

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**THE CONDITION OF OUTDOOR SCULPTURES IN
ASEAN SCULPTURE GARDEN KUALA LUMPUR:
A CONSERVATION STUDY**

NORA SOFIA MOHAMED YURAN

**Thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements
for the degree of
Master of Art History and Cultural Management**

Faculty of Art and Design

April 2006

The Condition of Outdoor Sculptures in
ASEAN Sculpture Garden Kuala Lumpur:
A Conservation Study

by

Nora Sofia Mohamed Yuran

Accepted by the Faculty of Art and Design, Universiti Teknologi MARA,
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
Master of Art History and Cultural Management

April 2006

Approved:



Associate Professor Mohamad Khalil Amran
Research and Thesis Supervisor
Faculty of Art and Design

Associate Professor Dr. Baharudin Ujang
Dean Faculty of Art and Design



Amer Shakin Zainol
Postgraduate Program Coordinator
Faculty of Art and Design

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate. First and foremost, I would like to express my gratitude to ALLAH for his kindness, support, mercy and grace in giving me the strength and willingness to work on this research till I could finish all works within the required time frame.

This project would not have been possible without the support, guidance and assistance of many special people. I am deeply indebted to my supervisor, Associate Professor Mohamad Khalil Amran for his patience, guidance, persistence and constant support throughout my time here, and Associate Professor Dr. Muliyadi Mahamood for numerous valuable discussions and advices. I would also like to thank Associate Professor Ariffin Mohd Ismail for his valuable help in providing information and assistance regarding ASEAN Sculpture Garden.

I would like to thank National Art Gallery staff, who were particularly valuable in providing assistance and information in conservation of works of art. I wish to acknowledge the financial support of Universiti Teknologi MARA under Young Lecturer Scheme scholarship.

Finally, I would like to thank my family for their support. My greatest appreciation is for both of my parents, in memory of my father Mohamed Yuran, my mother Hajah Bariah who instilled in me the desire to learn. I am also thankful to my dearest sister NorAnnah Huda and to both of my brothers Yohan Hasbullah and Yamin Habibullah for their encouragement. Above all, I cannot express my full gratitude to my fiance Bernard McMahon-Nicholls @ Abdul Wasir who patiently gave moral support to this entire thesis a success. Thanks to numerous Post-Graduate friends at University Teknologi MARA for their support. A special thanks also goes to Zaslan Zeeha Zainee for his moral support.

May Allah S.W.T bless them.

NORA SOFIA MOHAMED YURAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE PAGE	
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	i
TABLE OF CONTENTS	ii
LIST OF TABLES	v
LIST OF FIGURES	vi
LIST OF PLATES	vii
ABSTRACT	ix

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

Introduction	1
1.1 Definition of Outdoor Sculpture	2
1.2 ASEAN Sculpture Garden	6
1.3 Definition of Conservation	14
1.4 Statement of the Problem	18
1.5 Research Question	21
1.6 Research Aim and Objectives of the Study	22
1.7 Significance of Study	23

CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

Introduction	24
2.1 History of Conservation of Work of art	25
2.2 Conservation of Outdoor Sculpture	28
2.3 The Conservation of Outdoor Sculpture in Malaysia	33

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to describe the condition of outdoor sculptures in ASEAN Sculpture Garden. This objective is to find out the details of the conditions of outdoor sculptures in ASEAN Sculpture Garden and identify any visible damages and to determine the condition in order to make recommendations for the conservation plan. The research questions are: How is the condition of outdoor sculptures in ASEAN Sculpture Garden? Is there any visible damage? What are the rates of condition of outdoor sculptures in ASEAN Sculpture Garden? Is it good, poor or at risk condition? Are there any recommendations for the conservation plan?

Data is collected from condition survey through on-site documentation and condition survey. All population of outdoor sculptures in ASEAN Sculpture Garden is selected as study samples. Six works of outdoor sculptures in ASEAN Sculpture Garden are assessed in order to identify the current conditions. The works are The Gate of Harmony, Progress, The ASEAN Dance, Growth, Barong-Barong, and Towards Peace. Data is analyzed in chronologically into six categories. Each category contains a series of tables with descriptive texts and pictures.

The results of condition of outdoor sculptures in ASEAN Sculpture Garden indicate that The Gate of Harmony, Progress, The ASEAN Dance, Growth, and Towards Peace in fair condition and not at risk. However, Barong-Barong is identified as in poor condition and at risk. Recommendations for conservation plan are made for ways to stabilize the conditions of the outdoor sculptures in ASEAN Sculpture Garden. These included detailed assessment, urgent treatment, and substantial research on the deterioration of the objects.

This study's conclusions indicate that the forms of damage such as water collect, cracks surfaces, broken glasses or biological attack resulting the outdoor sculptures in fair and poor conditions after being exposed to almost all of the factors that cause damage and deterioration for over 15 years. Most of the sculpture structures forms and the materials used are bound to rust, to collect water and breakable glasses over a period of time. Therefore, the best way to protect the lives of outdoor sculptures is to give awareness to artist to use the correct materials and use appropriate structure forms in the creation of outdoor sculpture in order to prevent further deterioration.