

Suan Mokkh

The Garden of Liberation

thought and painting

Somparn Promta

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Preface

This year, I have a wonderful chance to visit **Suan Mokkh**, the legendary Buddhist monastery of Thailand, founded by the great thinker-monk of Thailand, Buddhadasa Bhikkhu. I have painted the monastery and posted the pictures in my personal Facebook. The pictures that have been printed in this volume are all taken from the Facebook.

Somporn Promta

November, 2013



Suan Mokkh 1





Suan Mokkh 2





Suan Mokkh 3





Suan Mokkh 4





Suan Mokkh 5





Suan Mokkh 6





Suan Mokkh 7





Suan Mokkh 8





Suan Mokkh 9



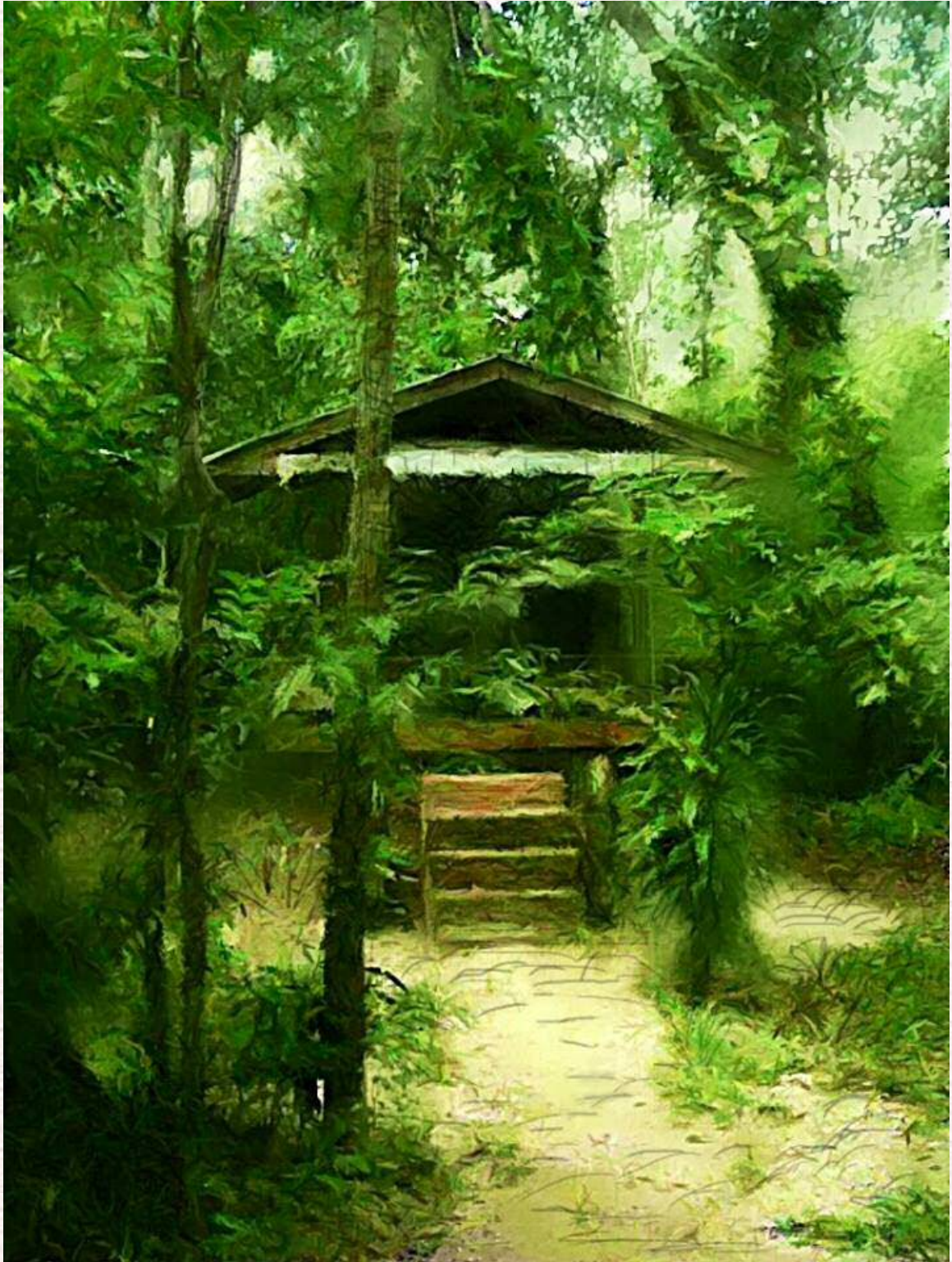


Suan Mokkh 10





Suan Mokkh II





Suan Mokkh 12





Suan Mokkh 13





Suan Mokkh 14





Suan Mokkh 15





Suan Mokkh 16





Suan Mokkh 17





Suan Mokkh 18





Suan Mokkh 19





Suan Mokkh 20





Suan Mokkh 21





