### **PRESS RELEASE**





## **Evolving international video project screens in Vietnam**

This September audiences in Vietnam will join a global art video community when they take their seats for the first session of PROJECT 35, an international exhibition of video works screening in 19 countries worldwide over the course of 2010 and 2011. This video project was initiated by Independent Curators International, New York and made possible in Vietnam by San Art – Vietnam's most active independent art space and reading room.

Project 35 has already screened in Albania, Mexico, Sweden and USA amongst others and will continue to proliferate weekly as more venues and new chapters in the series emerge. On Thursday 23 September, the first of four screenings in Vietnam will take place simultaneously in 3 cities across the country with thanks to 'mê phim' in HCMC; 'New Space Art' in Hue and 'Doclab' in Hanoi who are co-hosting the events.

PROJECT 35 celebrates 35 years of Independent Curators International (ICI); an organization that connects emerging and established curators, artists, and institutions and forges international networks. For Project 35, 35 curators were invited to select one artist's video that they think vital for contemporary art audiences across the globe. The result heralds the new decade, with an eclectic compilation of works that reveal the global reach that video has achieved as a contemporary art medium today.

The journey begins with videos focusing on wide-ranging, confrontational realities, including the uprisings and protests in post-colonial South Africa, the news broadcasts in China, the urban roads of modern-day Ho Chi Minh City, and the crime filled streets of Bogotá.

While similarities can be found in the focus of these works, the methods could not be any more varied. The works selected show how diverse the single-channel video can be, ranging from the You Tube style narrative to documentary, from clay-mation to digital animation, using

a variety of approaches, from creating performative installations to reformatting a Walt Disney classic.

The screenings are free and everyone is welcome. Session 1 of Project 35 will take place at the following venues.

HCMC CAFÉ CAO MINH 255/47 bis No Trang Long, Q. Bình Thạnh, tp. Hồ Chí Minh

HANOI GOETHE INSTITUT 56-58 Nguyen Thai Hoc, Hà nội, HUE NEW ARTS SPACE 15 Lê Lơi Street, Huế City

For details of local screenings - www.san-art.org
For details of global screenings - www.ici-exhibitions.org
<a href="http://www.ici-exhibitions.org/index.php/site/exhibitions/project-35">http://www.ici-exhibitions.org/index.php/site/exhibitions/project-35</a>

Venue and date to be announced for Sessions 2, 3 and 4

#### **ENDS**

# NOTES TO THE EDITOR PARTICIPATING ARTS ORGANISATIONS

**Sàn Art** is an independent, artist-run exhibition space and reading room located in Ho Chi Minh City. Dedicated to the exchange and cultivation of contemporary art in Vietnam. We aim to support the country's thriving artist community by creating opportunities that provide exhibition space, residency programs for young artists, lecture series and an exchange program that invites international artists/curators to organize or collaborate on exhibitions. **www.san-art.org** 

DOCLAB is a center/lab for documentary filmmaking and video art based at the Goethe Institute in Hanoi. Its activities include basic film and video training, workshops, screenings and discussion, an editing lab and video library accessible to the public. www.hanoidoclab.org

**mê phim - passionate about film** - is a HCMC based film initiative that runs a programme of live film events incorporating elements of discussion, live music and art where local and international film makers show their work.

facebook - mê phim - passionate about film

**The New Space Art Foundation** [NSAF] is an independent art space in Hue city which aims to increase contemporary art appreciation amongst general public, NSAF's main activities are financially and spatially supporting young Vietnamese and international artists by giving them the opportunities to uninhibitedly express their ideas.

www.newspacearts.com

## ARTISTS AND CURATORS IN PROJECT 35: SESSION ONE

Guy Ben-Ner (Israel) currently lives and works in Tel Aviv, Israel. He was selected by Mai Abu ElDahab (Egypt/Belgium) who currently lives in Antwerp, Belgium, where she is the Director of Objectif Exhibitions.

Tuan Andrew Nguyen & Phù Nam Thuc Ha (both Vietnam) currently live and work in Ho ChiMinh City, Vietnam. They were selected by Zoe Butt (Australia/Vietnam) who is based in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, where she is the Curator and Director of San Art, an independent artist-run gallery space and reading room.

Zhou Xiaohu (China) graduated in 1989 with a degree in oil painting from Sichuan Academy of Fine Arts. He was selected by Lu Jie (China) who is currently based in Beijing, where he is the Chief Curator of the Long March Project, a complex, multi-platform, international arts organization and ongoing art project.

Yukihiro Taguchi (Japan) currently lives and works in Berlin. He was selected by Mami Kataoka (Japan) who is currently the Chief Curator at the Mori Art Museum in Tokyo as well as the International Associate Curator at the Hayward Gallery in London.

Kota Ezawa (US/Germany) currently lives and works in San Francisco. He was selected byConstance Lewallen (US) who is Adjunct Curator at the University of California Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive.

Robert Cauble (US) currently lives and works in Chicago. He was selected by Raimundas Malasauskas (Lithuania/France) who is a writer and who was a curator-at-large of Artists Space, New York from 2007-08.

Edwin Sánchez (Colombia) currently lives and works in Bogota, Columbia. He was selected by José Roca (Colombia) who works out of Bogotá, Colombia and Philadelphia, where he is Artistic Director of *Philagrafika* 2010.

Wanda Raimundi-Ortiz (US) lives and works in New York. She was selected by Franklin Sirmans (US) who is the Terri and Michael Smooke Department Head and Curator of Contemporary Art at LACMA, Los Angeles.

Dan Halter (Zimbabwe) currently lives and works in Cape Town, South Africa. He was selected by Kathryn Smith (South Africa) is an artist, scholar and independent curator who is a Senior Lecturer and Head of Fine Arts Studio Practice in the Department of Visual Arts, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa.

Project 35 is produced and circulated by ICI (Independent Curators International), New York. The exhibition and tour are made possible, in part, by grants from the Cowles Charitable Trust; Foundation for Contemporary Art; the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation; The Toby Fund; and the Board of Trustees of ICI and the ICI Benefactors.

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