



“Phare’s innovative social business is a first of its kind and is gaining wide popularity both in its native Cambodia and international markets.”

Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and founder of Grameen Bank.



YunusCentre

Site Two
Refugee camp



Phare ហ្វារ៉េ
THE CAMBODIAN CIRCUS

Siem Reap

Battambang

Phnom Penh

Phare Ponleu Selpak Association (PPSA)



Phare Ponleu Selpak or “The Brightness of the Arts” is a NGO located in Battambang, Cambodia that helps children from difficult backgrounds improve their lives through artistic trainings, educational programs, and social support.

Phare Ponleu Selpak’s Story

Nine young Cambodians and their teacher founded the school.

In 1994, nine young Cambodians, with their teacher Veronique Decrop returned from the refugee camps in Thailand to create Phare Ponleu Selpak. These young men had spent their childhoods at the Site 2 refugee camp at the Thai border. In the camp, the French volunteer taught them to use art to cope with trauma. At the time many children in Battambang were living with trauma, poverty, and abuse. Phare Ponleu Selpak was created to help these children heal and rebuild



their society. To this end, the organization offered classes in visual arts performing arts, academic as well as social support.

Phare Ponleu Selpak Today

Today, Phare Ponleu Selpak has grown dramatically. The organization now revitalizing Cambodian arts and culture through performing and visual arts classes, education, and social support. Everyday these programs are provided to over 1200 students in Battambang and 800 families in 3 target communes receive social follow-ups by the organization.



EDUCATION

Education has been at the core of Phare Ponleu Selpak’s mission since the beginning. Today, Phare Ponleu Selpak divides its education program into two parts:

Formal Programs

Academic School from Kindergarten to High School

Informal Programs

- Child Development Center
- Library
- Tutoring
- Computer Training



SOCIAL SUPPORT

The Social Support Department of Phare Ponleu Selpak is dedicated to improving the standard of living for local children and their families.

Today, Phare Ponleu Selpak supports over 200 families directly and 800 indirectly through different programs.

Child Protection Program

In the Child Protection Program, our Social Support department identifies the children who are most in need of help.

Sponsorship Program

Generous international donors provide financial support to selected students. The collective sponsorship program PPSA provides these services to eligible children



SCHOOL OF VISUAL AND APPLIED ARTS

Phare Ponleu Selpak Association (PPSA) offers a Visual and Applied Art School in Battambang with the support of French co-funding partners AFD and CCFD.

The school provides students with professional training in graphic design, visual arts, and animation. This visual arts school in Battambang opens the door to employment opportunities in Cambodia’s growing visual art field.



PERFORMING ARTS SCHOOL

The Performing Arts School of Phare Ponleu Selpak began with the music school in 1996. Today, the Performing Arts School contains the Circus, Theatre, Music and Dance departments.

PPSA welcomes all children and young adults regardless their social class, race, political orientation, nationality, or sexual orientation. We do put a special emphasis on serving children who come from disadvantaged backgrounds involving poverty, neglect, violence, or trafficking. All the Performing Arts classes are free.

Phare Performing Social Enterprise has three goals:

1

Create meaningful employment opportunities for Cambodian artists.

2

Create financially sustainable social businesses that provide a reliable income streams for Phare Ponleu Selpak.

3

Revitalise the arts sector in Cambodia and promote Cambodian art locally and internationally



2D animation, graphic design, illustration, video and sound recording.



Daily original full length circus shows in Siem Reap / Tini Tinou International Circus Festival.



Products / design made by students / graduates from Phare Ponleu Selpak / other ethically-sourced products made by local companies.



International tours and customized private events.

Phare, The Cambodian Circus



Uniquely Cambodian. Daringly Modern. More than just a circus, Phare, The Cambodian Circus performers use theater, music, dance and modern circus arts to tell uniquely Cambodian stories; historical, folk and modern.

Opened in February 2013

In 2013, the school created Phare, The Cambodian Circus as a social enterprise based in Siem Reap, Cambodia, home to Angkor Wat and one of the fastest growing tourist destinations in the world. The mission was to create job opportuni-

ties for graduates of the circus program and give back almost 75% of its profits to support the school's programming. Phare, The Cambodian Circus performs nightly under a big top in Siem Reap and has been seen by over one hundred thousand people. Their productions have also toured extensively across Europe, Asia, Australia, and the USA.

In the media: CNN, Al Jazeera, The Guardian, BBC News, AFP, and many more. Organizers of the Tini Tinou International Circus Festival, the only circus festival in Cambodia.