Suan Mokkh 22





Suan Mokkh 23





Suan Mokkh 24



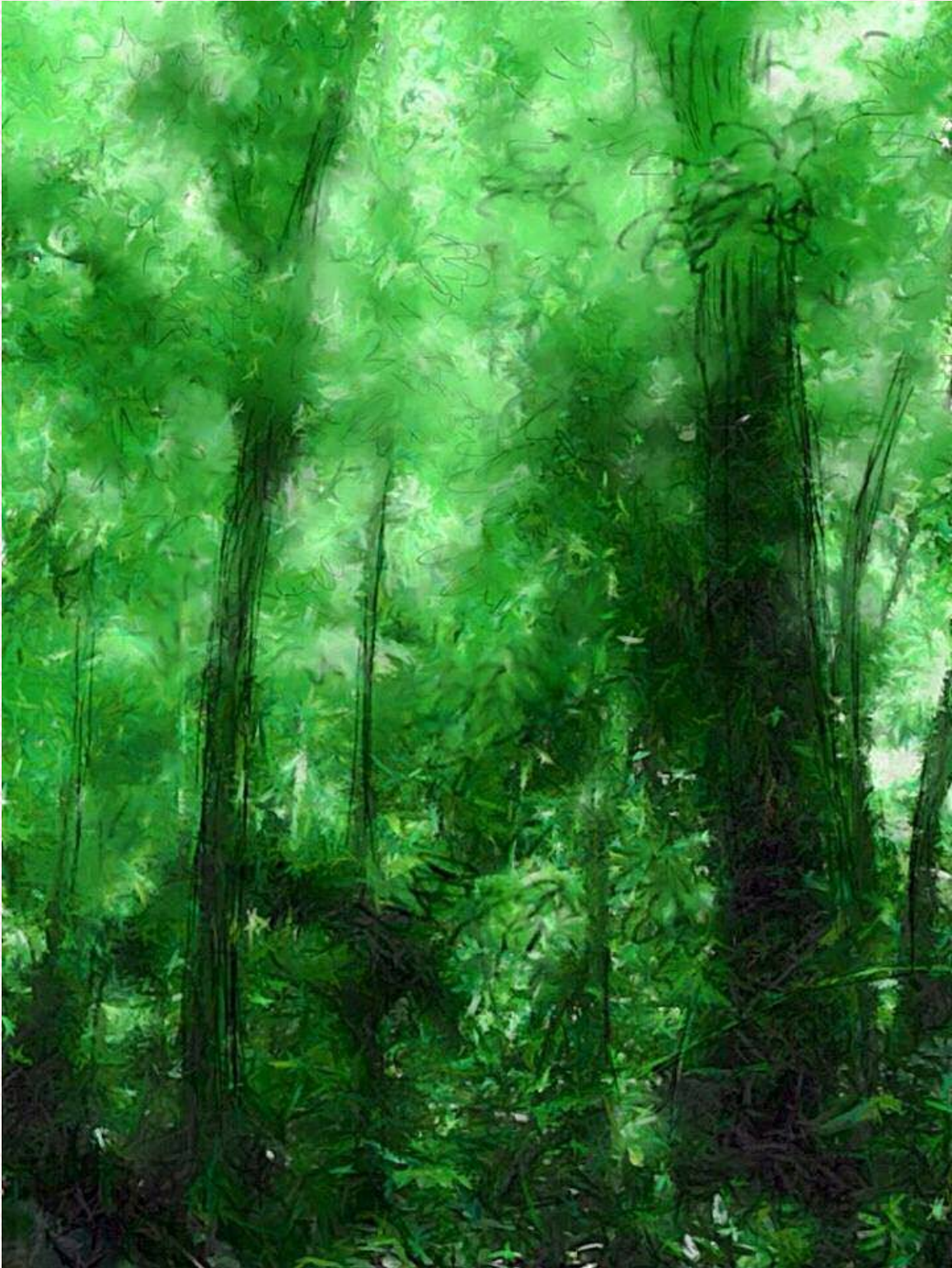


Suan Mokkh 25





Suan Mokkh 26



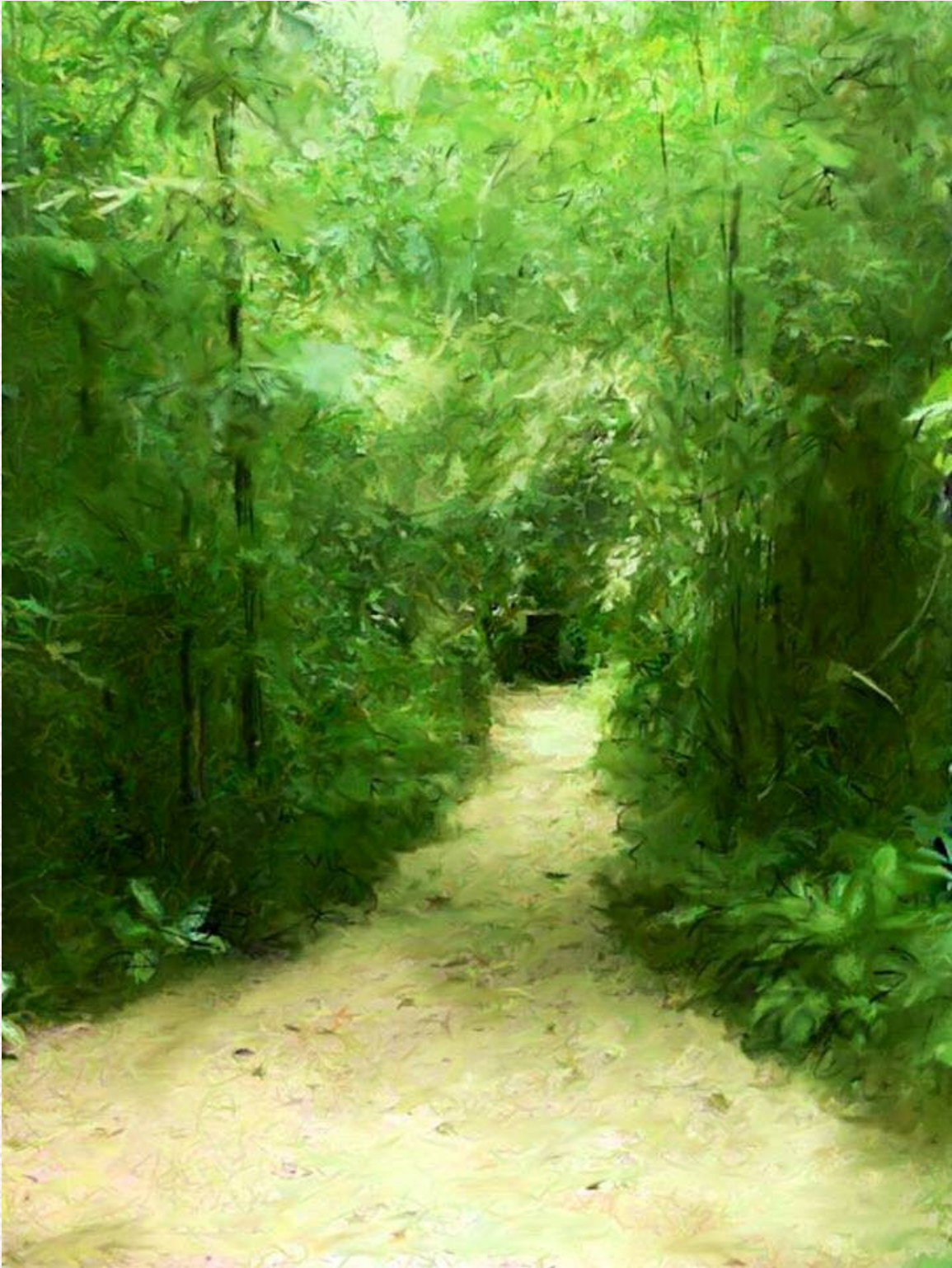


Suan Mokkh 27





Suan Mokkh 28





Suan Mokkh 29





Suan Mokkh 30





Suan Mokkh 31





Suan Mokkh 32





Suan Mokkh 33





Suan Mokkh 34





Suan Mokkh 35





Suan Mokkh 36



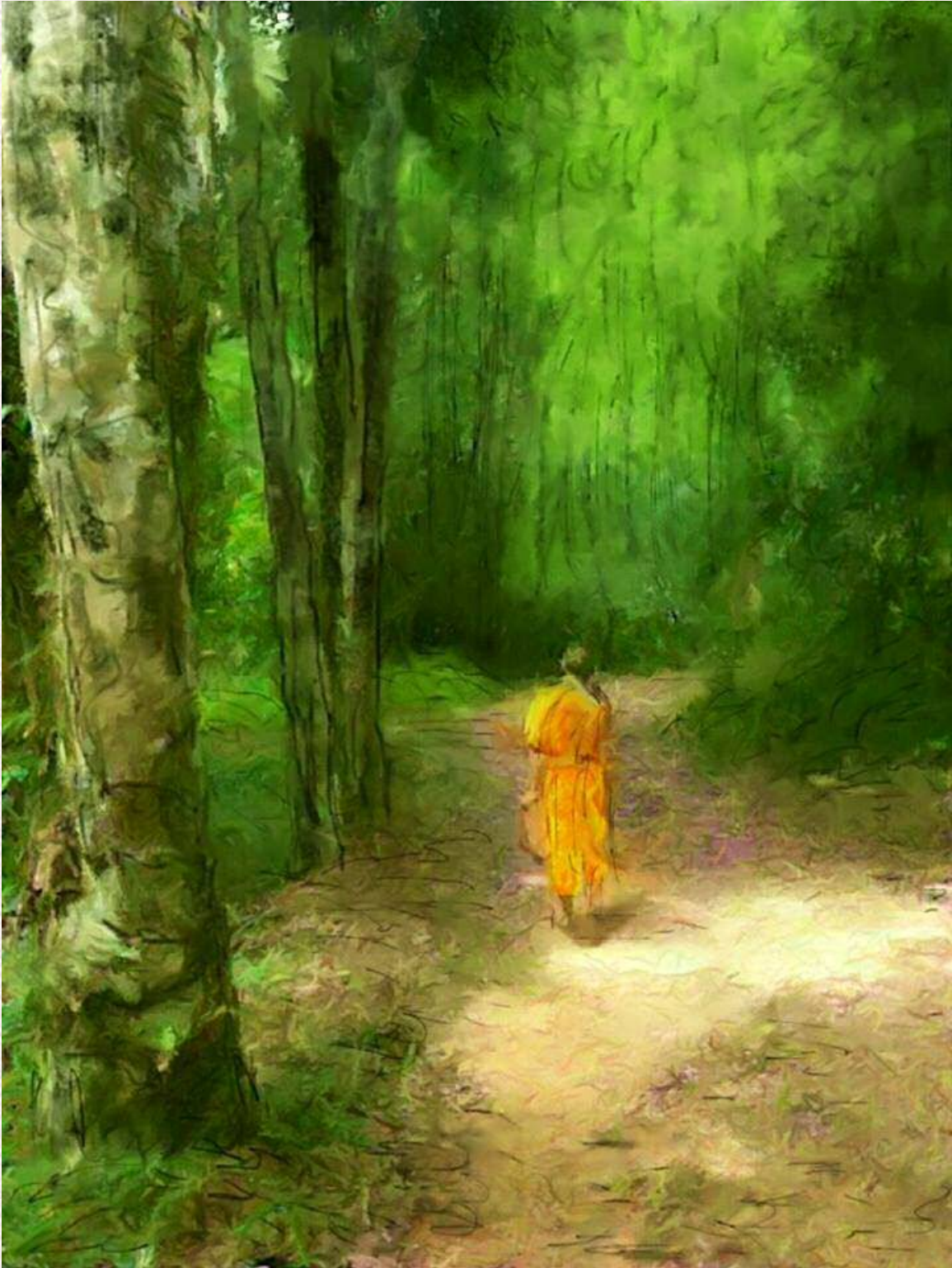


Suan Mokkh 37





Suan Mokkh 38



