

Danh Võ

28 October

– 18 December 2021

Press Release

Danh Võ's conceptual artworks and installations often draw upon elements of autobiography and collective experience to explore broader historical, social or political themes relating to migration, identification and authorial status. Born in 1975, the year that marked the end of the American Vietnam War, Võ's family became victims of the Cambodian-Vietnamese War that broke out immediately afterwards. They fled the country by boat when Võ was four years old; he has no memories of his early childhood in Vietnam. The vessel was rescued at sea by a Danish freighter, the nationality of which determined the fate of the refugees—the ramifications of this fortuitous encounter are reflected in the role that chance and coincidence continue to play in Võ's practice. His work frequently incorporates documents, photographs, found objects (with emotional or historical significance), lettering or appropriations of works by other artists or designers, which have accrued meaning over time, though transfer of ownership or shifting social or cultural contexts. He is particularly interested in the discrepancies between myth and reality, between the past and the present, and between the malleable identities and histories imposed on him by others as well as those that he creates for himself.

Danh Võ (b. 1975, Bà Rịa, Vietnam) represented Denmark at the Venice Biennale in 2015 and that same year, co-curated *Slip of the Tongue* at the Punta della Dogana, Venice. In 2013 and 2019, he participated in the International Exhibition of the Biennale. Solo exhibitions were held at international institutions, including Secession, Vienna (2021); National Museum of Art Osaka (2020); Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York (2018); CAPC, Bordeaux (2018); National Gallery, Singapore (2017); Palacio de Cristal, Reina Sofía, Madrid (2015–2016); Museum Ludwig, Cologne (2015); Musée d'art moderne de la Ville de Paris, Paris (2013); Guggenheim Museum, NY (2013); Art Institute of Chicago (2012); Kunsthaus Bregenz, Austria (2012); Kunsthalle Basel, Switzerland (2009) and Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (2008). He was awarded the Blau Orange Kunstpreis der Deutschen Volksbanken und Raiffeisenbanken (2007) and the Hugo Boss Prize (2012).

For further inquiries please contact the gallery at info@xavierhufkens.com or at +32(0)2 639 67 30. For press enquiries contact anazoe@xavierhufkens.com

#danhvo
#xavierhufkens

Twitter: @XavierHufkens
Instagram: @xavierhufkens
Facebook: Xavier Hufkens



Installation view: Secession, Vienna, Austria, 2021
Photo credit: Nick Ash



Installation view: Secession, Vienna, Austria, 2021
Photo credit: Nick Ash



Installation view: *Ydob eht ni mraw si ti*, Museum Ludwig,
Cologne, Germany, 2015
Photo credit: Rheinisches Bildarchiv Köln/ Britta Schlier