



Vientiane
Laos

TIME OUT

Theater-Ritual zur Zeit
Gastspiel April/Mai 2005

*Theater Ritual about Time
Guest Performances April/May 2005*

antagon
theater AKTion



ເຊີນຊົມ ການສະແດງກາຍຍະກຳ ຈາກເອີ້ນຕາກ້ອນ ປະເທດເຢຍລະມັນ
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28-29-30/04-1/05/2005 ທີ່ຫໍວັດທະນະທຳແຫ່ງຊາດ.
ເລີ່ມຕົ້ນເວລາ 7:30 ແລງ. ລາຍໄດ້ຫຼັງທັກຄ່າໃຊ້ຈ່າຍ
(ມອບໃຫ້ກອງທຶນຕ້ານເອສ໌)

“TIME OUT” Asia Premiere in Laos

28-29-30/04 - 01/05/2005

Vientiane Culture Hall, 7:30 pm

Profits are used to support HIV/AIDS prevention in Lao PDR

P e r f o r m a n c e L o c a t i o n :
Culture Hall Vientiane
S t a g e : 1 5 x 2 0 m
3 arenas, seating for 1300
built by Chinese sponsors in 2000
primarily used for official and
social functions through the
government and state institutions
. . . but also for folk parties
and guest performances (for instance
Shaolin, traditional dances,
w o r l d m u s i c , h i p h o p ,
classical concerts, etc.)



The turbulent beginning of this century slammed us with a vengeance we didn't see coming. The breaking points of the human race, our civilisations, and our entire planet were never clearer than they are now. We feel this reality daily, as well as through the experiences our theater group has had in the past few years . . . Our new production starts at this point, a time out.





30 4 2005



**Arrival in Laos
via Bangkok**

**With the Tuk-Tuk
underway in
Vientiane**



**In what form do
we actually
live ?**

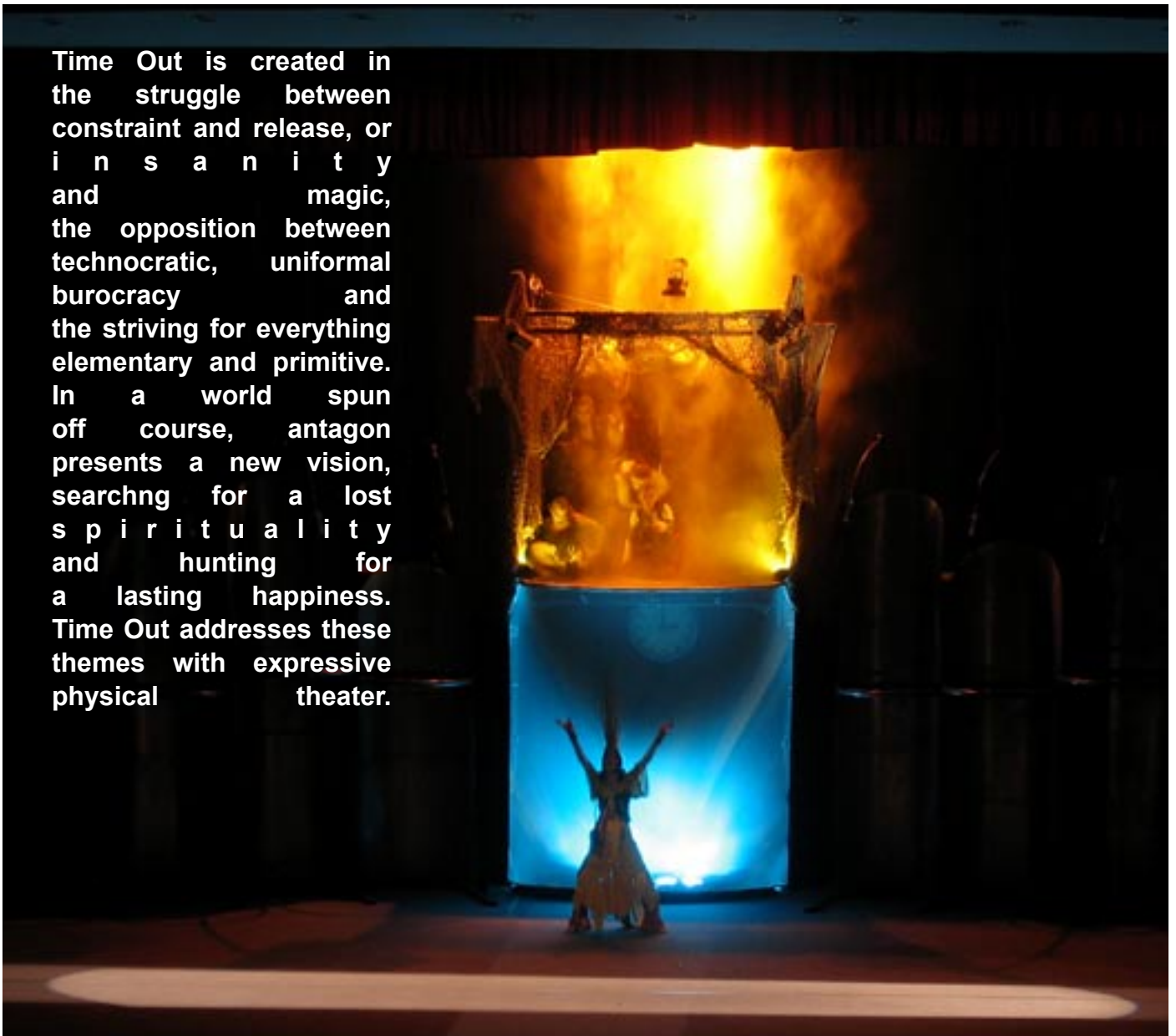
What determines the rhythm of our lives?