Phare Productions

International Tours and Customized Private Events

Tour Highlights:

- "Khmer Village" Japan 2013
- "Khmer Metal" US Tour 2015
- Ansan Street Arts Festival Korea 2016
- "Galaxy Khmer" Germany and Norway 2014
- OzAsia Festival Australia 2016
- "Khmer Village" USA 2016

Co-Productions and Artist Placements:

- Michael Laub's Remote Control production "Galaxy Khmer", Germany, Norway
- Global Arts Corps "See You Yesterday", Rwanda 2016
- Amon Miyamoto's Terrace of the Leper King, Tokyo 2016.

Selected Private Performance Clients:

MasterCard, Porsche, Land Rover Jaguar, Manulife, Raffles, Sofitel, Le Meridien, NagaWorld, Give2Asia, Amansara, Park Hyatt, Songsa Private Islands, the European Union in Cambodia and Unilever.



Phare Boutique

- Original paintings, drawings, music and products designed by the creative minds of Phare Ponleu Selpak students and graduates.
- Ethically-produced products made by other Cambodian NGOs and social enterprises.



Phare Creative Studio



Launched in 2016

Phare Creative Studio is our latest social enterprise. Talented graduates of PPSA's Visual and Applied Arts School create compelling graphic designs and animations for effective messaging and communication materials. Clients include international and local NGOs and businesses.

- Original content: 2D animation, graphic design and illustration.
- Professional video and sound recording services.



PHARE'S IMPACT

Artists

46 artists are employed by Phare, make above average wages, have access to insurance, saving schemes, training and professional development.

Staff

70 part time and full time staff work at PPSE in Administration, Operation, Marketing and Finance roles.

Next Generation

Phare makes financial contributions to the school to train the next generation of artists.

Cambodian Community

By providing education and training and supporting artists, Phare helps the community.



PHARE PONLEU SELPAK

Phare Ponleu Selpak (PPS) is a not-for-profit Cambodian association that works with vulnerable children, young adults and their families through three fields of intervention: **art training, social support and educational programs.**

Phare Ponleu Selpak was created in 1994 by nine young Cambodians who returned to their country after spending their childhoods in the refugee camps at the Thai border.

These young people wanted to help to rebuild their country after many years of conflict, and so they created an organisation to support the children in their community. Many of these children were living in difficult situations, with histories of trauma, poverty and abuse. Through classes in visual and performing arts, along with social support, the organisation helped to reintegrate these children into society.

The artistic training offered at PPS has been found to aid concentration, communication and creative thinking skills, vastly improving the choices available to children as they reach adulthood.

Graduates from PPS arts schools promote Cambodian art and culture through national and international performances and exhibitions. Professional opportunities are provided by PPS' sister organisations: Phare, The Cambodian Circus and Phare Design Studios. In a country where the arts industry was destroyed through years of upheaval, these initiatives promote a renewed sense of Cambodian pride and identity.

VISION

Phare Ponleu Selpak passionately believes in the power of the arts as a tool for human development and social change.

MISSION

Phare Ponleu Selpak is dedicated to providing a nurturing and creative environment, where young people can access quality arts training, education and social support.

VALUES

Serving as a vital creative resource for the community, Phare Ponleu Selpak values creativity, professionalism, collaboration and accessibility in all its projects.

KEY FIGURES

1,183 direct beneficiaries
 10,568 indirect beneficiaries
 108 staff members

ART SCHOOLS

Visual & Applied Arts School

Leisure classes (3 to 16 years old): 340 students
 Preparatory class: 31 Students
 3-year vocational training: 35 students

Performing Arts School

Leisure classes (3 to 14 years old): 318 students
 4-year vocational training: 28 students






SOCIAL SUPPORT

Counselling: 15 students and families per month on average
 Health services: 35 students per month on average
 Free lunch service: 90 students every day
 School kits: 50 students every year
 Sponsorship: 41 students
 Regular community outreach in 16 villages to advocate about child protection and education

EDUCATION

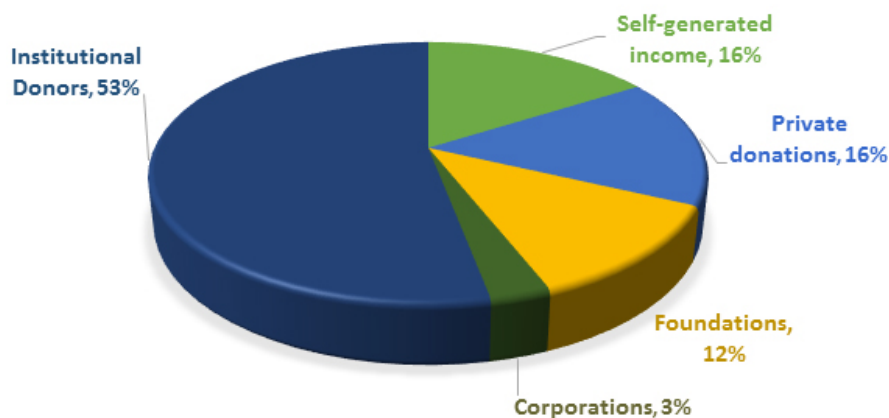
Kindergarten (3 to 5 years old): 192 students
 Childhood Development Center (6 to 12 years old): 136 students
 Complementary classes in IT and English (12 to 17 years old): 140 students

