

bétonsalon

Center for Art and Research

Anywhere But Here

September 14 - November 5, 2016

Tuesday September 13, 2016, 5-6pm (press preview), 6-9pm (opening)

Felix González-Torres, Hâm Nghi, Thao-Nguyen Phan, Pratchaya Phinthong, Vandy Rattana, SAAP (Singapore Art Archive Project), Khvay Samnang, Albert Samreth, Sa Sa Art Projects, Shui Tit Sing, Shooshie Sulaiman, Tran Minh Duc, Vuth Lyno

Curators : **Mélanie Mermod & Vera Mey**



Tran Minh Duc, *Normal day No.2 (some day in NY)*, 2010

Anywhere But Here

Anywhere But Here (*N'importe où sauf ici*, គ្រប់ទីកន្លែង លើកលែងទីនេះ) brings together artworks that seek out some circulations of objects, figures or gestures in relation to Cambodia, and more broadly within the geopolitical context of Southeast Asia. With a focus on deterritorialization – whether they would be forced or driven by free will, consequences of uncontrollable slippages or transfers carefully orchestrated – these collected stories of movements draw vanishing points within prevailing processes of history-making and patrimonial heritage.

Numerous shifts of power in Cambodia have repeatedly recast the conception of culture and historialization of facts and patrimony, including the seemingly timeless and ongoing tensions with its neighbors Vietnam and Thailand, the colonial French Protectorate (1863-1953), the 1970 coup leading to the assumption of power of Lon Nol, the following four years of civil war (1970-1974), meanwhile the rise South-East Asian Communist parties and the genocidal rule of the Khmer Rouge Regime (1975-1979), to the Vietnamese ruled People's Republic of Kampuchea (1979-1991), the rule of United Nations Transitional Authority over the country (1992-1993), which led to the autocratic rule of Prime Minister Hun Sen (since 1998).

The works presented in *Anywhere But Here* address marginal movements developping within historical moments, such as the forced exile or voluntary displacements of intellectuals to France and its colonies (**Hàm Nghi, Tran Minh Duc**). The works of **Thao-Nguyen Phan** evoke the after-effects of French and Japanese intrusions on the evolution of agrarian landscape and deference gestures, while others invent new scenarios in patrimonial spaces (**Shooshie Sulaiman, Pratchaya Phinthong**). Some works trace the intimate trajectories of objects and anonymous persons (**Felix González-Torres, Khvay Samnang, Vuth Lyo**), while others take as their starting point former artists' journeys that lie ambiguously between a quest for disorientation or a quest of tangible origins (**Albert Samreth, Singapore Art Archive Project, Vandy Rattana**).

IMAGES



Tran Minh Duc, *New Pack of Liberation* from the series *Still Alive*, 2016. Courtesy of the artist.



Vuth Lyno, *UNTAC Project*, 2016. Courtesy of the artist.



Koh Nguang How's tracing the Journey of Shui Tit Sing at the Bakong Temple at Siem Reap, from the publication of Marco Hsu, *A Brief History of Malayan Art*, (1963). Courtesy of the artist.



Thao-Nguyen Phan, *Untitled (Heads)* from *Uproot Rice, Grow Jute* series, 2013. Courtesy of the artist.

ABOUT BÉTONSALON - CENTER FOR ART AND RESEARCH

Bétonsalon – Center for Art and Research strives to develop a space of reflection and confrontation at the confluence of art and university research by giving form to discourses in the aesthetic, cultural, political, social and economic realms. Integrated into the site of the University Paris 7 in the heart of a neighbourhood undergoing reconstruction, the ZAC Paris Rive Gauche in the 13th district of Paris, Bétonsalon aims to ally theory and practice, with the objective of rearticulating the position of research and artistic creation in society.

In February 2016, Bétonsalon - Center for Art and Research opened a second site of activities, the Villa Vassilieff in the 15th arrondissement of Paris. Villa Vassilieff is a space for art, residencies and research. This new cultural establishment owned by the City of Paris, is designed as both a place of work and living, its ambition is to stimulate the development of ideas and the sharing of knowledge all at once.

