Vietnamese New Year Festival
(5:00-8:00PM, February 24, 2007)

Program Agenda

5:00-5:25PM  - Welcome guests; exhibition
5:25-5:45PM  - Introduction; presentation about Tết
5:45-5:50PM  - Pass out “Lucky Money”
5:55-6:00PM  - “Xuân Hợp Mắt” [Season of Reunion] by Tuân, Diễm-Thùy, Châu, Phương-Anh, Thanh-Dông
6:00-6:15PM  - Guest speaker: Ms. Kim-Vân
6:15-6:45PM  - Dinner & chatting; exhibition
6:45-7:00PM  - “Câu Chuyện Đầu Năm” [The New Year’s Story] by Thu-Vân, and “Đoàn Xuân Ca” [A Spring Ditty] by Bảo-Hoa
7:00-7:15PM  - Game
7:15-7:25PM  - Announcement on the fund-raising campaign for orphans (*)
7:25-7:40PM  - “Mùa Xuân Cửa MQRS” [Mom, You’re My Spring] by Thu-Vân & Mỹ, and “Mắt Đen” [Black Eyes] by Tuân (guitar by Long)
7:40-8:00PM  - “Đêm Trăng Tình Yêu” [A Moonlit Night for Love] by Thu-Vân & Tuân, and special performance: attendees are invited to sing!

~The End~

Art Director/Keyboard Player: Nguyễn Anh Tuấn

(*) The project is carried out solely by Lê Thị Mỹ, a member of the AVSS and VSA.
The Association of Vietnamese Scholars and Students

presents

Đông Hồ Folk Paintings

Đông Hồ is a small village in Thuận Thành, Bắc Ninh province, located on the southern side of the Dương river (30km to the east from Hà Nội,) is one of the villages that remains to preserve ancient cultural relies of Kinh Bắc area (Red river delta, north of Việt Nam). Đông Hồ paintings have about 300 years of history in the north of Việt Nam.

Đông Hồ folk painting is very famous because Đông Hồ is the only village where people know to make the dó (“dzo”) painting with completely natural materials. The printing paper is made of bark of a tree called dó. The background paper is originally white. People use natural materials to change the colors of the papers which are usually orange, pink, yellow, purple... Colors of the painting are refined from various kinds of tree leaves that people can easily find in Việt Nam. Particular, the red color is taken from earth of hills and mountains; the black color is from coal of burned bamboo's leaves; the glitter white color is made of sea shells; The original point of Đông Hồ folk painting is the durability of colors. The painting is covered by a layer of sticky rice paste (called "hồ nếp") to protect the painting and their colors. They are so long lasting, so that it is very difficult to make them dimmer even time or daylight.

The paintings displayed here are bought in Đông Hồ village, and are made by Mr. Nguyễn Đăng Chế, a famous master of Đông Hồ folk painting, who are still living in Đông Hồ village. Each painting is completely hand printed on dó paper following the ancient style and tradition. The provocative color is made by natural material. Especially the glitters are made by sea shells.

Đàn Bầu or Độc Huyền Cẩm [Monochord]

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An acoustical instrument consisting of a sounding box with one string and a movable bridge, used to study musical tones. The instrument's single string stretches over a trapezoidal wood soundboard. The soundboard is made of the hard rind of the bau (type of gourd). Subtle ornamentations, glissandi sounds, and imitation of the human voice could be produced by simultaneously plucking the string and pulling the ancient whammy bar. The whammy bar is a flexible bamboo stem which attaches to one end of the soundbox...

Among many kinds of monochord of countries all over the world, there are Tuntina of India, Cung of East Africa, Tushuenkin of China. However, none of them can produce such a popular and highly artistic system of overtones as that of Bầu of Việt Nam.


AVSS – a social and professional network for Vietnamese scholars and students and those who are interested in Vietnam