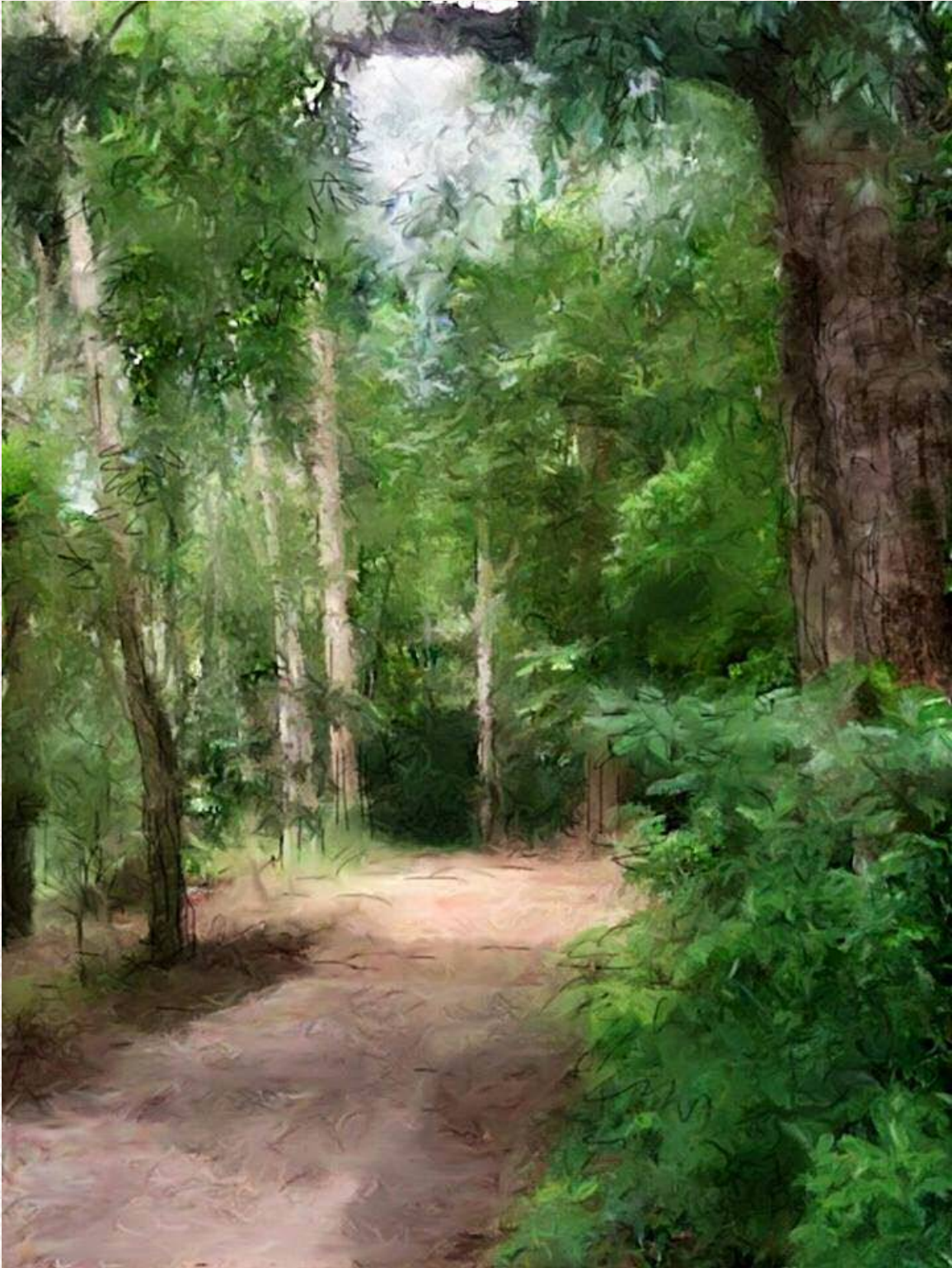


Suan Mokkh 39





Suan Mokkh 40





Suan Mokkh 41





Suan Mokkh 42





Suan Mokkh 43



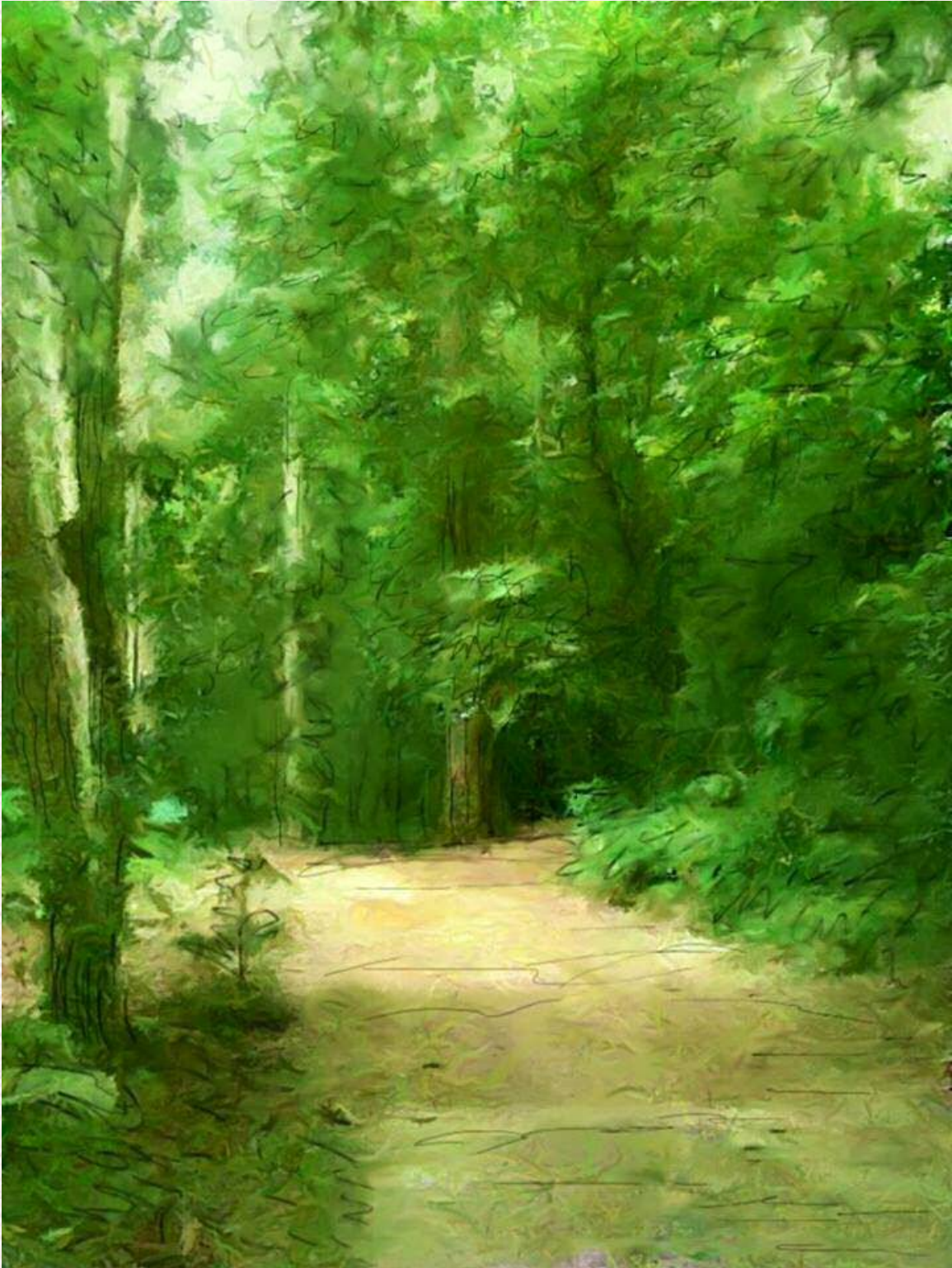


Suan Mokkh 44





Suan Mokkh 45



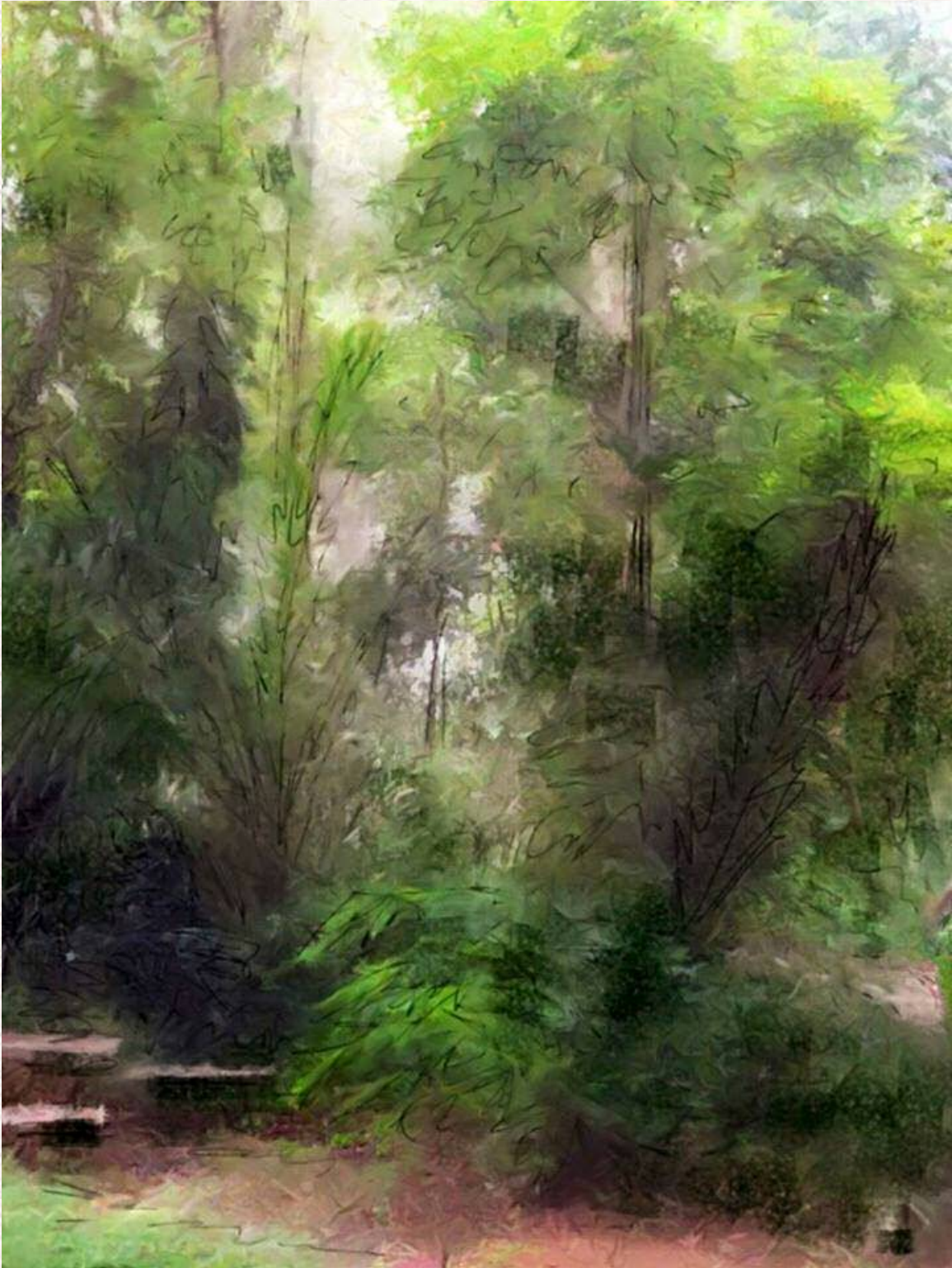


Suan Mokkh 46





Suan Mokkh 47



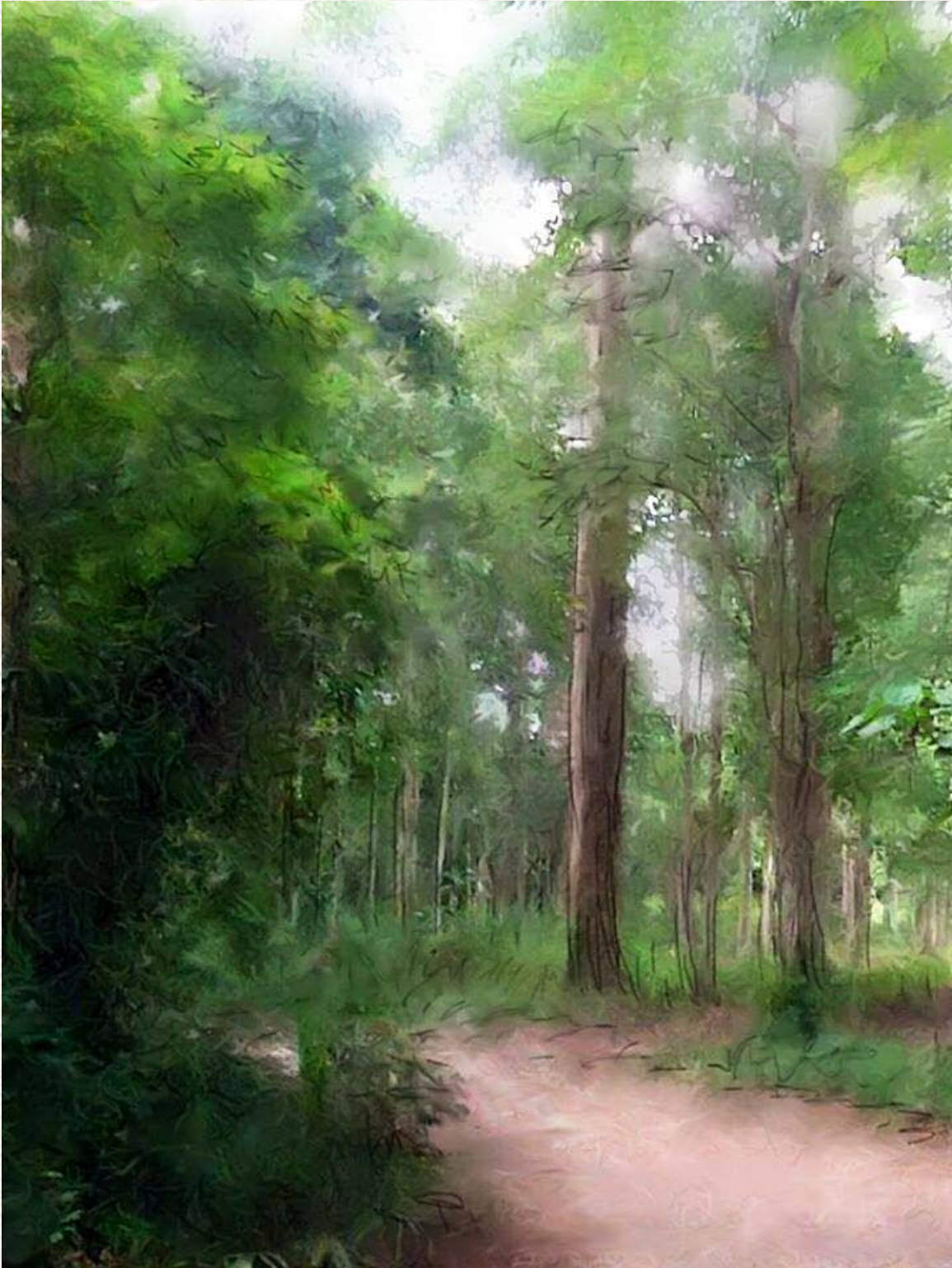


Suan Mokkh 48





Suan Mokkh 49





Suan Mokkh 50





Suan Mokkh 51





Suan Mokkh 52





Suan Mokkh 53





Suan Mokkh 54





Suan Mokkh 55





