



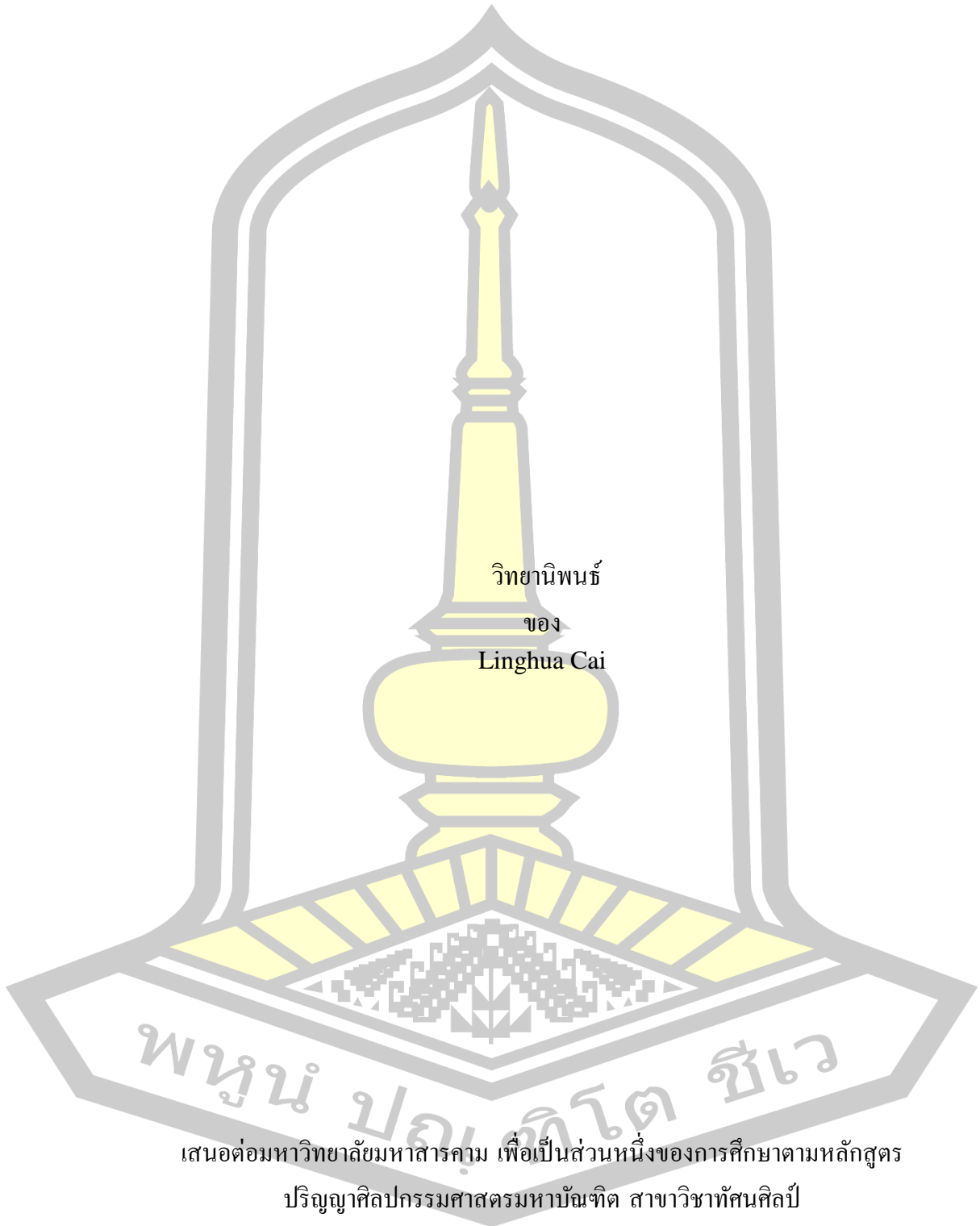
Light of Civilization

Linghua Cai

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of Requirements for  
degree of Master of Fine Arts in Visual Arts  
September 2023

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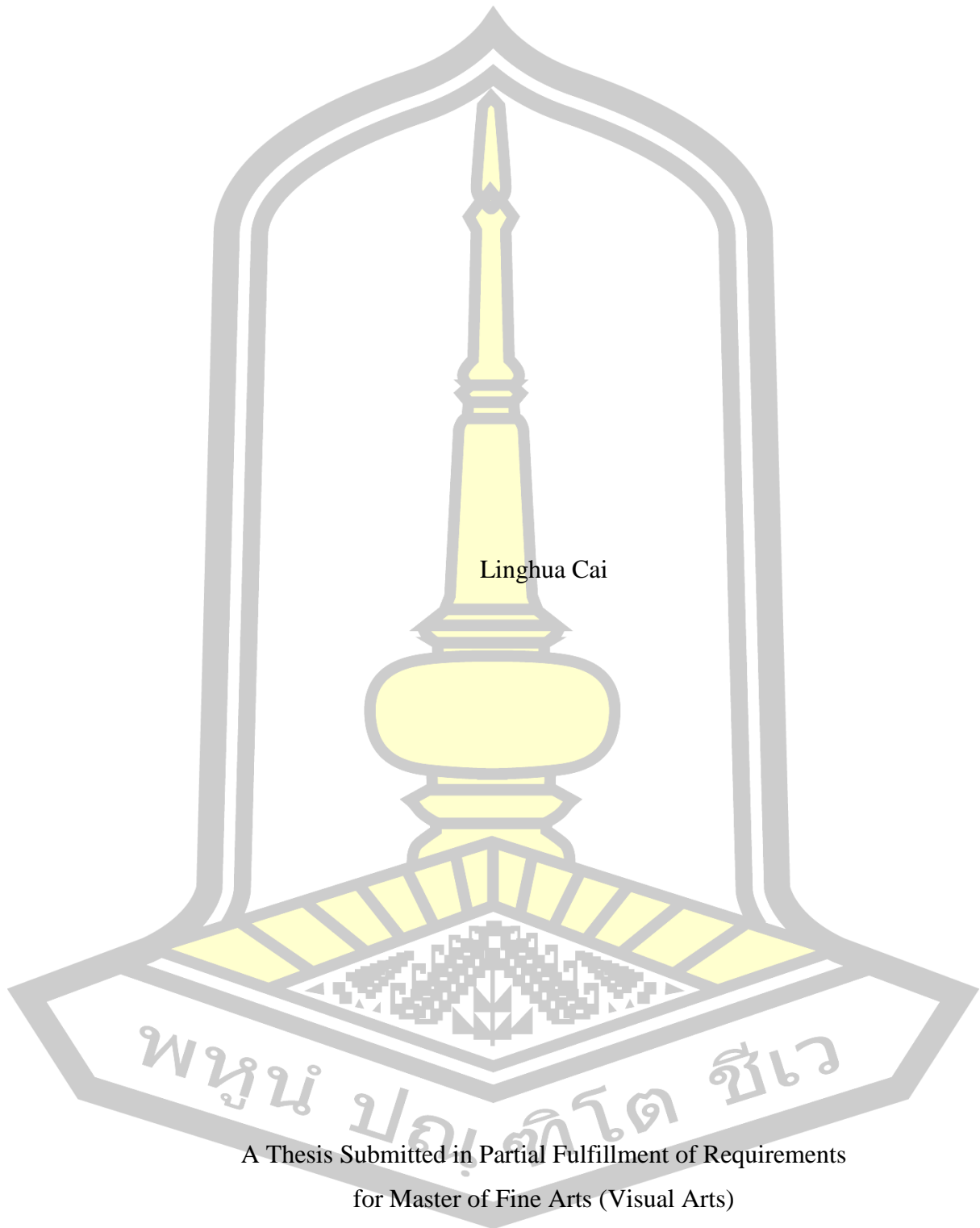
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### ABSTRACT

This visual arts creation thesis, "*Light of Civilization*" is inspired by thinking about the unstable factors caused by the lack of traditional civilization in the current social environment. The purpose of the creation of "Light of Civilization" is to study the importance of harmonious relations between man and man, man and nature in social life, and to call people's attention to traditional culture through the artistic expression of the content of the Chinese traditional education classic "Thousand Character Text", so as to achieve the role of spreading civilization value. To create the visual arts: Using clay materials to create various shapes, carving characters onto the shapes, and combining the shapes with luminescent technology to create a novel installation art. Using a variety of colors of light, light through the hollowed out text, shine a rich light. Some other materials are also used in local locations to enrich the art form of the work. Quantity: 2 pieces.

The result of this creation shows that light has a mysterious charm, and when combined with devices, it can create unexpected effects, which can make the work more interesting and enhance the expressiveness of the work's theme. Installation art should enhance the interaction between the work itself and the viewer, enriching the viewer's sensory experience, and driving the viewer to jointly explore the deep positive significance of the work.

I hope this study will leave people with some thoughts, including the importance of traditional culture and the thought of civilization inheritance. How to promote the progress of social civilization through unique visual art creation is intended to provide some suggestions to the workers engaged in artistic creation, so as to encourage more angles or methods for artistic innovation research.

