

The National Center for Khmer Ceramics Revival Presents: The International Khmer Ceramics Festival 2007- Siem Reap - Angkor

December 11 - December 29, 2007

OPENING RECEPTION TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 8-12AM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 29, 2007

ANGKOR – CAMBODIA, The National Center for Khmer Ceramics Revival (NCKCR), a City-based non-profit art organization, is pleased to be hosting The First Annual International Khmer Ceramics Festival (IKCF). This Festival will be held from December 11 through December 29, 2007. An opening reception in celebration will be held on Tuesday, December 11, from 8-12 am, in The NCKCR at Phum Thnol, Khum Srour Ngea, Siem Reap. The public is cordially invited to attend.

The First International Khmer Ceramics Festival will highlight the rebirth of a lost skill in Cambodia... Ceramics. First firing of an Ancient Khmer Kiln reconstitution, 8 meters long (~8 cubic meters) during ten nights and days; two days of international conferences in collaboration with the Center for Khmer Studies and Heritage Watch; presence of several internationally renowned ceramists (Janet Mansfield (Australia), Louis Katz (USA), Suwanee Natewong (Thailand), Alan Lacovetsky (Canada)...); demonstration of Khmer Ancient techniques are planned during the Festival.

The First International Khmer Ceramics Festival will profit to young Khmer Ceramists offering them a wonderful opportunity of technological and artistic exchange with peers from abroad. This Festival provides also an opportunity to enhance Khmer Ceramics on the international level, and is closely aligned with the missions of the NCKCR: provoking the rebirth of this lost skill in Cambodia and the fight against illicit trade of Khmer Antiques artifacts.

Ancient Khmer Kiln reconstitution is led with renowned academicians specialized in South-east Asiatic mainland Ceramics and kilns designers. Ms. Roxanna Brown PhD Director, SEACAM Bangkok University, Pr. John Miksic (National University of Singapore), Mr. Chhay Rachna (APSARA Archaeologist), Mr. Serge Rega and Mr. Jeff Jewell collaborate in this exceptional initiative. It is the first time since 500 years such a kiln will be fired in Cambodia.

December 13, 14 and 15, 2007 a conference of 2 days combining pure Academic in the state of research on ancient ceramics of mainland Southeast Asia (1st day). Challenges and opportunities in reviving techniques of ancestral pottery (and its potential for sustainable development) (2nd day); with sites visits (ancient kiln site and our contemporary workshop). This conference could take place during, and as part, of the IKCF. The objective would be to conciliate Academic scholarship with applied craft, for the benefit of economical sustainable activities in the region. The Center for Khmer Studies (CKS) (<http://www.khmerstudies.org>) will be the host institution. Advisory committee includes: Mr. Philippe Peycam PhD. (CKS Director), Prof. John Miksic (National University of Singapore), Mr. Chhay Rachna (APSARA archaeologist), Mr. Dougald O'Reilly PhD. (Heritage Watch Director) and Mr. Serge Rega (NCKCR Director).

The National Center for Khmer Ceramics Revival (NCKCR) is a non-profit educational art organization dedicated to the rebirth, promotion and development of the ceramic arts in Cambodia. The NCKCR has supported the ceramic arts through its gallery, studio space, School, educational and outreach programs. The NCKCR believes in promoting broad access to the ceramic arts in Cambodia, and gears its programs to all levels of interest and proficiency. Workshops hours are everyday 8 AM to 6 PM. For further information, please contact Serge Rega at info@khmerceramics.com or +855(0)63 761 519.