

# SACEI NEWSLETTER

## Saigon Arts Culture & Education Institute

To Research, Document & Promote Vietnamese Culture

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

November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 - No.13

*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.

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### I. Second Annual SACEI Fall Conference

## The FALL of SAIGON

September 25, 2010  
Fairfax, VA.

#### CALL FOR PAPERS

The Fall of Saigon, 35 years ago still resonates loud and clear in our hearts. It was the most significant and traumatic event in the lives of many people, Vietnamese-Americans as well as Americans. One could not think about it without tears in our eyes.

- ❖ What did exactly happen?
- ❖ How did it happen?
- ❖ How did it affect us, Vietnamese abroad as well as at home.

This Conference plans to explore these topics and to put the Fall of Saigon in its perspective.

#### Deadlines

- Abstract: March 30, 2010.
- Notification: April 30, 2010.
- Manuscript: June 15, 2010.

**Presentation:** Power point, if possible, 15 min and 5 min Q & A.

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**Publication:** Papers will be published in a special SACEI Forum, which will be available at the Conference.

**Registration and Hotel:** will be available later on [www.sacei07.org](http://www.sacei07.org)

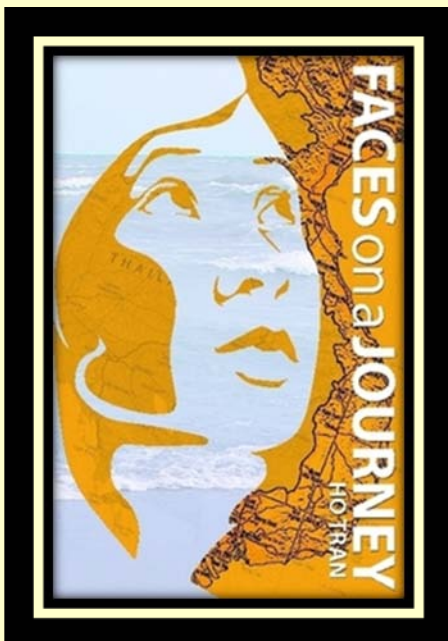
**Mail:** Please send your abstract to [www.sacei007@yahoo.com](mailto:www.sacei007@yahoo.com)

## II. BOOKS

### 1. COMRADES IN ARMS: Roger CANFIELD

*Comrades in Arms* fills a black hole in history. What our children learn and the mass media tells us about the war in Vietnam is mostly false, especially the usually effusive accounts of the peace movement, which portray idealistic youth and honest pacifists rightfully protesting an illegal and immoral war by U.S. imperialism against innocent peasants in a faraway place of no strategic interest to the United States. *Au contraire*, the book demonstrates how the Vietnamese Communists considered the antiwar movement an essential, ultimately the most critical factor, in their grand strategy for a military victory. Indeed, very many of those named leading demonstrations and lobbying congress happily collaborated with Hanoi. They made the U.S. homeland a second front in the rear of their enemy. After all, the United States and South Vietnamese ARVN had both all but won the war on the ground and in the hearts and minds of the people of South Vietnam until America's national leaders lost the will to win. The book confronts most of Hanoi's propaganda themes, point by point. It describes in horrific detail Communist atrocities that far surpass the sins of the allies in Vietnam.

You may acquire a prepublication copy of *Comrades in Arms: How the Ameri-Cong Won the Vietnam War Against the Common Enemy—America* by contacting Dr. Roger Canfield at [Rogercan@pacbell.net](mailto:Rogercan@pacbell.net) for \$15. Dr. Canfield encourages and welcomes editorial comments, corrections and book reviews.



### 2. FACES ON A JOURNEY: Ho Tran

Born amidst a tumultuous time in Vietnamese history, Ho Tran faced great challenges to hold her family together after the Fall of Saigon. With her husband thrown into a Communist re-education camp, she was left to raise their three young children and support her ageing parents under the new, oppressive regime. After his release, they undertook a great risk to flee the country in order to afford their children an opportunity at a real future. Despite having to start anew, she forged ahead to eventually become the CEO of a non-profit organization championing public health in minority communities.

This is Ho Tran's enduring story of perseverance and resilience. In the face of the deepest personal loss, she maintained an optimistic view and devoted her life to help those in need. Her story is one of personal strength and, perhaps most appropriately, one of hope.

<http://www.lulu.com/content/paperback-book/faces-on-a-journey/7602123>

### III. POETRY

by Huynh Anh Schroeder

#### IF I COULD

If I still could dream,  
I would listen to the bird songs,  
The breeze whispering through the branches,  
The waves undulating the surface of the oceans,  
The melodies of the awakening nature .