Keyword : Light, Civilization

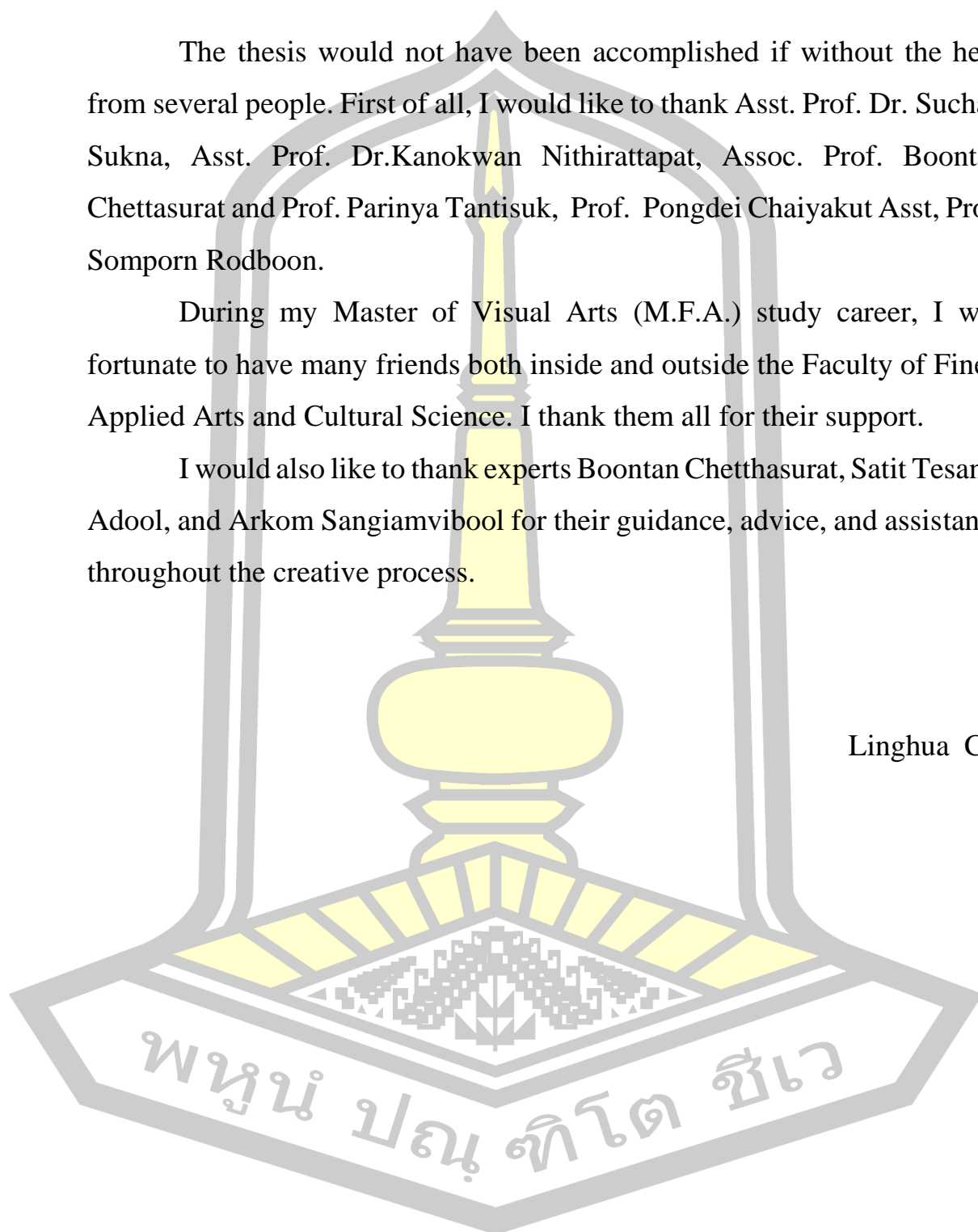
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During my Master of Visual Arts (M.F.A.) study career, I was fortunate to have many friends both inside and outside the Faculty of Fine - Applied Arts and Cultural Science. I thank them all for their support.

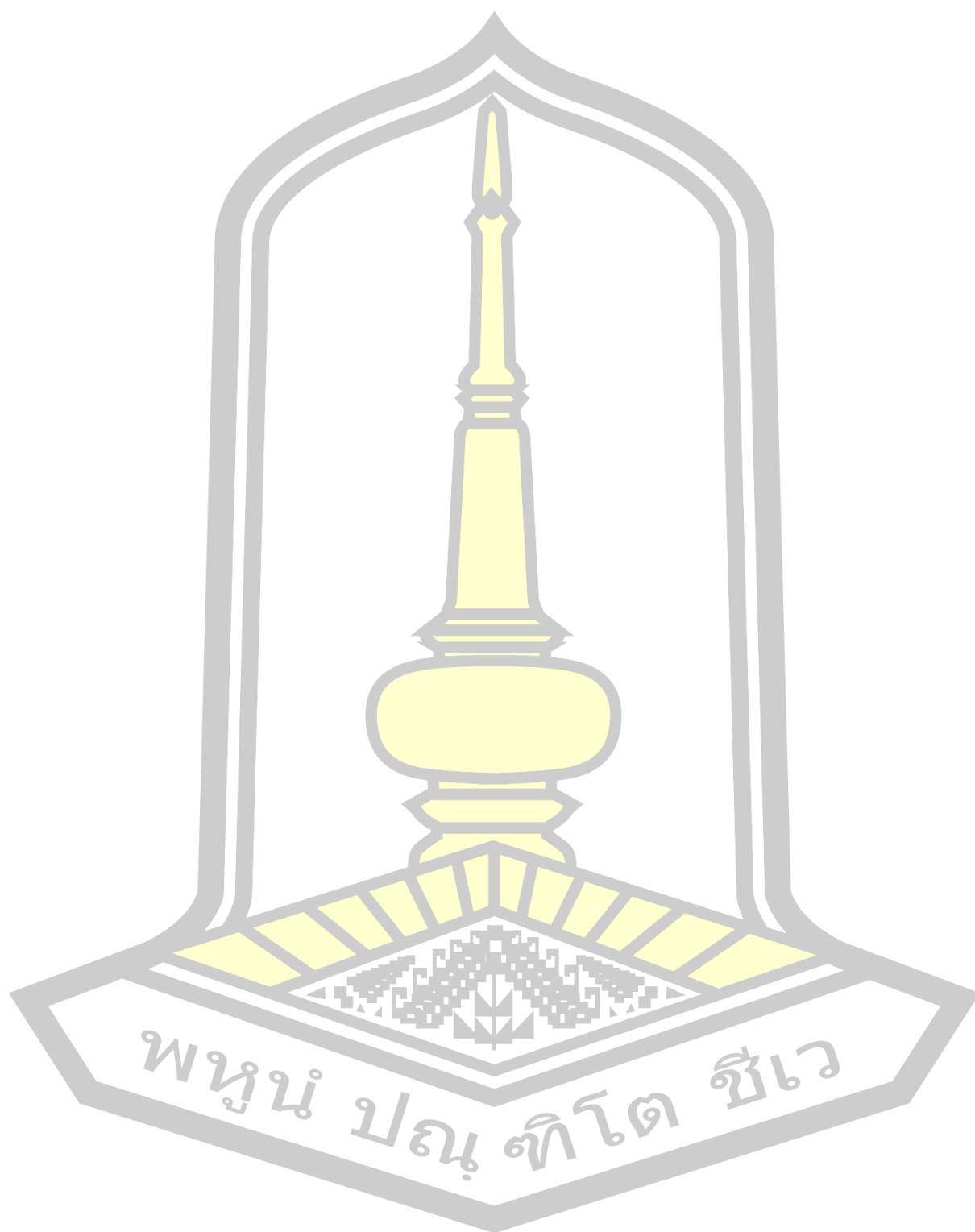
I would also like to thank experts Boontan Chetthasurat, Satit Tesana, Adool, and Arkom Sangiamvibool for their guidance, advice, and assistance throughout the creative process.

Linghua Cai



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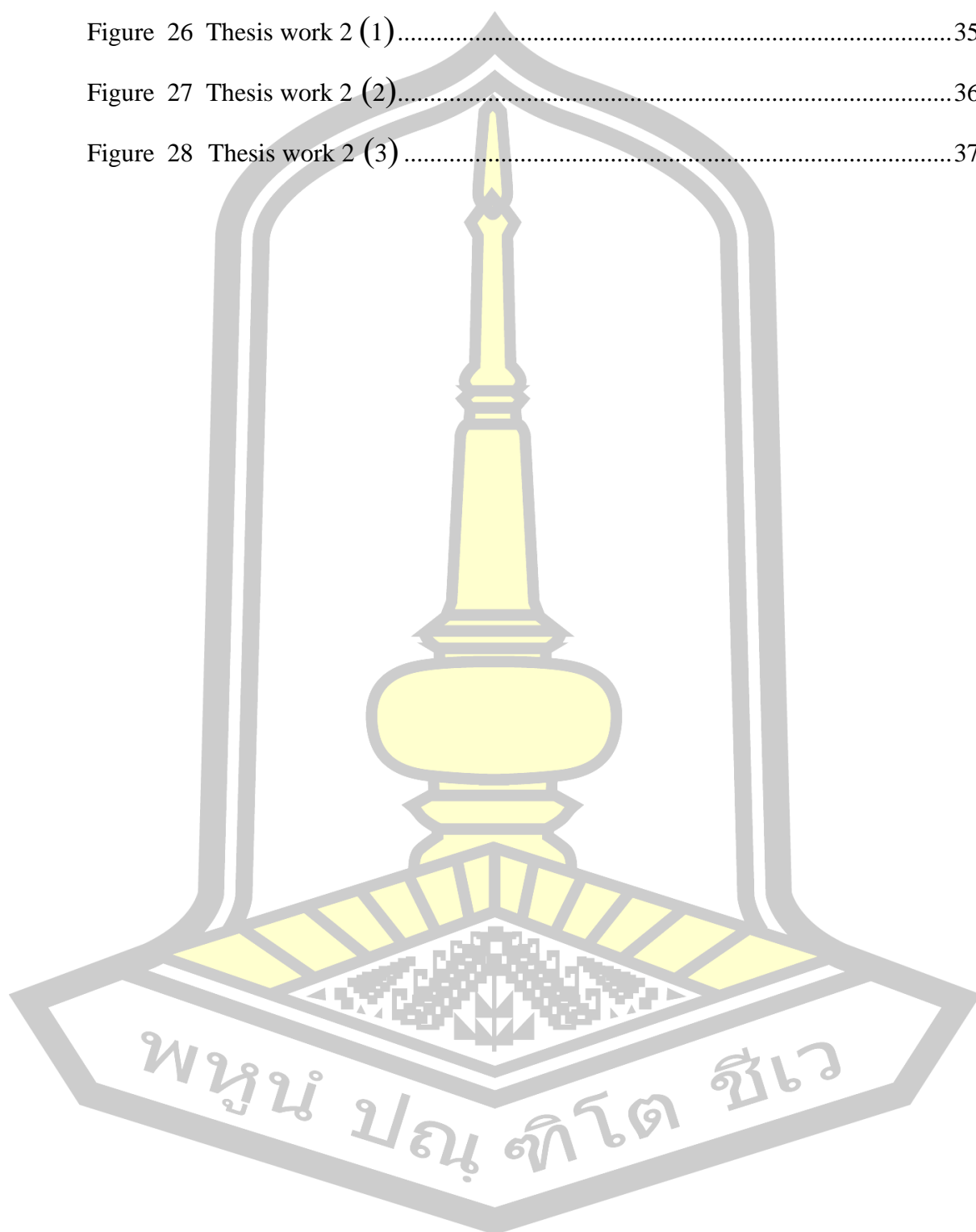




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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### Background

China is an ancient civilization with a history of five thousand years and deep cultural heritage. Excellent traditional culture has accumulated the deepest spiritual pursuit of the Chinese nation, forming the Chinese people's thinking and behavior. Traditional culture supports the unique civilized character of cultural people, educating people, and preaching people, and supports the Chinese nation that has been endless after more than 5,000 years.

In the course of more than 40 years of reform and opening up, the society has been actively invested in a global environment from a planned economy to the market, and China has been holding an open and inclusive attitude to absorb various civilization methods in the West. Therefore, a considerable part of the culture of Chinese society and culture belongs to foreign culture. These are the world views and values of many people's world views and values. This has also led to a embarrassing position in traditional Chinese culture, and it is gradually ignored and abandoned. Economic development, while the material life is continuously enriched, the spiritual world has appeared desertified. In the face of the impact of foreign culture, the current social education lacks the attention of traditional culture. The phenomenon of moral landslides in the society and the lack of faith, which seriously affects the foundation of the Chinese Civilization Building. If a person is impolite, they will not stand; if a thing is impolite, they will not succeed; if a country is impolite, it will not be peaceful - a pre-Qin philosopher Xunzi.

