

PHARADON PODCAST

Interviewer: Okay. So, I'm so happy to have Pharadon. Is that how I should call you?

Pharadon: Pharadon

Interviewer: Is that how your friends call you?

Pharadon: Paul. They call me Paul.

Interviewer: Paul. Okay great. So, I'm basically going to read your introduction from the textbook. It says you graduated with a Degree in Architecture from Chiang Mai University. You have a passion for music and your instrument is sax. You got to go to a Jazz and Provisional Workshop in Ohio New York for six months in 2004. You traveled after you graduated and recorded Blowing West which I actually found on Youtube and you've founded North Gate Jazz Corp Bar here in Chiang Mai. You also opened the tapae east venue?

Pharadon: Yes

Interviewer: That's where the post party happened right?

Pharadon: Yes

Interviewer: And you set up a group called Mun ien. How do I pronounce Mun ien? to promote

Pharadon: Muy ien

Interviewer: To promote more green spaces in Chiang Mai inviting people to plant some trees right where they are.

Pharadon: Yes

Interviewer: Is that all true?

Pharadon: I graduated from Chiang Mai University in Art education

Interviewer: Art education, not architecture

Pharadon: I got a degree from architect in a diplomatic way, technology

Interviewer: I understand but did you graduate an architecture also?

Pharadon: but to in [00:01:54] [unclear]

Interviewer: So, you did graduate an architecture in this other university

Pharadon: Yes in diplomatic way. You know diploma?

Interviewer: I know a diploma like official diploma.

Pharadon: Diplomatic way and then kind of you can extend for three years and you can then graduate.

Interviewer: Okay and why did you choose architecture? Was that what you wanted to be when you were younger?

Pharadon: When I was younger, I had time to think about what's happening, I started to think it was interesting as you learn about art and math and interesting I love both sides of them.

Interviewer: Art and Math

Pharadon: Art and math construction.

Interviewer: It's interesting as a musician that you're interested in math.

Pharadon: I like it. I love math.

Interviewer: Okay that's cool. So, when you chose your course in college were you already a musician?

Pharadon: I'm already a musician. I started with classic music, guitar when I was twelve.

Interviewer: Twelve. Okay. And how did you start?

Pharadon: I went to school.

Interviewer: I want you to speak closer to this microphone.

Pharadon: Music school.

Interviewer: Your parents? Your mother.

Pharadon: My mom

Interviewer: Your mom.

Pharadon: I want to play saxophone at that time, the saxophone was too expensive and my mom don't afford it so I went class every time.

Interviewer: You thought it was cheaper.

Pharadon: Guitar was cheaper. It's true it's cheaper but it's good. I was happy I got a really good teacher. My teacher was, I liked his style. I like the way he taught me, his philosophies and taught about why you play music.

Interviewer: Right and he is from Shanghai as well?

Pharadon: He's from [00:04:30] [unclear] but he lived in Chiang Mai for a long time.

Interviewer: Okay. Interesting. So, you stayed with this teacher for many years? How long did it take you to be able to buy your saxophone?

Pharadon: I played saxophone for oh I played guitar classic guitar for five years or maybe six years and then.

Interviewer: Until you were eighteen?

Pharadon: Until I was something like this and then I go to architecture school and architect school was kind of a lot of work. I don't know why but a lot of homework. You had to study many things so I quit playing music for a while and then focused to art and architect. Study every day to struggle three, four years and then pick up saxophone again.

Interviewer: Okay then you already had the money to buy the sax?

Pharadon: Yes. My friend's saxophone is like, it's a huge saxophone, it's second hand [00:05:47] [unclear] but I love it anyway.

Interviewer: How did you find it? Tell me story of how you.

Pharadon: I went to a second hand shop, instrument second hand shop

Interviewer: Here in Chiang Mai?

Pharadon: Here in Chiang Mai. Just have no idea, just grab one for like seven thousand Bahts. Like a really cheap one. It's not a good one you know. It's broke after [00:06:14] [unclear] but anyway

Interviewer: It was enough for you to start.

Pharadon: Enough for me to start and then rent some saxophone from my friend. Some of my friend had a saxophone, he didn't play it. So

Interviewer: He let you use it.

Pharadon: For a while a couple years and then I bought my own one.

Interviewer: You bought your own. Now I'm curious like why did you decide to go to college? Was it like pressure from your family? Or you wanted to graduate from college?

Pharadon: That time actually I wanted to quit school after diploma because I'm from a poor family I mean we have to loan from the bank to pay for the school. I don't want to but my mom, my family wanted me to graduate. So alright I'll do it. It's kind of good in a way when you have a chance to move to Chiang Mai University and have a chance to meet more people and I met many interesting people, great people. My philosophy teacher and so I'm [00:07:46] [unclear]

Interviewer: In the end it was good and you liked it.

Pharadon: In the end, nobody knows the future and you can't think about the past too much. So, lion has a condition sometimes you have to accept it and go with the flow. So, I went down and started music with a really good teacher one of my music teacher on the site cause I have to study education, practice and I got a scholarship from the university.

Interviewer: You got a scholarship from the university you were studying in Chiang Mai? Because you had good grades?

Pharadon: Because at that time I was the only saxophone player for the unit. To my music system doesn't have in music department at that time.

Interviewer: Today they do?

Pharadon: Today they do more of a performance it's not a music jazz [00:08:55] [unclear] but one of my teachers he's really into this music and he graduated from Chicago.

Interviewer: His time.

Pharadon: My university teacher he's more like politics. He's a great saxophone player and he taught me and he set up a university band, University of the [00:09:42] [unclear] and then one of his friend contact him and help me out get some channel to go to the state.

Interviewer: So, that's how you ended up doing the workshop in New York?

Pharadon: For a workshop in Ohio actually and then I moved to New York to see some of my family and friends and hanging out and I took a private class for a while for about five months.

Interviewer: Sax?

