

GEBERT STIFTUNG FÜR KULTUR*

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*KURATOR 2008/2009 Fanny Gonella

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DANH VO AND HIS AMERICAN FRIENDS

JAMES CACCAVO, JOSEPH CARRIER, GERALD C. HICKEY,
JAQUELINE MAIER, THANH Q. PHAN, MARILYN RAVISZ

10. Januar bis 1. März 2009

Eröffnung: Freitag, 9. Januar 2009, 19 Uhr

Presse Vorbesichtigung: Freitag, 9. Januar 2009, 11 Uhr

While participating in an artist residency at the Villa Aurora few years ago, Danh Vo met Joe Carrier in Los Angeles. After the residency ended, Vo continued to travel regularly back to California. This autumn, on a research trip, the two met again and Joe got introduced Danh to some of his friends.

Invited for this exhibition to invite further people, Vo chose to gather these people he had met in California. He proposed that they collaborate on a common project that involved each of them providing a contribution to the exhibition. Their participation in *KURATOR takes various forms, as each contribution is highly personal, including texts and objects.

The exhibition gathers, among others, a former economist from the Rand Corporation, a linguist, an anthropologist, a former war photographer, and of course the artist. Vo animates what one could view as his American network, or research platform, simultaneously activating the ensemble while also belonging to it. In this project there is a common engagement from the part of the artist as indirect host, or curator, and his friends. Their engagement, or responsibility, further relates to even more people and, thereby, potentially opens up this group of friends to other ones.

Vo's American friends are linked by common interests and related experiences. They are drawn together by cultural codes and by an ability to figure out each other's experience. The link between them is not official and the group is not definable as such. It is of informal nature and materialised here by the objects displayed in the exhibition space. These objects relate indirectly to the time period of the years before 1975, the year that the artist was born, and to situations that unfolded afterwards.

Although the exhibition is temporary, the sense of community that relates these people existed before the show and will continue to persist. This particular configuration of people will vanish after the exhibition ends although it might reform later under different circumstances.

This exhibition is made possible through the generous support of the city Rapperswil-Jona, Kanton St.Gallen, Swisslos, AVINA STIFTUNG, Danish Arts Council Committee for Visual Arts. Danh Vo ist 1975 in Ba Ria geboren. Seine Arbeit wird im Januar in der Galerie Zero in Mailand und im Juni in der Kunsthalle Basel zu sehen sein.

WEITERE VERANSTALTUNGEN:

Sonntag 18. Januar 2009, 14 Uhr

Öffentliche Führung

Die beiden Kunstvermittlerinnen der Alten Fabrik, Birgit Fritsch und Ursula Meier, führen durch «Danh Vo and his American Friends».

Alte Fabrik

Klaus Gebert Strasse 5

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Öffnungszeiten: Mi–Fr 17–20h / Sa–So 14–17h

Für weitere Informationen oder Bildmaterial wenden Sie sich bitte an Fanny Gonella,
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