

GALERIE
b
a
q



Đỗ Tuấn-Anh, Fragile #3, 2018, acrylic on canvas © Galerie BAQ

Phenomena

a duo exhibition by

Đỗ Tuấn-Anh and Richie Nath



Richie Nath, Must I Go On Pretending?, 2023, acrylic on canvas © Galerie BAQ

25
-
05
|
17
-
06
-
23

PRESS KIT

VERSION FRANÇAISE

[Cliquez-ici](#)

Curator : Lê Thiên-Bảo

OPENING

18-21h, 25 May 2023



Đỗ Tuấn-Anh, *Fragile #9*, 2018, acrylic on canvas | © Galerie BAQ

Phenomena presents the distinct artistic practices of **Đỗ Tuấn-Anh** from Thanh Hoa, Vietnam, and **Richie Nath** from Yangon, Myanmar. Hailing from Southeast Asia, these two visionary artists draw inspiration from their respective cultural backgrounds, delving into the realms of mythology, dreams, and the enigmatic nature of human existence. Through a compelling interplay of mediums, narratives, and visual aesthetics, the exhibition invites viewers on a journey of introspection, contemplation, and self-discovery.



Đỗ Tuấn-Anh, a master of visual poetry, blurs the boundaries between form and imagination in his spellbinding works. His series *Fragile* (2018) beckons viewers to approach closely to discover intricate patterns that reference the passage of time. Each stroke of acrylic on canvas reveals the profound beauty found within decay, and evokes a deeply resonant sense of impermanence. His sculptures series, *Relics* (2019), crafted from acrylic on cement, recall frozen fossils that capture fleeting moments forever. Drawing inspiration from the teachings of Buddhism, Tuấn-Anh's monochromatic works encapsulate the fragility of life and the eternal quest for existence, urging us to contemplate the brevity of our individual journeys.

Đỗ Tuấn-Anh, *Expectation*, 2019, acrylic on cement | © Galerie BAQ



Richie Nath, *Must I Go On Pretending?*, 2023, acrylic on canvas | © Galerie BAQ

Richie Nath, in contrast, mesmerizes with his vibrant and figurative painting series *The Wounded Fawn* (2023), its genesis rooted in the epic tales of Hindu mythology. Starting from a self-portrait, depicting the artist himself looking at his mirrored reflection, Richie weaves together captivating narratives, from the hybrid between Actaeon* and Maricha** to Mani-Kantha, the Serpent-King in the Jataka tales***. The series features Richie's relentless pursuit of one's true self, exploring the duality of human nature and the struggle between growth and resistance, East and West. His works challenge the viewer to confront their own inner demons and to persevere in the face of adversity.

* In Greek Mythology, Actaeon was a youth who was raised by a centaur. In the encounter with chaste Artemis, known to the Romans as Diana, the goddess of the hunt splashes water upon Actaeon. He is transformed into a deer, robbed of his ability to speak, and thereafter promptly flees in fear. It is no long, however, before his own hounds track him down and kill him, failing to recognize their master.

** In the Hindu epic Ramayana, Maricha was assigned the task of luring Rama and Laxmana away from Sita. In their absence Ravana planned to abduct a defenseless Sita and carry her away to his kingdom in Lanka. Maricha magically transformed into a beautiful golden deer, and grazed near Rama's forest dwelling so that he could be spotted by Sita.

*** The story about The Serpent-King (or Jewel-Throat) revolves around the dynamic of a love triangle between two human brothers and a non-human lover. This tale follows a rather unconventional route, with a same-sex relationship (or a bromance) as the central theme of the story.



The exhibition title, *Phenomena*, is inspired by the seminal works of Joseph Campbell, the renowned mythologist and author of *The Hero with a Thousand Faces*. Campbell's exploration of the human psyche and the metaphors found within mythologies serves as a guiding force, shedding light on the transformative power of storytelling and the pursuit of transcendence.

Phenomena transcends a mere exhibition; it weaves a tapestry of collective experiences meticulously curated by **Lê Thiên-Bảo**, breathing life into shared narratives that surpass geographical confines and cultural nuances. As you immerse yourself in the gallery's intimate space, a symphony of art and storytelling transports you to a realm where the threads of humanity intertwine. In *Phenomena*, universal themes of life, metamorphosis, and transcendence emerge, inviting contemplation of your own journey and the unfathomable depths of your being.

