

Friends of SACEI's

Newsletter

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To research, document, and promote Vietnamese Culture

A country stays alive when its culture is alive

SACEI NEWSLETTER is released the 5th 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.

Disclaimer. Publication in this newsletter of a book title or a film does not mean endorsement or approval by SACEI.



I. NASA TRINH HUU PHUOC



Trinh Huu Phuoc grew up in the small village of Bac Lieu in the Mekong delta. Tired of the communist regime, he escaped from Vietnam and landed in the U.S. where he earned a PhD in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Alabama at Huntsville. He and his wife work for NASA to develop a propulsion system for future robotic spacecraft ventures.

http://www.nasa.gov/audience/foreducators/rocketry/careercorner/Huu_Phuoc_Trinh.html



II. VO DINH TUAN, PhD

Dr. Tuan Vo-Dinh is R. Eugene and Susie E. Goodson Distinguished Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Professor of Chemistry, and Director of The Fitzpatrick Institute for Photonics, Duke University.

Dr. Vo-Dinh's research activities and interests involve biophotonics, nanophotonics, plasmonics, laser-excited luminescence spectroscopy, room temperature phosphorimetry, synchronous luminescence spectroscopy, surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy, field environmental instrumentation, fiber optics sensors, nanosensors, biosensors and biochips for the protection of the environment and the improvement of human health.



Vo-Dinh has been ranked No. 43 on a list of [the world's top 100 living geniuses](#) in a survey conducted by [Creators Synectics](#), a global consultants firm.

III. ROUND ABOUT OF SAIGON, Paris FRANCE in Memory of THE BOAT PEOPLE



The statue "A Mother's Dream" or in Vietnamese "Niềm Ước Mơ của Mẹ" pays:

- Homage to France, a Country of Asylum and Human Rights,
- Homage to the Boat People who by their sacrifice have assured a better future in Freedom for their youngsters,

It also symbolizes the Vietnamese's integration into French society and reminds young Vietnamese born in France not to forget their culture heritage.

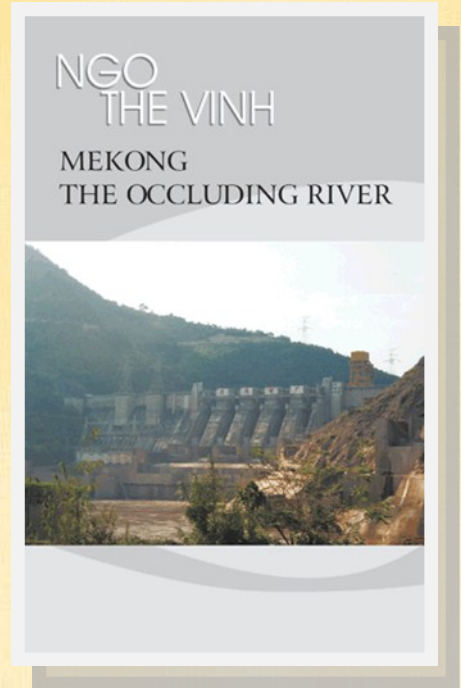
The statue was made by sculptor Vu Dinh Lam as a tribute to the Vietnamese and their community.

<http://www.tuongdaibussy.com/>



IV. BOOK. NGO THE VINH: MEKONG, THE OCCLUDING RIVER

Part travelogue, part history, and part environmental treatise, "Mekong - The Occluding River" is above all else an urgent warning that factors such as pollution, ecological devastation, and the depletion of natural resources are threatening the very existence of the Mekong River. Author Ngo The Vinh combines his vivid travel notes and collection of photographs with a meticulously researched history of the environmental degradation of the Mekong River. Translated from Vietnamese, the best-selling treatise outlines the myriad threats facing the river today. From oil shipments feeding the industrial cities of southwestern China to gigantic hydroelectric dams known as the Mekong Cascades in Yunnan province, China is the worst environmental offender, though the other nations along Mekong's banks behave no better.



V. MOVIE: THE JOURNEY OF VAAN NGUYEN



Duki Dror, one of the most innovative young directors in Israel today, reveals the absurdities of Vaan Nguyen's life as an Israeli-born Vietnamese. Her father was one of the many boat-people who fled Vietnam after the fall of Saigon in 1975 and was given asylum in the Israel as part of the international effort to save Vietnamese refugees who escaped the war. Now, the Nguyens have decided that it is time to return to go their home in Vietnam, and try to reclaim their confiscated lands. Their journey becomes a parable on the loss of identity and on the fate of refugees. Duki Dror, a son of an Iraqi refugee who can never return to his homeland, deals in his films with the rights of minorities, refugees and immigrants by sharing their narratives of expulsion, detachment, and the desperate search for a lost identity.



VI. POETRY: SỨ GIẢ TÌNH THƯƠNG

Thiên nhiên tạo bởi đất trời,
Nghĩa nhân tạo bởi người đời thương nhau.
Bức tranh rực rỡ muôn màu,
Bởi người họa sĩ chọn màu điểm trang.
Nhạc tình êm ái dịu dàng,
Vì người nhạc sĩ dạo đàn, bắt giây.
Tình người nghệ sĩ ngất ngây,
Vì tình nghệ sĩ gió mây ngang trời.
Vàng thơ bất hủ để đời,
Vì người thi sĩ trọn đời giảng tơi.
Tình ta nồng thắm nên thơ,
Vì lòng ta nguyện tôn thờ thủy chung.
Lòng người nhân ái khoan dung,
Bao la thế giới một vùng an ninh.
Thế gian còn có niềm tin,
Ngày nào nhân thế còn tình tương thân.
Thế gian dạo bước một lần,
Thì xin xây dựng cõi chân ân tình.
Làm người họa sĩ chân tình,
Vẽ tranh thế giới thanh bình nơi nơi.
Làm người văn sĩ chọn lời,
Viết bài ca ngợi đón mời yêu thương.
Làm người sứ giả tình thương,
Thế nhân là bạn, bốn phương là nhà.
Khoan hồng, độ lượng, vị tha,
Tâm hồn rộng mở, bao la tình người.

MESSENGER OF LOVE

(English Version of the poem SỨ GIẢ TÌNH THƯƠNG)

Nature is by God created,
Love is by mankind permeated.
A painting has glorious ethereal glows,
Because the artist has incorporated the colors of rainbows.
A masterpiece of melody comes to exist,
Because of the creativity of the gifted pianist.
The artist's heart is blessed with insight,
As his mind freely flies with rains and sunshine in the sky.
A beautiful lyric stays in the treasure chest of the universe,
Because the poet has spent a lifetime creating the right verse.
Our love is blessed with wonders,
Because we believe in faithfulness and its powers.
As humanity believes in forgiveness and acceptance,
This world comes to be a vast land of abundance.
As long as we vow to help each other,
This world is a shining place of wonder.
As only once do we walk the earth,
Let's make it a place of heartwarming hearth.
Be a painter of peace on earth,
Be a writer of love, a poet of cheerful season,
Be a messenger of hope and compassion.
With open arms and hearts in harmony,
We build a world of happiness and unity.

Huỳnh Anh