

ARTS AS AN INSTRUMENT TO WEAVE SOCIETY TOGETHER

Introduction:

Starting on February 18, 2024, and will last for one month, the online series workshop **ARTS AS AN INSTRUMENT TO WEAVE SOCIETY TOGETHER** includes four discussions sharing experiences from artists/projects. The discussions are a way to open up artistic possibilities for young people compelled by the link between art and social issues. The workshop series will be completely online. The series is an initiative of Thi Collective and artist Nguyễn Thị Thanh Mai, with the support of the Heritage Space and sponsored by artlink and South Cultural Fonds.

Prompted by personal pursuits when looking for interdisciplinary intersections between art and social issues, we hope that the framework of the workshop series can introduce to participants the context of social artworks and how they are proposed and developed. In particular, the workshop series will focus on analyzing artworks/projects associated with two prominent social issues, i.e., migration and climate change, in the transitions in the context of contemporary Vietnam, and thus propose sustainable creative solutions. Besides, the workshop series takes advantage of the source of creativity from guest artists to suggest appropriate means of artistic creativity to support participants in expressing their thoughts on social issues. Within the limited framework of the program, we humbly ask for understanding as we prioritize participants from the Central Region of Vietnam. However, we are also open to learning and exchanging more practices from other regions across Vietnam.

The workshop includes four sessions:

- Introduction of projects/works related to community issues, focusing on two topics: migration and climate change in a transition context.
- Learning about the artists' practices, exploring their thought process during creation, and selecting suitable creative techniques and methods.
- Process of creating arts and the difficulties that young practitioners may encounter.
- Roundtable discussion about art projects addressing social issues, inquiring about failures from previous projects, and proposing sustainable creative solutions.

Upon workshop closure, we will offer three participating projects/individuals the opportunity to exchange one-on-one with artists of the same interests. Each chosen project will be supported with a development fund of 100 USD.

Workshop Details:

Location: zoom

Schedule and Duration: Three sessions, each lasting 3.5 hours

Maximum number of participants: 13 participants

Eligibility requirements for participants:

- The participants must be 18 years old or older, from all professions/fields like arts, sociology, anthropology, etc., interested in the connection between art and social issues.
- The participants demonstrate specific interests in social issues or are running interdisciplinary projects.
- We prioritize individuals/projects from the Central Region of Vietnam. However, potential individuals/projects from other regions are encouraged to apply.

Objectives:

- To animate contemporary art, emphasizing its connection with societal issues.
- To understand and apply art as an instrument for self-exploration and fostering social bonds.
- To reassess developing social concerns through a new lens, moving beyond outdated, one-sided approaches and limited viewpoints.

Methodologies:

- Interdisciplinary approach

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| Guest speakers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Films screening - Performance screening - Presentation slides |
| Organizer | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Zoom account - Archive (online) - Computer - Presentation slides |

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1aba-wswTwW5tNWM7yzQl6dKB7oPOYIO2miXXrhfT2rw/edit?usp=sharing> (vietnamese version)

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1aba-wswTwW5tNWM7yzQl6dKB7oPOYIO2miXXrhfT2rw/edit#gid=1451444094> (english version)

Contact Information:

If you want to learn more about our workshop, please visit or contact:

Thì Collective, a network of writers, translators, designers, and artists who, through different methods of artistic creation, work on storytelling projects related to marginalized social groups in contemporary Vietnam.

Link to event: <https://shorturl.at/luD01>

Link to organizer: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100095775842945>

Email: thi.collective.te@gmail.com

Copyright/Credits:

Thì Collective (Nguyễn Alex): Main organizer

Heritage space: Production partner

Visual artist Nguyễn Thị Thanh Mai: Mentor/supervisor

List of guest artists:

- Artist, curator Trần Lương - APD Art Protection and Development Center, Hanoi.
- artist Đỗ Kỳ Huy - Visual artist, Former Head of the Department of Painting, College of Arts, Hue University.
- Architect Nguyễn Hạnh Nguyên, lecturer in the Department of Architecture, independent researcher.
- Curator Nguyễn Anh Tuấn- Heritage Space art organization, Hanoi
- Visual artist Trương Thiên- Hue University of Arts, Hue
- Visual artist Nguyễn Thị Thanh Mai - Hue University of Arts, Hue
- Filmmaker Mai Huyền Chi- A Song Art Club, Da Nang
- Performance artist Nguyễn Đình Phương, Hanoi - Moc Chau
- Visual artist Nguyễn Vũ Xuân Hà - A Song Art Club, Da Nang
- Multi-disciplinary artist, urban storyteller Nguyễn Vũ Hải - Hà Nội.

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