Pernod Ricard, its leading sponsor, has joined forces with Villa Vassilieff to create the Pernod Ricard Fellowship: a grant aimed at supporting four international artists, curators and researchers in residence every year in the Villa's studio.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

TEAM

Mélanie Bouteloup, director
Pierre Vialle, adjunct director,
administrator

Site Bétonsalon - Center for Art and Research

Mélanie Mermod, head of programs
Camille Chenais, projects coordinator
Margaux Paturel, projects coordinator

Site Villa Vassilieff

Virginie Bobin, head of programs
Cyril Verde, technician, production and
education manager
Simon Rannou, administrative officer

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Metro Line 14 or RER C
Stop Bibliothèque François Mitterrand
Bus 62, 89 et 132 stop Bibliothèque
François Mitterrand
Bus 64 stop Tolbiac-Bibliothèque
François Mitterrand
Bus 325 stop Thomas Mann
Tramway T3a stop Avenue de France

FREE ENTRANCE

Open Tuesday - Saturday / 11am-7pm

PARTNERS

The project *Anywhere But Here* is linked with the second session of the Académie vivante (Living Academy) which will run from September to December 2016.

The **Académie vivante (Living Academy)** is a new experimental Research Laboratory established for three years in the Epigenetics and Cell Fate unit (CNRS / Paris-Diderot University), in collaboration with Bétonsalon - Center for Art and Research.

Each academic semester, the Académie vivante invites artists to work within the laboratory on a theme of research. Surrounded by a team established for six months, the artists benefit from privileged access to laboratories to direct experimental educational programs designed for researchers, students and the wider public.

Vuth Lyno is the invited director of this second session of the Académie vivante. Starting from the thematic of the semester on the dynamics of co-construction of heritages, the Académie vivante will propose several formats of teachings and meetings for searchers, students and the wide audience.

Anywhere But Here in Phnom Penh

From fragments of stories of displacement and deterritorialization, *Anywhere But Here* collaborated with the artist-run space **Sa Sa Arts Projects**, co-founded and directed by the artist Vuth Lyno through the intensive workshop « **The Theater of Movement** », that took place in August 2016 in Phnom Penh (Cambodia). The workshop gathered participants from Phnom Penh's Tonle Bassac area to lead a collective inquiry on transcultural movements mainly related to archives and documents based in France. Some propositions and artworks produced during this workshop resurface in the exhibition.

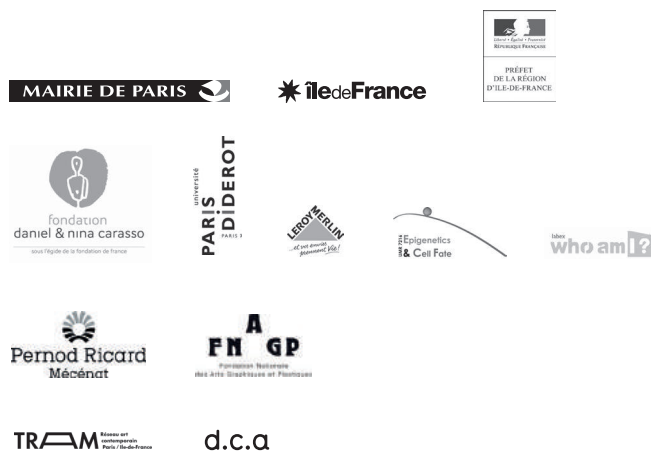
Exhibition partners: Sa Sa Bassac, Sa Sa Art Projects, Cité Internationale des arts, Fondation Nationales des Arts Graphiques et Plastiques, Fondation Daniel et Nina Carasso, Pernod Ricard

Bétonsalon - Center for Art and Research is supported by the City of Paris, the Paris Diderot University - Paris 7, the Île-de-France Regional Board of Cultural Affairs - Ministry of Culture and Communication, the Île-de-France Region and Leroy Merlin - Quai d'Ivry.

The Académie vivante is supported by the Fondation Daniel et Nina Carasso.

Bétonsalon - Center for Art and Research is a member of Tram, réseau art contemporain Paris /Île-de-France, and of d.c.a / association française de développement des centres d'art.

The Villa Vassilievff receives support from public and private partners first and foremost from the City of Paris, the Île-de-France Region and Pernod Ricard, its Premier Mécène. The Villa Vassilievff has developed also partnerships with the Fondation Nationale des Arts Graphiques et Plastiques, the Collège d'études mondiales of the Fondation Maison des sciences de l'homme, the Goethe Institut or the Cité Internationale des arts.



Exhibition partners



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