If I still could love,  
I would return to my childhood loves,  
My friends of a bygone time,  
My time of youth with the carefree flow of life,  
My sublime adolescent dreams.

If I still could give part of myself  
I would come to the rescue of unfortunate children,  
I would provide care to my suffering patients,  
I would give my cheerful smile,  
To the drifters of the free and wild land,  
Along with my heart overflowed with treasures not yet deep buried .



If I could turn back the wheel of destiny,  
Halt the implacable march of life,  
I would return to a world of dreams and hopes,  
Where the love of our kindred would be law,  
Where, you, would still be by my side ,under our roof,  
Your sweet smile on your fresh lips,  
Your radiant face, your serene look,  
Your heart filled with confidence  
In our love reflecting a shining future .

If I could relive our time of happiness,  
Then after, go away with the fading autumn,  
O, dearest love from my bygone youth,  
I would die happy,  
I would die fulfilled,  
Blessing the day when we met .  
I would die, my hand in your hand,  
Forever surrounded by our blooming promises,  
That again we would meet,  
In the future, in the benevolent eternity .

## **NẾU** (Vietnamese translation of Anh poem Si Je Pouvais)

Nếu tôi còn mộng trong đời,  
Còn nghe gió thoảng lả lơi trên ngàn,  
Còn nghe chim hót gọi đàn,  
Lưng trời dịu dặt khối loang mây vàng,  
Còn nghe sóng vỗ miên man,  
Bến bờ cát trắng ,mấy hàng thùy dương,  
Còn theo dõi ánh chiều dương,  
Rạng ngời soi sáng nẻo đường quê hương .

Nếu tim tôi vẫn còn thương,  
Tôi còn tìm lại người thương năm nào,  
Tìm về quá khứ dạt dào,  
Ngày thơ hoa nắng,thuở nào ngày thơ,  
Bạn bè như thể trong mơ,  
Người thương lưu luyến,giấc mơ đầu đời .



Nếu tôi còn phút hy sinh,  
Cởi lòng rộng mở,sinh linh đỡ đàn,  
Bàn tay dịu dặt trẻ thơ,  
Nụ cười trao kẻ bơ vơ không nhà ,  
Tìm tôi tràn ngập kho tàng,  
Của ngày hạnh phúc mộng vàng chưa tan .

Nếu anh quay bóng mặt trời,  
Dừng vòng luân chuyển giòng đời đổi thay,  
Quay về một thuở đắm say,  
Tình thương đồng loại luật trời thiên nhiên,  
Ngày mình xây mộng triền miên,  
Môi em còn thắm,ưu phiền bay xa,  
Mắt em trong sáng trời thơ,  
Thuyền anh ngập lặn bến bờ yêu đương .

Nếu ta sống lại mộng lành,  
Lòng anh thanh thản,tình anh ngập tràn .  
Thu vàng,bóng xế,chiều tàn,  
Thiên thu dạo bước chằng màng phân ly,  
Vì ta duyên nợ cao dày,  
Ngàn thu ta hẹn kiếp sau tương phùng .

## **SI JE POUVAIS**

Si je pouvais encore rêver,  
J'écouterais le chant des oiseaux,  
Le vent soufflant dans les branches,  
Les flots des ondes sur l'océan,  
Les mélodies de la nature éveillée .

Si je pouvais encore aimer,  
Je retournerais à mes amours d'enfance,  
Mes amis des temps d'aparavant ,  
Ma jeunesse aux flots insoucians,  
Mes rêves sublimes d'adolescent .

Si je pouvais encore donner de moi,  
J'aurais venu au secours des enfants malheureux,  
J'aurais donné mes soins aux malades souffrant,  
Mon sourire aux vagabonds des grand chemins,  
Mon coeur débordant de trésors pas encore enfouis.



Si je pouvais tourner la roue du destin,  
Arrêter la marche implacable de la vie,  
Je retournerais à un monde de rêves et  
d'espérance,  
Où l'amour du prochain ferait loi,  
Et tu serais encore là, sous notre toit,  
Ton doux sourire sur tes lèvres fraîches,  
Ton visage radieux, ton regard serein,  
Ton coeur plein de foi,  
De notre amour réfléchant le futur brillant .  
Si je pouvais revivre notre temps de bonheur,  
Et après, mourir avec l'automne pâissant,  
Oh, mon amour d'antan,  
Je mourrais heureux,  
Je mourrais satisfait,  
Bénissant le jour où je t'avais rencontré .  
Je mourrais, ta main dans ma main, pour toujours,  
Autour de nous fleurissant nos promesses,  
De nous revoir dans l'éternité bienfaisante .

*~ Huynh Anh Schroeder ~*

