



MEDIA RELEASE

Victoria Pham's first solo show in Europe
roots run wild on threads of memory
March 6 - April 19 2025

15 Beautreillis presents *roots run wild on threads of memory*, the first solo exhibition in Paris for the multidisciplinary artist Victoria Pham, on view from 6 March through 19 April 2025. Incorporating sound, video projection, silk painting, needlework, and cast sculpture, Pham's works retell personal and familial stories and re-imagine literal and figurative landscapes through materials that the artist herself has smuggled, composed, deconstructed, and cultivated. The vernissage takes place on 6 March 2025, beginning at 18h, at the gallery at 15, rue Beautreillis in Paris 4e.

The exhibition comprises a large-scale silk painting; hand-embroidered 18th century erotic and feminist poetry by H`òXuân H`ong; assemblages of futuristic-archeological objects; and features the eponymous sound-projection-garden installation in the gallery's lower level. The artworks' diversity of forms belies their underlying commonality: what they are made of is not straightforward; and the archive from which these works derive meaning is unstable, contested – and very much alive.

In the silk painting *Banyan*, Pham deconstructs a collection of Áo dài – traditional Vietnamese garments for women – that belonged to her mother and aunts and reassembles them as a silk canvas for her painting of a guardian Banyan tree. Sewing and needlework recurs in *100 silent utterances*, where the artist has embroidered ten poems by H`òXuân H`ong in Nôm, a near-extinct form of written Vietnamese script that now can only be read in translation. Instead of decorated fabric, however, each embroidered surface is a mycelium tile; mycelium being the root-like system of fungi that the artist has cultivated and cured as a biomaterial. With the series *Rooted Relics*, the artist uses mooncake molds to cast mycelium into almost recognizable objects, reminding us how food and ritual, and notions of home, make and remake each other.

The exhibition culminates in the eponymous bio-installation *roots run wild on threads of memory*, which engages the totality of our senses and brings together the themes, materials, and methods from the other artworks in the show. Exhibited in the gallery's lower level, we see a celebrated Áo dài, activated by projection-mapped video work; we smell the soil and herbs; we hear sounds collected by the artist while tending to the plants. We will even get to taste these plants in a workshop planned for April 3. Immersed in this world, we experience the artist's geography and geology of Vietnam; we inhabit the work as a living record of Pham's story told through ecology.

In this exhibition, Pham's decidedly polyvalent practice as an artist, an evolutionary biologist and archaeologist, a composer, a writer, and a materials designer coalesce to present a plural self. The exhibit contains not only the artist's singular subjectivity, but also traces of the bodies and labor and remembrances of the women in her family; a communion and a negotiation with nature in the production process; and an imperfect reclamation of lost language, silence, and meaning in the



aftermath of coloniality. As Pham acknowledges, the works in the show “contemplate how the connection between decomposition and regeneration can be an act of resilience.”

“The breadth of Victoria Pham’s curiosity and the depth of her expertise are unmatched, and her work cannot be categorized within disciplinary boundaries. I’m excited for this opportunity to showcase such thoughtful and dynamic work, seeing how Pham’s aims coincide perfectly with the gallery’s purpose,” remarks Quinnie SG Tan, 15 Beautreillis’ director.

As a champion of contemporary artists unbound by geography, working across media and disciplines, and engaged with the vital concerns of the here and now, 15 Beautreillis exhibits projects that are characterized by hybridity and multiplicity, unafraid of dissonance and contradiction. Emphasizing the value of collaboration and experimentation, 15 Beautreillis believes that art makes experiencing other imaginaries possible.

For further inquiries, press materials, or to schedule an interview, please contact:

15 Beautreillis

Email: hello@15beautreillis.com

Website: www.15beautreillis.com

Press Preview: By appointment

Opening Reception: 6 March 2025, 18:00

Exhibition Dates: 6 March – 19 April 2025

Location: 15 Beautreillis, 15, rue Beautreillis, Paris 4e