

Vogue (Italia), Michael Lin, TEXT by Elena Bordignon, Oct. 18, 2010  
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### Michael Lin

The Center for Contemporary Art Luigi Pecci of Prato will host, from October 17 to February 13, 2011, the first big retrospective in Italy of Thai artist

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"Please take your shoes off before stepping into the carpet. Choose freely the music that you prefer from the collection." We're not at the home of someone we know, friendly and a bit formal, but at the **Pecci Museum** in Prato. Giving us the invite is Thai artist **Michael Lin** on the occasion of his exhibition **The colour is bright the beauty is generous**.

Lin presents a large number of pieces, together with works made since 1996 and more recent installations, made site-specific for the Pecci. The Japanese architects of **Atelier Bow-Wow**, that are representing Japan at the moment in the 2010 Architecture Biennial in Venice, are collaborating with the artist. Lin, known for big mural paintings that are focused on the typical Thai decorative motifs, also dresses and hugs ideally the exposition rooms to renovate the idea that, to him, a museum or a gallery are above all spaces to start a social discourse and human interaction.

The exhibition presents important moments in Lin's career, like "Complementary" (1998) - that consists on a mobile platform on which visitors are invited to sit and rest on some tatamis - or more political and social commentary works, like *Spring 2003*: a floor inspired by an Afghan carpet, with tank, hand bombs and machine gun motifs that the artist contrasts with couches with bright floral Thai motives.

Big pieces are also present, like the mural painting that runs along three rooms of the museum and enters in dialogue with **David Tremlett's** permanent piece *Wall Drawing #1* (2006), with the floor of a whole room, covered in painted floral motifs. Adding to the long line of artists throughout history that have developed the aesthetics of the sublime of romantic memory, Michael Lin combines emotion and beauty in an exhibition of rare generosity and profound lightness, as few are.


[Elena Bordignon](#)

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