



Silk & Stone

Vinh Quang Thi Nguyen
and
Anh Ngoc Tran

Where: Ro2 Art DOWNTOWN
110 N. Akard, Dallas, Texas 75201

When: Saturday, August 24 – September 24, 2013

UPDATE:

ARTISTS TALK: Friday, September 20, 6:30-8pm; *Followed by Closing Reception*

Contact: Jordan Roth, 214-803-9575 – jordan@ro2art.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

[Updated September 5, 2013] Ro2 Art is excited to present [Silk & Stone](#) by [Vinh Quang Thi Nguyen](#) and [Anh Ngoc Tran](#). A special “Artists Talk” will be held Friday, September 20, beginning at 6:30pm, followed by a closing reception. The exhibition is on view at Ro2 Art's Downtown space, located at 110 N. Akard Street, between Main and Elm, on the ground floor of the historic Kirby Building. Gallery hours: Wednesdays through Saturdays, from 12pm to 5pm, other times by appointment. More info at Ro2Art.com, or call (214) 803-9575.

[CentralTrak](#), the UTDallas artists' residency program, has been fortunate enough to host the international artists Vinh Nguyen and Anh Tran for the past six months. CentralTrak's Heyd Fontenot comments on the two artists:

“Anh Tran primarily works in stone. His sculpture tends to reference modernist forms, easily mingling with lovely mid-20th century works by Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth. Vinh Nguyen works as a painter in a decidedly spare, Eastern manner - making intriguing installations with raw silk. She has developed a unique way of working with a specific combination of textiles. Vinh's installed works, painted cloth surfaces that are then fabricated into wispy, floating enclosures, insist on a delicate balance of light and viewer perspective. The contrasts and compliments of these two artists work side-by-side makes for a dynamic textural experience.”

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Nguyen Thi Quang Vinh was born in Vietnam. She is a Professor of Art at Hue Fine Arts University, Vietnam, where she has served on faculty since 1993. Vinh also acts as Chairwoman for The International Women's Artists Association of Vietnam (INWAAVN) and leads workshops for the annual International Contemporary Art Exhibitions Conference. Vinh received her Master of Arts from Texas A&M University, Commerce in 2012. Vinh has participated in 120 national and international contemporary art exhibitions in the National Museum and Art Centers of Vietnam, Thailand, Australia, Korea, China, Finland, Japan, America, and France.

Vinh's silk sculptures are used as a medium to express culture, expertise, and experiences. Her

Silk & Stone by Vinh Quang Thi Nguyen and Anh Ngoc Tran | August 24-September 24, 2013
Ro2 Art Downtown | 110 N. Akard St., Dallas, Texas | 214.803.9575 www.Ro2Art.com

research broadens the realm of possibilities for the construction and properties of silk painting for both Eastern and Western viewers, relating to historical and contemporary art contexts.

Statement about ***The Endless Cycle***:

“The artworks in the series entitled *The Endless Cycle* address the cyclical nature of existence – our perception of the cycle of life – birth, maturation, aging, mortality, and regeneration. This cycle, made up of repeated finite modules, is encountered in the whole of the known physical universe, whether microscopically or macroscopically. The imagery invokes the ancient symbol of "Woman as the Earth-Mother", with the female body identified as landscape and source of life, both of which resonate with my personal experiences as a woman and a mother. The image of “Woman” focuses on the creative beginning of the cycle. I seek to develop an innovative contemporary language that extends drawing and painting into the third dimension. Each composition is based on an abstract gesture drawing in three-dimensional space, elaborated upon through the incorporation of multiple hanging panels and linear extensions of the actual drawing. The image is painted with a translucent white pigment that, in combination with the transparent nature of the silk fabric, allows visual penetration through transparent and translucent layers, drawing the viewer into the piece as well as inviting them to move around and through the work. The three-dimensional linear elements, made from deconstructed yarns interwoven with the feathery fibers of raw silk, extend the images and unite the panels in space. The addition of light accentuates the multi-textural construction of the different surfaces, enlivens subtle nuances of white color and shape, enhances transparent and translucent effects, and invites layered interpretive experiences.”

Anh Ngoc Tran began his formal training at the Hue College of Arts, Vietnam, where in 1993 he received his BFA with honors for his research of the sculptural practices of the Cotu tribe. Since then, he has gone on to receive additional degrees in the fields of science, philosophy, and teaching. In 2010, Anh Ngoc relocated to Texas, where he received his Master of Fine Art in Sculpture from Texas A&M University, Commerce in 2012.

Statement about ***Interconnection***:

“This current group of sculpture by the artist Anh Tran is entitled *Interconnection*. In this work, Tran touches on the intricacies of human relationships. Using symbolic metaphor, the artist has stone and fiber forms interact in a variety of ways, at times breaking, mending, healing, cooperating and integrating separate elements: all functions that allow for the growth and longevity of friendships. Tran states that, 'Friendships exists as a function of nature so that we can connect to our fellow human creatures.' So it is with these sculptural works, they accept and embrace disruption in order to seek eventual harmony.

Materials employed in this work are chosen for their physical and philosophical meaning. Stone refers to the natural world and embodies the permanence and strength of great friendships. The man-made textile or string used in the pieces symbolize a material way of thinking: referring to the effort and self-determination involved in developing relationships. The iconography of a discrete knot in a string or the texture/color of the stone has significant diaristic implications, as if these details are creating a record of human interaction in Anh Tran's private language.

This artist is dedicated to using a sculptural language which encompasses several major movements of the last century: Abstraction, symbolism and minimalism. Beyond formalist concerns, Anh Tran's internal narrative is about moments of human interaction and the transcendent value of friendship.”

About Ro2 Art:

Mother-and-son partners Susan Roth Romans and Jordan Roth operate [Ro2 Art](http://www.Ro2Art.com), a full-service gallery and consultancy in Downtown Dallas, representing a diverse group of emerging, mid-career, and established contemporary artists, many with ties to the North Texas Region. Ro2 Art focuses on the exhibition and sale of work in all visual media at the gallery in the historic Kirby Building, as well as through public exhibition programs in partnership with Downtown Dallas, Inc., The McKinney Avenue Contemporary, and The Town of Addison. Ro2 Art has been named Dallas Observer's Best Art Gallery and was presented with the 2012 Obelisk Award for small business by the North Texas Business Council for the Arts. Ro2 Art is a proud member of CADD, the Contemporary Art Dealers of Dallas.

All works will be on view August 24 through September 24, 2013. Please join us for the an "Artists Talk," Friday, September 20, beginning at 6:30pm at Ro2 Art Downtown, located at 110 N. Akard Street, between Main and Elm. A closing reception will follow. The gallery is open Wednesdays through Saturdays from Noon until 5pm, or any time by appointment. For more information, visit www.Ro2art.com or call Jordan Roth at (214) 803-9575.

IMAGES



Silk & Stone by Vinh Quang Thi Nguyen and Anh Ngoc Tran | August 24-September 24, 2013
Ro2 Art Downtown | 110 N. Akard St., Dallas, Texas | 214.803.9575 www.Ro2Art.com



Silk & Stone, 2013, Installation View at Ro2 Art, Dallas, Texas



Silk & Stone, 2013, Installation View at Ro2 Art, Dallas, Texas

#####

Silk & Stone by Vinh Quang Thi Nguyen and Anh Ngoc Tran | August 24-September 24, 2013
Ro2 Art Downtown | 110 N. Akard St., Dallas, Texas | 214.803.9575 www.Ro2Art.com