Suan Mokkh 56





Suan Mokkh 57





Suan Mokkh 58





Suan Mokkh 59





Suan Mokkh 60





Suan Mokkh 61





Suan Mokkh 62





Suan Mokkh 63





Suan Mokkh 64



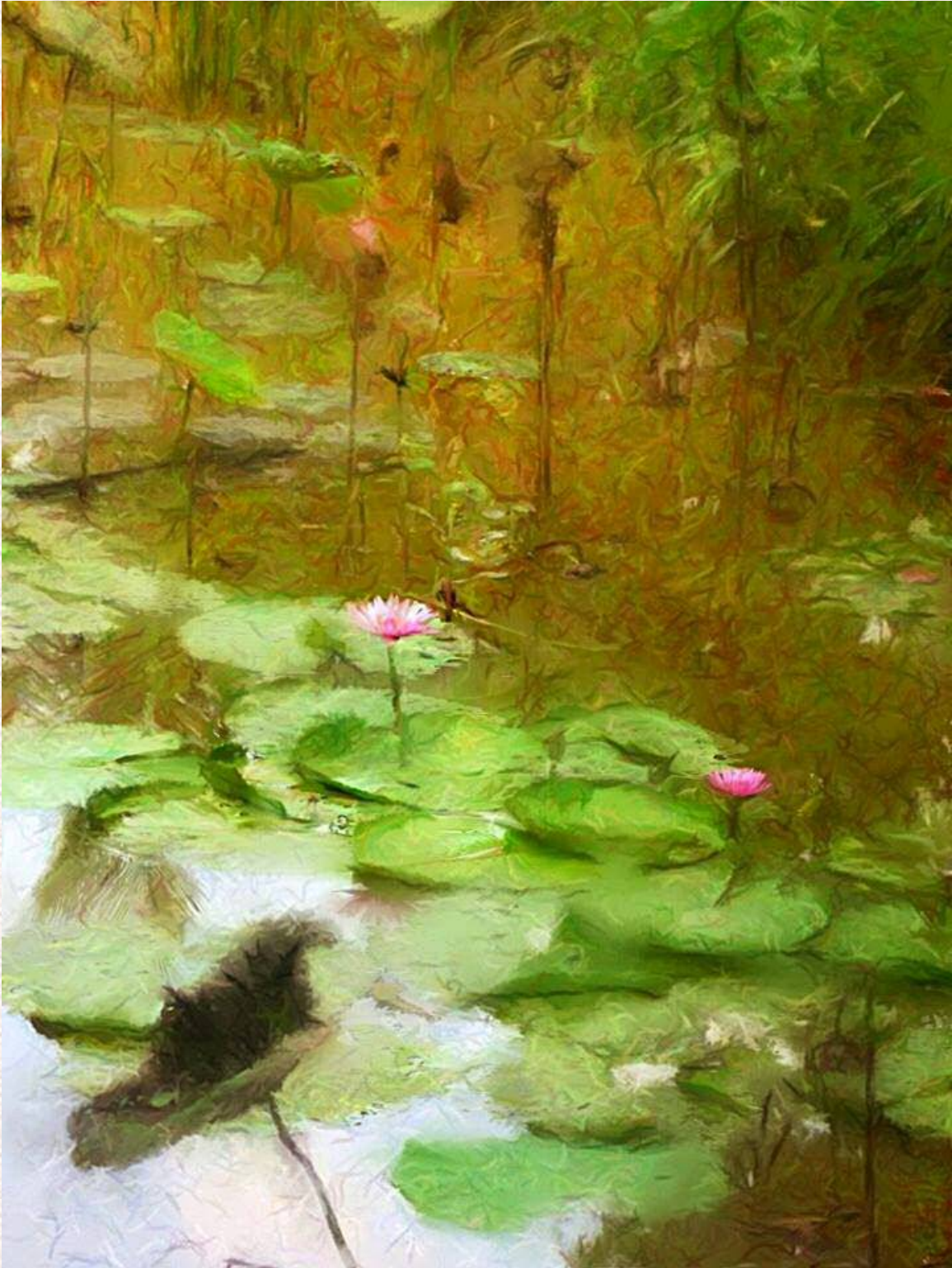


Suan Mokkh 65





Suan Mokkh 66





Suan Mokkh 67





Suan Mokkh 68





Suan Mokkh 69





Suan Mokkh 70





Suan Mokkh 71





Suan Mokkh 72





Suan Mokkh 73





Suan Mokkh 74





Suan Mokkh 75





Suan Mokkh 76





Suan Mokkh 77





