



PRESS RELEASE

June 22, 2009

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam – Galerie Quynh is pleased to present *Caution! Development in Progress* featuring work by Do Hoang Tuong, Thien Do, Nguyen Thanh Truc, Tiffany Chung, Tuan Andrew Nguyen and Lien Truong. Reflecting on issues synonymous with the complex condition of modernity, the work included in this exhibition range from the humorous and ironic to the muted and poetic.

The heavily textured, abstract paintings of Do Hoang Tuong and Nguyen Thanh Truc and the collaged work of Thien Do highlight the co-existence of crumbling facades and newer building structures that is evident in developing cities; the hushed palimpsests could be a metaphor for faded history and memory. Thien Do's paintings resemble walls in urban Vietnam with the ubiquitous stenciled 'Cam..Bay' (forbidden/not permitted) signs. The paintings, while deceptively quiet and ordered, seem to deride and challenge the regulations proposed in civilized societies.

With their ironic titles – *Rice is more nutritious than gold* and *Real oranges grow on trees* – Lien Truong's work is a meditation on the power and control that humans tend to wield with progress. The biotechnology firm Monsanto is the antagonist in these two works which reference genetically engineered Golden Rice and the first spraying of Agent Orange in Vietnam on August 10, 1961.

The digital c-prints in *Hip Hop History Sampling Hip Hop History: The Red Remix*, a collaboration between Tuan Andrew Nguyen and Vietnamese rapper/graffiti artist Wowy, depict Wowy decked out in hip-hop gear wandering the streets of Ho Chi Minh City with his boom-box. Like much of Vietnam's youth, Wowy is striving to voice his own individuality amidst the trends being imported from abroad.

Tiffany Chung's *Enokiberry tree in wonderland* science-fiction fantasy photos also touch on issues of Vietnamese youth negotiating an identity in opposition to uniformity. Chung's actors assume fantastic characters and seem to revel in escapism. The potential hazards of urban development can be seen in Chung's newest 'map' entitled *migration of the ladybugs (Harmonia Axyridis)* where ladybugs seem to infest the deliciously seductive urban landscape.

MAIN GALLERY

65 De Tham Street, District 1
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
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DOWNTOWN

Level 2, 151/3 Dong Khoi Street, District 1
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Caution! Development in Progress posits questions surrounding ideas of control, power, order and individual identity. It questions not only our vision of a new society and the foundations on which we are constructing our buildings, but also the rules and information we are bombarded with in daily life.

Caution! Development in Progress has been curated by Julie Dao Duy.

ABOUT GALERIE QUYNH

Established in 2003, Galerie Quynh is the leading contemporary art gallery in Vietnam. Working with a select group of emerging, mid-career and established Vietnamese artists, the gallery also exhibits the work of distinguished artists from around the world allowing visitors access to a diverse range of contemporary art practice. In keeping with its mission to support education and develop an infrastructure for the arts in Vietnam, the gallery collaborates with artists, curators and art spaces locally and internationally to organize talks and lectures as well as to produce publications in English and Vietnamese.

www.galeriequynh.com

A PDF of works in the exhibition is available upon request. Please contact the gallery for further information and images.

Exhibition Title: Caution! Development in Progress

Exhibition Dates: June 27 – July 15, 2009

Location: Galerie Quynh, 65 De Tham Street, District 1, HCMC, Vietnam

Gallery hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 10am – 6pm
Closed on Sundays and Mondays

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