GIA GemFest

“Introduction to GIA’s iD100™ and a Field Gemology Update”

Venue: 60th Bangkok Gems & Jewelry Fair, Jupiter 6, Challenger hall, Impact Muangthong Thani
Date: Friday, 8 September 2017
Time: 13.00-15.00
Reservation: giabkklab@gia.edu , +662 632 4090
Website: GIAthai.net

About the Speakers

Dr. Wasura Soonthorntantikul, G.G., FGA
Gemologist

Wasura Soonthorntantikul received her Doctorate degree in Analytical Chemistry from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand. She also holds a Graduate Gemologist (GG) diploma from the Gemological Institute of America (GIA) and FGA diploma from the Gemmological Association of Great Britain (Gem-A). She started working with GIA Laboratory in Bangkok in 2012. She is responsible for colored stone and diamond identifications. Besides examining client’s gemstones, Wasura also conducts colored stone research using GIA’s advanced analytical instrumentation and interprets the resulting analytical data.

Wim Vertriest, G.G.
Supervisor, Field Gemology

Wim Vertriest graduated from the Catholic University of Leuven (KU Leuven) in Belgium. He obtained an MSc in Geology in 2014, specializing in ‘Geodynamics & Geofluids’. The main focus during his education and research was on ore geology, hydrothermal-magmatic processes and geochemistry. During his geology studies, he became aware of gemstones through specialized classes in Antwerp. The focus was initially on diamonds, but colored stones really caught his attention. Wim obtained his Graduate Gemologist (GG) diploma from the Gemological Institute of America and is currently studying the FGA diploma from the Gemmological Association of Great Britain (Gem-A).

Since joining GIA in 2015, Wim has participated in GIA Field Expeditions to numerous sapphire and ruby mining areas in Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Mozambique. In his role as supervisor, Wim will oversee the field gemology department and curate the colored stone research collection in Bangkok.

Content

- The GIA iD100TM testing device is an easy-to-operate, sophisticated desktop instrument to reliably separate mounted and loose natural colorless/near-colorless diamonds from synthetics and simulants.

- The colored stone deposits in Ethiopia with a focus on the recent emerald and sapphire discoveries. The mining, inclusions and advanced analytical data of Ethiopian stones will be discussed.

About GIA

Established in 1931, GIA protects the public through gemological research, education, impartial gem identification and grading services and instrument development. The world's foremost authority in gemology, GIA sets the standard for determining the qualities of diamonds, colored gems and pearls. GIA created the 4Cs, the International Diamond Grading System™ and the 7 Pearl Value Factors™, providing all who buy or sell gemstones with a common language for describing quality. As an independent nonprofit organization, all of GIA's activities are governed by its mission to serve the public. Visit GIA.edu