Suan Mokkh 78





Suan Mokkh 79





Suan Mokkh 80



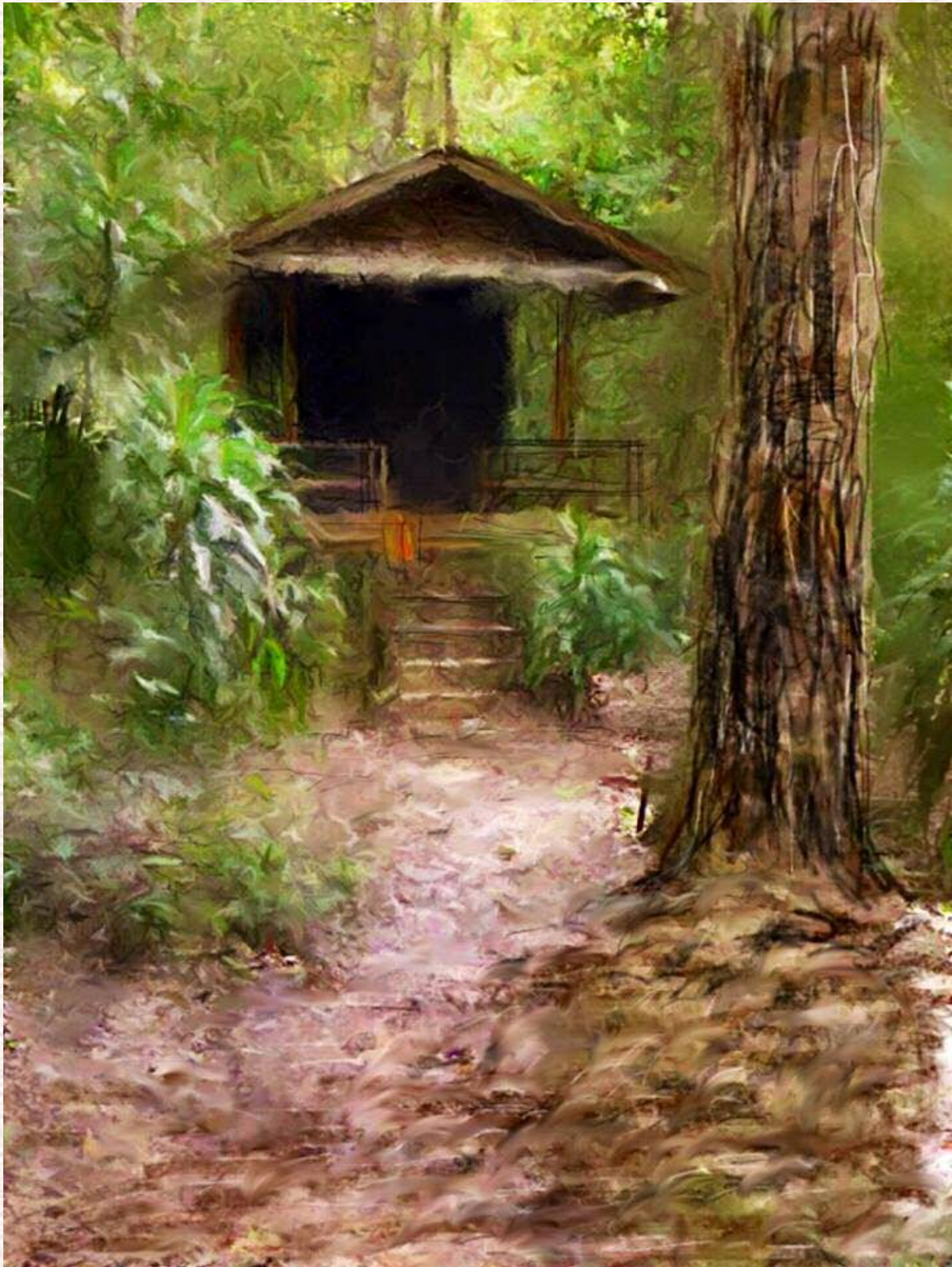


Suan Mokkh 81





Suan Mokkh 82





Appendix One

Wat Phraborommathat Chaiya

Suan Mokkh is located in Chaiya, one of the oldest districts of Thailand. And Chaiya is also well known as the ancient land where Buddhism highly flourished. Wat Phraborommathat Chaiya is believed to be built a thousand years ago. After visiting Suan Mokkh, I have visited this monastery.



