MARCH 2019, ISSUE 2

Mekong Quilts
Non-Profit Organisation

Papier-mâché

THE SUSTAINABLE MATERIAL OF CRAFTSPEOPLE

CREATING SOMETHING FROM NEXT TO NOTHING

The papier-mâché is known by craftspeople since a long time. This low-cost material is appreciated by many artists by its versatility and persistance. Therefore, the papier-mâché represents a perfect medium for both children and adults to express their creativity.

In Mekong Quilts, we have been giving to papier-mâché products a contemporary touch. We have also brought them closer to the customers who are environmentally conscious while looking for an object that speaks to them and their space.

Recycling

Making papier-mâché products is a great way of recycling which is one of Mekong Quilts priorities. Waste paper is collected from our head office and stores, then transferred to the production regions. The artisans will tear them and soak in water for long hours. Depending on the product, paper will be sorted out to suit the making purposes.

Skill

Once soaked paper became a flexible mixture by adding a non-toxic glue. The artisans use their hands and their creativity to create the shape for products. Guided by the desire to find a unique and original look to the product, they also tend to mix the papier-mâché with other materials such as water hyacinth, thread, fabric.

Patience

Depending on its size, each product takes from one to three days under the sun to dry. This step seems to be easy but difficult at the same time to control, especially during rainy season. A good exposure to the sun is required otherwise the product will have a dull gray color

PRODUCTS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The production process is totally handmade and natural. The tools are also very simple. Moulds, knives, skills, love and sunshine. We hope that customers will see our efforts to reduce the wastes and then change their consumption behavior.

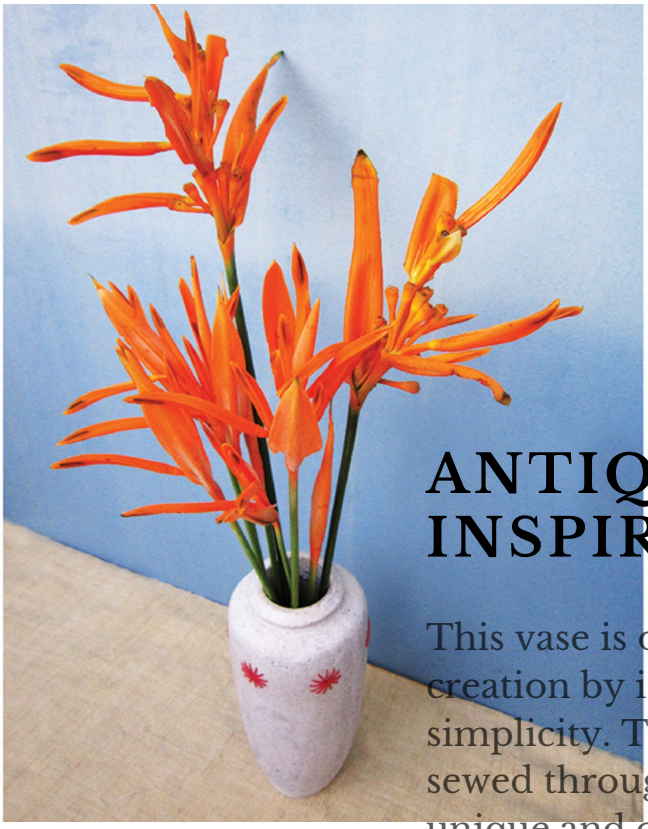
This project also allows the women-artisans to work and support their families. By working together, they ensure that the skills will be shared and passed down to other generations.

WWW.MEKONGQUILTS.COM

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/MEKONGQUILTS

CHILHOOD MEMORY

The bird crib and bowling set are both inspired by the Vietnamese countryside life. In the old times, clay toys were adored by children. Unlike clay objects, these handmade papier-mâché toys are very light.



ANTIQUE INSPIRATION

This vase is one of our favorite creation by its elegance and simplicity. The red thread sewed through the vase makes it unique and original. A layer of waterproof resin is covered inside.