Press conference in Novotel



Photo for the press
with media partners and sponsors

Time Out is created in the struggle between constraint and release, or insanity and magic, the opposition between technocratic, uniformal bureaucracy and the striving for everything elementary and primitive. In a world spun off course, antagon presents a new vision, searching for a lost spirituality and hunting for a lasting happiness. Time Out addresses these themes with expressive physical theater.



Time Out performances
in the Vientiane Culture Hall



Stilt-Animals

Closing applause



**A ramming together . . .
. . . exchange . . .
of cultures**



**Time out! Take a break –
We stop the time machine, look inside
for one moment, think, and truly feel.**

Where did I come from? Where am I now? Where am I going?

Construction of the stage scenery
by our sponsor Sunlabob



Set-up in the Culture Hall



Yearning for a time that is perhaps long gone – or does it still lie ahead?
Dream or reality? It's about feelings, ones we want to experience again. The new action theater performance that antagon has assembled melts reality with illusion and leads the audience into a fantastical space and time. – A theatrical show that grabs images from the past and present and twists them into visions of a new and better future.

Time Out!

Take a break.

This April the people
of Vientiane
will have the
unique opportunity
to experience a
modern form of theater.

The theater ensemble
antagon theaterAKTion,
from Frankfurt, Germany,
uses dance and
physical expression
instead of words.

They create an
international language
that touches audiences
on an emotional level.



antagon theaterAKTion (Photos: Sepp'l Niemeyer & Ruben Ballester)

Lao-German Cultural Project

***A spectacular theater show
on the way to Vientiane***

Where did I come from?

Where am I now? Where am I going?

antagon theaterAKTion asks the large questions about life.

The Laos premiere of the production *Time Out* will be antagon's first performance in Asia. *Time Out* is a spectacular action show that uses live music, stilt performances, film projections, fire effects, dance, and large, moveable stage scenery. With two years of performing *Time Out*, the antagon crew presents a pressing topic for today's society: Time – How does time affect us? Always ticking, how do we react to the clock?

The 70-minute performance melts reality with illusion. The audience is led into a fantastical space and time. "We stop the time machine, look inside for one moment, and think," explains antagon Artistic Director Mr. Bernhard Bub. *Time Out* is a show like a rollercoaster – it grabs images

from the European past and present, and twists them into a vision of a new, powerful and changing future.