Wat Phraborommathat Chaiya 1





Wat Phraborommathat Chaiya 2





Wat Phraborommathat Chaiya 3





Wat Phraborommathat Chaiya 4



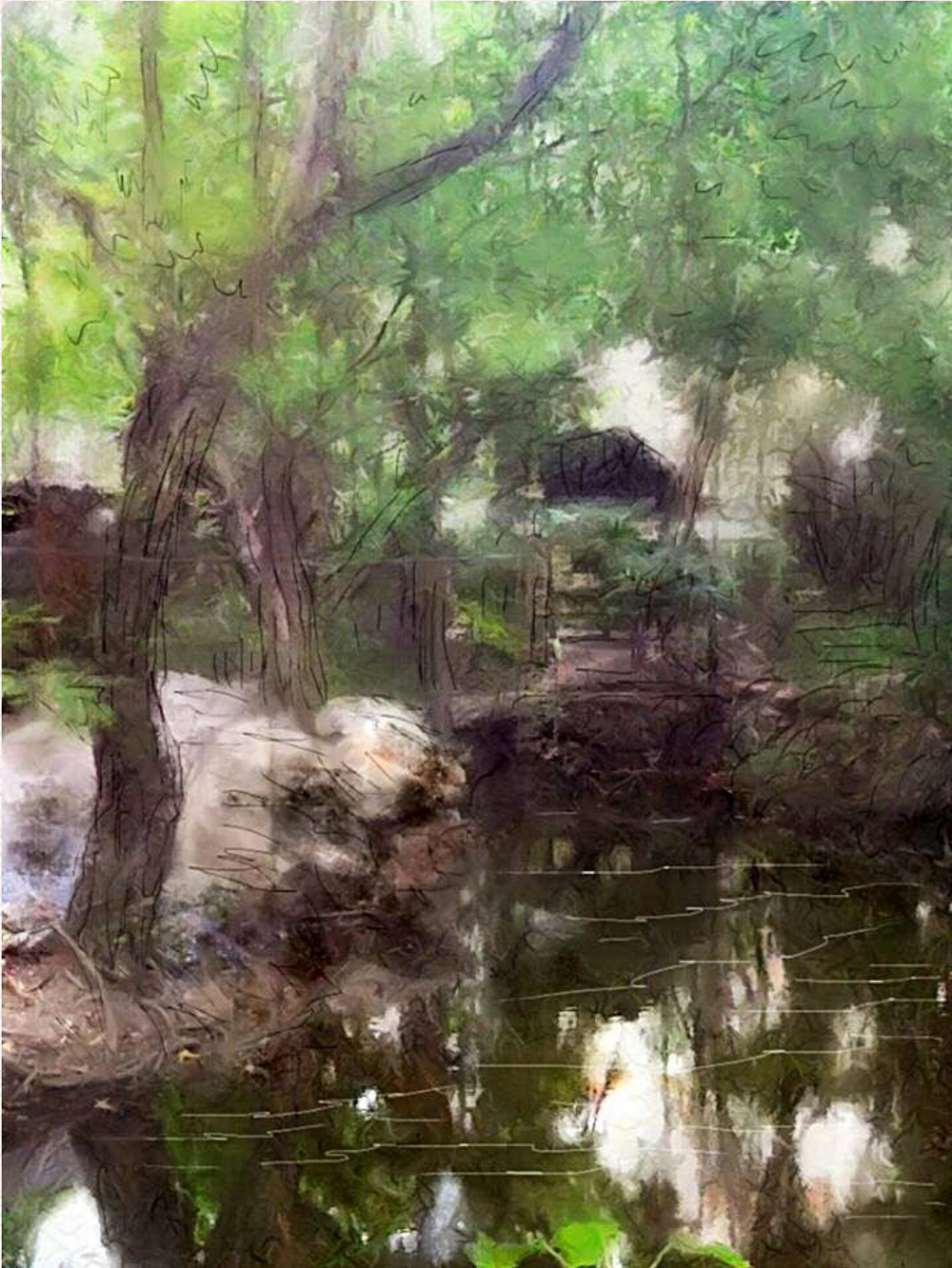


Appendix Two Santi Asoka Monastery

Santi Asoka is a contemporary Buddhist movement in Thailand, located in Bangkok, mainly aiming at the reformation of Buddhism to the most primitive form at the time of Buddha. They do not have the direct relation with Suan Mokkh. But Suan Mokkh might have the influence on this monastery. I have regularly lectures at this monastery, and the following pictures have been painted by me when I have visited them.