Đỗ Tuấn-Anh, *Gerrman Forest*, 2019, acrylic on cement | © Galerie BAQ



Đỗ Tuấn-Anh, *Fragile #2*, 2018, acrylic on canvas | © Galerie BAQ



Richie Nath, *Where are you?*, 2023, acrylic on canvas | © Galerie BAQ

MEET THE ARTISTS

Đỗ Tuấn-Anh (b.1979 in Thanh Hoa Province, Vietnam) graduated from the University for Art and Design Hanoi in 2000, and currently lives and works in Solingen, Germany. Using the strong graphic approach he acquired in his studies, Tuấn-Anh's monochromatic ink and acrylic images explore the complexities and fragility of time. Tuấn-Anh's works are memento mori/vanitas: reflecting time and decay, reminding us of the struggle and shortness of our individual lifespans. Exploring how time passes, witnessing history, and observing its traces, Tuấn-Anh also takes inspiration from Buddhism and the artist Hubert Robert, by freezing a moment in today's fast-changing modern society.

Recent exhibitions: *Reflection of the Doubled Scenery*, Hanoi Studio Gallery, Hanoi, Vietnam (2022); *Aus der Isolation*, The Centre for Persecuted Arts, Solingen, Germany (2020); *Erinnerungsrelikte*, FONIS Galerie, Düsseldorf, Germany (2019); *Migration und Identität*, Goethe Institut, Hanoi, Vietnam (2015); *Stories told in an oriental way*, Manzi Art Space, Hanoi, Vietnam (2014); *Faraway*, Craig Thomas Gallery, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam (2012); *I wish...*, Vietnam Fine Arts Museum, Hanoi, Vietnam (2010); *Asian art fairnale 2010*, Haslla Art World Museum, Korea (2010).

His work is in the collections of the Ho Chi Minh Fine Art Museum, HCM city, Vietnam.



Image © Đỗ Tuấn-Anh

Richie Nath (b.1995 in Yangon, Myanmar) is a queer artist based in Paris since 2021. He was raised in Myanmar and spent his studies in England. Graduating from the London College of Fashion (2017) in fashion illustration, Nath is a member of the agency of artists in exile. His paintings explore themes of Queer self reflection, identity and dreams.

Richie combines illustration and painting with a tapestry of vibrant colors and intricate forms, delving into the complexities of the human figure, identity, eroticism and politics in the context of his own experience as a youth in a conservative society. Nath investigates the intricacies of the human psyche, and is compelled by mythology, Egyptian gods and Buddhist folklore. Nath's paintings serve as a portal to his inner world.

