



## **PRESS RELEASE**

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam – Galerie Quynh is pleased to present 'COMPOSITION | CONSTRUCT' – a group exhibition of paintings by Thien Do, Nguyen Thanh Truc, Nguyen Trung and Tran Van Thao.

The selection of works in this exhibition illustrate various techniques, aesthetics and themes by four artists whose primary visual language is abstraction. Whether the paintings are layered with vibrant colors communicating a *joie de vivre* or marked with doodles, scratches and punctures with undertones of violence and rebellion, all the works reveal extreme depth, thought and deft control with the medium of paint and collage.

Tran Van Thao paints, scrapes, constructs and scratches to challenge the notion of the flat picture plane. Canvas is used not only as a painting support, but is also manipulated through cutting and pasting in direct engagement with the paint medium.

Thick layers of acrylic, papier-mâché and glue are a hallmark of Nguyen Thanh Truc's canvases. Through its crevasses, gaps and scratches, Truc's works suggest fragments, stories and histories that have been forgotten.

Nguyen Trung's *Crying River I* and *II* evoke quiet water waves and slow waterlogged clouds. This peaceful and delicate series, in shades of blue and white, possesses a calming serenity. The works encourage the viewer to distance oneself from the materiality of life.

Thien Do's collaged compositions of newsprint and acrylic paint refer to the over-use of rules and regulations in Vietnamese society. Investigating the concept of social order and questioning its limits, Thien Do uses the surface of his canvases to re-create the context of our urban environment. The subtle tones in his work, emphasized by the fading newsprint, evoke the old walls of Saigon fated for demolition.

### 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  
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam  
tel: +84 8 3824 8284



GALERIE QUYNH CONTEMPORARY ART

## 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](http://www.galeriequynh.com)

Please contact the gallery for more information on the artists and available works.

Exhibition Title: COMPOSITION | CONSTRUCT

Exhibition Dates: August 26 – September 24, 2011

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

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

Contact: Mr. Tung Mai (Vietnamese); Ms. Julie Dao Duy (English and French)  
[info@galeriequynh.com](mailto:info@galeriequynh.com)  
Tel/Fax: +84 8 3836 8019

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