Pharadon: Always saxophone with a really good teacher, really nice, great experience.

Interviewer: That's cool. The reason I'm asking you why did you go to college is because I studied law, I went to law school and I still ask myself why did I go to law school I think it was the pressure of society and I wanted to make my family happy but I had nothing really like if I get all money that I invested in five years of law school, I could do so much today, you know different projects so I think the best thing for me in college was networking meeting people like you send, meeting your teachers but I don't know do you think that in the future, the call will continue to exist like they are today?

Pharadon: I think the idea of the college campus is, think about camp us like you camp with us. So, the world has changed, we're not in the world war two anymore and the idea of you go out and camp us is it had to be changed because the diversity of life is normal I think it is more to move different directions and [00:12:15] [00:12:18] [unclear] I believe it's also tenable because started in college didn't have to spend so much money you have to pay to the banks till now once a year. I understand it's not like I'm against it, you know sometimes you can't change things in just one day or one year but eventually you will have to change this life. It takes some time.

Interviewer: It takes a long time to change some things.

Pharadon :It takes some time but it's possible it's coming.

Interviewer: It's coming fast I think. I look at this place like we're in the cold working in Thailand, look at so many foreigners that come to Thailand to work and imagine in the past I think like the companies in Brazil where I'm from they're totally narrow minded in terms of remote work like they don't allow the people that work for them to work from their home or work from a different country and here I meet so many people from different countries in the United States or in Canada that they are free, they can work wherever you want, wherever you're happy as long as you produce results go, you know go be happy. Why do you have to be in that specific office or in that specific? So, I think that the colleges should kind of do the same like let the students have their freedom more than they it's very rigid I think, it's very, it's in the box.

Pharadon: I think, I heard its Cambridge University

Interviewer: Cambridge is a big one.

Pharadon: That's what I heard, I wasn't sure in the future it doesn't have a department any more everything's [00:14:35] [unclear] you can choice everything stuff like that. That's what I heard.

Interviewer: I don't know if that's true but it would be awesome. It would be much better. So, for people who don't know you. Can you tell me your story? Like where you were born, tell me since the beginning like who are you?

Pharadon: Okay. My name is Paul from Chiang Mai. I live here for 34 years.

Interviewer: This amazing little city that I love.

Pharadon: Started a [00:15:07][unclear] art, music. I'm always reading about travel the world to see the world.

Interviewer: Do you think you've always dreamed with the world because there's so many foreigners here always? Where do you think your curiosity came from?

Pharadon: Maybe when I was young I was in Cadet school and we had to study about space and [00:15:51] [unclear] and it's interesting because the space was everything that

Interviewer: Affected by the cultures and the weather.

Pharadon: This affects it directly create a space. They chat at a table in the room. In Japan they have like sit on the floor and the spirit was like to give an idea of light and the idea what did you see one thing taught me to create like different things to play the [00:16:51][unclear] of now the colors or the shapes or whatever. So, I started to take and

Interviewer: You started different spaces and then you got curious about how the different

Pharadon: I'm kind of into it and then one day I got a scholarship to Japan for ten days. At that time I was doing water color painting and then I got a one price you may have to go to Japan.

Interviewer: Wow so you have many talents. So you also paint?

Pharadon: I also paint. I was in Japan attending [00:17:40] [unclear]

Interviewer: I haven't been to Japan I really want to go.

Pharadon: Amazing land, beautiful landscape, beautiful food, architecture, tempo. If you sit in one year's story about each architecture of Japan like send a [00:18:01] [unclear] but you don't understand but just to see and study but while you're there just for a day and starting to see and understand, feel different, smell. eat the food, see the color and understand the atmosphere like it's in you. You're in there so when it came back, I think oh shit, it's better for me to travel the world and see all those by myself and you understand it and then you can be good architect cause you understand it and you

realize it and you feel it. So, I think to sit here and study in the room is something else I wanted to see the world and even the music to play from the stereo is not in there on the street and you hear a like something really real and then really connected when you're in there.

Interviewer: So, Japan was the first country that you traveled to?

Pharadon: Yes

Interviewer: So, how old were you then?

Pharadon: Seventeen.

Interviewer: Seventeen. That was through school or college you said?

Pharadon: In the college.

Interviewer: University.

Pharadon: Our school it's kind of weird one plus six seven ten grade.

Interviewer: Tenth grade, okay.

Pharadon: I'm going to [00:19:52][unclear]

Interviewer: After you finish the high school you can go to a technical school here in Thailand?

Pharadon: After primary school, we go to high school we go to the technical school and I didn't study in high school. I studied in technical school.

Interviewer: Oh, we have this in Brazil, it's a technical school that substitute's high school and then when you are finished you can work if you want. So, it's a good choice for people that want to work fast.

Pharadon: Want to work fast. That's right. Understand it.

Interviewer: That's where you got the scholarship to go to Japan?

Pharadon: Yes

Interviewer: Cool. So, you were telling me your story. You were born in Chiang Mai. You said you came from a poor family?

Pharadon: Kind of because my mom, my dad [00:20:47] [unclear] when I was sick years old.

Interviewer: When you were six.

Pharadon: I stayed with my mom. She had to work all by herself. Stayed with my grand-mom and my aunt.

Interviewer: I just keep checking to see if it's recording. So, you said you're grandmother. Do you have brothers and sisters?

Pharadon: I have an older brother but he stayed with my dad. But now we stay together, me and my brother.

Interviewer: You're friends again. You have just one brother. Here in Thailand the families I think here are smaller than in Brazil. In Brazil, I have a brother and a sister but a lot of families I mean not in my generation that's not true. My mom's generation they have like eleven kids.

Pharadon: Wow

Interviewer: Here in Thailand in your mom's generation was it normal to have bigger families?

Pharadon: My mom has four brothers and sisters.

Interviewer: Four yes it's smaller than Brazil. So, you were like the only child.

