



# Sounding the Center: History and Aesthetics in Thai Buddhist Performance

Deborah Wong

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### Sounding the Center: History and Aesthetics in Thai **Buddhist Performance**

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Sounding the Center: History and Aesthetics in Thai Buddhist Performance Deborah Wong Sounding the Center is an in-depth look at the power behind classical music and dance in Bangkok, the capital and sacred center of Buddhist Thailand. Focusing on the ritual honoring teachers of music and dance, Deborah Wong reveals a complex network of connections among kings, teachers, knowledge, and performance that underlies the classical court arts.

Drawing on her extensive fieldwork, Wong lays out the ritual in detail: the way it is enacted, the foods and objects involved, and the people who perform it, emphasizing the way the performers themselves discuss and construct aspects of the ceremony.



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