



FIELDS:

An Itinerant Inquiry Across
the Kingdom of Cambodia

ST PAUL ST GALLERY & SA SA BASSAC

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About

About this book

This book is an anthology of texts and images contributed by the participants in *FIELDS: An Itinerant Inquiry Across the Kingdom of Cambodia*, a roving residency in Cambodia in December 2013, curated by Erin Gleeson and Vera Mey.

In addition to having invited eighteen artists, curators, educators and researchers to join the three-week *FIELDS* journey, the curators also invited dozens of other people and spaces to join with or present to these participants. In keeping with the discursive, collaborative, collective nature of the *FIELDS* project, this book has been shaped by three *FIELDS* participants: curators Roger Nelson and Charlotte Huddleston as co-editors and artist Albert Samreth as designer.

While the *FIELDS* experience was a roaming one, the *FIELDS* book is not a 'travelogue' that follows the linear itinerary of the project. All of the submissions were offered nearly one year after the December 2013 residency as a reflection on the dispersed and complex experience that was *FIELDS*: an experience that was both collective and highly personal. Some of the texts and images in this book directly respond to or reflect on the experience of that journey; other contributions consider the larger questions raised by the project.

This book can be read in any sequence. This book too is An Itinerant Inquiry.

About the translation

Most of this book was originally written in English; all text has been translated and is published here in Khmer and in English.

The title of the project—*FIELDS*—remains un-translated. Conceived by Erin Gleeson and Vera Mey in English, the title's references were originally described as encompassing: "the nation's agrarian landscape, the fieldwork of anthropologists and aid workers, Buddhist notions of merit-fields, the psycho-geographical landscape referred to as the Killing Fields, and the history of art practices in the expanded field." *FIELDS* has not been translated in recognition of the impossibility of conveying those many English-language associations in Khmer.

The project's subtitle, *An Itinerant Inquiry Across the Kingdom of Cambodia*, may be translated to Khmer in several ways, given the multivalent meanings of the words "itinerant" and "inquiry" in English.

– Charlotte Huddleston and Roger Nelson, editors