

46056965 : MAJOR : ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT AND TOURISM.

KEY WORD : ROLE OF PERFORMING ARTS/ INTERPRETATION/ HERITAGE  
SITES/AYUTTHAYA WORLD HERITAGE SITE.

NARAPHONG CHARASSRI : THE ROLE OF PERFORMING ARTS IN THE  
INTERPRETATION OF HERITAGE SITES WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE  
TO AYUTTHAYA WORLD HERITAGE SITE. THESIS ADVISOR : PROF. DR.RUSSELL  
STAIFF Ph.D. 520 pp. ISBN 974-464-103-7

This thesis aims to study if the Performing Arts are an appropriate and valid form of heritage interpretation at a World Heritage site like Ayutthaya. This raises the question : 'Should the performing arts be used as a way of interpreting cultural heritage at World Heritage sites?' The role of Performing Arts in interpretation of heritage sites is discussed and examined. The current situation at Ayutthaya heritage site, Heritage conservation, Interpretation of heritage sites and performing arts as interpretation are explored.

Eight research methods were used for this thesis: research literature, personal experience, visitor surveys, media, symposium, experimental / creative work, field study and interviews. Data collection was carried out between the period of December 1992 until April 2004 at and around Ayutthaya World Heritage. Interviews were conducted with Ayutthaya World Heritage stakeholders, performing arts professionals and experts in Thailand and abroad. Data collected was analyzed by means of the Octagon Model for Data Analysis developed specially for this thesis. This thesis advances one main research proposition : 'That the Performing Arts are an appropriate and valid form of heritage interpretation at a World heritage site like Ayutthaya.' The analysis confirmed this proposition.

---

Architectural Heritage Management and Tourism    Graduate School, Silpakom University    Academic Year 2004

Student's signature *Naraphong Charassri*  
Thesis Supervisor's signature *R. Staiff*