



A DOCUMENTARY BY ANANTA THITANAT



# SCALA

ที่ระลึกรอบสุดท้าย

A film by Ananta Thitanat

With support of

Yamagata Documentary Dojo (Japan)

Hong Kong Asia Film Financing Forum (Hong Kong)

Progressive Movement Foundation (Thailand)

KohKae (Thailand)

2022 / Thailand / 65 minutes,

DCP / 2.0:1 / Color / 5.1 Surround Sound

In Thai with English subtitles

International Sales | Festivals Contact: Diversion

Mai Meksawan films@diversion-th.com www.diversion-th.com





# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Anger drives this documentary from the start to the end. The anger overshadows the fear of facing the past after Scala, intensely reminding me of where I used to live – my childhood home, memories that I chose to forget like wiping out a hard disk. Siam, Lido, and Scala, three standalone theaters in the Siam Square neighborhood were built in the late 60's to attract more people to Siam Square, a new large shopping district that has just been built.

The success of the first two cinemas transformed the initial ice rink project into a third movie theater with a more delicate design hoping to make 'Scala' the best movie theater in Thailand.

This plan succeeded beautifully, Siam Square had become a popular shopping district to the point that the neighborhood's land price was the most expensive in the country. The profit they gained from screenings was no longer enough to pay the rent.

Siam and Lido are lost in flames. As for other standalone theaters around Thailand, more than seven hundred of them gradually disappeared except for Scala, a gem of Thai cinema that was able to maintain through the time of videotapes, cable TV, to streaming era until the arrival of covid-19.

which the responsible organization like the Fine Arts Department did not seem to care about. Everyone started to lose hope and knew it'd be soon destroyed. But in my heart, there was still a deep hope that as long as the building stands, Scala might return someday.

I decided to go back to Scala on the day the theater's iconic chandelier was removed and started filming since then. Meanwhile, memories of the past slowly began to appear overlapping with images of places and people in it. While the decorations were removed one by one, what revealing was the true structure of the place. It's like we're watching something being peeled off slowly, like human flesh.

Time changes constantly. Once you realize it, the fear gradually disappears. The good memories started to return. I tried to memorize images and sounds I had seen and heard as a child as much as possible, thinking this footage would be of help, to push for something, to help in saving the building, but it was too late.

Ananta Thitanat

20 December 2021



# SYNOPSIS

After Siam and Lido, the first two standalone cinemas in Siam Square, disappeared in flames long ago. Scala cinema become the last stand-alone cinema in Bangkok that was still open until defeated by Covid 19 in 2020.

Not long after its last film screening, Scala declares that it will be dismantled. A filmmaker who's also the daughter of one of its former employees, started to explore the Scala and unexpectedly face her long lost childhood memories when she met her father's old friend gathered for the final job which is dismantling their workplace.





# DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

## *Director/Cinematographer*

Born on October 30th, 1982, in Bangkok, Thailand, grew up in the Siam cinema where her father worked.

The military crackdown on the Red Shirts protests in 2010 inspired Ananta and Abhichon Rattanabhayon to start making their first short documentary together that year. Since then, Ananta has worked with Abhichon as assistant director and cinematographer. Scala is her first feature film.

## *Filmography*

2020 Ghost; 30 min.

2021 Kembali; 23 min.

2022 Scala





## crew

Abhichon Rattanabhayon | Producer | Edieor

Nontawat Numbenchapol | Co-producer

Thanyathorn Boonthuam | Post-Producer

Jirayu Jangwattanapong | Colorist

Komsak Sritoomma | Digital Conform

Nopawat Likitwong | Re-recording mixer

Nithit Wongwattanasil | Sound editor







# SCALA

A DOCUMENTARY  
BY ANANTA THITANAT

ที่จะลึกรอบสุดท้าย

BANDAI DAM STUDIO AND MOBILE LAB PRESENTS A DOCUMENTARY BY ANANTA THITANAT "SCALA"

STARRING PONGPOP INHEEN | SAMAN WATCHARASIRIROT | NAKORN NUAMNGEIN | YODCHAI PHUPANRAI  
SAMPAO PHASUKDIN | NOPPADON PHOOMPHORAK | TALI PORCHAIYARAT | PAIWONG PUBUTA | WILAIRAT ANGKABKAEW  
SARAI SINSAWAT | BOONREAP SRICHAMPA | PRAWAT FARAMEE | SURIYAN TANKHAM | SHARI HASE  
SOMCHAI SAENGPRAPHAI | CHAMNAN PORCHAIYARAT | VINAI KLADIAM  
MYANMAR WORKERS AND FLOWER VENDING LADY

PRODUCED BY ABHICHON RATTANABHAYON CO-PRODUCED BY NONTAWAT NUMBENCHAPOL  
CINEMATOGRAPHER ANANTA THITANAT EDITED BY ABHICHON RATTANABHAYON SOUND DESIGNED BY NOPAWAT LIKITWONG  
DIRECTED BY ANANTA THITANAT