Pharadon: In the house yes.

Interviewer: Yes, oh my God. So, your mother probably spoiled you.

Pharadon: Not really. My grand mom kind of a gangster when she was much younger she was a gangster.

Interviewer: What do you mean gangster? Describe gangster for me.

Pharadon: My mom, my grand mom she was a drug dealer

Interviewer: A drug dealer.

Pharadon: [00:22:23] [unclear]

Interviewer: Okay

Pharadon: She fought a [00:22:30][unclear] for a while.

Interviewer: Really! That's your grandmother.

Pharadon: My grand mom

Interviewer: Okay

Pharadon: And then after my mom's too young and my aunts really a so later they moved to Chiang Mai and we started everything from the beginning again.

Interviewer: After your grandmother left prison

Pharadon: [00:22:54] [unclear] the sender

Interviewer: Okay but in Shanghai

Pharadon: In the Miguel Town

Interviewer: Okay.

Pharadon: It's kind of fun. It's the top people and this.

Interviewer: So, how did the fact that your grandmother you know for her to be a gangster like you say how did this affect you and the way you are today?

Pharadon: I think her character it's not really strong personality and sometimes, you know she taught me to I have to be able to take care of myself as much as possible and be brave to do things. One time it's kind of interesting she taught me in front of my mom and my grand mom like three things you have to do in life. One you have to be a mark.

Interviewer: Be a monk

Pharadon: Yes. Learn about and meditations and thing which she taught me when I was really been to temple and we meditate a lot together. Two, we have to learn in the army. So, I went to army for six months and then join the army camp.

Interviewer: Did you like that?

Pharadon: Yeah. I think it was a good experience. Why not?

Interviewer: How old were you?

Pharadon: Maybe 22.

Interviewer: 22? Did you stay sometime also as a mark because I heard it's normal here in Thailand.

Pharadon: Yes

Interviewer: People go and stay six months or something, right?

Pharadon: Yes

Interviewer: Did you do that?

Pharadon: I'd be an [00:24:55] a baby monk for just about two weeks.

Interviewer: Two weeks.

Pharadon: Sometime we went for meditation, different temple [00:25:04] in the mountain and to meditate I would say it's our family tradition [00:25:14] [unclear] we taught each other to be able to learn this. Sometimes you just have to do it everyday whatever.

Interviewer: Do you still meditate?

Pharadon: I like it. I think it relax and be able to be with yourself a little bit

Interviewer: Just breathe

Pharadon: Just breathe and just listen

Interviewer: Do you do it in the morning?

Pharadon: In the morning with the tea.

Interviewer: With the tea. For how long?

Pharadon: I didn't count it. It depends

Interviewer: You have no idea? 30 minutes, one hour?

Pharadon: I think it's better to don't think about it but you feel sometimes you have to do things, you do it sometimes you want to open your eyes and see things you just do it. Initially you don't need to think about it. In this school maybe one hour, 30 minutes, one hour, two hours. In the real life you can do more than that.

Interviewer: You should be more relaxed right? We're very stressed people.

Pharadon: You can meditate difference situations while you play music or practice.

Interviewer: Okay. So, continue your story. So, then you went to architecture school. I'm interested to see how everything gets together like your decision to buy the North Gate are you the owner of North Gate Jazz? When did you decide to buy that place?

Pharadon: I didn't finish the last part.

Interviewer: Okay so finish first.

Pharadon: What's it called? The mark

Interviewer: Oh yes. The mark, the military

Pharadon: The last one you have to go to jail. In front of my mom and my [00:27:19] [unclear] and the website. How do you teach your grandson like this it's true because in general it's a lot of things to learn. I want to go to jail for a bit.

Interviewer: Oh my God. That's awful.

Pharadon: I mean like for one day in between the border of Russia and [00:27:49] [unclear] We checked and something wrong with my passport, they put me in jail for a day. It's true. It's interesting this kind of feeling. It might be different she was there for many years.

Interviewer: How long was she there?

Pharadon: I have no idea. I don't know. I wanted to know actually.

Interviewer: Your experience in Russia, what did it teach you? Is it more like to value your freedom?

Pharadon: Definitely value more because you're in there and no one speaks English and you have no idea of when you'll be able to get out. You just sit there and just waiting, no food, no water.

Interviewer: No food, no water.

Pharadon: This is all it ate but the interesting thing you can't communicate with people and you have no idea what's going on.

Interviewer: My God.

Pharadon: But it's good. I like it. I think it's good. You learn.

Interviewer: So, be a mark. Go to the military and go to prison those are the three things that your grandmother suggested.

Pharadon: We had to do this.

Interviewer: I think one day in prison was not enough. You still have to do a little bit longer that's amazing and then what?

Pharadon: Alright so I told my mom after school I wanted to travel the world after five years and I want to be free and travel with my saxophone and then after [00:29:48] [unclear] I just finish university and I mean I started to travel.

Interviewer: Okay

Pharadon: Different places in the world.

Interviewer: So that when you were twenty three or something?

Pharadon: No twenty four I mean

Interviewer: Ok and then that's the story you told Ted that you only have twenty thousand bucks into your pocket?

Pharadon: This is one hundred star, actually I travelling old land many places am trying to hold on Chiang Mai, Cambodia, Love came back and then I travel from Chiang Mai all the way to Japan twice sometimes I play some music like travel to play music in Nepal, India, Japan, New Zealand, I travel Chiang Mai when I was two years old travel to Paris and the second time to Nottingham. Its took me four month to get there

Interviewer: The North of England

Pharadon: Yorkshire

Interviewer: When you travel like this, how is it is? Is it like this is back packing? You just get a ride and go or do you plan where you want to go?

Pharadon: I know where am going but between that time I let it flow I hitch hiker as much as I can because it saves me money and I play music on the streets every time I have the chance cause I need some food, some place to sleep and friends play music with the people and they do become friends and then they help you out and later when they come to Shanghai I help them out stuff like that but it kind of in and out because after three years I came back and opened a jazz club with my friend, my business partner.