Civilization is to create cultured people - John Ruskin (England, 1819-1900). Facing the lack of these culture and no longer civilization, China has gradually strengthened the traditional cultural education of the whole society and tried to re - evoke the light of ancient civilization. The glory of reshaping the Chinese civilization

is the responsibility and responsibility of all Chinese people at the moment. As an art creator, I am also eager to create unique art works to participate in it.

### 1. Inspiration

"Thousand Character Text" is a classic compiled by the ancient Chinese sage *Zhou Xingsi*, which records the ancient Chinese people's understanding of the universe, astronomy, geography, nature, society, history, morality, ethics and other aspects. The full text is 1,000 Chinese characters, and each Chinese character is not repeated. It is an ancient Mongolian textbook in ancient China. It is a typical book representing Chinese culture. It affects the ideological civilization of the Chinese for thousands of years. Throughout Chinese history, numerous artists have created various forms of art on the content of "Thousand Character Text" to promote its ideological charm. Among them, Chinese calligraphy artists mainly create various forms of calligraphy art, forming a unique cultural scene in Chinese calligraphy art.

The rise of free visual art thought, its comprehensive art expression form gives artistic works a richer vitality, which can have more art forms of traditional culture and can give traditional culture more charm.

How to express the civilized power carried by "Thousand character Text" with visual arts, I think of the factor of "light". In the vast universe space, "light" is the source of all life, and there are endless power. Although "light" is invisible, it can be used to make it "tangible" shadow with some auxiliary methods, exudes a unique visual aesthetics, produce stronger artistic words, and shows richer artistic value. The use of light and shadow as an artistic form to create interactive visual art works by allowing static devices to emit text light and shadow is the original inspiration for this article's thinking and work creation.

### 2. Significance of the Study

As a main manifestation of visual art, installation art has the artistic charm that traditional art cannot have in the form of art and language. It can express the artist's ideological demand more comprehensively through rich art forms. Anthony

Johnson, an American art critic, gave this explanation to postmodernism installation art: "In terms of devices themselves, they are just containers that can hold whatever content creators and viewers want to put in. Therefore, installation art can be used as the most convenient and direct medium for expressing social, political, or personal content."

The combination of the expression form of contemporary installation art and the traditional form of calligraphy can expand the original two-dimensional calligraphy form to the form of multi-dimensional expression, which can show richer visual experience.

The combination of Chinese characters and "clay", combined with the shaping of light and shadow, constitutes a unique artistic installation, making the work present a richer visual experience. To stimulate the audience to think more about the theme "Light of Civilization" of the work.

### **Purpose of Creation**

1. The importance of studying the harmonious relationships between people, people, and the environment in social life is emphasized. Through the artistic expression of the content of the classic "Thousand Character Text" in traditional Chinese education, it calls for people to pay attention to traditional culture and achieve the role of spreading the value of civilization.

2. Applying clay materials for various shapes, carving text onto the shape, and then combining the shape with luminescent technology to create a novel installation art.

### **Scope of Creation**

1. Content

The power of civilization is like a light that can guide people in the dark. Civilization is very important for the development of a country, a nation or human beings. We should attach importance to the inheritance of civilization and make civilization play their value in an unexpected society, which can make humans go further and further.

## 2. Form

Through the combination of pottery and text, and combined with light, the form of the work has other appearances such as roads, beacon platforms, etc. It is a device art.

## 3. Techniques

The installation works show the light and shadow, and at the same time, the light and shadow are exposed to the space environment, so that the text is presented in every corner of the environment where the work is located, reflecting the inner light represented by the Chinese civilization represented by the "Thousand Character Text".

## **Conceptual of Frame Work**

"Thousand Character Text" records the ancient Chinese people's understanding of the universe, astronomy, geography, nature, society, history, morality, ethics and other aspects. It affects the ideological civilization of the Chinese for thousands of years. Its content and ideas have important power for building a harmonious society. Learning the text content of the thousands of texts can make people have rich knowledge and full spirit.

A person's life is constantly walking, and the guidance of civilized light will not make people lose their direction during walking.

What can protect safety is not relying on solid castles and hard weapons. The consensus of civilization is the most powerful guarantee for peace.

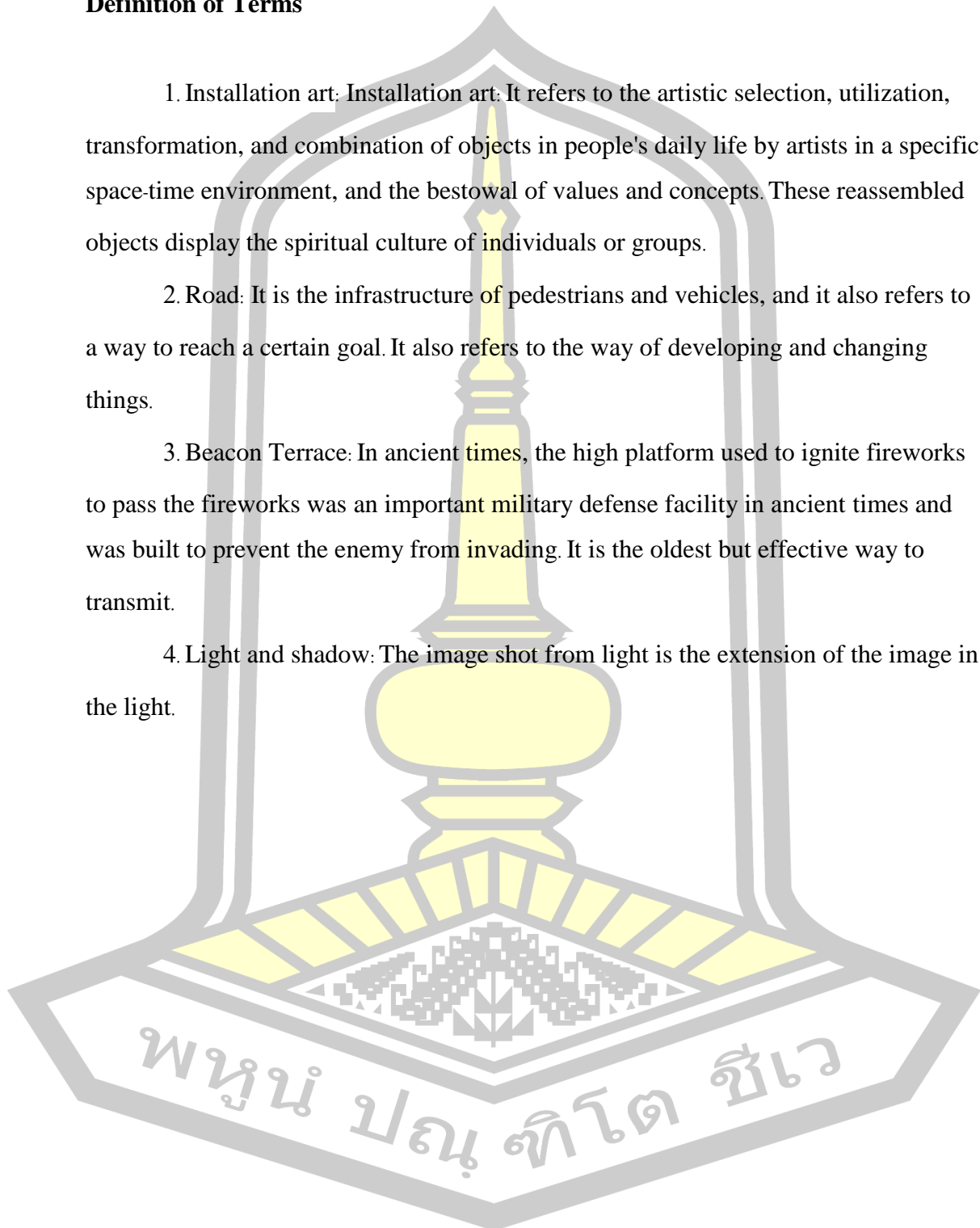
## Definition of Terms

1. Installation art: Installation art: It refers to the artistic selection, utilization, transformation, and combination of objects in people's daily life by artists in a specific space-time environment, and the bestowal of values and concepts. These reassembled objects display the spiritual culture of individuals or groups.

2. Road: It is the infrastructure of pedestrians and vehicles, and it also refers to a way to reach a certain goal. It also refers to the way of developing and changing things.

3. Beacon Terrace: In ancient times, the high platform used to ignite fireworks to pass the fireworks was an important military defense facility in ancient times and was built to prevent the enemy from invading. It is the oldest but effective way to transmit.

4. Light and shadow: The image shot from light is the extension of the image in the light.



## CHAPTER II

### LITERATURE REVIEW

According to the purpose of the creation, this thesis study focuses on Light of Civilization. To support the study purpose, the framework of process is selected accordingly. This chapter reviews related literature, covering the following topics:

1. Field Data
2. Documentary Data
3. Theory
4. Influences from Visual Arts

#### **Field Data**

Regarding the definition of "civilization", the world has a relatively common consensus. That is, civilization is the sum of the humanistic spirit that is conducive to understanding and adapting to the objective world, conforming to the pursuit of human spirit, and being recognized and accepted by most people. The history of human beings is a process from the barbaric to the progress of civilization step by step. In the process of civilization, humans have created a variety of culture, and they have their own specialties. To realize the ultimate ideal of human peaceful development, an important premise is to recognize the diversity of culture, and to grow and make up for shortness, and integrate with each other.

China's civilization has a strong self -constraint. For a long time, Chinese people respect the rules established from the heavens and the earth and respect the laws of nature, so they are peaceful and stable. However, this traditional civilization looks a little humble under the mainstream consciousness of pursuing wealth, freedom, power, and desire in today's society. This is also the contradiction that China has encountered after integrating into the world today.



The evidence of regular civilization is a useful action for the sustainable development of human history. China has a saying that "no rules cannot be done", and this "rules" should be carried forward in ordinary life. In our daily life, we can find that we are full of "civilization" power brought out everywhere.



