourself to explore the greenery of Totoro Forest, catch a train back home with Kaonashi or sit back, relax, and get some munchies at Osono's bread shop. Thai Ghibli lovers also get the exclusive chance to visit the gigantic castle Laputa from "Castle in the Sky," which will be included in the exhibition for the first time ever!

Date: 1 July - 30 September 2023

**Time:** 10:00 - 16:00 and 16:00-22:00

Admission fee: THB 650 and THB 1,290 VIP Package

Location: Central World Live (Floor 8, Central World Plaza)





## RBSO 2023: A Night in Hollywood

The RBSO collaborates with the Los Angeles Film Conducting Intensive in bringing to you a spectacular selection of classics and newest film scores from Hollywood, never performed in Thailand before as well as original compositions by contemporary film composers.

**Date:** 7 July 2023

**Time:** 19:30

**Admission fee:** THB 2,500 / THB 2,000 / THB 1,500 / THB 1,000 / THB 600

Location: Thailand Cultural Centre, Main Hall

## DISNEY IN CONCERT a Dream is a Wish

Join us on a spellbinding journey to be acquainted with the timeless stories that have become Disney classics – from the little mermaid who longs to be human to the lion cub who struggles to find his place in the world to the two sisters who embark on an adventure to save their kingdom from winter's cold grip.

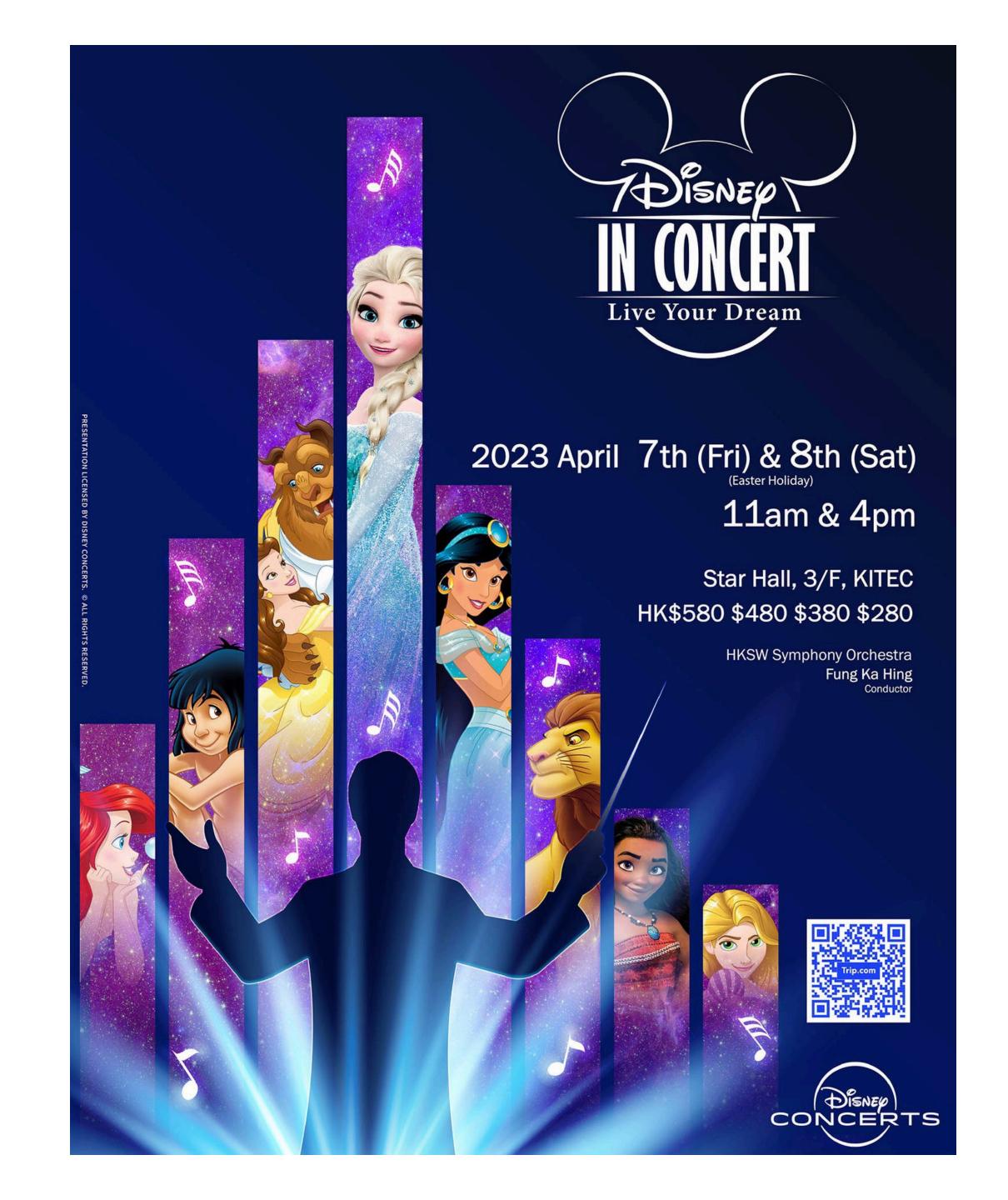
Accompanied by original Disney animated film footage and sweeping orchestral scores performed by a 45-piece orchestra, fans will see the classic tales of The Little Mermaid, The Lion King, Beauty and the Beast, Frozen, Aladdin and more brought to life by four talented leading vocalists direct from the United States. The magic of Disney storytelling reminds us anew that anything is possible, and that "...if you keep on believing, the dream that you wish will come true."

