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JIM THOMPSON

The Siam Bangkok Partners with Art and Lifestyle Creatives – Bill Bensley and Jim Thompson

BANGKOK, Thailand 29 November 2022 – Bangkok's most recognized and award-winning urban retreat, The Siam enters its second decade with a striking new initiative.

Nestled amongst The Siam's collection of private pool villas stands Connie's Cottage, a two-story century old Thai teak house with rich history and character. Once a treasured residential villa for guests, the architectural gem and its surroundings have been extensively renovated, heralding a new era and purpose for this historic structure.

It is with delight that The Siam announces partnerships with two iconic brands who will soon take residence at Connie's Cottage. Both brands were founded by charismatic men with a deep love for Southeast Asia, and boundless creativity - a perfect pairing for The Siam.

Bensley Gallery at The Siam

On the upper level, guests will find the artwork of Bill Bensley, the Hotel's fantasist architect and designer, at the 'Bensley Gallery at The Siam'. Following 30 years of creating some of the world's most incredible hotels and gardens, Bill found a new passion for painting three years ago, and has been unstoppable ever since. Visitors will find highlights from his prolific collection of eclectic and striking artworks which will be curated and rotated through the Gallery for them to admire and purchase. Bill's proceeds from his art go to the Shinta Mani Foundation and Wildlife Alliance to support conservation and wildlife protection, causes very close to his heart.

"Long before we started building The Siam, the owner Kriss and I took a boat upriver to find these century-old Thai teakwood houses, which belonged to OSS agent Connie Mangksau. Once upon a time they entertained the likes of Roger Moore, Jackie Kennedy and Henry Ford - and I am honored that now they will welcome my very own artwork!" - Bill Bensley

= MORE =

THE SIAM

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Jim Thompson at The Siam

Thailand's most iconic lifestyle brand, Jim Thompson will occupy the ground floor, creating a showcase of their latest fashion and homeware designs. This space will tempt and tantalize guests to explore the world of Jim Thompson. This year, the brand has signaled a new chapter by launching Jim Thompson Heritage Quarter, Bangkok's brand-new lifestyle destination which features an iconic "Museum About the Man", a Home Furnishings Exhibition, a café and a new retail shop all located right next to Jim Thompson Art Center. Over the next year, Jim Thompson will unveil revitalized dining experiences, allowing guests of The Siam to receive exclusive access and benefits.

General Manager of The Siam, Nick Downing shares "There is always something happening at The Siam. The opportunity to open Connie's Cottage for the benefit of all guests and visitors was ultimately irresistible. I could not be happier that we are partnering with such iconic brands as Jim Thompson and Bill Bensley; both of which bring additional style, energy and passion to the very center of our hotel"

'Jim Thompson at The Siam' and the 'Bensley Gallery at The Siam' will open to visitors from mid December 2022.

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About The Siam

Set on three acres of verdant frontage along the Chao Praya River, The Siam is a privately owned 38-suite-and-villa luxury retreat located in Bangkok's royal Dusit district. Designed by internationally acclaimed architect Bill Bensley, the Art Deco inspired, Thai antique infused masterpiece is the kingdom's premier urban resort. Guests have an array of superlative amenities at their fingertips: restaurants, cooking school, bar, café, spa, gym, yoga terrace, Muay Thai boxing ring, library, screening room, riverside infinity pool, gift & antiques gallery, conservatory, and traditional Thai houses. The Siam is part of the Sukosol Hotels group and a member of Preferred Hotels & Resorts. For more information and images, please visit www.thesiamhotel.com

About Bensley

Bill Bensley is a jack of all trades. Best known as an Architect, Interior Designer and Landscape Designer who has brought to life over 200 resorts, hotels, and palaces in 30+ countries, he is also a gardener, fisherman, lover of all things natural, and most recently, an Outsider artist... never having been traditionally trained in fine art, he sees the art world through a different lens. Having discovered this passion 3 years ago, he was soon found practicing wherever he went – airplanes, site visits, even on the back of menus, leading to his first solo show. Now on any given day Bill is painting at 6:00 am before going to his design studio, creating whimsical, wonderful works.

About Jim Thompson

No brand spells heritage like Jim Thompson, the Thai Silk Company founded in 1951 by James H.W. Thompson, a visionary aesthete who has been famously recognized as the driving force behind the revival of the Thailand's silk industry.

Today, Jim Thompson is the iconic global lifestyle brand from Thailand with a reputation for beautiful silks.

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