Figure 1 The light of the sun  
Photo by Linghua Cai, February 16, 2023

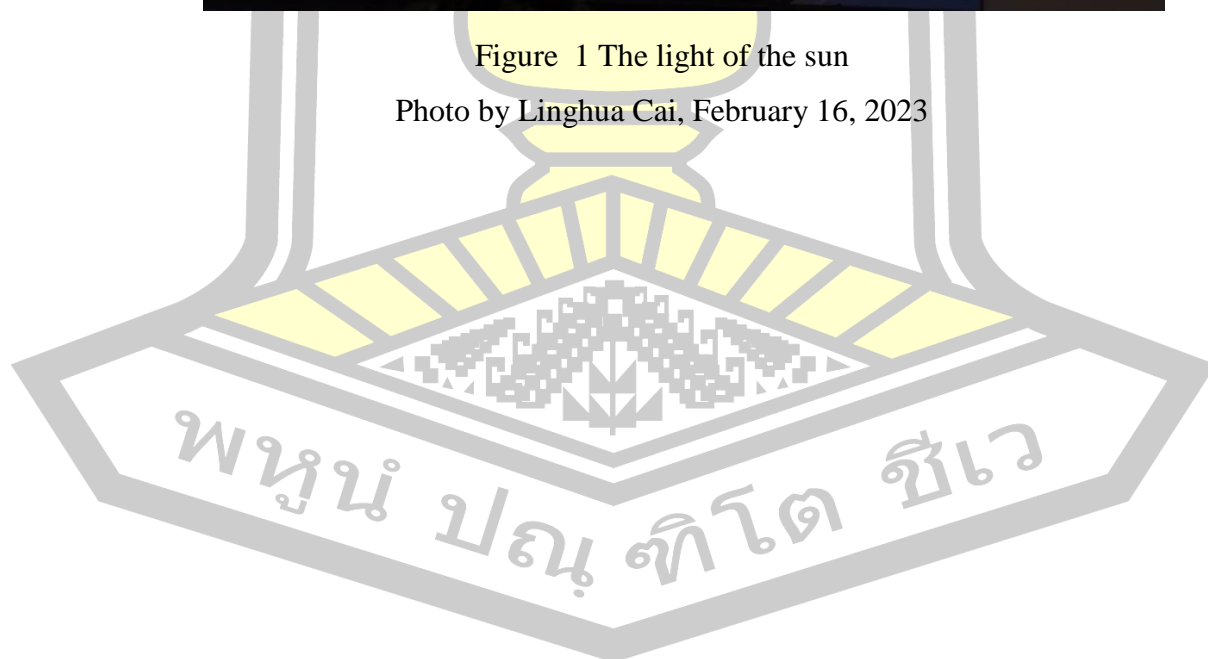




Figure 2 Dragon Lanterns for Festival Parade  
Photo by Linghua Cai, February 5, 2022



Figure 3 Street light guiding home  
Photo by Linghua Cai, November 18, 2022

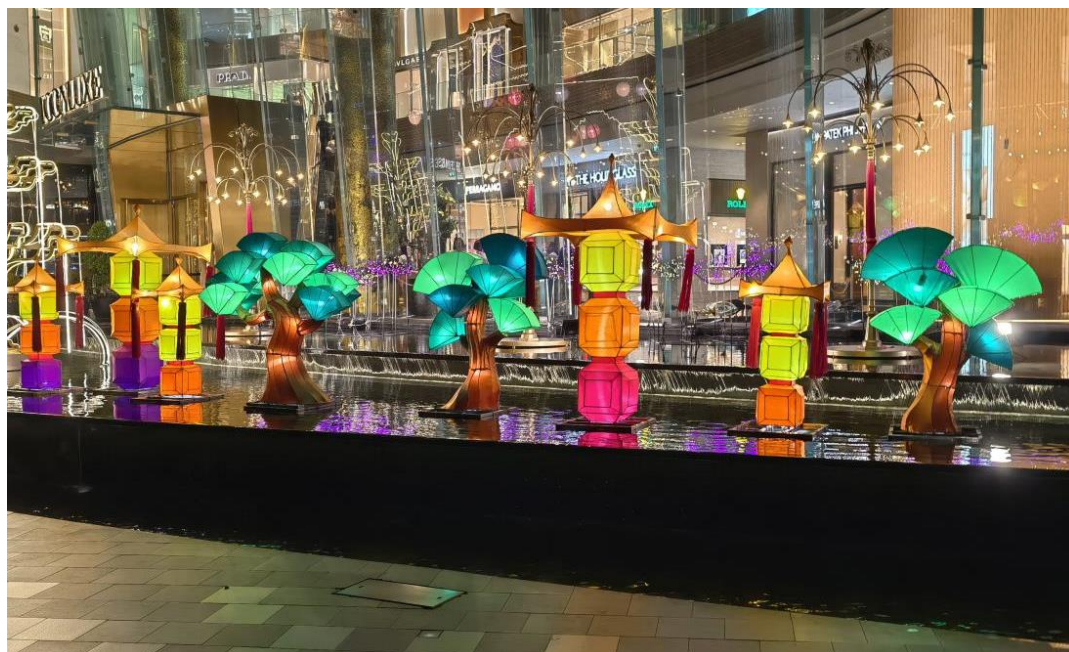


Figure 4 Colorful lanterns during festivals

Photo by Linghua Cai, February 20, 2023



Figure 5 Great Wall Beacon Terrace

Photo by Linghua Cai, August 22, 2021

## Documentary Data

In order to obtain better artistic creativity, I searched some documents and artistic work materials that are similar to my creative theme content as a reference, and got some creative inspiration.

We can see from the news from the news every day. Perhaps poverty, maybe hunger, maybe war, or drugs, etc. These phenomena are lack of civilized and moral learning, and are blasphemy of civilization. And these situations have not been controlled so far. As a member of the earth, we cannot stand by all the time, and we should give play to our own value to do some useful things.

UNESCO pointed out in the book "Learning to Be: the world of education today and tomorrow": "To develop human beings, on the one hand, we must face the future. On the other hand, we must return to the source of human beings and draw wisdom from our ancestors." (1972) Like a pillar with a strong force to support the magnificent building. Traditional civilization is the support for the building of China. Chinese civilization is the wisdom of Chinese ancestors, glowing and heating, expressing China's "civilization" in a stronger way, allowing it to collide with other civilizations of the world, and establish a harmonious world. (UNESCO 1972: online)

In September 2022, "Light of the City -20122 Shanghai Urban Contemporary Sculpture and Device Art Expo" opened in Shanghai. The expo gathered more than 300 works of more than 72 artists in contemporary Chinese contemporary. Among them, the two major exhibitions of "living" and "Huaiyuan" focused their attention to life and far away, respectively. Express the thinking of the life, the laws of nature, and the core concept of expressing the traditional Chinese aesthetics, and the thinking of the contemporary social environment that guides people. (www.cflac.org.cn, 2022: Online)

The history of Chinese ceramics has a long history. Pottery was invented in the early Neolithic period and has been around for about ten thousand years now. The



application of ancient Chinese characters in ceramic decorative art is synchronized with the origin and development of ceramics. The combination of writing and ceramics has formed a unique ceramic art and cultural phenomenon in China.

“Ceramic culture is a special cultural form that is manifested by the combination of science, technology, and cultural art. In different historical periods, the firing techniques of ceramics vary, and the shapes and decorative arts of ceramics also vary. They all demonstrate to some extent the level of science and technology at that time, showcasing people's aesthetic concepts and cultural psychological characteristics at that time.” (Ding Weizhi, 1996: P368)

Chinese writing has a long history, with unique creative forms and expressive arts. It is an art form of the Chinese nation, not simply a tool for language communication, but a carrier of Chinese national cultural symbols. In the creation of Installation artwork, we can grasp the characteristics of the beauty (artistry) of Chinese characters, and analyze the profound connotation of the expression of Chinese characters from an aesthetic perspective.

Chinese architectural art has unique national philosophical ideas and architectural cultural characteristics in China. Utilize creative thinking or methods to create a spatial environment that satisfies people's daily life, production, or other activities. Different buildings have typical forms of form or social consciousness expression. The beacon tower building has a history of over 3000 years in China and is an important building for the territorial security of ancient China. It is located at the top of a high mountain and a perfect combination of art and military.

### **Theory**

“The great significance of art, basically is that it can show a person's true feelings, the mystery of the inner life and enthusiasm of the world.” (Roman Rolland, 1910: Online) We understand the world, understand life, express our understanding

of life, and convey our emotions, which is a subjective concept. It is even more meaningful to give full play to subjective initiative, create all possible artistic forms, make artistic creation influential, and guide it towards correct values.

Light is both invisible and tangible, it cannot grasp but can penetrate everything, and has a powerful power. People praise the light of the sunrise, revel in the bright white moonlight, and contemplate in the blue candlelight; We have various emotions for "light". Present the classic characters representing Chinese civilization in the design of the "Road" and "Beacon Tower" installations, emitting them through the power of light. This is a reverence and love for "civilization", as well as a new interpretation.

Art is a product of society, without which there would be no existence of art, and art also comes from our lives. Therefore, we often say that art comes from life and is higher than life. As an art form, installation art also has its social expression, interpretation, and sublimation. The social nature of art has long been recognized and indisputable in aesthetics, and can be more clearly and concretely expressed in works of installation art. (Zhu Baoyan, 2017: P375)

Installation artwork is an art form that artists select, utilize, transform and combine the Material culture entities in life artistically and effectively in a specific space-time environment, so as to deduce a new artistic form that displays the rich spiritual and cultural connotation of individuals or groups.

Hybrid arts is the frontier work of artists in the contemporary Art movement in the emerging technology of Applied science. Mainly focusing on integrating different media and genres into new forms of artistic expression, as well as transcending artistic research, breaking through the boundaries between art and social and political activities, as well as between art and popular culture.

### **Influence from Visual Arts**

#### 1. Artist Doris Salcedo

Colombian female artist Doris Salcedo, whose installation works focus on violence and inequality under war, race, and colonialism, and encourage viewers to

reflect on the meaning of life. Her works always convey a message with a striking visual perception, expressing the profound and heavy trauma experienced by those marginalized by the legacy of war. This is just like Hemingway said: No matter how necessary and just war is, never consider it not a sin, but ask those who are trapped and dead in it. Doris Salcedo's works of art have made me think more about the value of art's impact on world peace in my artistic creation.



Figure 6 Artist : Doris Salcedo 1

Title : Untitled

Size : 1010× 610× 610 centimeter

Technique : Stacking of old chairs

Creation time: 2003

From : (Sohu, 2019: Online)



Figure 7 Artist : Doris Salcedo 2

Title : Plegaria Muda

Size : Unknown

Technique : A wooden table, clay, and grass installation

Creation time: 2008-2010

From : (Sohu, 2019: Online)



## 2. Artist Damian Ortega

Damian Ortega, a Mexican artist, often deconstructs and reorganize real elements into novel visual experiences. To put it simply, deconstruction is to break the inherent rules and people's impressions of one thing and then renovate the behavior and methodology of reconstruction. The work "Cosmic Controller" is based on this method that all human use tools are used for orderly installations to form directional power, thereby expressing the complex relationship between people and the universe.

Damian Ortega is accustomed to deconstructing familiar objects, creating new space with material combinations, so that each component can be analyzed and reflected. His works are both playful and deeply provocative. He made things separate, but he was also closely linked.



