



PRESS RELEASE

March 16, 2010

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam – Galerie Quynh is pleased to present *Static Motion* – an exhibition of new work by Nguyen Thanh Truc and George Papadimas.

Static is defined as without motion; each of these two contradictory terms ceases to exist or be understood without its antithesis. Like its title, *Static Motion* explores the complex and enigmatic nature of art-making through the examination of two artists whose works are created by very disparate processes.

While Papadimas' sculptures and Nguyen's paintings remain visually distinct, they share a common disposition towards repetition, geometrical precision and meticulous computation. Papadimas' sculptures consist of geometrical shapes and angles; Nguyen's paintings are filled with obsessive, sharp horizontal lines.

Papadimas' matte black steel sculptures rise like cool hardened rocks and twisted sheets of metal paper. These solid structures transform, move and evolve as the viewer maneuvers around them. Heavily influenced by mathematical algorithms, Papadimas uses numbers as a vehicle to derive his final product. This particular group of works focuses on the oppositional nature of the numbers 0-9, the series of ten numbers from which all other numbers are derived. He pairs these ten numbers systematically: 0/9, 1/8, 2/7, 3/6 and 4/5, with 0/9 being the special pair in which nothing and everything is represented. Similar to the complementary and contradictory nature of the Taoist elements of Yin and Yang, his sculptures represent the harmony between pairs and the natural order of things as derived by numbers. As his sculptures allude to an order that goes beyond societal and cultural appropriations, Papadimas removes humanistic interpretation with their implied universalism.

Nguyen's paintings are methodically comprised of strips of newspapers and magazines affixed to canvas. The precision of his extraction and placement of these meticulously iterated newspaper strips results in final compositions that are almost monochromatic. While his paintings initially appear identical to one another, further examination affirms the uniqueness of each work. Each contains different references to contemporary civilization found in newspapers, magazines and advertisements. While Papadimas

MAIN GALLERY

65 De Tham Street, District 1
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
tel/fax: +84 8 3836 8019

DOWNTOWN

Level 2, 151/3 Dong Khoi Street, District 1
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deliberately avoids cultural or societal associations through his mathematical constructions, Nguyen's compositions engage directly with Vietnamese society, politics and culture through its inclusion of headlines, words and scraps of images from print media. His incorporation of real-life publications into a rigid linear format attempts to organize and create balance in the chaotic, constant media feed of modern day society.

Papadimas' sculptures and Nguyen's paintings are conceptually contradictory, yet dependent. Without the cultural specificity in Nguyen's work, there would be no concept of natural universalism imbued in Papadimas' sculptures. Though drawing upon different sources for creation, both artists are ultimately concerned with creating an order that is visually balanced.

ABOUT GEORGE PAPADIMAS

George Papadimas is an Australian artist based in Ho Chi Minh City. He studied painting at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. As well as having exhibited widely, he has participated as a finalist in numerous prizes in Australia.

ABOUT NGUYEN THANH TRUC

Nguyen Thanh Truc is a Vietnamese artist living and working in Ho Chi Minh City. He graduated from the Ho Chi Minh City Fine Arts University in 1993. Nguyen has exhibited both locally and abroad. His paintings are held in private collections in Europe and in the Asia-Pacific region.

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

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GALERIE QUYNH CONTEMPORARY ART

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: Static Motion

Opening Reception: Thursday, 25 March from 6 – 8 PM

Exhibition Dates: March 25 – April 24, 2010

Location: 65 De Tham Street, District 1, Ho Chi Minh City

Gallery Hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 10am - 6pm
Closed on Sundays and Mondays

Contact: Tina Le (English); Huynh Kim Yen (Vietnamese):
info@galeriequynh.com
Tel/Fax: +84 8 3836 8019

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