



## Thai magic tattoos

*Isabel Azevedo Drouyer*

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176 pages

Présentation de l'éditeur

For hundreds of years, Thai Buddhist monks, using magical incantations and spells, have been covering people's bodies with indelible ink marks in the belief that they will attract luck, wealth, and blessings. Images of tattooed men appear in 18th century murals. In the past, people believed that these tattoos would provide protection against evil spirits and could render the bearer invulnerable to stab wounds and even bullets.

Known in Thai as Sak Yant, these ancient tattoos are today undergoing a revival in popularity, both in Thailand and beyond. In addition, Thai tattoo masters are invited to practice their art abroad, thus increasing the popularity of Sak Yant worldwide. Drawing on research fields as diverse as anthropology, religion, history, medicine, and psychology, *Thai Magic Tattoos - The Art and Influence of Sak Yant* also seeks to explain how tattoos can change the life of the bearer. With magnificent new photographs by Rene Drouyer, *Thai Magic Tattoos* is an essential guide to this fascinating subject. *Biographie de l'auteur*

Rene Drouyer, a French post-graduate engineer and a former student of Fine Arts School, is a passionate traveller, illustrator and photographer. His work has taken him to different countries on the planet where he has recorded the many facets of architecture, places of worship, festivals and people. His arresting and wide ranging body of photographs and illustrations appeared regularly on the front covers of books, magazines and other publications. Among them, *La documentation Francaise Le defi chinois* (2008) ; *National Geographic 1000 Events That Shaped the World* (2008); *National Geographic Traveler Paris* (2007); *Portugal* by Charles F. Gritzner, Douglas A. Phillips; *Rivers* by Laurie Burnham, Geoffrey H. Nash; *Encyclopedia of the Peoples of Asia and Oceania: Volume 1* Barbara A. West (2008); *Entertaining from Ancient Rome to the Super Bowl* by Melitta Weiss Adamson, Francine Segan (2008); *Mesopotamia* Christine Mayfield, Kristine M. Quinn; *Siddhartha Gautama: The Buddha* by Lisa Zamosky (2007); *European City Breaks* , 2nd by Jo Williams, Sophie Blacksell (2007); 'Travel and Tourism' by Carol Inskipp (2008); *World and its Peoples: Eastern and Southern Asia* (2007); 'China: The Culture' by Bobbie Kalman (2008); *Arts and Culture* by John Tidey, Jackie Tidey (2008); *Vietnam, Cambodia & Laos* Claire Boobbyer, Andrew Spooner, Jock O'Tailan (2008); *Where Shanghai CityGuide* WHERE MAGAZINE (2008); *Porto* by Anwer Bati (2008); *Chine Michelin / MFPM* (2010); *Portugal Le Petit Futé* 2010; *Paris féminin Le Petit Futé* (2010); *Kennedy's New Latin Primer* By Benjamin Kennedy and Gray Gerrish; *China: a Visual Adventure* ( 2008); *Paris de Fodor Travel Publications* (2009). His illustrations appear regularly on advertising campaigns, on the decoration of fashion and home items, Apple applications, Internet sites, and as background to the presentation of TV shows... His particular interest with painting and etching led him to exhibit some of his work in Damascus, Lyon, and Paris. Isabel Azevedo Drouyer studied archaeology and art history at the Universite Lumiere in Lyon and, at the Universite Charles-de-Gaulle in Lille, France. She conducted a comparative study on iconography (stone sculpture) between Cambodia and Central Java between the 6th and the 11th century at University Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. She has been involved in several lectures (Angkor and the mountain temples, Greek and Buddhist art ...), study trips (stone sculpture and the temples of Central Java; Stone sculpture and the temples of Angkor; the caves of the Mon country ( Myanmar); Buddhist bas-reliefs in the city of Bagan...), and workshops. Passionate of anthropology, over the last few years, her research focuses on the highland people of South-east Asia, with a special interest on the Naga, the Chin and the Kachin from Myanmar.

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