During the 18-day visit in Laos, the 10 performers, 2 musicians and 3 technicians will additionally give seminars about their work and hold theater workshops at the National University of Laos, collaborating with the Faculty of Dance and Arts, the Vientiane International School (VIS), and the Embassy of Germany.



After 15 years of cultural exchanges in Europe, Latin America, and recently in Armenia (October 2004), antagon is excited to explore the similarities and differences between the Laos and German cultures. Mr. Bub visited Laos in February to prepare for these performances. He gladly talks about the openness and friendliness he experienced while in Vientiane. "The social life, the nature, the people in Laos – they fascinate the Europeans, because the Laos way of life contrasts strongly with the European daily reality. And from the other point of view, Europe is fascinating to people in Laos. Embracing our differences is a theme of our theater production and this visit."

The large stage scenery was created specially on location for these performances. The antagon Technical Director Joscha Erker traveled to Laos in February to weld



the metal scenery together, with Laos stage technicians.

Four performances will be presented in the Culture Hall in Vientiane on April 28, 29, 30 and May 1. Ticket prices begin at 3 dollars, in order to open this cultural event to the widest possible audience. All profits will be donated to an organisation that educates about AIDS/HIV and helps people who are suffering from these diseases, because this is a problem that concerns all people everywhere in the world.

More information, photos and videos are online at www.antagon.de

Voices about *Time Out* from the German Press

"As expected, antagon pulls the best out of their bag of tricks. They bring a raw, elementary energy to being alive: The metal gnashes, the pavement burns, and the performers whirl on yard-high stilts over the platform. The audience can't avoid being spellbound."

(Frankfurter Rundschau, August 4, 2003)

"The whole atmosphere is stamped with a flurry of musical rhythms, dance and impressive imagery on stage. The arena of the antagon theater lives from the constant changing of moods, circumstances and relationships."

(Trottoir Heft 40, Sept.-Nov. 2003)



Vientiane Times



FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2005 ISSUE 76 5000 kip

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Govt considers development policies

□ VIENTIANETIMES

THE government in its April meeting, chaired by Prime Minister Bouasavanh Vorachit, yesterday summed up the implementation of the work plan for this month, according to a statement by the government's spokesman.

This concerned the results so far of the implementation of the socio-economic development plan and the budget plan for the first six months of this year, which will be reported to the seventh session of the National Assembly.

The two-day meeting, beginning on April 20, discussed the implementation of the development plan and the budget plan for the third quarter of fiscal year 2004-05, and the boosting of crop production in the dry season. Production has covered 74,730 ha, while poultry and fish



Government members summarise the implementation of the work plan for the month of April.

-Photo Khampchan

breeding has increased considerably.

Infrastructure construction work is in progress. The construction of the Mekong bridge between Savannakhet and Mukdahan, and work on Roads R3 and 18 B and other roads has been accomplished according to plan.

Work in social and cultural areas has been carried out on a regular basis. An outstanding feature was the information campaign to urge the general public to celebrate the Lao New Year by maintaining order and tradition.

Security was ensured for the hosting of the ASEAN

Finance Ministers' Meeting and the visits by the prime ministers of Singapore and Myanmar, and for the celebrations of the Lao New Year throughout the country.

The hosting of the ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting and the visits to Laos by the prime ministers of Singapore

and Myanmar were successful. In addition, preparatory work was underway for the hosting of the meeting of ASEAN foreign ministers. The World Bank granted a risk guarantee for the Nam Theun 2 hydro-power project, hence enabling the project to proceed as

scheduled. Also achieved was the request for loans and grant aid from the government of the Republic of Korea to build Souphanouvong University in Luang Prabang province and also aid from the Japanese government.

In short, the situation over the country in this month was peaceful and orderly. One notable problem was the hike in the oil price which affected the price of some goods. The government paid attention to supervising the implementation of the socio-economic development plan and the budget plan for the third quarter of 2004-05. Prices of goods and exchange rates were put under control. Various activities were launched to promote tourism and attract support and assistance from foreign countries.