Interviewer: Also from Shanghai?

Pharadon: No he is from the state. He's a musician and sometime in the summer I take a few of my mother and travel and come back and run the jazz club something like can go on and off on and off every time I watch the news something new I see different people on it, it's just violation

Interviewer: So how long ago did you buy?

Pharadon: No I don't buy we rent it about nine years and two months

Interviewer: And you're still here with the same partner?

Pharadon: With the same partner.

Interviewer: Yeah. He lives here?

Pharadon: He lives in Shanghai.

Interviewer: In Shanghai. And he's also a musician likes you?

Pharadon: He's a musician. He is a perfectionist and he plays drums and percussion.

Interviewer: Okay. And then how do you find time to be a musician, to travel, to manage North Gate to also have the tree how did the tree project start?

Pharadon: Okay right. To manage time, the bottom line is we have a manager, we hire a manager. She's great, smooth I practice music every day part of my life a couple hours. It's connected in one thing because the bar is a small bar it's not crazy big and we have no food because I love music and I practice and I play in my bar once a week or twice a week. It's one thing, it's something that I did it for them all most twenty years to do something like this is not complicated and in the bar you have a friend and great people that want to do something for the community want to do have a positive energy you want to do something every time we get together to make music or art or space we always host it. A lot of the time we used our space in the arcade and do many charity concert and I met people and I learn from them, get there inspiration and the truth is everyone know it's not only in Chiang Mai all over the world we got the problem with climate change. You see it, it change really fast and really badly. I just believe that we can do better, I believe it's possible we just have to send the right message. We have a friend, auto music and they all over the world because I travel all over the world and we see it not only Chiang Mai have the problem, everywhere. All my friends who do music as it is and every time we want to host them and now we want to do this we just send the message maybe it not going to be success this year, we can push I believe it a good thing and if it sincere and it a good thing people will follow.

Interviewer: Like I told you I wanted to plant one here. Did you see my message? I want to convince the owner of fun face if you see this video please let us plant a tree she did not say no she said he want to see a picture of the tree, I don't know how I can find that I have to buy the seeds and to show him this is the tree in the future for him to say okay.

Pharadon: I think the seed is this big.

Interviewer: It's a small one.

Pharadon: A seed, maybe it's too, but the part is like the first three month you really need to water like every day someone has do it.

Interviewer: Or we can ask the secretary she is ok, she's nice.

Pharadon: So it's one of the pot if you want to plant a tree in the city in the nature everything comes up by themselves like nature in the city we of to water them help them a little bit because the environment [00:37:14]{unclear} some part don't have enough water or enough moisture.

Interviewer: So you started the idea of the trees how long ago?

Pharadon: About seven months.

Interviewer: Seven month ago and the name Moo Yen I can't pronounce it what does it mean?

Pharadon: Moo Yew Yang is an all time expression for Moo is city Yen is cool. It's the weather in the city is cool, like cool so if you can't climb a tree well if you have green thumb you can climb a tree well if you can't climb a tree well you can make the weather in the city cooler.

Interviewer: Okay I got it. So the connection with hand and cool is because with the green hand you can make a cool weather and what about the part you told us the story of the hill tribe leader that you visited you showed picture of him.

Pharadon: Yes actually I went to visit three leader, three different time and friend from different points. The attired and the philosophy like but I put three collector in one person because I didn't have the time to keep the presentation just fourteen minutes so I put the three stars in one man the guy protects the one next to me and Messiah God he try to protect his forest from the newly found development he work really hard to protect. Actually in that site the world heritage site about nature heritage site one of the big forest and we have the biggest water fall in the nation right there in [00:39:48] [unclear] and now is like the water fall is just drying more dry like snow forest and it really because of the burning. They cut the tree and they want to cut corns and that kind of stuff, different problems with food and stuff. Now you call the business world that run by the

Interviewer: I'm not sure you're talking about the wood business.

Pharadon: I always forget the vocabulary okay any way because we try to protect this and twenty years go by. At that time I wanted to do something for a long time maybe like five, six, seven years ago. I want to do something with this tree and want to on an all I play music and travel all over until last year I really want to do this again I met this guy after I met him for sure I'm going to do it and now when I get back from home I'm

going to start something new because he show me that manner, that spirit he fight for them maybe because of his house as to his house affect the whole country the big forest he protect everything for us why should not help him a little bit and I met another guy, I asked him what can I do? The next guy was from [00:42:06] Shanghai a little bit to the south. I wanted to do a tree project. What can I do in Chiang Mai? Where are you from you should do a good thing. Where are you from? Wherever you're from you should plant some tree and he said because we have our forest here, you don't need to come and plant forest for us. If you look at the map like in the city there is no forest, you should think about it and then people are in the city come today can do their I can protect the forest blah, blah, blah but you never look at a stoke.

Interviewer: We are always asking the others to do what we should be doing, right?

Pharadon: Right it's not fair and even this and it's true just like that where you're from you don't need to go anywhere and it's hard it's possible and you never believe it's possible. If you have to get too many people and go to some place and plant like a thousand tree and open water it well why not? You'll never believe and then the last kind of guy is like and he said to me he showed me the story about the [00:43:38] [unclear] umbilical cord.

Interviewer: Umbilical cord

Pharadon: And after you this guy fight for his family too. They lived for two hundred years in the land that now we said is Nation [00:43:57] [unclear] and they want to make a dam and they have to move out and fight like what, it's not fair, why do you have to make a dam? It's funny because instead of creating a forest you want to make a dam for keeping water. It doesn't make sense, you lived here before why you have to move? He was right and I fight for it for twenty eight years till now and he said if you want to do three things it's a great thing, you have to believe and you have to do what follow for years. When you look at me I do this for twenty years and maybe I'll die tomorrow, is this okay?

