

'Weyreap's Battle' is a must see for teachers and students who wish to be exposed to provocative and engaging theatre.

In October 2005 the Melbourne International Arts Festival brought out Amrita Performing Art's *Lakhaon Kaol* performance of Weyreap's Battle as one of the highlights of the program. Many of the materials and ideas included in this pack were originally produced as education resources for the 2005 Melbourne International Arts Festival. These resources are designed to give teachers and students insights into the *Lakhaon Kaol* style and practical ideas for further exploration.

The DVD included in this Education Resource is a live recording of 'Weyreap's Battle' performed at the Arts Centre Playhouse in October 2005. This production was the first time the *Lakhaon Kaol* style had been performed outside of South East Asia. The DVD offers viewers an opportunity to witness first hand the uniqueness of this rare and exciting theatrical form while the accompanying CD Rom includes teaching resources, performing arts activities, images and mask templates.

The classical Cambodian tradition of male masked dance theatre - known as *Lakhaon Kaol* - is one of the oldest forms of sacred dance in Cambodia. The *Lakhaon Kaol* style was almost entirely lost as a result of the Khmer Rouge's brutal and repressive regime from 1975-79. The tradition has been painstakingly revived as part of an incredible effort by the Cambodian people to preserve their country's traditions. The production of 'Weyreap's Battle' is a testament to the human spirit and its ability to triumph over adversity.

All profits raised from the sale of this resource will go directly to Amrita to help fund future works in the *Lakhaon Kaol* style.

MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL
AMRITA PERFORMING ARTS
DRAMA VICTORIA

present

WEYREAP'S BATTLE Education Pack

Resources for exploring *Lakhaon Kaol* -
the classical masked dance theatre of Cambodia

Written by Eli Erez and Jo Raphael
Line drawings of masks designed by Stephen Risbey

Cover photo courtesy of Xxxxx Xxxxxxx.

WEYREAP'S BATTLE Education Pack