Figure 8 Artist : Damian Ortega

Title : Universe Controller

Size : 670× 400× 210 centimeter

Technique : Tool combination suspension

Creation time: 2007

From : (Sohu, 2017: Online)

### 3. Artist Xu Bing

Chinese artist Xu Bing's "Book of Heaven" is his most iconic work. This work was born in 1987. The entire work consists of 4,000 printing fonts. These words look like the elegant Chinese traditional calligraphy, which makes people feel the rich meaning of Chinese text. But in fact, these words are fictional, and even Chinese users cannot recognize the meaning of these words. He made Chinese characters beyond the expression function, which was surprising, and there would be a confusing or absurd idea. This work forced the audience to re-think the concept of language authority.

Xu Bing is good at artistic creation of words. He believes that the form of art is not important, but a valuable thinking. His work reflects the unique imagination of the artist and the ability to create aesthetics. His work prompted me to gain richer imagination in artistic creation.

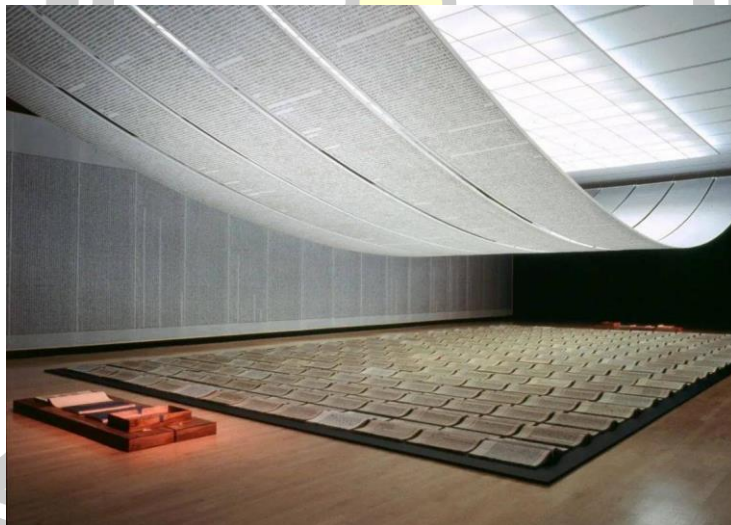


Figure 9 Artist : Xubing

Title : Heavenly Book

Size : Unknownr

Technique : Installation of comprehensive materials

such

as books, paper, and reels

Creation time: 1987-1991

From : (Xiaohongshu, 2021: Online)

## CHAPTER III

### METHODS OF CREATION

This chapter gives an outline of the study design and procedure. The procedure of the study concluded from chapter two and other frameworks which involve with Light of Civilization. This creation will be presented according to the following topics:

1. Collection and Analysis Data
2. Process of Creation

#### **Collection and Analysis Data**

##### **1. Data Collection**

During the creative process, I first analyzed my previous works to identify advantages and disadvantages. Conduct a deeper research and analysis of the creative theme to find a better development path. I hope that my works can interpret the "light of civilization" in a more diverse way, so it is necessary to enrich the expressive means of my works. Collect some data through reflection on the uncivilized situation of society and taking photos from the process of social life. At the same time, I collected relevant data through books and the Internet, and added it to the analysis. Finally, I decided to use clay as the main material for the creation of installation art.

The essence of ceramics is to shape and shape ceramics through the burning and shaping of clay, forming the unique features of ceramics. Therefore, ceramics are also the art of fire. As Zhu Yan said in "Tao Shuo", "The color matching of painting tools is different from that of painters, and the colors on the tools must be determined by fire." This unique collision between ancient Eastern art and modern installation art will be a novel artistic expression language, generating a strong visual experience.

(Zhu Yan, 2010: Online)

## 2. Data Analysis

### 2.1 Analysis of theme

Civilization is the common pursuit of mankind and the foundation of worldpeace. China's traditional civilization follows the laws of nature and emphasizes respect for moral ethics. Carrying forward China's traditional civilization helps to build a more harmonious society.

Through this paper, I use the power of light to magnify the image of traditional "civilization", criticize the negative atmosphere of the current lack of social beliefs, and call on society to attach importance to the dissemination of traditional "civilization".

### 2.2 Analysis of form symbols

The "Thousand Character Text" records the standardized model of ancient Chinese people establishing a civilized society; Clay "is the most essential object on Earth, and it is a symbol of nature. Combining "Thousand Character Text" with "pottery", the installation design of "roads" and "beacon towers" is formed using artistic techniques. Through the illumination of light in the design, the light of the text is emitted, forming images on all interfaces of the space. Expressing the light of civilization should enter every detail of people's lives and have a good dialogue with 'civilization'. When people enter "civilization", they become part of it.

### 2.3 Analysis of techniques

Search for special clay in natural soil to remove impurities from the clay. Create a collection model of the shape, using the model to make pottery into bricks of different sizes, and carve text on the bricks. Wait until the moisture in the clay bricks evaporates, and then use fuels such as wood and straw for high-temperature firing. The fired bricks are then combined and installed with specific themes to create interesting styling devices. Finally, a light source is set up in the middle of the installation, allowing the hollowed out text to emit a dazzling light through the illumination of the light.

## Process of Creation

### 1. Sketches/ Model

From collected materials to finished works of art, necessary sketches and thought processes are required. This process is to enable the selected theme to have a better way to express in the artwork.

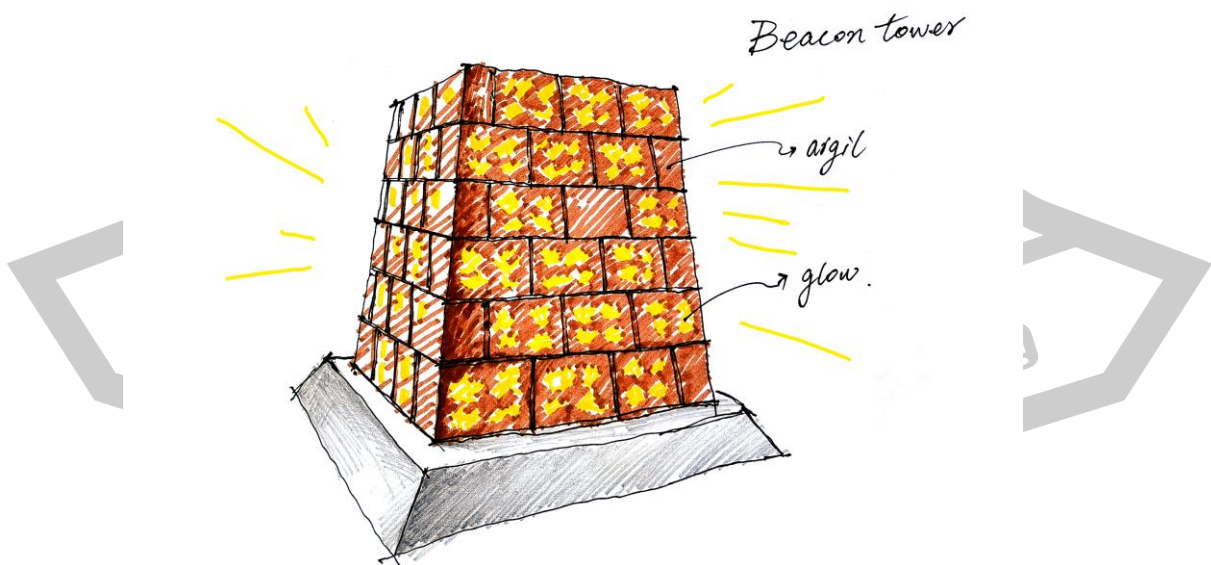
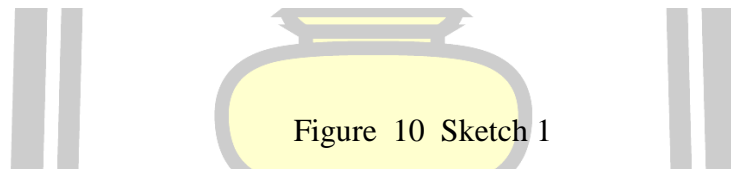
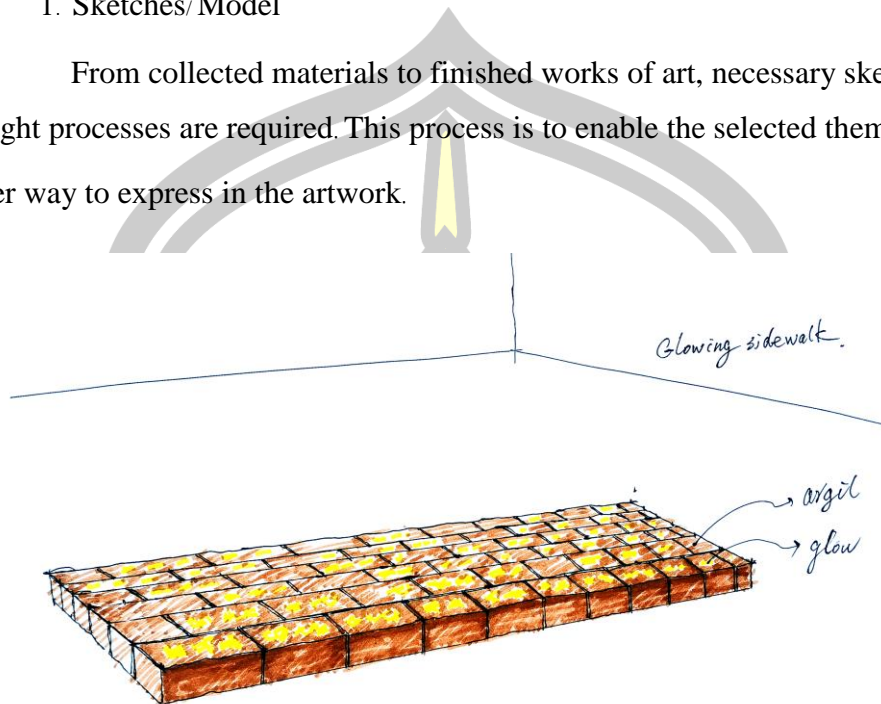


Figure 11 Sketch 2



## 2. Material and Equipment

There are mainly these materials and tools: clay, lamps, wood, translucent paper, cutting machines, welding machines, knives.



Figure 12 Materials



Figure 13 Tools

### 3. Visual Arts Experimentation

The production plan of the work was confirmed through sketches, and the work was completed by means of drawing, carving, firing, and combination. Finally, a luminescent display is performed.



Figure 14 Exhibition of works

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#### 4. Step of Creation

4.1 Making molds. Using metal materials, the model is formed by electric welding.



Figure 15 Work in step 1

4.2 Making molds, Using metal materials, the model is formed by electric welding.



Figure 16 Work in step 2



4.3 Engraving text. Use a tool to carve text on the clay brick to make the text hollow out.



Figure 17 Work in step 3

4.4 Firing clay. Burn wood to harden the clay bricks.



Figure 18 Work in step 4

4.5 Installation molding. According to the planned ideas, it is combined into an installation art shape. Combined molding.