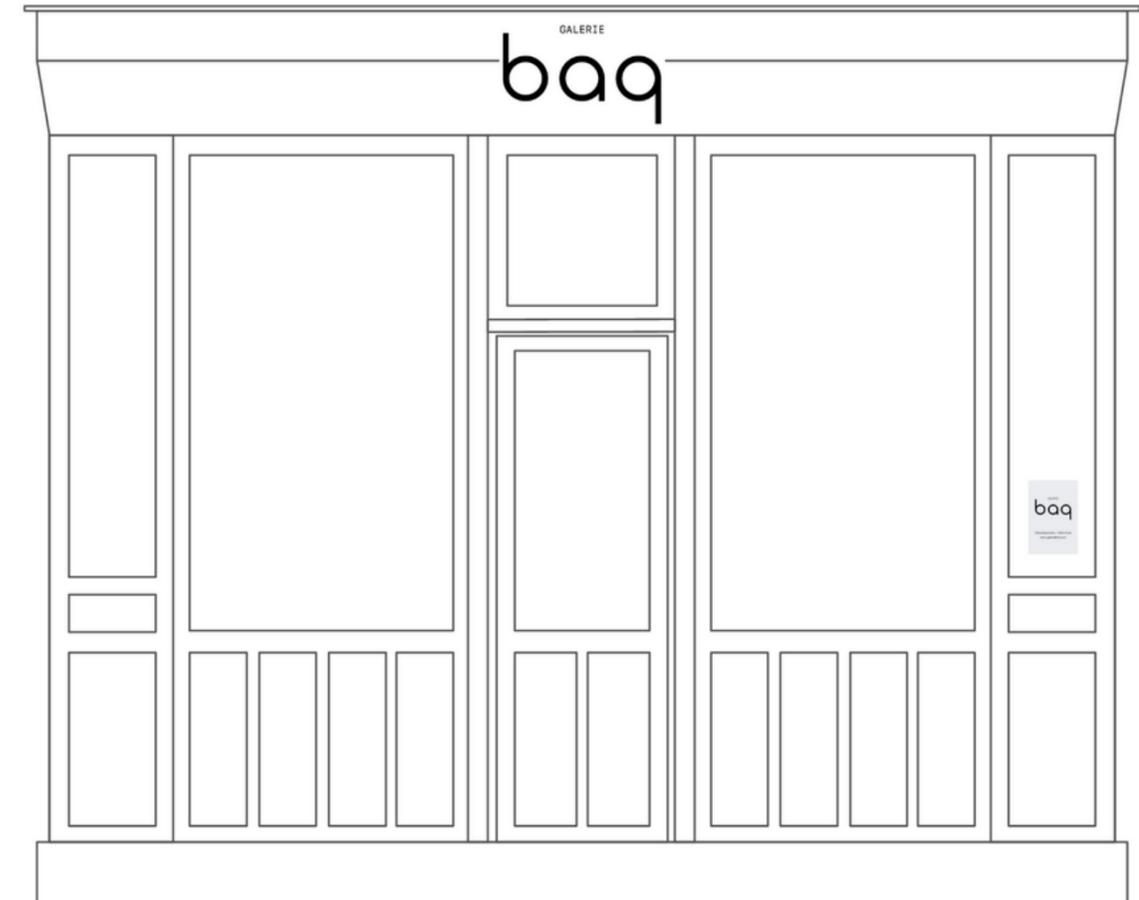
Recent exhibitions: *Mère D'Exil - Regards D'Artistes*, *La Cité Miroir*, Liège, Belgium (2023); *This Too Shall Pass*, Spinello Projects, Miami, U.S.A (2023); *EXPOSITION STOP WARS*, Magasins Généraux, Paris, France (2022); *Fighting Fear*, 16 Albemarle, Australia (2021); *Notes From The Motherland*, Aicon Contemporary, New York, U.S.A (2020); *The Foot Beneath The Flower: camp*, Kitsch Art in SouthEast Asia, NTU ADM Gallery, Singapore (2020).



Image © Richie Nath

OUR HISTORY

Galerie BAQ opened in Paris, France in April 2023, under the direction of Lê Thiên-Bảo and Quinnie SG Tan. We champion and amplifies contemporary art from the world's emerging centers of creativity, working directly and in collaboration with artists who have ties to Southeast Asia and their diasporic communities everywhere. In addition to artists whose work creates a dialogue with Southeast Asia, Galerie BAQ is curious about forms of cultural production and creative expression that engage with complex histories and identities, reimagine traditions, and challenge dominant ideologies.



THE TEAM

Quinnie SG TAN

Co-founder / Director of Operarions

Quinnie holds a bachelor's degree in architecture and cultural studies from Yale University. After moving to Paris in 2019, she completed a master's degree in public affairs at Sciences Po, focusing on cultural policies. During her 16-year career in public service, she served as a trusted policy advisor and senior administrator on complex civic projects involving affordable housing, streetcar expansion and waterfront redevelopment.

As co-founder of Galerie BAQ, Quinnie will lead day-to-day operations, overseeing administrative, financial and legal functions, as well as developing community programs with external partners.



Image © Mathilde Cazes

Lê Thiên-Bảo

Co-founder / Director

Bảo divides her time between Ho Chi Minh City and Paris. Since 2010, her curatorial practice has been exploring the best ways to promote contemporary art in Southeast Asia by raising awareness and connecting artists and their communities. After curating the first contemporary art center in Vietnam (*The Factory*) from 2016 to 2019, she structured *Nỗ Cái Bùm*, an artist-run art festival in 2020 and 2022. In France, she commissioned several exhibitions, notably with Château La Coste (2019), A2Z Art Gallery (2022, 2023), and POUISH (2023).

In April 2023, she co-founded BAQ Gallery in Paris with the aim of creating a dialogue between Southeast Asian and European art practices

CONTACT

LÊ Thiên-Bảo

bao@galeriebaq.com

+33 (0) 6 99 38 30 31

Quinnie TAN

quinnie@galeriebaq.com

HD IMAGES

[click here](#)