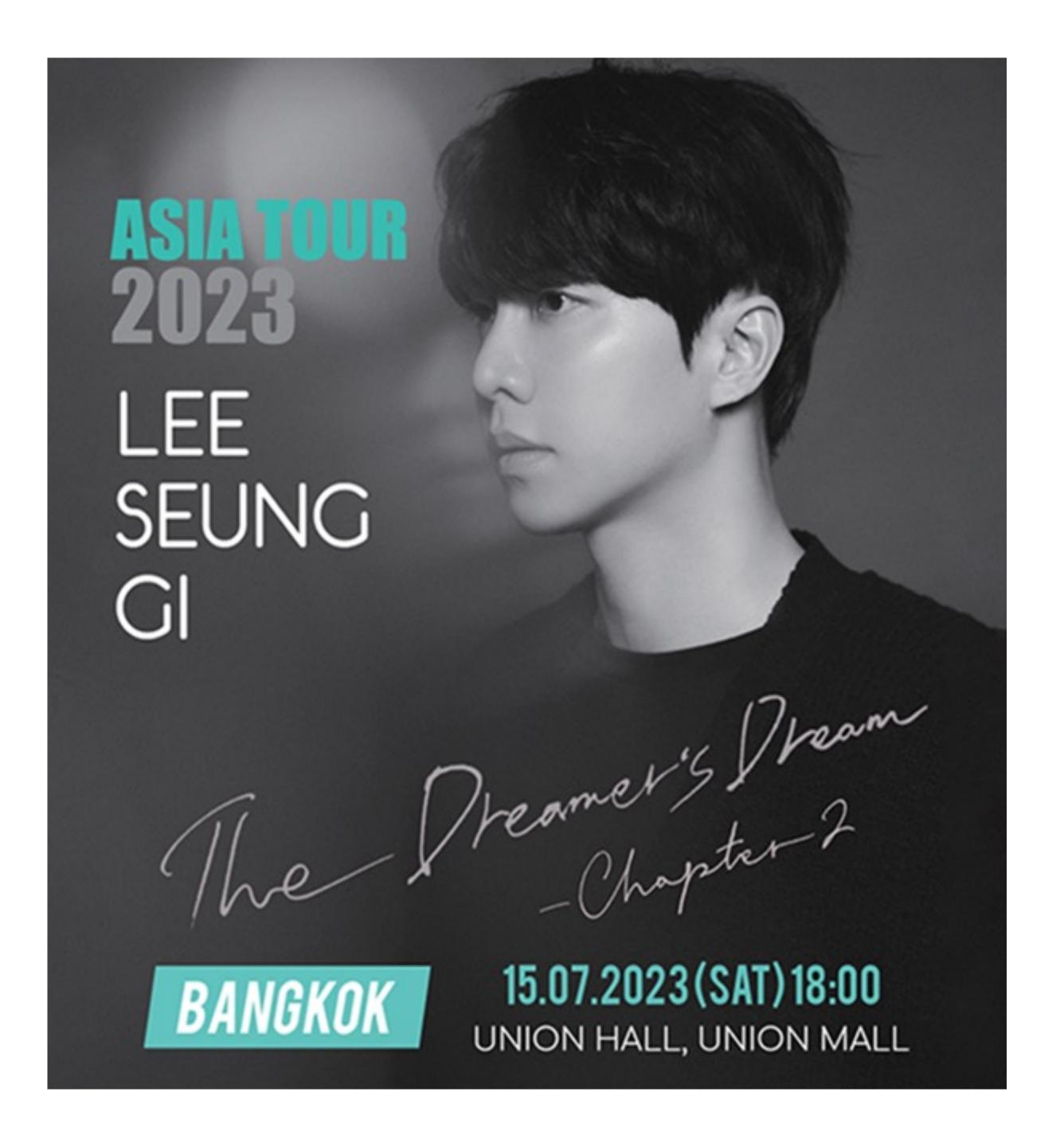
**Date:** 8 July 2023

**Time:** 15:00 / 19:30

Admission fee: VIP THB 3,000 / Deluxe THB 2,500 / Regular THB 2,000

Location: True Icon Hall, Floor 7 Icon Siam





#### 2023 LEE SEUNG GI ASIA TOUR:

## The Dreamer's Dream -Chapter 2 in Bangkok

TG Entertainment together with FAITH & D Entertainment join hands with KOKO Connection Thailand to serve happiness to Thai Airen (Airen - Lee Seung Gi fan club name) and Lee Seung Gi's Thai series fans (Lee Seung Gi).

End the Asia tour with a handsome male protagonist, the owner of a deadly smile, flying in the sky to meet the fans up close at the 2023 LEE SEUNG GI ASIA TOUR: The Dreamer's Dream – Chapter 2 in Bangkok that everyone has been waiting for more than 4 years.

**Date:** 15 July 2023

**Time:** 18:00

**Admission fee:** THB 6,500 / THB 5,500 / THB 4,500 and THB 3,000

Location: Union Mall, Union Hall 2

#### ONE Fight Night 12: Kryklia vs Xhaja

Gear up for an exciting night of martial arts action, as the world's most electrifying knockout artists and submission specialists return to the Thai capital for ONE Fight Night 12 on 15 July!

Unstoppable ONE Light Heavyweight Kickboxing World Champion Roman Kryklia, considered by many to be the most dangerous striker on the planet, looks to continue his path of destruction when he defends his gold against hard-hitting Albanian bruiser Francesko Xhaja in the main event.

Also, top-ranked featherweight MMA contenders Garry "The Lion Killer" Tonon and Shamil "The Cobra" Gasanov throw down in a three-round war, with both men looking to make their case for the next shot at the ONE Featherweight World Title.