Figure 19 Work in step 5



4.6 Install lights. Arrange lighting fixtures to allow light to radiate from the inside out to complete the display of installation art works.



Figure 20 Work in step 6

## CHAPTER IV

### RESULTS

This chapter intends to Light of Civilization. The focus of this chapter is to illustrate to the results. Thus, the results are shown into the following topics:

1. Pre-Thesis Creative Work
2. Thesis Creative Work

#### Pre-Thesis Creative Work

##### 1. Pre-Thesis work 1

1.1 Idea/ Concept: Columns are the main construction of buildings, playing a supporting role, and are extremely important. Represents a symbol of responsibility and ability. China's civilization building needs a strong support like a pillar.

1.2 Form: Enclosing a closed indoor space, a huge column is erected in the center of the space, and the text is hollowed out on the column body, and the light of the text is emitted through the center. This is a unique installation art that allows the viewer to stand in the middle of the work.

1.3 Results: The red octagonal columns have a strong Chinese style, and the translucent column body is carved with "Thousand Character Text". The internal lighting illuminates the text onto all walls of the space, providing a strong sense of enclosure. When visitors enter the space, the light of the text shines on them, creating a good interaction with the work. This creativity has been recognized by the teacher.



Figure 21 Pre-Thesis work 1

Title : Light of Civilization

Size : 82×82×260 Centimètre

Technique : Installation Art

## 2. Pre-Thesis work 2

2.1 Idea/ Concept: "Bamboo slips", the most representative form of books in ancient China, record the history of China's ideological civilization and have been circulated.

2.2 Form: Chinese characters are carved on the surface of bamboo, emitting the light of the characters through the center. Combine the bamboo suspension device into a luminous bamboo book.

2.3 Results: The hanging luminous bamboo slips give visitors a sense of reading to the work. This is an effective means of information dissemination. The teacher suggested that increasing the number could give a stronger visual impact.

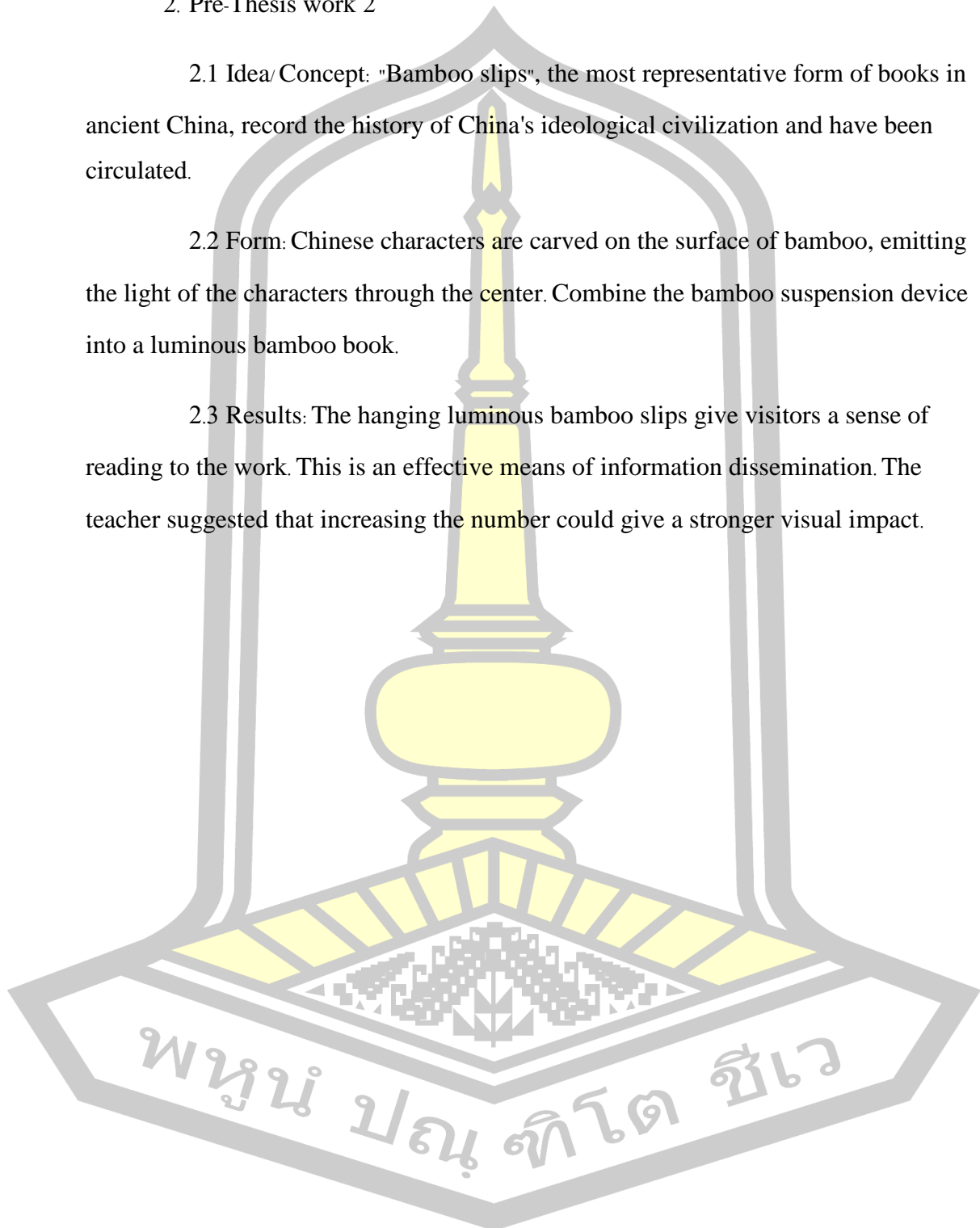






Figure 22 Pre-Thesis work 2

Title : Light of Civilization

Size : 150×175×20 Centimètre

Technique : Installation Art

### 3. Pre-Thesis work 3

3.1 Idea/ Concept: "Bonfire" has a warm energy, and the rising fire has the meaning of energy dissipation.

3.2 Form: The characters in the "Thousand Character Text" are carved into red three-dimensional acrylic characters and piled into the shape of a "bonfire", emitting a red text light through the central lamp.

3.3 Results: The red text "bonfire" is filled with warm energy, and the hanging text is like the power of the eruption of fire, representing the spread of civilization. Visitors can experience the joy brought by civilization around their works.



Figure 23 Pre-Thesis work 2

Title : Light of Civilization

Size : 200×150×230 Centimètre

Technique : Installation Art



## Thesis Creative Work

What materials should be considered for the production of the "thousand character Text" representing traditional Chinese civilization in the form of luminescence? What shape is produced? During the exploration process, I conducted research from different aspects.

First, we conducted research on the selection of materials. The reason for choosing "clay" is that soil is the foundation for the growth of all things and the main material for traditional architecture, with universal social significance.

In terms of modeling, considering its representativeness can make people have more thoughts and resonance with the inner spirit of traditional Chinese civilization.

### 1. Thesis work 1

1.1 Idea/ Concept: The road is the infrastructure for pedestrians and vehicles to pass, and also refers to the way to achieve a certain goal. It also refers to the way things develop and change. The path that emits the light of civilization can guide people's lives to a higher and farther level.

1.2 Form: This is an installation art work that lays a luminous path on the ground. The clay is made into bricks, on which the text is hollowed out, and the bricks are laid into a sidewalk for display.

1.3 Results: Visitors can walk on this luminous sidewalk and read the meaning of the luminous text to achieve the effect of interacting with artistic works. This can effectively convey the meaning of the work to visitors.

Visitors must read the text on their works with their heads lowered, which also implies that people should clearly see the environment under their feet when walking, and embark on a safe and civilized life path. During the creation process of my work, my teacher discussed and studied with me, and endowed the work with higher ideas.



Figure 24 Thesis work 1 (1)

Title : The Road of Light

Size : 600×120×8 Centimètre

Technique : Installation Art

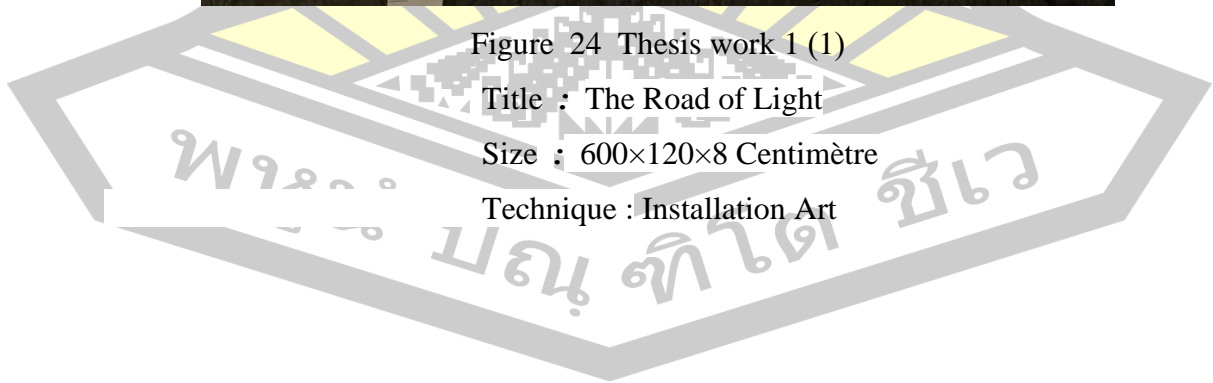


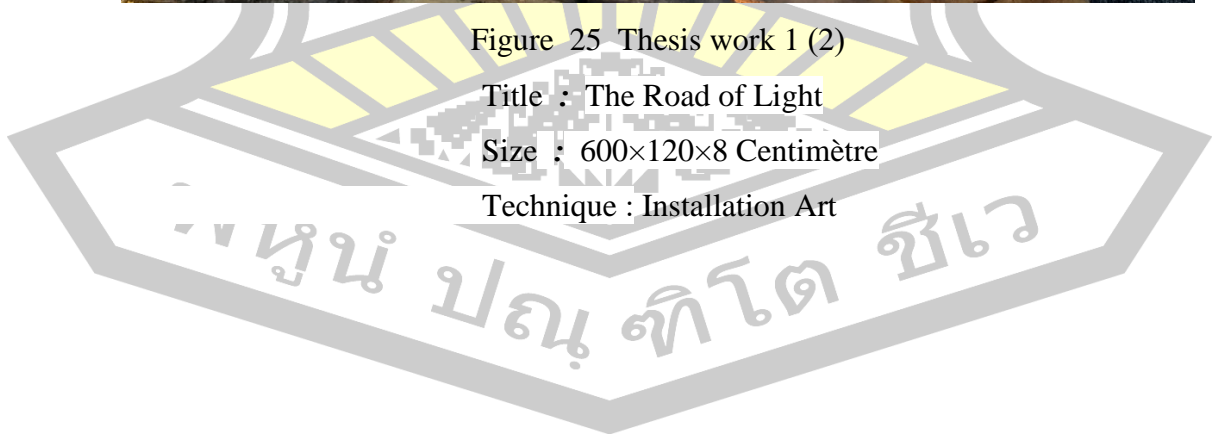


Figure 25 Thesis work 1 (2)

Title : The Road of Light

Size : 600×120×8 Centimètre

Technique : Installation Art





## 2. Thesis work 2

2.1 Idea/ Concept: The beacon tower was a high tower used to light fireworks and transmit important information in ancient times. It was an important military defense facility in ancient times, and was built to prevent enemy invasion. Is the oldest but most effective method of messaging. Engraving the words of "Thousand Character Text" on the beacon tower and emitting light is not to convey the flames of war, but to elevate the appeal of civilization to the highest point.

