

Khunying Chandhanee Santaputra

Professor CHAI-ANAN SAMUDW

Ranjit Gupta, Ambassador of India

and friends.

Welcome to those of you who have joined us this evening and to all who were with us earlier at Concrete House

Today marks the opening of WOMANIFESTO - 18 artists from 10 countries have gathered together for this event. The 8th of March is designated as Woman's day through-out the world. - this exhibition suits the occasion very well.

The artists, women from diverse cultural backgrounds tackle key issues concerning women and through their art, speak a common language to create an awareness in our society.

We are very grateful to Khunying Chandhanee Santaputra for gracing this occasion. A lady who has not only been actively involved with various women's organisations and in helping under-privileged children, but also undertaken re-writing certain laws to ensure more rights for women in Thailand. Thank you for being with us today.

This exhibition has the support from various organisations and individuals.

We would like to thank Mr Komatsu, Director of The Japan Foundation; and Khun Sombat of The Sombat gallery, We are very grateful for their support sponsorship.

Thank you to Mr Nigel Oakins, managing Director of The Bangkok Post for making the printing of a catalogue possible. and last but not least - The Chaiyong Limthongkol Foundation for their support.

We would specially like to mention Khun Ark and Kun Arthit, without whose help, organising this event would have been a mammoth task.

Our advisors Acharn Somporn Rodboon and Chumpol Apisuk, thank-you for giving us your valuable time.

Finally we must mention all at the Graphic Dept. of The Manager Media Group; S.Film & Plate, all of you who helped install the works, who typed, translated and helped by taking care of all the important details and helping-organise WOMANIFESTO.

Thank you all for being here today. Now I request Khunying Chandanee to say a few words and open

I take this opportunity to mention one of my artist colleagues and the chief organiser - Khun Nitaya, you have shown tremendous strength & courage & your determination sets a good example to us all.