



THE FIRST ZEN INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

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Film Series

Kingdom of War Part II

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Starring Wanchana Sawatdee

Directed by Prince Chatrichalerm Yukol

Friday, May 18, 2012 7:30 – 10:15 PM

113 East 30th Street New York, NY 10016

Kingdom of War, Part II continues the life story of Naresuan the Great, the Thai King of Ayutthaya from 1590 until 1605. In this film -- set several years after Part I -- the powerful Burmese king has died, and is succeeded by his incompetent son, leading to the gradual crumbling and fragmentation of the Burmese empire. In Part II, Naresuan is no longer a young Buddhist novice, but a mature man capable of leading his nation under the most trying circumstances. Naresuan is played by Wanchana Sawatdee (in real life a cavalry officer in the Royal Thai Army). The captive Thais living in the Burmese capital rally under Naresuan, and leave Hongsawadee to return to Ayutthaya -- with the Burmese army in pursuit. Naresuan proclaims Ayutthaya to be a sovereign nation independent of Burma and the Thais hastily assemble a group of their own fighters to fend off the Burmese. The wise Buddhist monk who played a prominent role in Part I of this series also appears in this film, along with Naresuan's close friends, now grown up. Part II features the same beautiful costumes, impressive sets and expert camera-work found in Part I, and the two films work well together to tell a complete story. Spoken in Thai with English subtitles. *Kingdom of War Part II* is approximately 150 minutes.

Admission is free.

