

**FRIENDS of SACEI's**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
**SAIGON Arts Culture & Education Institute**

To Research, Document & Promote Vietnamese Culture

[www.sacei07.org](http://www.sacei07.org)

**October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 - No.12**

*A Country stays Alive when its Culture is Alive*

SACEI NEWSLETTER is released the first of the month.

It updates you on the latest news about SACEI.

It serves as a LINK between SACEI members and those who are interested in the Vietnamese or Vietnamese-American culture.

**1. Marker for the Vietnamese Paratrooper Division “Mũ Đỏ”  
& their advisors at Arlington Cemetery**

<http://www.hmdb.org/marker.asp?marker=12047>



**The Vietnamese Airborne Division Marker**  
By Richard E. Miller, August 30, 2008

## 2. NEW BOOKS

### ❖ ***AN LOC: THE UNFINISHED WAR*** **by General (Ret) TRAN VAN NHUT**

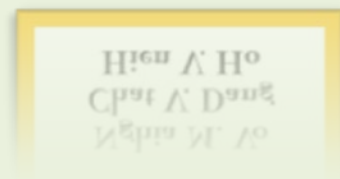
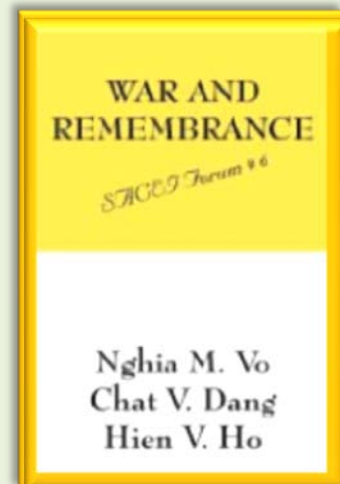


Tran Van Nhut grew up with a great love for Vietnam and its history. He served in the Army of South Vietnam from the inception of the Republic of Vietnam in 1954 until the country's demise in 1975. In 1970 he was appointed province chief of Binh Long (Peaceful Dragon) Province and commander of its Regional Forces, Popular Forces, and People's Self Defense Forces. In that capacity, he became involved in the sixty-six-day Battle of An Loc, an important South Vietnamese victory. The recipient of more than sixty South Vietnamese medals as well as many U.S. decorations, Tran ended his military career with the rank of brigadier general.

### ❖ ***SACEI FORUM # 6***

#### **A New Look at an old War**

This forum contains the proceedings of the SACEI 2009 Fall Conference on War and Remembrance. Ten researchers and writers gathered in this suburb of Washington, D.C. to share their views and memories about the war and Vietnam. New voices were heard, those of the South Vietnamese who, for a long time, had been ignored or simply neglected in the "fog of war" as American writers only described the conflict between Americans and North Vietnamese. Was it truly a tripartite war or just a war between Americans and North Vietnamese? Between North and South Vietnamese? Between North Vietnamese/Soviets/Chinese and South Vietnamese/ Americans?



### 3. MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

The traditional musical session during the Conference was excellent.

MC: Sach Van Deo & Louise Hoang

#### 1. Instrumental Folk Song:

*Vong Kim Lang & Doan Khuc Lam Giang*

\*Musicians:

- Chi Phuoc Trinh: Dan Tranh
- Linh Duy: Luc Huyen Cam
- Tu Tuong Truong: Dan Sen
- Chanh Nguyen: Key Board

\*Conductor: Chi Phuoc Trinh

#### 2. Musical Poem:

*Trai Mong Toi Mau Tim*

\*Poet: Tuyen Huu Giang

\*Songwriter: Truong Van Son

\*Performers: Hung Dinh & Sach Van Deo

\*Keyboard: Bang

#### 3. Vocalist Performance of:

*Thuong Qua Canh Co Bai*

\*Vocalist: Thuong Xuan Nguyen

#### 4. Folk story:

*Princess Huyen Tran*

\*Princess Huyen Tran was King Tran Nhan Tong's daughter. In 1306, the king arranged for princess Huyen Tran to marry the king of Champa in exchange of two provinces in central Vietnam. When the Cham king passed away in 1307, according to Cham customs, the queen was supposed to immolate herself alongside her husband. When the princess asked for help, King Tran Nhan Tong sent general Chung Khac Tran to save her. After the rescue, Huyen Tran and Chung Khac Tran fell in love with each other.

- ✚ Princess Huyen Tran: Uyen Ngoc
- ✚ General Chung Khac Tran: Linh Nhat
- ✚ Orchestrated by a southern Folk Song Bang by Chi Phuoc Trinh.



#### 4. *War & Remembrance*

SACEI Conference -Vienna, VA on 09/26/2009

*Gratitude is the memory of the heart*

Jean Baptiste Massieu



Once again, we would like to THANK *speakers, members, guests, musicians* and *volunteers* for helping to make this event a successful one. Despite minor glitches, the conference went on smoothly and ended on time. Many registrants have attended the whole conference, from start to finish.

The support crew was excellent, especially the sound technician who provided perfect audio throughout the conference. Photos of the conference will be posted on our website soon. Excerpts of the presentations will also be posted. The food was good as far as I could tell.

I would like to acknowledge Dr. Tran's help in driving Jim Bruton back home to DC (it was raining that night) and Mary Cargill to the airport the following morning.

Many thanks to those who unselfishly donated their time and effort to this conference.

Hope to see you next year.  
Feedbacks are always helpful.

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## 5. POETRY:



### "Ông đồ"

Vũ Đình Liên (1913-96)

Mỗi năm hoa đào nở  
Lại thấy ông đồ già  
Bày mực tàu giấy đỏ  
Bên phố đông người qua.

Bao nhiêu người thuê viết  
Tám tắc ngợi khen tài  
"Hoa tay thảo những nét  
Như phượng múa rồng bay".

Nhưng mỗi năm mỗi vắng  
Người thuê viết nay đâu?  
Giấy đỏ buồn không thấm;  
Mực đọng trong nghiên sâu...

Ông đồ vẫn ngồi đấy,  
Qua đường không ai hay.  
Lá vàng rơi trên giấy;  
Ngoài giờ mưa bụi bay.

Năm nay đào lại nở,  
Không thấy ông đồ xưa.  
Những người muôn năm cũ  
Hồn ở đâu bây giờ?

### The Sino-Vietnamese Teacher

To: HOH

Each year, when the peach blooms,  
We see again the old teacher  
Display black ink and crimson paper  
On the sidewalk full of passers-by.

Many people hire him to write,  
Praising in awe his talent:  
Hand writing dexterity like  
Dancing phoenix and flying dragon.

But each year, clients become sparser.  
Where are you now calligraphy users?  
Untouched red paper deep in sadness  
Unstirred ink gloomy in the jar.

The teacher is still sitting there,  
Pedestrians are unaware.  
A yellow leaf falls on the paper  
As dusty rain flies in the air.

This year, peach trees bloom again  
Ancient teacher is not seen.  
People from millennia past  
Where are your souls now?

Chat O. Dang  
September 6, 2009