Pharadon: I did my part, you should do it. And that three cards inspired me. Alright and then I come back home and start to do it, get with a friend and we talked about it and how we can do it. Make a plan sometime you fuck it up sometimes on and off because no one done it before so it is to create many activities of how to [00:45:14] [unclear] people to start to do something and it's working. You see.

Interviewer: I saw the blog. Actually I was going to ask cause it's all in tie. You don't have the blog for the trees in English yet.

Pharadon: We don't have the blog. Yes we don't have it yet.

Interviewer: Is it because you don't have anybody to translate?

Pharadon: We don't have anybody to translate yet.

Interviewer: So, I can find the person for you if send me the material, the text, send it to me and I can find the person to translate for you.

Pharadon: See, I think the English is important to you to communicate in [00:45:55] [unclear] because the smoke problem is happening everywhere and we need a lot of friends to plant a lot of trees.

Interviewer: Exactly and there are so many foreigners here that you meet in your bar probably when you're doing your music gigs and they can replicate the project wherever they go. Right?

Pharadon: Right. We have another pitch though it's another block it's called [00:46:34] it's in English

Interviewer: What is it called?

Pharadon: [00:46:38] [unclear]

Interviewer: You don't have to show me now cause we're recording but you can show me later I just want to get the name again so people can hear.

Pharadon: June we have to put a hash tag first.

Interviewer: Okay. Hash tag

Pharadon: It's J-u-n-a-t and then three t-n-d then challenge, c-h-a-l-l-e-n-g-e

Interviewer: Like this? Dot com?

Pharadon: No. It's just a page, that's Facebook. Facebook page.

Interviewer: That's perfect so hashtag June18 number 18 tree challenge

Pharadon: Right.

Interviewer: That one is in English.

Pharadon: That one is kind of in English and then have an event page, okay we're going to do this together on June 18.

Interviewer: June 18 of this year.

Pharadon: We're going to wake up and plant some trees.

Interviewer: I was going to ask you why June 18. But this June here is without the e

Pharadon: Because this is a hash tag and we're going to keep it short.

Interviewer: Interesting. Very nice. So, how much time do you spend with that project?

Pharadon: We have a friend who helps me out to set this up and run it and try to send this message to people also the tip thing I hope is going to help for a percentage in what's going on to friends and organizations, we want to do this and if you would like to join us or help to promote this.

Interviewer: Is Chiang Mai University already a partner of this project?

Pharadon: Chiang Mai University, some of them but actually this page we just set it up about three weeks ago.

Interviewer: Is it branded?

Pharadon: I mean not maybe because we not really promoting it yet. I wait for the video and you know how. Next week I'm going to hitch hike around the country and get people to join us.

Interviewer: You said you are going to go on a two month trip?

Pharadon: Two month trip.

Interviewer: Where are you going? What are you planning?

Pharadon: I'm going around to the north, the east, the south, the west the center, to see a friend, some people that interested in doing the same things and they really want to try. We can help them promote the things.

Interviewer: You mean music? Plants? Everything?

Pharadon: Environmental. I'll bring my saxophone to share with the music. I don't know. Actually I never done this before so, I really don't know what's going to happen yet but I just believe I want to go travel to see friends or some organization, ask a friend and send the message up, I'll take the message for them and sent it back.

Interviewer: When your talking about the message you're talking about the planting the tree message?

Pharadon: Planting the trees, environmental project my friend. It's mini, big issue around the country that being ruined by [00:50:43] [unclear]

Interviewer: Devastation, environmental destruction

Pharadon: I'm going to share this right now.

Interviewer: Okay. So, I thought your two month trip was for music, so, it's more the tree project that you're working on.

Pharadon: Right. A capitalist?

Interviewer: Capitalism, okay that's interesting. Makes sense, capitalism is complicated.

Pharadon: I mean it's not (I don't know why I forget this but anyway)

Interviewer: So, that's the main reason for your trip or are you also running away from Shanghai because of all the burning season?

Pharadon: It's the main reason for my trip because it's going to be a burn season and you're going to talk about this, look it's happening now. What we going to do? It's time for them, hard to run away from this moment. It's going to be more and more, it's going to happen everywhere in the whole world soon.

Interviewer: So it's not about running away it's about just like using this opportunity to try to think of solutions right?

Pharadon: And because before June 18 if you we fought a rainy season it's a time to [00:52:34][unclear] and then you plant it for the rainy season and then it's going to help the trees.

Interviewer: Are you receiving any kind of financial funding for this project?

Pharadon: No. We do it ourselves.

Interviewer: You do it as a volunteer.

Pharadon: We do it as a volunteer. We use our money as a musician.

Interviewer: That's so great. Congratulations. Now how many people are involved?

Pharadon: It's between 20 and 30 people and more people come and start to help,

Interviewer: But the 20 or 30 people are all travelling all together?

Pharadon: No. I'm traveling alone.

Interviewer: You are traveling alone. You are like the speaker for the project.

Pharadon: You could say that. When I started it I called people and I asked them to come and help and a lot of good friend into it. But a lot of my friends do a lot of different

things, different projects for kids, for entrepreneur for different projects that would support each other in the community.

Interviewer: You're talking about tie friends?

Pharadon: Tie friends

Interviewer: Very nice. I saw you went to Japan, you went to China right?

Pharadon: Yes

Interviewer: What's next? What's your next country? Like you went to the U.S, you went to Iraq right? So you've been everywhere. Have you ever been to Brazil?

Pharadon: No. I want to.

Interviewer: Do you?

Pharadon: I've never been to South America, I've never but I believe one day, everyday.

Interviewer: You should come. There is it, you're invited. I will be there. You're probably going to be busy here but I'm going to be there May, end of May, June, July. If you want to come I have many friends who own bars and own different restaurants I can help you find some geeks. You would be famous in Brazil.

