

BRIEF FOR ལྷགས་གཉིས་ 'The Silken Knot and Golden Yoke' Aerial Art Installation Project at the Wangduechhoeling Palace Museum and Cultural Center.

This installation is an abstraction of a bhutanese symbol which represents dual system of governance - the spiritual & the temporal.

BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

In the 17th Century, Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyal, a great Buddhist leader and statesman united a part of the country and established the dual system of governance (spiritual + temporal) with the Je Khenpo (Chief Abbot) as the head of religious order and Druk Desi as the administrative head. By the end of the 17th century, the country emerged with a distinct national and cultural identity as well as an unprecedented degree of political stability.

By the second half of the 18th century, the dual system of government began to weaken. Local chieftains and rulers started asserting themselves and the unity of the country was affected by internal discord. External threats in the latter half of the 19th century added a new dimension to the political dilemma and the need for strong national leadership emerged. Peace and stability was restored with the enthronement of His Majesty King Ugyen Wangchuck who was unanimously elected as the first hereditary monarch of the kingdom in 1907. The establishment of the monarchy ushered in a new era of peace and stability and most significantly unified the country under a central authority. It also set in motion a steady process of engagement with the outside world and laid the foundations for the country as a modern nation state.

BACKGROUND TO THIS MOTIF

This motif is a part of the logo of the Judiciary of Bhutan and can broadly be broken down into two elements.

WHITE SILK SCARF & KNOT : This represents the spiritual side.

SCARF : Even today the white scarf or khadhar is used widely and seen as a gesture of goodwill. It symbolises compassion and purity, with white representing the pure heart of the giver.

RELEVANCE OF THE KNOT: In the constitutional doctrine of temporal and spiritual law, spiritual laws are often likened to a silken knot (dargye duephue). Initially light and loose, the knot gradually tightens with the accumulation of negative deeds. The silken knot is gentle yet firm, embodying compassion but remaining impartial.

GOLDEN YOKE : This represents the temporal side and secular laws are compared to a golden yoke (sergye nyashing) that grows heavier and heavier with the degree of the crimes committed.

CHARACTERISTICS

The scarf itself must embody qualities of lightness/fluidity/translucency, appearing as if it could sway in the wind with an ethereal and fluid form.

Yoke : solid/ rigid / strict / heavy / Gold

Knot : The knot becomes the feature that integrates these two elements - therefore the sense of tightness of the knot becomes important



Scarf : conveys a feeling of something which is floating/ blows in the wind

Knot : The knot brings together the two elements

Yoke : Is rectilinear, rigid/solid in contrast to the scarf

PROCESS AND TIMELINE

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- Open to artists of all backgrounds and disciplines, including but not limited to visual artists, sculptors, architects, and designers.
- Preference will be given to artists with demonstrated expertise in producing large-scale, site-specific installations or aerial artwork .
- Collaborative proposals are welcome, but one lead artist must be designated as the primary contact.
- Artists must be able to adhere to the project timeline and budget constraints.

SUBMISSION PROCESS:

- Submit proposals via Google Doc form.
- Deadline for submissions is 4th June.
- All submitted materials must be in digital format (PDF, JPEG, etc.).

SELECTION PROCESS:

- Submissions will be reviewed by a jury comprised of representatives from the museum and relevant stakeholders. Three shortlisted artists will move forward to prototyping phase, each receiving Nu. 50,000 to develop a small-scale mock-up of their vision, which will subsequently be evaluated for final selection.

Criteria for selection include artistic merit, innovation, feasibility, and alignment with the SILKEN KNOT AND GOLDEN YOKE concept and the museum's mission.

Learn more about the Museum at wcpalace.org

TIME LINE:

Application Deadline: 4th June 2024

Notification of Shortlisted Artists: 18th June 2024

Small Scale Prototype Deadline: 5th July 2024

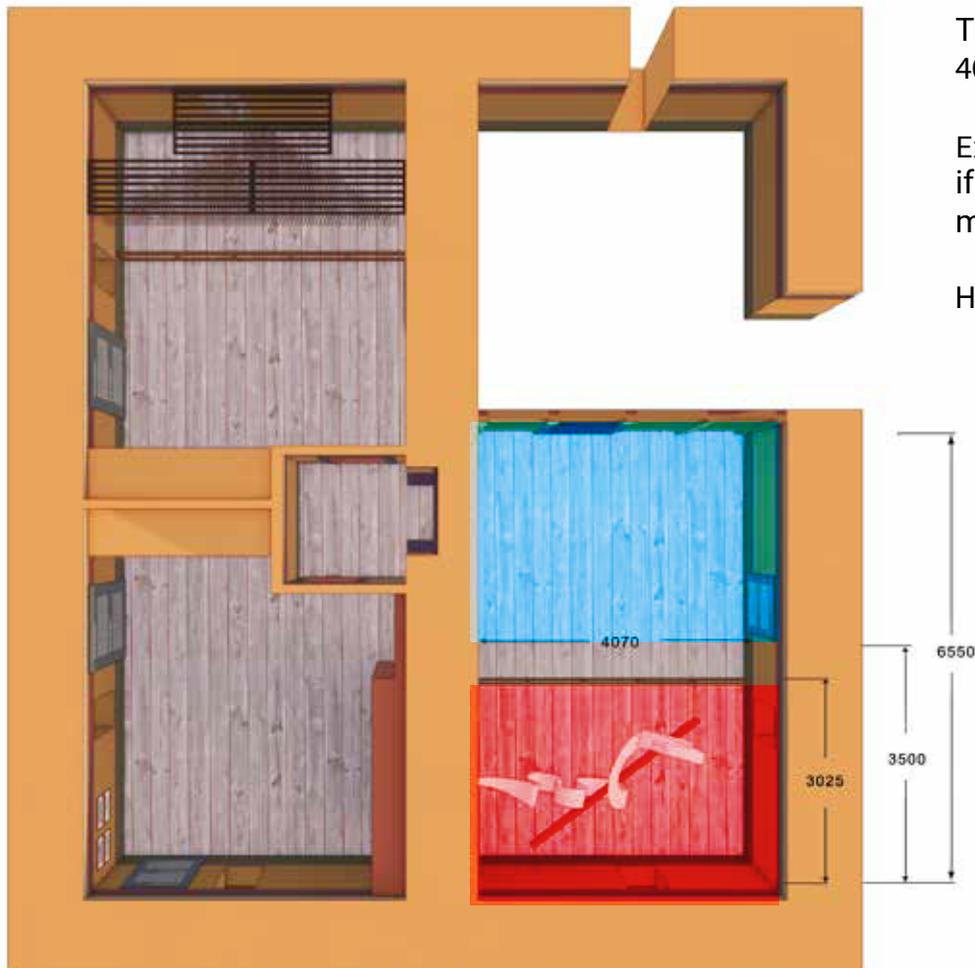
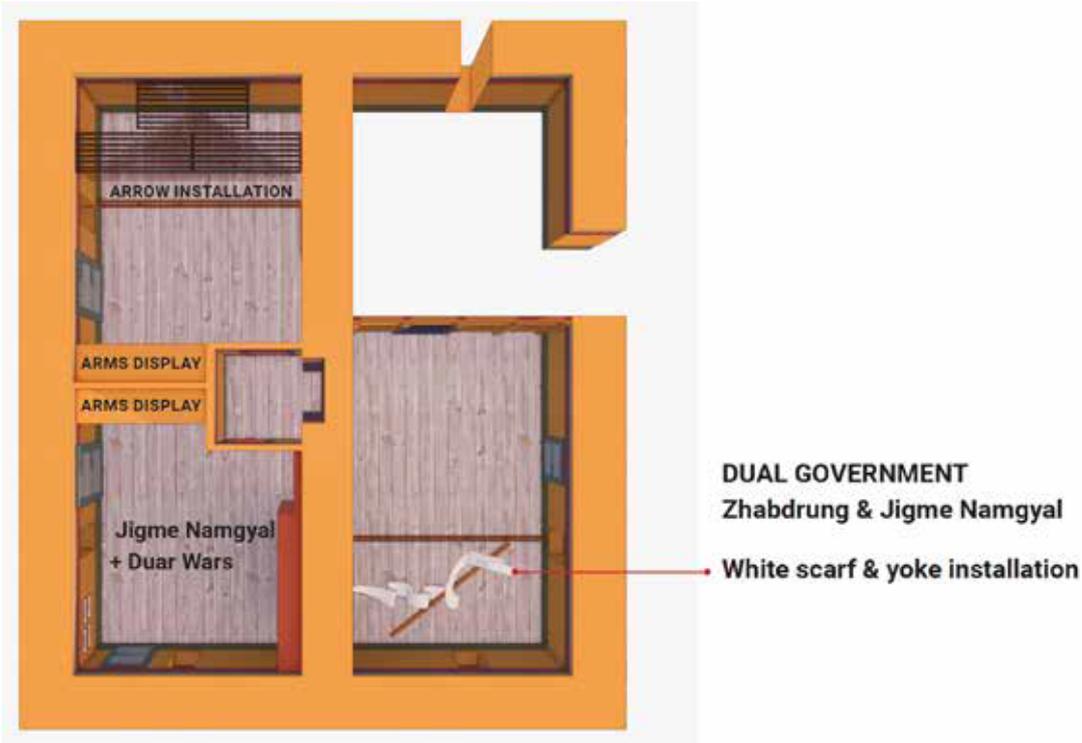
Installation Execution Deadline: 5th September 2024

For inquiries or further information, please contact:

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SPACE AND SIZES



The area allocated is
4000 X 3000mm

Extension to 3500mm is possible
if desirable a small part can
move overhead (blue area)

Height of the room 2300 mm

GALLERY PICTURES



MOODBOARD



INITIAL MOODBOARDS : Flowing forms / translucency



MOODBOARD