2.2 Form: The clay is made into bricks for the city wall, on which characters are hollowed out. On a 50 cm platform, enclose bricks to form a beacon tower, and install lights in the middle to make the beacon tower emit the light of words.

2.3 Results: The ancient architecture is endowed with new materials and technology, and the original functional value is changed. When viewing this work, visitors can associate the difference between war and peace. To survive for a longer time, humans must establish more civilized systems, learn the civilized ideas in the "Thousand Word Essay", and build a harmonious world. Let the world no longer need "beacon towers", and more appear as monuments of civilization.

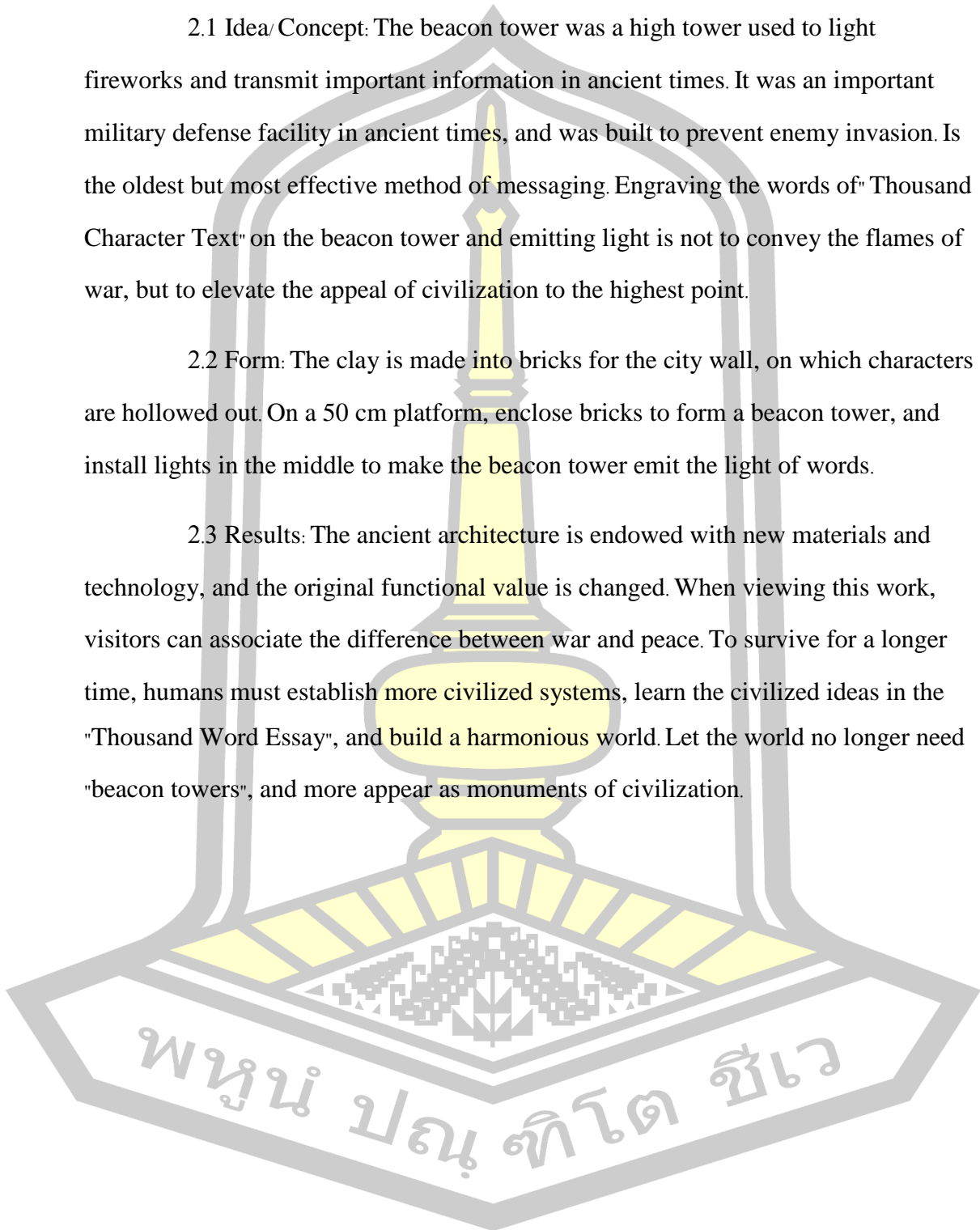




Figure 26 Thesis work 2 (1)

Title : The Light of the Beacon Tower

Size : 240×240×230 Centimètre

Technique : Installation Art





Figure 27 Thesis work 2 (2)

Title : The Light of the Beacon Tower

Size : 240×240×230 Centimètre

Technique : Installation Art

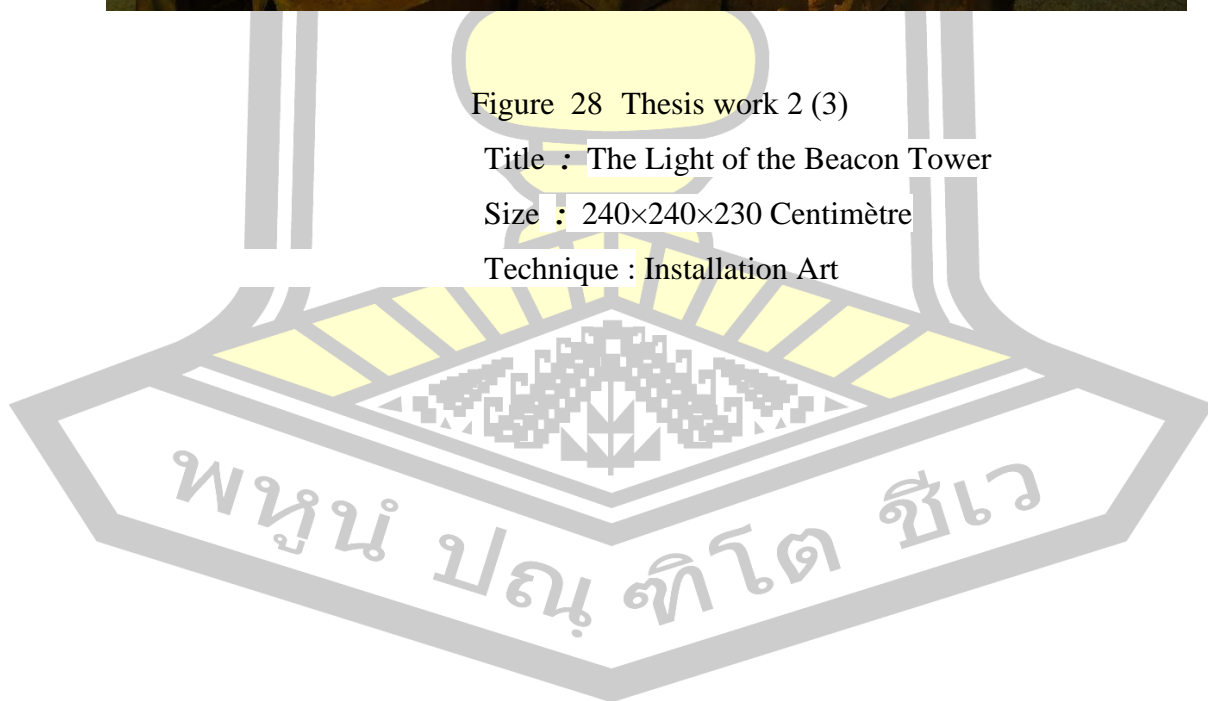


Figure 28 Thesis work 2 (3)

Title : The Light of the Beacon Tower

Size : 240×240×230 Centimètre

Technique : Installation Art



## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This chapter examines the extent to which the study problems have been resolution by the work, study and how the findings add to the existent literature. Conclusion about the creation purposes and the creation resolution are drawn based on the results findings. It will be presented according to the following topics:

1. Purpose of Creation
2. Conclusion
3. Discussion
4. Recommendation

#### **Purpose of Creation**

1. To study and analyze some disharmonious situations in China and other countries around the world today. Due to the imbalance of various interests, conflicts between countries and contradictions between different groups of people have resulted. Through the creation of the "Light of Civilization" installation art, the charm of traditional Chinese culture and spirit is displayed, and the Chinese civilization ideology is promoted to promote the construction of a more harmonious society. Through information collection, sorting, analysis, and research, I want to use novel installation art to showcase the powerful light of civilization. In the process of creating my work, I have done many experiments on factors such as artistic style and technical materials, and finally found suitable materials and artistic styles under the guidance of my teacher. In visual art creation, it is necessary to collect and analyze data to obtain useful information and improve creative skills, so that the creative work can proceed more smoothly and the quality of the work can be better.

2. To create the visual arts, which is a kind of installation art, is demonstrated by combining the art of "Thousand Character Text" with lighting in different shapes.

Using materials such as clay and wood to carve, color, assemble, and emit light to form shapes with special significance, achieving the function of displaying traditional civilization.

## Conclusion

This visual arts creation thesis Light of Civilization will be presented the conclusion according to the following topics:

### 1. Results of Data Analysis

The concept of this work is to reflect on the uncivilized status quo in the process of life. The phenomena of self-interest and unethical behavior have made me understand the significance of promoting the power of civilized thinking in traditional Chinese culture. The history of China is a glorious history of civilization, with diverse forms and profound connotations. The "Thousand Character Essay" is a typical work representing traditional Chinese civilization and has strong educational significance for social civilization. Mr. Qigong, a renowned master of modern Chinese traditional culture, once commented on the "Thousand Character Essay" and said, "The Thousand Character Essay, which starts with the sentence 'Xuanhuang of heaven and earth,' has a great name and wide application. Among the thousands of ancient texts and books, there are probably very few that can surpass it." Therefore, I hope to create some meaningful artistic forms, By using artistic means, the civilization radiance of "thousand word writing" can be permeated into every corner of social life.

Russian philosopher Lev Tolstoy once said, "Art is not a skill, it is the expression of emotions experienced by artists. Human emotions resonate, and artistic creation requires an understanding of the way emotions are communicated between individuals. Any act of self indulgence in artistic creation cannot effectively convey the value of art.

