

Preface

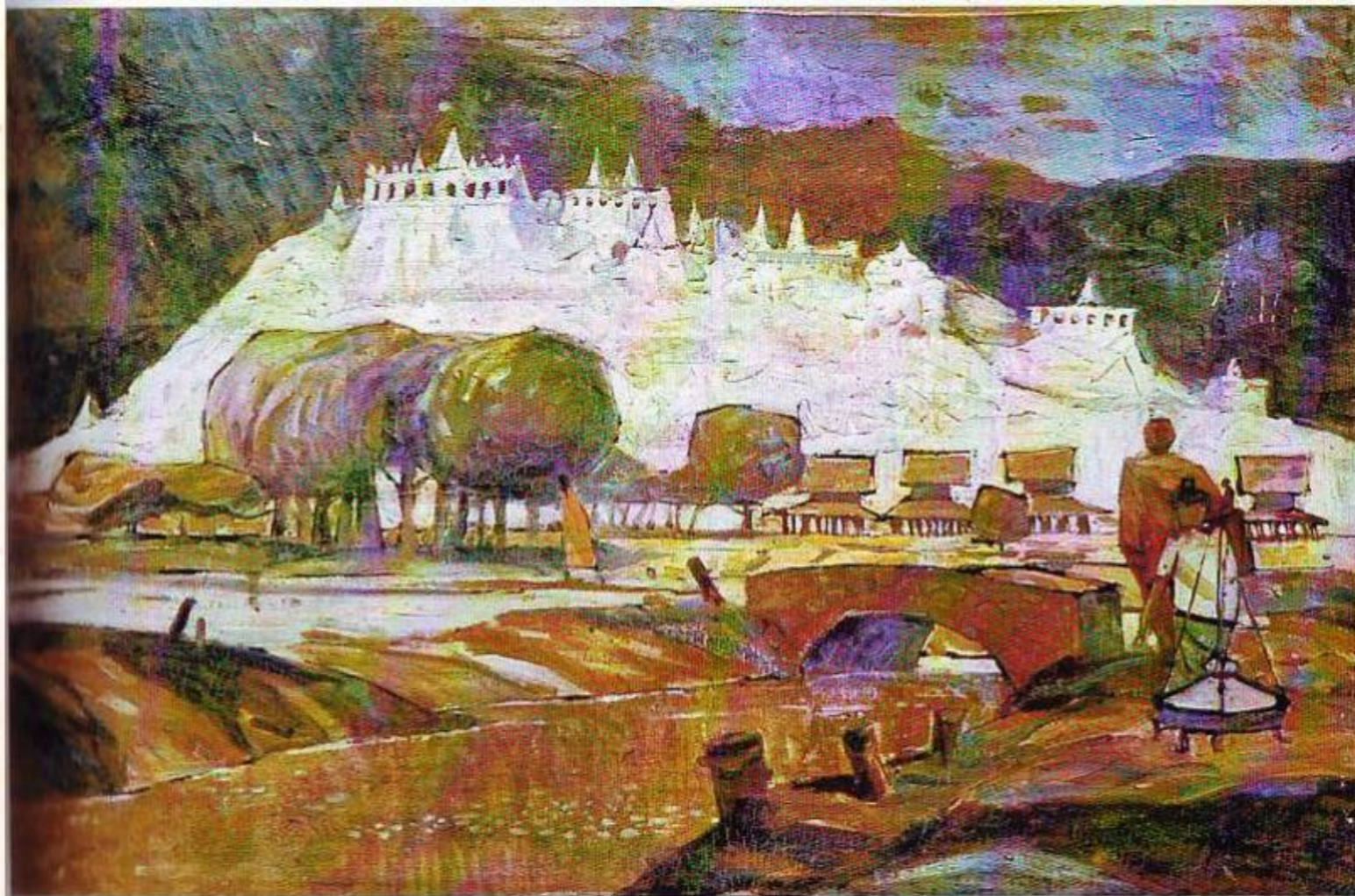
Artist Paw Oo Thett, who passed away in 1993, is not unknown to the international community. However, there were few chances during his lifetime to exhibit abroad. But his works has been collected by many foreigners who visited the country. We are honoured of having this chance of bringing his life and works together in this book.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to Dr. Sun Myint (UK), U Tin Win (Bekthano Art Gallery), U Win Pe Myint (artist), U Min Wae Aung (New Treasure Art Gallery) and U Tun Lin (PMG), U Naing Gyi (Treasure Publishing House) for their kind contributions towards publication costs. Also, to writer Ma Thanegi, who volunteered her time to translate Paw Oo Thett's articles and to write on his life and to Dr. Zaw Moe for his help with the text; to U Sonny Nyein who, despite his busy schedule, found the time to search for and take photographs of Paw Oo Thett's paintings for this book; to Maung Maung Latt (Chit Nyo), photographer of Mandalay, for his contribution. Our thanks also to the collectors of Paw Oo Thett's works who graciously permitted us to take the photographs. U Pe Nyunt Wai (artist) of Lokanat Gallery, U Aung Baw and Daw Aye Aye Soe and Dr. Than Win also contributed their precious time and energy in the successful publication of this book.

Our deepest appreciation is extended to Daw Tin Kyi, widow of Paw Oo Thett for sharing her private letters; to Ludu Daw Ahmar who checked on the manuscript; and to all friends too numerous to be mentioned by name, who assisted us in the preparation of this book.

Both as a man and artist Paw Oo Thett is well-remembered by friends and strangers alike for the goodness of his heart and the charm of his paintings. We dedicate this book to his memory.

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Mandalay Hill (1965), Oil on canvas, Size : 33" x 22"
Collection: U Ohn Tun

PAW OO THETT (1936 - 1993)

Born in Mandalay, Paw Oo Thett was one of the leaders of the modern art movement of Myanmar. His themes of the religious, cultural and social traditions of the country were portrayed in graceful lines and vibrant colours that reflect the mood of the people. Few artists can surpass him in showing the friendly and happy nature of the Myanmar people. When he passed away in 1993 at the age of 57, his family, fans and the art community mourned the loss of not only a famous artist whose works were known in many other countries apart from Myanmar, but also a man who was a friend to many and a devoted husband and father. This volume is produced by a group of his friends who wish to celebrate his life and commemorate his works. His spirit remains alive in the paintings he left behind.

Colour plates of his paintings and illustrations: 102
Black and white personal photos of Paw Oo Thett: 18