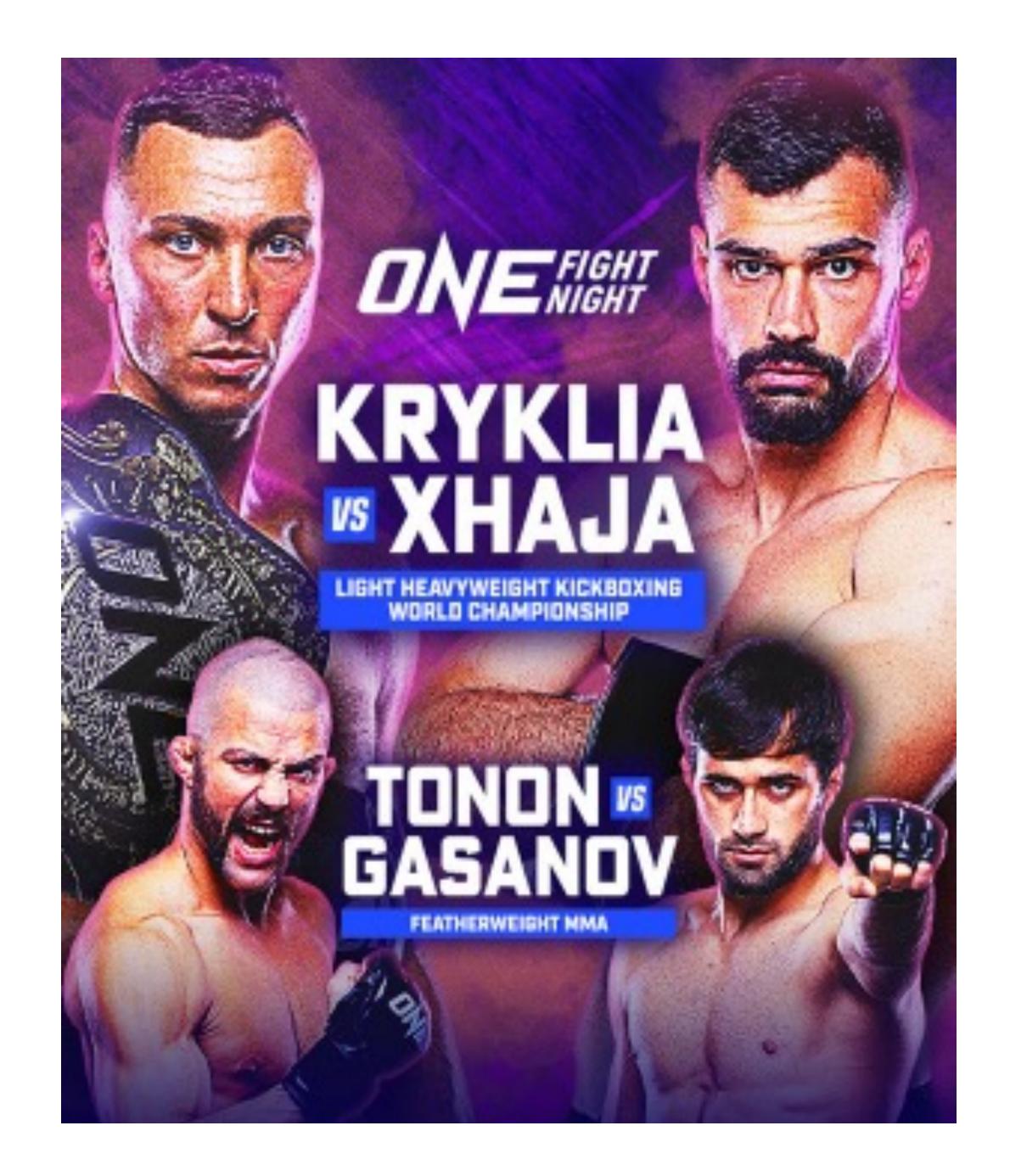
**Date:** 15 July 2023

**Time:** 18:00

Admission fee: Premium Ringside THB 10,000 / Ringside THB 4,500 / THB 3,750 /

THB 2,400 / THB 1,200

Location: Lumpini Boxing Stadium (Ramindra Road)





#### AIDA Helikon Opera

One of the world's great love stories, Aida, was composed by Giuseppe Verdi in 1870 for Cairo's oldest opera house which was constructed in celebration of the opening of the Suez Canal. The masterfully written libretto transports you to the time of the Pharaohs, where all of humanity's conflicting emotions erupt on stage: the quest for happiness, dashing betrayal, guilt, duty, freedom, and brilliance.

It's impossible not to be moved by the tragic love between an enslaved Ethiopian princess and an Egyptian commander – especially as performed with full orchestra and chorus by Helikon Opera, the largest and most internationally renowned opera theatres in Russia. They've won more than 10 Golden Masks among other awards, and Artistic Director Dmitry Bertman is recognised as Russia's top opera stage director.

Date: 9 September 2023

**Time:** 19:00

**Admission fee:** THB 6,000 / THB 5,000 / THB 4,000 / THB 3,000 / THB 1,800

Location: Thailand Cultural Centre, Main Hall

## SWAN LAKE Les Ballets de Monte Carlo, Monaco

The festival's silver jubilee celebration won't be complete without a performance of the world's most famous ballet, Swan Lake. This time, the fated love story of the Prince and his cursed White Swan is told through this strikingly grand production from Les Ballets de Monte Carlo. Beneath the overt beauty of the dance, in this timeless tale, everything is obscure, complicated, rich and wondrous.

Tchaikovsky's symphonic ballet about a metamorphosis that makes love impossible never fails to move, tap into our childhood fears, our senses of self and our understanding of humanity. You'll feel this interpretation of Swan Lake in your soul.

Date: 30 September 2023

**Time:** 19:00

**Admission fee:** THB 4,500 / THB 4,000 / THB 3,500 / THB 2,700 / THB 1,800

Location: Thailand Cultural Centre, Main Hall



#### THANK YOU