### 2. Results of Creation



In the process of creating works with the theme of "Light of Civilization", the final production process, from the perspective of materials, technology, and form, is made through careful research, which is also inseparable from the guidance of teachers. "Clay" is the material of natural soil, implying the storage of energy. "Light" gives people a warm feeling, and there can be good interaction under the irradiation of light. Each work's modeling has a profound background significance, which can better set off the creative value of the "light of civilization".

## Discussion

The result of creation was discovered which indicated

### 1. Results of Data Analysis

The idea of this work is to reflect on the current situation of uncivilization in the process of life. Those egoistic and unethical phenomena let me understand the power of civilization in traditional Chinese culture. The history of China is a glorious history of civilization, with diverse forms and profound connotations. "Thousand Character Text" is a typical work representing traditional Chinese civilization, which has strong educational significance for social civilization. Therefore, I hope to choose some meaningful forms, so that the light of civilization of "Thousand Word Writing" can permeate every corner of social life.

### 2. Results of Creation

Installation art breaks through the formal language of traditional shelf art. Artists use materials from life to create works and give new meanings, express artistic ideas, convey concepts, and educate people through aesthetic education. At the same time, the diversity and complexity of materials used in installation art, as well as the artistic effects and formal language displayed, are not possessed by other art forms, which also make the work more artistic and of certain social value. (Che Jialu, 2019: Online)



In the process of creating a work, the choice of materials and forms of expression is carefully considered. The main material chosen is "clay" because it is a material of natural soil, implying the storage of energy. Burn "clay" into a strong material, making the material weightier. The presentation of "light" in the work enables the work to interact well with people. The theme of "Light of Civilization" resonates with people's pursuit of social civilization through installation art.

### 3. The new finding/the new knowledge

In the process of creating "Light of Civilization" works, I learned a lot of new things. In the "Desert X AlUla 2022" art exhibition held in Arabia, artist Abdullah al Othman created a "Geography of Hope" work that uses stainless steel plates to pave the desert into the shape of a lake, presenting a sparkling water surface effect through sunlight. The use of scientific and technological materials to express the image of nature and the critical artistic techniques make this work a very powerful call for people to protect the natural environment.

Through the analysis of artists' works, I have broadened my vision and imagination in artistic creation, and gained the ability to solve problems and think systematically. Learn more visual art works so that I can create better art works in the future.

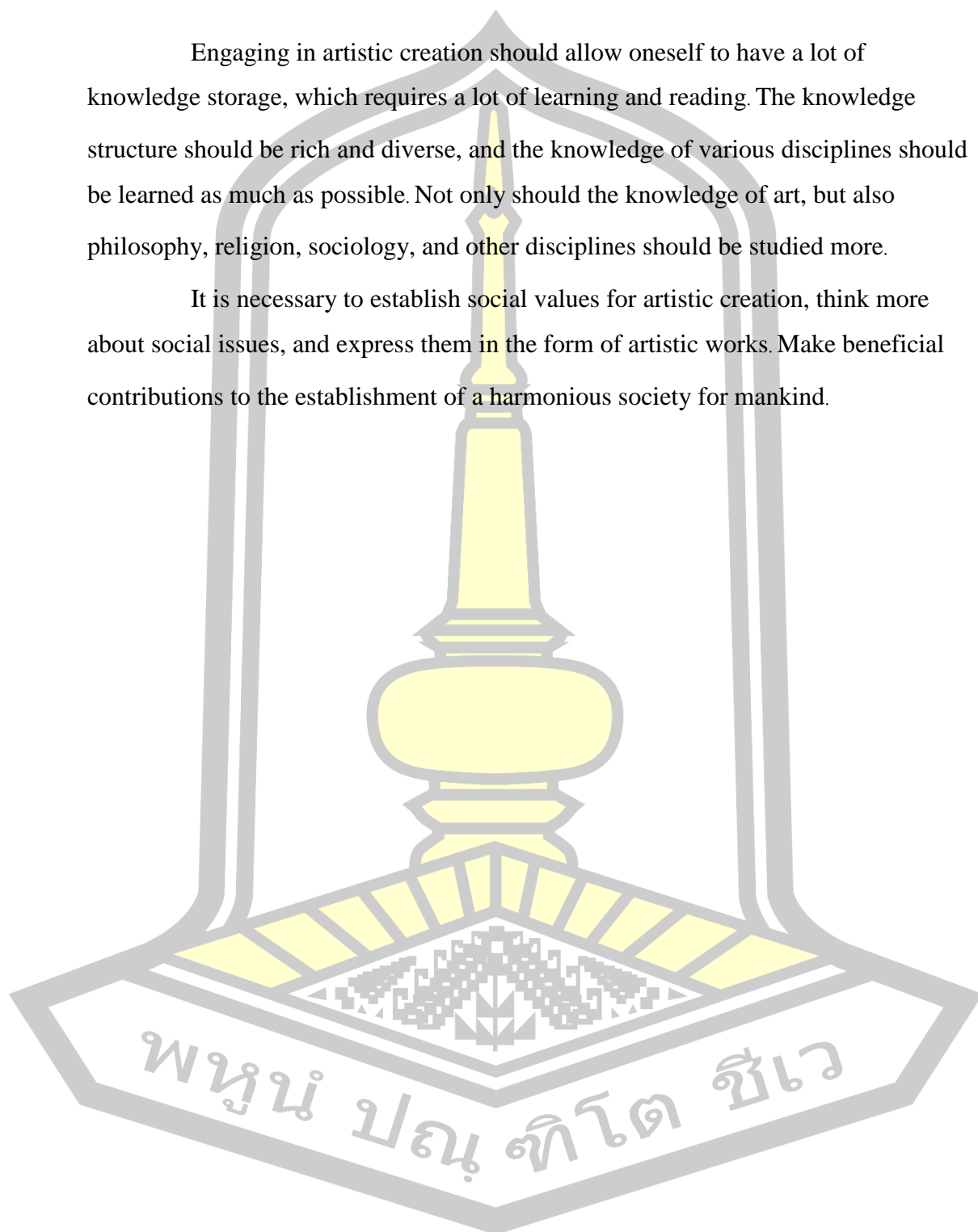
### 4. The effects or reaction on social or technical field

During the creation process of the work, the material texture of the modeling and the feeling of light are realized through the technical techniques of installation art. People can intuitively feel the importance of civilization to society by contacting my works. Through the artistic form of the work, we can feel the theme of the work, arouse the resonance of the audience, and make people pay more attention to the construction of civilization. This is the embodiment of the value of the work beneficial to society.

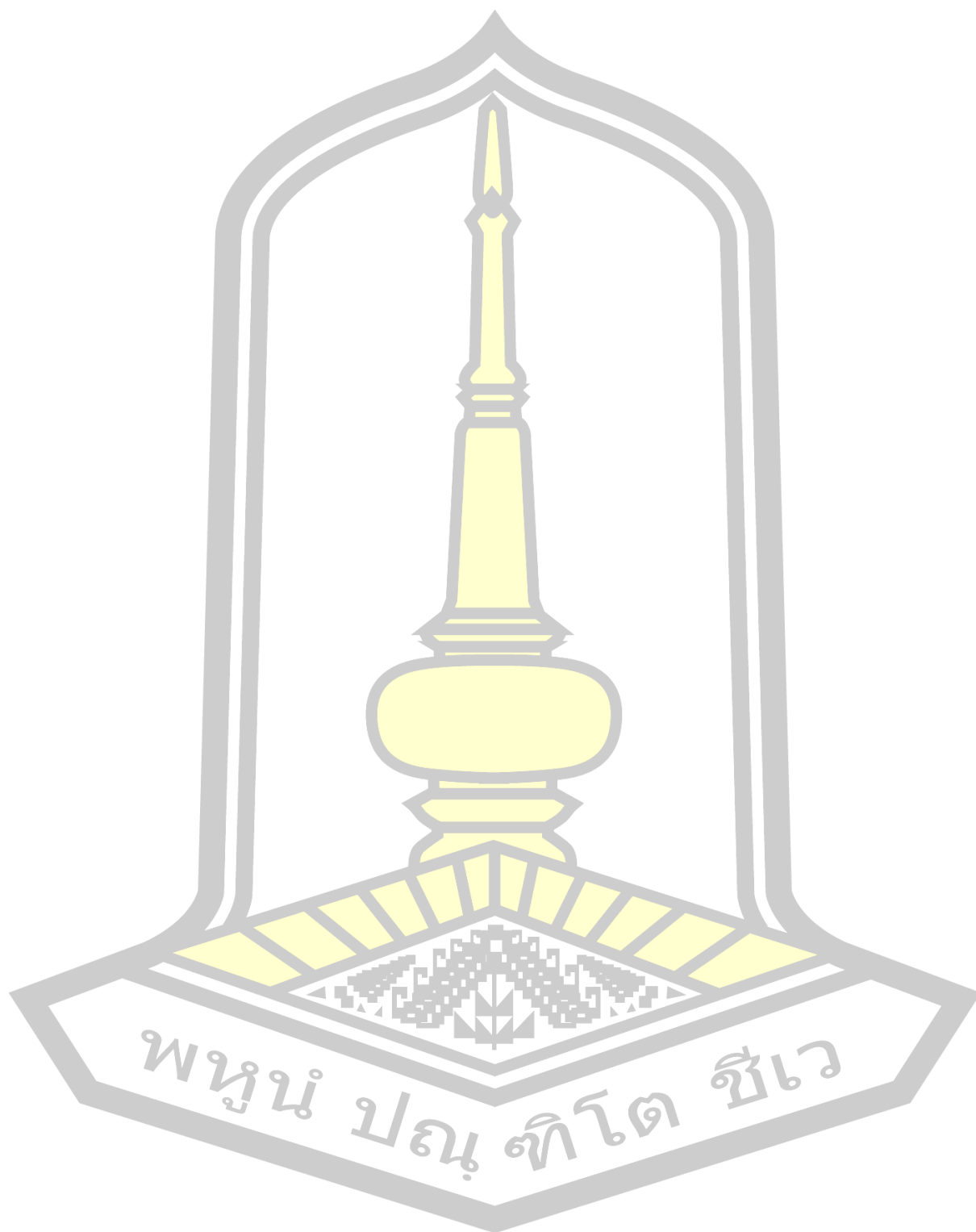
## Recommendation

Engaging in artistic creation should allow oneself to have a lot of knowledge storage, which requires a lot of learning and reading. The knowledge structure should be rich and diverse, and the knowledge of various disciplines should be learned as much as possible. Not only should the knowledge of art, but also philosophy, religion, sociology, and other disciplines should be studied more.

It is necessary to establish social values for artistic creation, think more about social issues, and express them in the form of artistic works. Make beneficial contributions to the establishment of a harmonious society for mankind.



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