Santi Asoka I





Santi Asoka 2



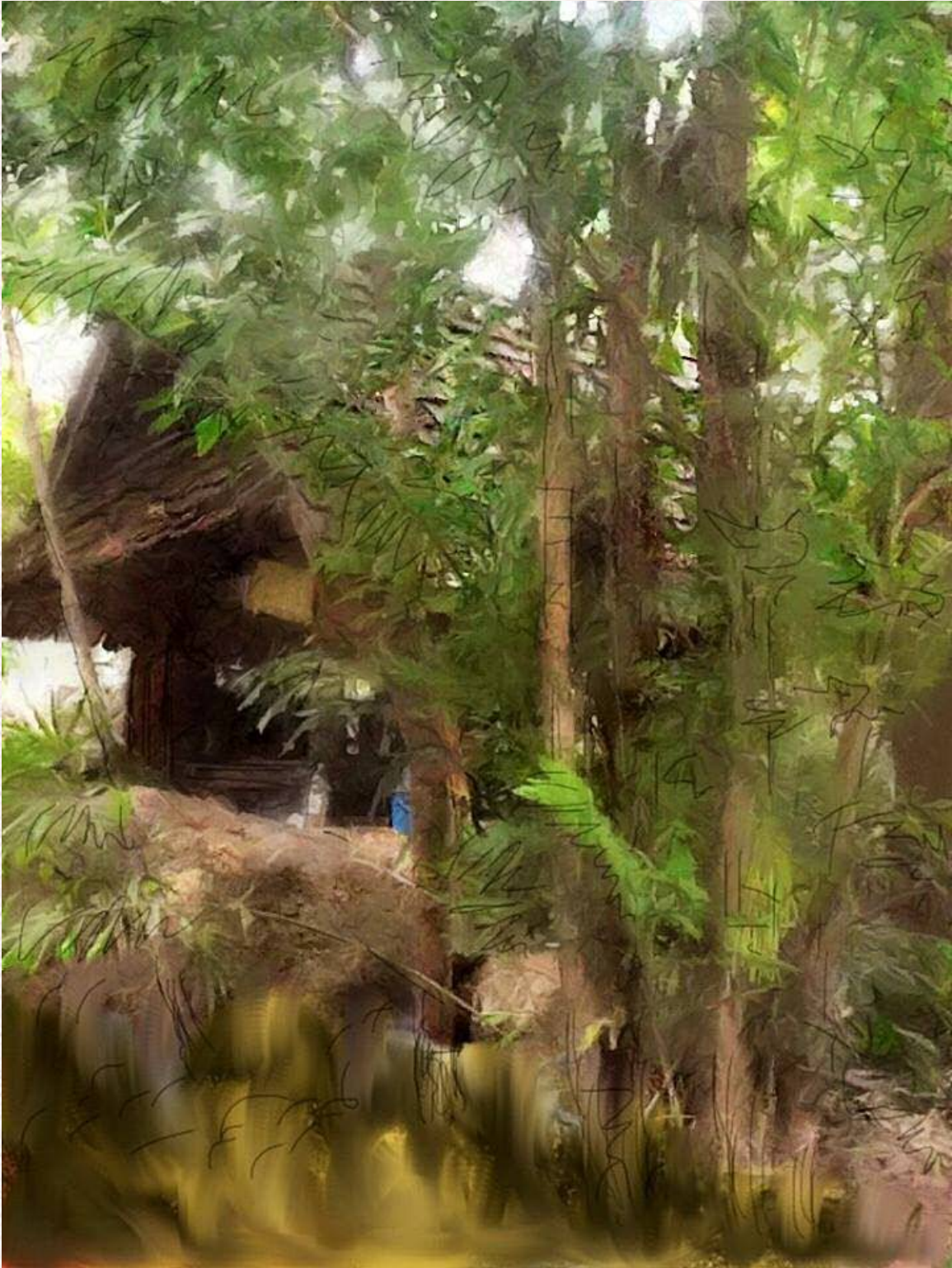


Santi Asoka 3



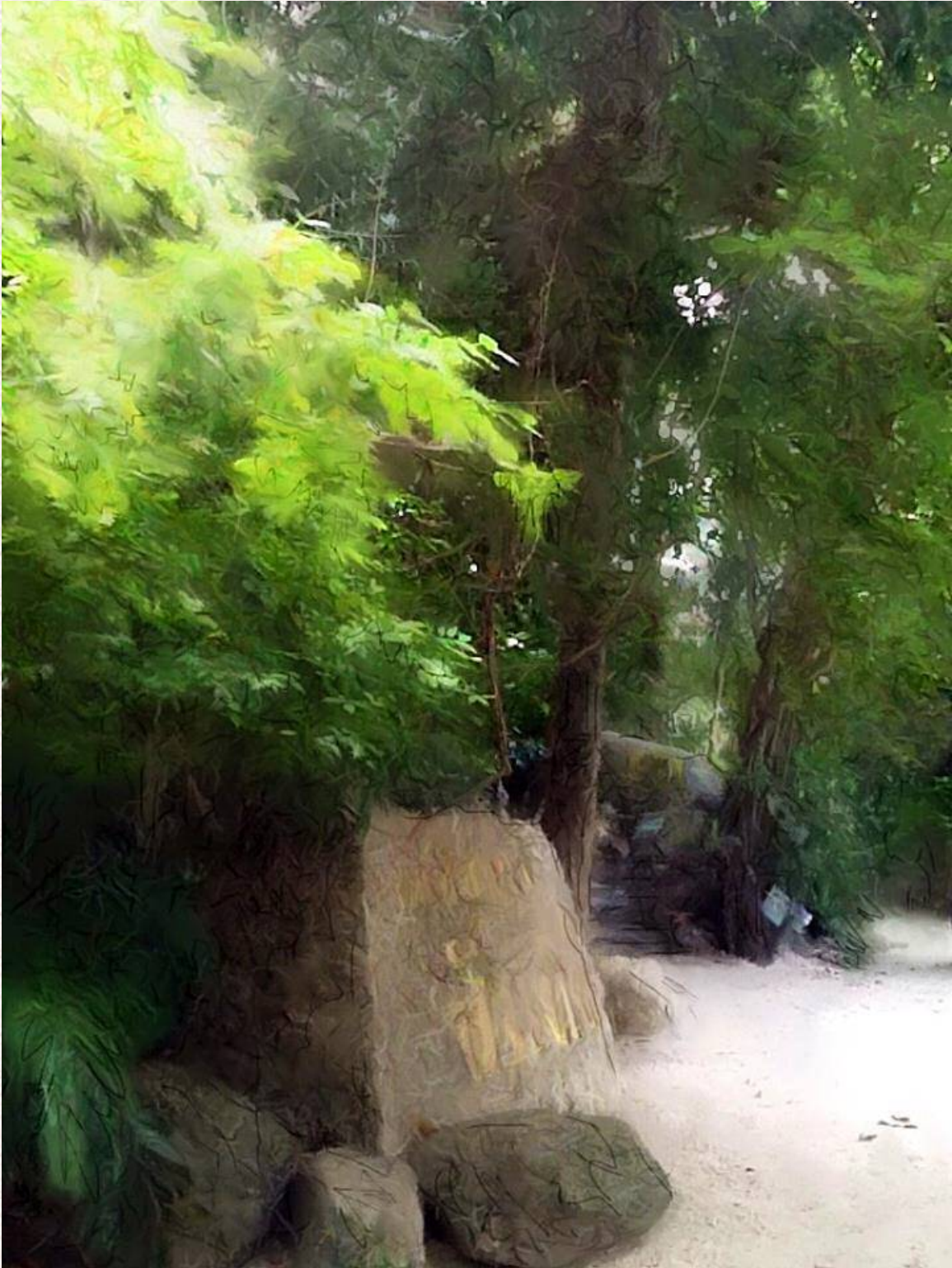


Santi Asoka 4





Santi Asoka 5





Santi Asoka 6





Author



Somparn Promta is a self-trained artist. He composes music; writes novel, poetry, short story, and essay. Actually, he is a Buddhist philosophy professor at **Chulalongkorn University**. While he was a philosophy student at Chula, he used to have a personal art exhibition, just one time in his life, to collect money for his education—but failed. Besides working in art, Somparn also runs the online academic magazine, **The Wisdom Magazine**, published in Thai and English, monthly. His music and art book can be downloaded at the magazine website.