



# KALINAWA ART FOUNDATION

## Greetings from TAM-AWAN VILLAGE:

The Commission on Indigenous Affairs of the city government of Kaohsiung Taiwan hosted the 2006 Kaohsiung International Austronesians Culture Festival last June 18, 2006. Titled "THE RAVEN HUNDRED-PACED VIPER AND THE OCEAN PROGRAM", the festival provided an opportunity for interaction among a set of selected Indigenous artists from Taiwan and invited Western artists. A total of three Western artists and five artists from Taiwan joined in on the affair.

Everything was going well until the city government questioned Mr. LIN, the program curator, why he was prioritized inviting Western artists rather than Austronesian artists. Mr. LIN countered that the project proposal for the event was approved without questions earlier on. Despite this misunderstanding, the event went on as scheduled and Mr. LIN invited an Asian artist as an observer in the festival. The invitation contained a proposal that the festival organizer would shoulder the airfare ticket, board and lodging, and stipend for the entire festival, so that the observer could be part of the event.

Mr. LIN Sent the invitation to Mr. TANGCO, The Philippines Commissioner on Indigenous Affairs in TAIPEI, TAIWAN. Mr. TNGCO subsequently e-mailed the invitation to Mr. RONALD COSALAN, a former congressman of the district of Benguet. It was then that Mr. COSALAN contacted Mr. MANG-OSAN to discuss the invitation and the proposal.

Mr. JORDAN MANG-OSAN (see:<http://www.geocities.com/jordanmangosan/>) is a local artist base in Baguio City. He has been a delegate to various indigenous events and performances here and abroad, and is a board member of CHANUM FOUNDATION INC.; a non-profit, non-government organization has an office at :

TAM-AWAN VILLAGE (see:[http://tamawanvillage.com/content.php?content\\_id=76](http://tamawanvillage.com/content.php?content_id=76)). This village is home to various local artists and authentic indigenous abodes; and is a living museum for the rich cultural heritage of the Cordillera region. It is a venue for art exhibitions, performances and workshops; cultural exchanges; and ecological walks and education. After discussing with Mr. COSALAN, Mr. MANG-OSAN accepted the invitation and the terms.

While working quickly to complete his travel documents, the personally addressed invitation to him was late in arriving, causing delays in finalizing the visa application. Thus, with the weekend was nearing and the invitation from Taiwan not yet received, attendance by Mr. MANG-OSAN at the Festival was appearing to be more and more unlikely. However, Mr. LIN insisted that he still attend, and after a series of communications, Mr. MANG-OSAN completed his documents and his visa application was approved.

Finally, late in the evening on June 16, Mr. MANG-OSAN arrived in Taiwan. Unfortunately, he missed "TEA TIME"(scheduled on June 13 and June 16), a specific time set up during the Festival when the artists and organizers convened and shared their ideas with regards to tradition, culture and other art projects. This would have been an ideal time for Mr. MANG-OSAN to introduce the projects, programs, and events of the CHANUM FOUNDATION INC and the KALINAWA ART FOUNDATION (see: <http://www.kalinawa.com/index.php>). Never-the-less, Mr. MANG-OSAN distributed information on both Foundations during his two day stay in the said event.

Despite the delays and hassles, attending this event was a great experience for Mr. MANG-OSAN. He views this as a beginning for other artists to create (and participate in) networks to increase the awareness of events such as this. Mr. MANG-OSAN would like to thank the KALINAWA ART FOUNDATION, CHANUM FOUNDATION INC., METAPRINTS, G-STRING TRAVEL AND TOUR, and MR. LIN and MISS NIKAR from Kaohsiung for their assistance in the realization of his participation in the 2006 KAOSIUNG INTERNATIONAL AUSTRONESIANS CULTURE FESTIVAL.