Programs

Background	Education and Child Development	Professional Training	Professional Pathways	Impacts
<p>We work with children from backgrounds of poverty, violence and abuse in a disadvantaged community on the outskirts of Battambang, Cambodia.</p> 	<p>We adopt a comprehensive approach to child development through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free visual art courses • Free performing arts courses • Free formal education • Social support • Kindergarten 	<p>Visual Arts: 3 years of free training with specializations in visual arts, graphic design and animation 2D</p> <p>Performing Arts: 4 years of free training with specializations in Dance, Theatre, Music and Circus</p> 	<p>Phare Ponleu Selpak has several social businesses, helping to rebuild the arts in Cambodia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phare Design Studio in Battambang; • Phare the Cambodian Circus in Siem Reap 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relieving trauma, encouraging self-expression; • Promoting education for sustainable livelihoods; • Supporting young people and families; • Cultural rehabilitation; • 10,000 children supported since 1994. 

Finances

TOTAL FUNDS 2014: US\$ 1, 715, 661



How to support us

\$10 funds the formal education of one child for one month

\$40 funds the social support of a child for one month

\$100 funds the education, the social support and one artistic activity for one child for one month

\$250 contributes to the salary of a skilled professor for one month

Visit our website to make a donation!

www.phareps.org/support-us

See a show!

Our artists have exhibited and performed all over the world in Asia, Europe and the United States.

Experience our renowned circus and music show and visit our visual art exhibitions in Battambang, Cambodia.

See www.phareps.org for details.

Keep up to date with our international touring schedule by following us:

facebook.com/phareponleuselpak



Contact

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www.phareps.org



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[/phareps](https://twitter.com/phareps)



ស្ម័គ្រាស Eclipse

How far would someone go to fight back against rejection and bullying? In a rural Cambodian village a disfigured young man is rejected and ridiculed. He wonders why he is cursed and seeks help from the gods. They answer his prayers by transforming him into a beautiful woman. Using this new form, he attracts the attention and desire of the village men.

But the villagers quickly discover there's something sinister about the newcomer in their midst. Based on traditional Cambodian folktales, Eclipse is a story of rejection, revenge, spirit possession and eventual forgiveness set to original music and told through a dramatic mix of theater, Apsara dance and modern circus arts.



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ឥទ្ធិពល Influence

Survival of the fittest. Domination. Manipulation. How do we create a place for ourselves in the world? Influence mixes drama, circus and puppetry to explore struggles for power and survival. From primordial organisms battling in pre-historic jungles to an ancient king

being manipulated by external forces or a runner tripping his competitors to win a race; all seek to triumph. The characters of Influence dominate and are dominated, trick and are tricked, but ultimately discover their own strength and find unique place in the world.



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ដូចគ្នា តែខុសគ្នា

Same Same But Different

Through a series of everyday situations, “Same Same But Different” explores the different habits and ways of living between Cambodians and foreign visitors. A sudden downpour, an unexpected power

outage, a hectic boat trip and a relaxing dinner all provide the backdrops for funny encounters and opposing perspectives. But in every situation they find understanding and connect at a human level.



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សុខា Sokha

Sokha is a child haunted by war. Her memories of the Khmer Rouge combine with surreal visions to create a distorted and dark reality. But through circus she discovers her strength and finds the tools to heal both herself and her community. Based on the true life stories of the founders of

Phare Ponleu Selpak school, Sokha is a powerful mix of contemporary circus techniques, live painting, and original, live music. The show highlights the long term effects suffered by post-war victims and the way art provided a powerful way to heal and rebuild the country.



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ខែមេតា Khmer Metal

One evening in a grungy Phnom Penh bar, owner Bang Son and his brother Chhaya reign over the bar's regulars, watching as they look for adventure, passion and love in all the wrong places. A man is seduced away from his girlfriend by an alluring stranger. A waiter gets caught in an unexpected romance. A customer's iPad is

stolen and sold back to him. A mix of humour, drama, heart pounding live rock music and breathtaking acrobatics circus acts 'Khmer Metal' turns social convention on its head and gives the audience a glimpse of the wilder side of urban Cambodia.



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