Despite those issues which require a joint solution, in particular, the collection of revenue, which was below target. Some important work assigned by the government to ministries, organisations and provinces saw little progress. This included the making of plans and the determination of detailed measures to settle debts and social setbacks and the study to improve the organisational structure.

CONTINUED PAGE 2

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Ice producers warned

□ VIENTIANETIMES
PHENPHACHAN

PUBLIC health officials warned on Wednesday that crushed ice should not be used for public consumption.

The officials said ice to be used for public consumption must be in the form of cubes and not crushed ice, which is

substandard and used only for refrigeration purposes. Crushed ice is used by some vendors to add to sugarcane juice and other soft drinks because it is cheaper than ice cubes.

"The public can call us by ringing 212610 or 020 5604474 to assist officials in monitoring ice production and

consumption," said Dr Somechine Singharaj, Head of the Food and Drug Division of the Vientiane Department of Public Health of the Ministry of Public Health.

Dr Somechine said that if officials discovered operators who were processing this form of ice for public consumption, they would receive three warnings. "But if they continue to operate after the warnings have been given, they will face temporary closure," he added.

He went on to say that during the period of temporary closure, ice manufacturers would have to improve their production methods in line with regulations.

"We will accept any source informing us about operators producing ice for sale, rather than for direct consumption by the producer," said Dr Somechine.

During hot weather, ice, drinking water and soft drinks are consumed in large quantities.

Officials admitted that some unscrupulous producers took advantage of the high

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German artists will perform next week. -See story page 3

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Modern theatre group in Vientiane

□ SOUKNILUNDON
SOUTHIVONGNORATH

A GERMAN group will stage a performance of modern theatre dance embodying the theme of human feelings next week at the National Culture Hall.

Antagon theatre action, a popular act from Frankfurt, Germany has brought 15 artists to Laos to give a unique display of European modern art forms.

"We are an international troupe. We travel around the world to exchange forms of cultural expression. We have been invited here by Sunlabob in Vientiane to visit and perform in Asia," said Antagon team leader Bernhard Bub at a press conference yesterday.

The performance is entitled 'Time Out' and will be held at the National Culture Hall from April 28 to May 1. The theatrical show will take images from the past and present and twists them into visions of a new and better future. "Time Out" depicts the struggle between constraint and release, or insanity and magic, the opposition between bureaucracy and the striving for things elementary and primitive.

Antagon presents a new vision, searching for a lost spirituality and hunting for lasting happiness. 'Time Out'

expresses these themes through theatre, live music, projection, stilts, elements from Japanese dance and pyrotechnics.

"We cannot perform with fire in the Culture Hall because it has too much wood, so we will use improvise and use light instead of fire," said Bernhard.

Antagon was founded in 1990 as a theatrical group. "The show will be a non-profit performance as all our work is for charity, so we will donate the proceeds to sufferers of HIV and AIDS in Laos," said Bernhard.

The group also plans to visit the National Music and Dance School and the Vientiane International School to share its love of creativity and improvisation and also to experience Laos's traditional dance and music.

"I love learning about musical instruments and how they are played. I am fascinated by what I see here and hope to learn a lot about the culture of Laos," said Antagon's Musical Director, Mr Jakob Rullhussen.

The show will be of great interest for local people as it will be like nothing that has been staged here before. Tickets are on sale at US\$4, US\$6 and US\$10 at Sayo Magazine, Sunlabob, Novotel and other outlets in Vientiane.



Antagon artists put on a sample display at the Novotel.

antagon

theater
aktion

A Spectacular Theater Show from Germany



TIME OUT

Theater-Ritual zur Zeit

Brought to you by: Sunlabob, SAYO LAOS & Novotel Vientiane

April 28 - May 1, 2005

From 19:30 (70 minutes)
At The National Cultural Hall, Vientiane

Tickets are available from US\$4, US\$6 and US\$10 (VIP seats)

Available at:

Sunlabob, Tel: 021 313847

SAYO LAOS, Tel: 021 351615

Novotel Vientiane, Tel: 021 213570-1

All profits go to help HIV/AIDS patients in Laos

Antagon-Theater gastiert im April zum ersten Mal mit einem Spektakel in Asien

Fechenheimer spielen in Laos

Fechenheim. Nach Tourneen durch Lateinamerika und Auftritten in Asien spielt das Frankfurter Performancetheater „Antagon Theateraktion“ erstmals auf dem asiatischen Kontinent, in Laos. Auftritte in der kleinsten Hauptstadt Südostasiens, in Vientiane, sind vom 28. April bis zum 1. Mai geplant. Anfang vergangenen Monats reisten der künstlerische und der technische Leiter der 1990 gegründeten Theatergruppe, Bernhard Bub und Joscha Erker, nach Laos, um den Auftritt der Gruppe vorzubereiten.

Ihren zehntägigen Aufenthalt in der 1975 ausgerufenen demokratischen Volkserpublik nutzten sie, um die nötigen Genehmigungen einzubohlen, Material zu kaufen und das Bühnenbild für die aktuelle Produktion „Time Out“ zu bauen. Ursprünglich war das Gastspiel bereits für Januar geplant, doch wegen der Tsunami-Eur wurde der Auftritt verschoben“, sagt Andrea Ehrig vom „Verein Protagon – Freunde und Förderer freier Theateraktion“.

Die Demokratische Volksrepublik Laos, in die 15 Mitglieder des Antagon-Ensembles im kommenden Monat reisen werden, grenzt im Westen an Thailand und Burma, im Norden an China, im Osten an Vietnam und im Süden an Kambodscha. Laos, dessen Geschichte durch den von 1953 bis 1975 andauernden Bürgerkrieg geprägt ist, gilt als eines der am wenigsten entwickelten Länder Asiens. „Die Industrialisierung ist nicht weit fortgeschritten. Es gibt beispielsweise noch keine Bahnhöfen und nur wenige Straßenverbindungen“, berichtet Bub. In dem 236.800 Quadratkilometer großen, gebirgigen Land, das 1954 seine Unabhängigkeit von Frankreich erklärte, zählten Flüsse zu den wichtigsten Transportwegen.

Die Formen des von Antagon entwickelten so genannten Outdoor-Theaters seien in Laos unbekannt und dennoch mit dessen Kultur gewissermaßen verwandt. „Für Antagon birgt dieses Gastspiel die Chance, mit der Kraft der Sprache des Theaters einen kulturellen Austausch zu beginnen“, sagt Andrea Ehrig. Auf Grund der geringen Einwohnerzahl von 5,3 Millionen und der relativ niedrigen Kaufkraft seien die wirtschaftlichen Beziehungen zu Deutschland bisher noch wenig ausgeprägt. Die Gastspielreise werde überwiegend aus eigenen Mitteln, durch Spenden und die Einnahmeger der finanziert.

Bub und seine Kollegen, die derzeit in Andalusien gastieren, sind stolz darauf, dass Antagon, das 1990 als „Theater auf Rädern“ gegründet wurde, im Laufe seiner bald 15-jährigen Geschichte seinen Wurzeln treu geblieben ist und nicht nur in Deutschland, sondern auch im europäischen Ausland, in Lateinamerika und jetzt in Asien auftritt. Unterstützt werde die Gruppe, deren Arbeit das Amt für Wissenschaft und Kunst der Stadt Frankfurt 2003 mit 39.000 Euro oder 38 Prozent der Gesamtkosten des Theaters bezuschusste, vom Auswärtigen Amt und dem Goethe-Institut.

Sprachliche Verständigungsprobleme zwischen Darstellern und Zuschauern gebe es bei Antagon nicht, kommt doch das Spiel der Schauspieler ohne Worte aus. Mit ihrer Produktion „Time Out“, einem Spektakel mit Live-Musik, Filmprojektionen, Feuereffekten, Tanz, Körpertheater, Stelzenlauf und großen beweglichen Bühnenbildern, das sich mit dem modernen Zeitempfinden auseinandersetzt, trat das Ensemble im Frühjahr vergangenen Jahres beim Sibiu International Festival in Hermannstadt in Rumänien auf. (jul)