

speakers

Thang Ngo is Councillor of Fairfield City Council and Policy Advisor at the NSW Parliament. Ngo is a strong advocate of Vietnamese issues in Australia. He has successfully lobbied in support of community issues such as the current NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into Cabramatta Police Resources. Ngo is a recipient of the Churchill Scholarship, with which he plans to conduct further research into Vietnamese communities internationally.

Dacchi Dang is an artist based in Sydney. His exhibition *The Boat* is based upon a collaboration with Vietnamese boat refugees now settled in Australia. Dang has exhibited at the Horsham Gallery, Melbourne, Phyllis Palmer Gallery, Bendigo and has just completed a residency at the Arthur Boyd Studios, Bundanon. He has also shown internationally at the Gerrit Rietveld Academie, The Netherlands.

Khao Do was awarded the 2000 Young Vietnamese-Australian of the Year for his services in drama and his work with Vietnamese youth in Sydney. He is actively working in theatre, film, television and comedy, appearing in major features such as *The Quiet American* and *The Diamond of Jeru*. In 2000, he wrote *Delivery Day* for SBS Television, the first Vietnamese-Australian film to be made in Australia.

Dai Le is a journalist and producer of the Social History and Features Unit on ABC Radio National. In 1999, Dai Le was awarded the Human Rights Award for the Radio Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission. She has produced a number of radio documentaries and features about the development of Australia's social history.

Cuong Phu Le is the multicultural arts officer for the Vietnamese Community in Australia - NSW Chapter. Le has curated a number of exhibitions and theatre productions within the community, including *Viet: Being Part of the Landscape*, an exhibition celebrating 25 years of Vietnamese settlement in Australia at the Casula Powerhouse. Le also initiated the oral history project with the Migration Heritage Centre, which documents the refugee stories of Vietnamese-Australians.

Hanh Ngo is a Vietnamese-born artist who uses craft practices such as tapestry and Vietnamese lacquer to examine her cross-cultural identity. In 1997 Ngo returned to Vietnam to explore her roots but found herself a foreigner in the country of her birth. This discovery has deeply affected the work she produces. Hanh Ngo was the recipient of the Samstag Scholarship and has exhibited her work at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, the Centre for Contemporary Craft, as well as internationally at the Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art, Japan.

Citymoon (the Vietnamese Australian Contemporary Theatre Company) was established by Binh Duy Ta and Bruce Keller in order to create a cultural bridge between Vietnamese and non-Vietnamese Australian communities. Intrinsic to Citymoon's vision is the production of innovative theatre, intercultural collaboration between artists and the professional training of Vietnamese-Australian youth.

asia-australia arts centre
gallery4a

Asian-Australian Voices

A four part seminar series examining the role of Asian communities in contemporary Australian culture

seminar three

Onwards Journeys: *Charting the Vietnamese-Australian Identity*

Six young Vietnamese-Australians talk about their experience as boat refugees growing up in Australia. They will present how their self determination and their will to succeed have helped to create a new sense of identity for the Vietnamese-Australian community. *Onward Journeys* is about exploring new directions and new approaches to understanding boat refugees. It acknowledges the past but focuses on the future, helping to redefine the way Australians view themselves. The seminar celebrates 25 years of Vietnamese migration and examines the developments that have taken place within the context of contemporary Australian culture.

The seminar concludes with a performance from *Soft Silk Rough Linen* by Citymoon (the Vietnamese Australian Contemporary Theatre Company).

Panel: Thang Ngo (Chair), Dacchi Dang, Dai Le, Khao Do, Cuong Phu Le, Hanh Ngo

Date: Thursday 1 November 2001, 6-8pm
Venue: Asia-Australia Arts Centre
181 Hay Street (between Pitt and George Streets)
Sydney NSW 2000
tel: 9212 0380 fax: 9281 0873
asauac@ihug.com.au

Admission: \$5 (GST inclusive) Bookings essential as numbers are limited



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