Pharadon: Wow! A lot of great musicians in Brazil, a lot of great musicians.

Interviewer: There are. There are many musicians from my city. My city is the third biggest in Brazil. Sao Paulo is number one, Rio number two, my city is number three it's very similar to Shanghai because it's in the mountains and we don't have a beach and there are many famous musicians. I don't know if you know Bossa Nova. So many of the people who started Bossa Nova are from my city. You know Milton Simontoo?

Pharadon: I hear of that.

Interviewer: Milton Simontoo is from my town and he was very close to other guys most is not from where I am but I can send you some links to some musicians from my area. There is a band called Skank and the Skank was one of the most famous music bands in Brazil I think they're still probably top five and they were all my students because I had a language school. I had an English school for fifteen years.

Pharadon: Really! Wow!

Interviewer: They studied in my school and we became friends and they have a sax player that's really good used to be called I don't know if it's still him [00:56:15] [unclear] I'm going to try to find some of his stuff on Youtube to show you. Okay so just

a few more questions to finish. I work as a career coach so I help people if they're not happy with their job with their work, I help them make a transition right. So, I always like to ask them the first time I talk to them like what's your perfect future? Like five years from now. Like how old are you today?

Pharadon: 34

Interviewer: 34 so let's imagine when you're 40. How do you imagine your perfect future? Like focusing on work like what is for you to wake up excited in the morning to like I'm so excited that I'm doing this. Are you happy today with your work area? Are you a 100% happy? Is there anything that you need to change to have a perfect future career?

Pharadon: I want to be a writer.

Interviewer: A writer.

Pharadon: And I did. I published one book and I'm really happy. I spend two years writing. I started in I wanted to be a writer.

Interviewer: What kind of book did you write?

Pharadon: It's a story book like I'm travelling from here to Paris.

Interviewer: That's the story.

Pharadon: It's translated to English.

Interviewer: Oh great! I want to read it.

Pharadon: It's in my bag you can check it out.

Interviewer: Okay. Nice so in the future do you want to write more?

Pharadon: I want to write more. I have many projects. I have a copy that I've done a few alright but I didn't have time to edit it.

Interviewer: Okay

Pharadon: I didn't expect the book to be

Interviewer: So welcome?

Pharadon: People interacted with the project a lot of people and it tend to be a lot of work.

Interviewer: Visitations for different things.

Pharadon: Visitations, different places and talk about it and it's a lot of work but I'm happy. I think it's a good thing and I believe in this. I believe in this.

Interviewer: So, you're perfect future when you're forty, work. Is it similar to today or is it different? Like your routine

Pharadon: Actually like this year. I want to put more talent into my writing work and I [00:59:13] so I'm going to give my time back to painting, sketching, writing. I hope the tree project reap success and start to tie in and have a system where they can run sometime and that's two bars, those two bars are smaller. I'm not worried about it this time would be [00:59:47][unclear] so, careful because different situations. So, I don't worry about it that much.

Pharadon: Starting this new thing in my life. I didn't know anything about but after six seven months I started to learn different things, but I'm not an expert. I don't know much about [01:00:19] [unclear]

Interviewer: Your're plan is to focus on Thailand. Is to do the tree project mostly in Thailand because you're from here.

Pharadon: I'm focused on starting, I see the world's link up [01:00:48] [unclear] I believe many people in the world try to do [01:00:53] [unclear] and we have to support in any situation.

Interviewer: Yea you replicate if you have a success here then you can replicate in different arts

Pharadon: Different people have no idea that we can do yea we love to

Interviewer: Interact

Pharadon: Love to interact were artist and we are musician we just want to plan a trip far away like the peace way, beautiful way and we believe in people. People who are actually good and sometime life is too hard for them they can't follow their dreams sometimes but actually people are scared how can we find a way because we follow our dreams and be themselves it's a happiness to connect them self to the environment things surround it and it's the most beautiful to see through the movie I listened it can be any music or poetry or books what's happen but you feel happy when you see the character connecting with the things surrounding.

Interviewer: Yea connecting.

Pharadon: Connecting with things around this table and chair the people we fear one thing if things are around and that's the [01:02:45][unclear]

Interviewer: Yeah and that actually reminds me of a lot of meditation because I've been meditating for a year and a half that's the reason I came to Thailand first time to do a ten day silence retreat and its after you stay in silence for like 5 days. It's amazing how you feel much more connected with nature that is it right? So your perfect future then five years from now with work would be with the trees more of the trees?

Pharadon: I have to work you know too [01:03:20][unclear]

Interviewer: Yea I was going to ask you like where does most of your income come from is it from the music

Pharadon: It's from the music is now it's from the music but I save some money from my [01:03:37] [unclear]

Interviewer: Oh you did. The book that you sold. Oh you do well thank you so much.

Pharadon: Guess I gave that part in my music for me to snap I don't have family.

Interviewer: You can survive, you can pay your bills.

Pharadon: I can survive to pay my bills

Interviewer: Okay

Pharadon: Enough for me and for the tree thing I think it might take a long time.

Interviewer: To get money work e to be to start making because if you really work with this project you can include a salary for you as part of this project of course. This is something that in Brazil for example people have like they feel if it's a social project they have to be volunteers that's not true. If you're working let's say two days a week in this project it's fair for you to receive a salary for the number of hours that your working.

Pharadon: It's true but I'm I don't think about it I can think may be some of my friends or some other volunteer that need something, I think about but I want it pretty bad. I guess I don't know I don't think about it so but I started to see many situation that [01:05:20] [unclear] they can't really protect the forest that they couldn't get anything from it a lot of people in the whole world then find a lot of people willing to all their life twenty or thirty years and don't get anything but why we couldn't grow big forest a lone man himself why? I mean if we think about money, if the money help reforest we probably passed a lot of forest [01:05:54] [unclear] cause the money is everywhere but why do we still cut trees and now the world's getting worse, getting sick and if you think you aren't about people we have people everywhere but why do we live this in the sickness world. I don't know I don't think about may be I think about it in the future.

