



Tiffany Chung, *an archaeology project for future remembrance* (stills), 2013,
3-channel video, HD, color, audio, 6'26"

PRESS RELEASE

November 26, 2013

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam – Galerie Quynh is pleased to present at its two locations new and recent work by Tiffany Chung, one of Vietnam's most prominent contemporary artists. The much-anticipated shows are part of a larger, ongoing series of works entitled *The Galápagos Project*, which confronts the current wreckage of our world by examining the aftermath of colonization and modernization. Deriving from Chung's studies on the decline and disappearance of towns and cities due to deindustrialization, demographic change, land development, environmental catastrophe and extreme climate impact, the work investigates the complexity of urban progress and transformation in developing and post-industrial countries.

Based on research in collaboration with Erik Harms, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Yale University, *an archaeology project for future remembrance* reflects on Thu Thiem, the 657-hectare master-planned new urban area in Ho Chi Minh City over the Saigon River, just a stone's throw from the downtown gallery. Harms states, "Chung's 'archaeology of future remembrance' sifts through the rubble of development to recapture voices and social spaces which have been rendered invisible by the transformation of a city. It is not a project of nostalgia but of remembrance, uncovering, like an archaeologist, traces and buried fragments of civilization."

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



At the De Tham gallery, Chung will present *The Galápagos Project: on the brink of our master plans*. Two new maps will be unveiled: one based on flood prediction of Ho Chi Minh City in 2050; the other on defunct coal mines in Yamaguchi. Also showing will be a two-channel video installation portraying an allegorical fantasy imagining the end of the human race. In addition, Chung will exhibit her widely acclaimed 'floating town' that premiered at the Singapore Biennale in 2011. This will be the first showing of the ambitious installation in Vietnam. Titled *stored in a jar: monsoon, drowning fish, color of water, and the floating world*, the work was created in response to the extreme flood prediction in 2050 of Ho Chi Minh City and the lower Mekong basin and the rising of sea levels due to global warming. Constructing an 'alternative urbanism' based on existing vernacular architectural designs of floating villages such as Tonle Sap Lake (Cambodia), Halong Bay (Vietnam), Sanglaburi (Thailand), Srinagar (India), and traditional farmhouses in Gifu and Yamaguchi, Japan, Chung has modified the architectural styles to build a 1:50 scale model of a 'floating town'.

Solar panels, rainwater harvesting system, vertical and rooftop gardens, and floating rice paddies appear to be inspired by arcology, an architectural design movement that seeks to combine architecture and ecology in responding to global environmental issues. However, moving beyond those basic principles, the work in fact examines failed utopias by questioning the self-sustainability and effectiveness of arcology. As a form of comparative global ethnography, the work attempts to reveal how vernacular architecture and arrangement of these communities could be a more fluid form of urban planning; that arcological principles have already existed in their ways of life.

ABOUT TIFFANY CHUNG

Chung has participated in numerous museum exhibitions and biennials around the world, including: Sharjah Biennial (2013), UAE; California-Pacific Triennial, Orange County Museum of Art (2013), USA; *Welcome to the Jungle*, Museum of Contemporary Art Kumamoto, Japan (2013); Asia Pacific Triennial 7, Brisbane, Australia (2012); *Six Lines of Flight*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, USA (2012); *The Map as Art*, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, USA (2012); *PANORAMA*, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore (2012); Kuandu Biennale, Kuandu Museum of Fine Arts, Taipei, Taiwan (2012); Singapore Biennale, National Museum of Singapore (2011); *Roving Eye*,

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



Sorlandets Kunstmuseum, Norway (2011); *Atopia: Art and City in the 21st Century*, Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona, Spain (2010); *The River Project*, Campbelltown Arts Centre, Australia (2010); Incheon International Women Artists' Biennale, Korea (2009); *transPOP: Korea Vietnam Remix*, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, USA (2008) and Arko Museum, Seoul, Korea (2007); and Fukuoka Triennale, Japan (2005). Chung's recent solo exhibitions include *TOMORROW ISN'T HERE*, Tyler Rollins Fine Art, New York (2012), and *Fukagawa Shokudo*, Fukagawa Tokyo Modan Kan, Tokyo (2011).

Her upcoming projects will be presented at Carré d'Art – Musée d'Art Contemporain, Nîmes, France; Lieu-Commun Espace d'Art Contemporain, Toulouse, France; AD&A Museum, University of California, Santa Barbara, USA; Chao Center for Asian Studies, Rice University, Houston, Texas, USA; Museum of Fine Art, Houston, Texas, USA (2014).

Tiffany Chung lives and works in Ho Chi Minh City.

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

Exhibition Dates: December 4, 2013 – January 10, 2014

Opening Reception: Wednesday, December 4, 2013: 5 to 9 PM at both galleries
Tiffany Chung will be present at the De Tham gallery from 5 to 7 PM
and at the Dong Khoi gallery from 7:15 to 9 PM.

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

Downtown Gallery: *an archaeology project for future remembrance*

Level 2, 151/3 Dong Khoi, District 1, Ho Chi Minh City
10 AM to 7 PM, Tuesday to Sunday and by appointment

Main Gallery: *The Galápagos Project: on the brink of our master plans*

65 De Tham Street, District 1, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
10 AM to 6 PM, Tuesday to Saturday and by appointment

Contact: Ms. Celine Alexandre (English and French)
celine@galeriequynh.com

Mr. Tung Mai (Vietnamese)
tung@galeriequynh.com

Tel/Fax: +84 8 3836 8019

– end –

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

info@galeriequynh.com
www.galeriequynh.com