Interviewer: Because i have friends that are involved in projects very nice projects like the tree project but they work full time for this project so they have to have a salary

because they have to pay their bills so they include their salary as one of the costs for the project and they work eight hours a day just for this project very serious actually helps them multiply the project because they have full time concentration.

Pharadon: The thing is you don't have to spend any parts which is basically send the masses I don't mean for traveling. You see people this one thing I want them to learn and I'm happy to do it and I love traveling then but this time my aim of this trip it is too to learn something different I mean before maybe I learned architect learn about music see people things but this time I just want to learn about environment that's come to mean a lot for me.

Interviewer: Do you have any place scheduled already for you?

Pharadon: Some of the many places yes.

Interviewer: Like what Bangkok [01:07:54] [unclear] that kind of place, the islands.

Pharadon: Different foods give many problems [01:08:02] [unclear]

Interviewer: Cool very nice so the question I ask you about your perfect future I get the feeling that you already consider you have a great career like there's nothing that you said that write more you would like to write more have more time to write and to paint.

Pharadon: thing about writing you have to read this one other thing I wanted to do cause you have to read when you start writing something, you're researching where you talk to people and then you write. I like this kind of feeling it's good to concentrate understand the feeling of my home.

Interviewer: Maybe you're going to write a new book about your conclusions of your studies on the environment right?

Pharadon: That's part of my plan.

Interviewer: That's cool I saw an article about you on Bangkok post that said that you were different kind of environmentalist. Did you see that? I have it here. It says, Bangkok post November 2, 2015 fee is another of the new generation of environmentalist whose image is different from the hard line activist of old. So they are saying that you are like a new generation of environmentalist because the old generation they were more like hard line activist type and you are a new generation so I think that maybe you are coming with more flexibility and you're part of what the generation they call millennials have you heard of this generation? So everybody whose between eighteen and thirty five are part of this generation that was born it's the digital generation from eighteen to thirty five were born with technology alright so this generation is totally different.

Pharadon: Wow I'm almost off.

Interviewer: You're almost off yea and I'm almost on I passed a little bit but I feel like if I had to choose between generation x which is my generation and millennials I feel more millennials I think. So they want to do meaningful work they really want to do something that they feel useful meaningful work. This is more important sometimes than money although money is very important to for this generation they want to have a lot of money but they want to do something mean that they feel like when they die they did something useful.

Pharadon: I think people born, looking for happiness. The thing is that's so hard the money objects tend to be there happiness so they prize some things. I think new way of life you can create your own happiness new ways and new lifestyle and happiness but how? It's different way, money is one thing cause you connecting you trading foods and whatever you need basically we need money to do that but a lot of times you can see people about doing things really creating, which is about enough and sustainable and to be able to give and chance now the new words you share need to share more. I believe the need to trade with many ways trading things and I think the money is everywhere people are looking for money but why have you fix this? I feel really strange and I feel so sick when you hear money because when you think about it you see things separately this land and the street and this cup, this table this thing. Earlier we talked about the connection with make you happens through meditations you feel light because you connect you don't see things happening you see as one thing. Think about when love nature why they destroy it. Why because they use money they cut them apart, you cut the land apart, they cut the tree apart they cut the animal apart from this and they analyze it. They cut liver off of the hide they analyze this different part of things cause the thing is your idea in your heads it's separated things and then you get the money and blah, blah, blah and then gets sick of it cause you don't see it because you're trying to figure out one thing and it never work since they were never such refined it doesn't connect to one thing because the world was like it's hard for you to analyze the whole thing. If you're thinking about a world you don't have to think about the moon, the universe because it's whatever you know you think you know now which is nothing at least we know nothing if you know a thing you're not going to destroy our self like this not going to fooling ourselves, we make a dam kept us up through these separate things and when you think about money you think about separate don't think about one.

Interviewer: So you avoid thinking about money.

Pharadon: Because it doesn't make me feel happy I feel quite happy when I don't think about it. Sometime I think about it ok I go on the street play some music. I teach if you don't have it I can teach you for free, it's fine he'd be happy to take it go hang out we are friends may be together can do much more. It's meaningful world is not more, it's not. Think about it why we plant five thousand trees for example for each one planted their own trees but if you think about money ok one big company come alright I give you money like two million dollars if you plant five thousand give your people this business and you can plant five thousand and two in one day and then what?

Interviewer: It wasn't as fun.

Pharadon: It's just a low bar and it's not real and that tree become just a thing just as a thing it doesn't connect you with the umbilical cord tied to the tree and this connection the connect needs to happen if you don't connect if you don't find your own tree if you don't see how they grow and connect it's just nothing it's just like burning. So what I'm trying to say is life think about life and you think about it I could see I believe I don't need much I have enough I mean myself I can play music and do this and this.

Interviewer: So you consider yourself successful.

Pharadon: I'm successful myself I'm happy.

Interviewer: So how would you define success like for you? Like what's success for you? Is it the same thing as happiness?

Pharadon: You know when you just find some success I would say you look in the forest, look in the mountain, you broke, then you seed it you feel like you don't want to go inside their head and try to trim some of the (what's it called?)

Interviewer: I know what you're talking about like in the tree right?

Pharadon: You need to organize everything. Sometimes you want things be like what we want it to be like worried like this and we have to do this but you have to be this then what this is the endless world. Our action if you see it's more like how did you see things you can't see anything you see this a happiness it's beautiful things of life connecting this is success is that real success cause it's endless.

Interviewer: So success is like enjoying where you are right now even if it's not totally the way you wanted it to be.

Pharadon: I mean you could say that [01:19:05] [unclear] but you do a thing but I don't know how to explain it. You have to do it you have to wake up and do something anyway but what you're going to do and then if you do it and then think about it then what like I want to be I wanted to merely transcribe this [01:19:36][unclear]

Interviewer: I think it's clear your saying you consider yourself successful right. So I can totally see that success for you is not really into money cause a lot of people relate success with money if they're not rich they don't think they're successful. I think I'm very successful because am happy and free I can live anywhere I want and this for me is success so the concept of success is so different for so many people right.

Pharadon: You know what it's sometime give you success the real success may be you don't even think about it may be I don't know because if you're not going to think about it because this is worth success.

Interviewer: Cool so success is not even thinking about success.

Pharadon: Yea it's when you say ego people who don't have because they're not even thinking about it. Why is that they don't see that.

Interviewer: What are you talking about?

Pharadon: When you ask the sun about the darkness, they don't understand where is the darkness they've never seen it before in their life because they don't know what but thank you to sun because you give us warm light, light and thing at all say thank you if it something that you're talking about. I didn't do anything cause this is not for me I what you're talking about i don't understand that's an exit that's cold.

Interviewer: That's a great analogy. So the last question I promise because I know you have to go. I work with like I said many people that are not happy with their work and then they thinking to help them be happy with work to help them create a project that they will be happy right. So what suggestions do you have for this person that is not happy with work and they're depress some of them are taking medication for depression to wake up in the morning to go to work because they have kids and they have to pay the bills and they're in a system you know the rat system and they can't break like I said most of my clients are in Brazil and their very unhappy with Brazilian government, corruption, we don't have public safety in Brazil, we don't have public education it's embarrassing. So what suggestion would you have for this person who's trying to find a happy work a happy professional life?

Pharadon: Alright maybe they're not happy because they feel heavy. Life is so heavy on a stretcher now you know life is mine is, we have a structure. It's like a house you build up like a house and the house is a, have a pole secret pole[01:23:13] [unclear] exhaust my pole if your heavy sat on it, it's lonely over looked [01:23:24][unclear] if you look at Adam pole with life open your mind whoever so i can see you mine is not only word. They have a family they have a they have a [01:23:41][unclear] they have a friend where they have parrots everybody [01:23:50] [unclear] this different pole is connected to base of life. Sometimes you could yourself on the thought of your action you learn from them one thing if you put in too much, if your think about life affected the trees look at the trees look at the name it's connected between the earth sky the moon everything is you got to put the cement between them kind of reaffirm. So you want to connect with the pole with your base on it some time your work and you dream it's not the same you have to be wondering when you have to work for a family are whatever for family but if you think about it everything is connected kind a ends up on each other if you put the time for your dream you want to go out you want to travel learn how to ride a horse or plant trees or ride a motor bike play skateboard or do it i will help you work definitely you know read a book. Sometime you want to sleep as the homeless try, feel it you know like what if it feels like whatever you feel like you dream what if it come into your mind and see you find the way take your little time learn and it will help you work, work is not happy.

Interviewer: Stop thinking about it.

Pharadon: Yes sometimes they have to put the work in another section go see your parents some time go out and talk marry a chair [01:25:45] [unclear] and talk about it because share more often be naked and then fine cool and then you find a way out because when you open your mind out to different things you seem happy.

Interviewer: That's a great suggestion. I totally agree, stop thinking about it and start focusing on the other things because that's when you're going to have more creativity also in nature I always tell them go travel stop thinking about this go on a long trip resign ok resign ask to leave your job because they're afraid to say to their boss am going to leave there afraid and I say you're not going to die it's ok resign but sometimes if you are in the system in the big city with all this stress.

Pharadon: I kind of understand cause the time can go really far sometime you go to the party's no return sometime I understand you know. You cannot sometimes you can't just all can't resize cause you go off too far but how we going to do it but how could I go to the back hall and never come back again what the fuck so how you going to do it? They have the way think about it you have to cut sometime you have to cut some of the happiness out a little bit. It's hard to explain cause some people just really hard, to go really far blowing the money buy a house in the condo and a car and then the kid have to go to school [01:27:58] [unclear] and this and that and I kind of understand but I do have to find you either way you have to pan out so little sometimes life is one thing like this think of life like this you're going to die you're so heavy and you're not happy but actually things surround you, you can create things around you and take some time five to ten years creating things around you and then come back and help you out when you have it if you go that far by come down and create things around you and were be patient in five or ten year you come back we help you out I don't always help but if you get this message if you think you're going to die tomorrow now you can create things around the environment will help you out.

Interviewer: Create things around you.

Pharadon: Friend's nature trees or whatever or you're happy part time things whatever.

Interviewer: I agree that's awesome what the name of the book is because I want to put it in the notes the book that you wrote.

Pharadon: [01:29:19][unclear] but the English version is I have only have fifty copies my friends has thirty seven I'm looking for a publishing company right now but ties in second bringer right[01:29:38][unclear]

Interviewer: Where can I buy it? Can I buy it somewhere in English?

Pharadon: It's in the bar.

Interviewer: In the bar and you haven't done it on digital like for Amazon?

Pharadon: We have a digital part.

Interviewer: You have a link that if I want to buy it through Amazon

Pharadon: No we don't have it.

Interviewer: That's a good thing for you to do though because it's a good source of money. I don't know how it is but I can find the information and give it to you because I have friends that are writing books you can put your book on Amazon to sell there and because everybody loves you you're so popular I'm sure a lot of people will buy your book I think I can help you so your book is in English and you already have it digital.

Pharadon: Yes extra part, pdf.

Interviewer: And what's the story about is it for kids or adults?

Pharadon: Adults but the kids can read it I think

Interviewer: It's about your trip you said from here to Paris cool thank you so much for your time it was so great to know you a little bit more and to know about your big heart and the way you think about life. I think it's a great inspiration for people who are trying to find their professional path. I hope to see you play some more time may be in Brazil.

Pharadon: Definitely

Interviewer: Yeah okay.