



Frédéric Dialynas Sanchez, untitled, 2019, iron window grates, 100 x 80 x 80 cm

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam – Galerie Quynh is pleased to present *The Legacy of Diogenes*¹, a solo exhibition by Frédéric Dialynas Sanchez. The exhibition features work realized during the artist's 10-week artist residency at Villa Saigon in early 2019.

During his childhood in Vietnam, my father quickly developed an obsession for collecting objects in the streets. Every night, once back home, he would display his new finds all along the walls of the house, as if he wanted to highlight or reinforce its architecture. "He could pick up anything: bottle caps, pebbles, pieces of rubber, cigarette butts or god knows what else," said my aunt.

Later, it was found that he was affected by a strange syndrome. When I met him for the first time, he was accumulating damaged devices. Toasters, radio sets, electric ovens, lawnmowers or even washing machines were stacked in the middle of each room of his apartment. I remember when I

¹ The title of this text refers both to the ancient Greek philosopher Diogenes the Cynic and Diogenes syndrome, also known as senile squalor syndrome.



visited him, he told me that his job was to fix all these objects. According to him, it was a form of gymnastics for his brain and a good way to cure his mind. My progenitor passed away a year ago, leaving behind two garages containing his uncanny collections. As I did not know much about him I wished to inspect his belongings and find something. With my sister and my brothers, we would share this modest inheritance all together. To play down the situation, I jokingly compared our situation with the Texan TV program Storage Wars, in which the participants buy unknown contents of storages. Sometimes there's nothing inside, but sometimes it's a real jackpot. Unfortunately, in our case, we arrived too late when everything was already taken to the dump.

Just as my father, I collect all sorts of things. Recently, I was invited by the French Institute to develop artistic projects at Villa Saigon and I started to look for tropical plants and vintage objects. Among my purchases, I bought some rare vinyl, fashion magazines, posters, a bunch of peacock feathers, a dozen iron grids for windows, some robes of monks, several bulletproof jackets, another dozen military helmets and a relatively significant quantity of flags. I worked from these objects to make assemblages, totems, canvases and patchworks. While I was still mourning for my dad, this daily practice became a kind of therapy for me.

Throughout my stay, I heard the rumor of a wandering ghost in the villa. I found in a corridor of the building an abandoned tombstone dedicated to a certain Jean-Pierre D and thought that it was the source of the strange noises at night. I decided to care for this tombstone as if it was my father's (whose name is also Jean-Pierre D), hoping the soul of the deceased could be appeased and rest in peace.

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Frédéric Dialynas Sanchez and Galerie Quynh would like to thank Institut Français of Vietnam for their support of this exhibition.



Notes on the exhibition

Artist:	Frédéric Dialynas Sanchez
Exhibition Title:	<i>The Legacy of Diogenes</i>
Exhibition Dates:	January 10 – 22, 2020
Opening Reception:	Friday, 10 January from 6:30 – 8:30pm
Venue:	Galerie Quynh 118 Nguyen Van Thu, Dakao, District 1, Ho Chi Minh City
Contact:	Ms. Ngoc Linh Chu – linh@galeriequynh.com
Telephone:	+84 28 3822 7218
Hours:	10am – 7pm, Tuesday – Saturday, and by appointment

ABOUT FRÉDÉRIC DIALYNAS SANCHEZ

Born in 1983 in Auxerre, France, Frédéric Dialynas Sanchez is both a painter and a sculptor. He completed his graduate studies at École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Lyon and École Offshore (Shanghai), focusing on the phenomena of nomadism and globalization. Working in Asia and Europe, he develops research around geometric abstraction, memory, and cultural bricolage.

Sanchez has participated in numerous exhibitions over the past decade including shows at institutions such as Kunsthalle, Mainz, Germany; Musée des Beaux-Arts, Dijon, France; Musée Magnelli-Picasso, France; CRAC Alsace, Altkirch, France; FRAC Bourgogne, Dijon, France; Le Commun, BAC, Geneva, Switzerland; Villa Medici, Rome, Italy; and China Academy of Arts, Hongzhou, China. Dialynas Sanchez has also participated in panel discussions and initiated workshops and curatorial projects at Rocky Shore, Tokyo, Japan; Topaz, Woodside, NY, USA; PS Projects, Amsterdam, the Netherlands; OÙ, Marseille, France; Triple V, Paris, France; FRAC Bourgogne, Dijon, France; Dorsky Gallery, Long Island City, NY, USA; Pitzer College's Nichols Gallery, Claremont, CA, USA; Bazaar Compatible Program, Shanghai, China; Galerie Sophie Scheidecker, Paris, France; Museum of Fine Arts, Dijon, France; Arts Santa Monica, Barcelona, Spain; ENSAPC Paris-Cergy, France; ENSAPM Paris-Malaquais, France; The Royal Institute of Art, Stockholm, Sweden; Le Commun, Geneva, Switzerland; Asia Art Archive, New York, NY, USA and Hong Kong. Dialynas Sanchez has also participated in Olivier Mosset's exhibitions at Le Magasin, Grenoble, France; Museum of Fine Arts of La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland and at MOCA Tucson, AZ, USA. His artworks are in public and private collections including Musée Magnelli-Picasso, Vallauris, FNAC Paris, FRAC Limousin and Le Consortium, Dijon, France.



ABOUT INSTITUT FRANÇAIS OF VIETNAM and VILLA SAIGON

The mission of the Institut Français of Vietnam is to contribute to France's influence in Vietnam through the implementation of cooperation projects in the cultural, linguistic, academic, research and medical fields, in close collaboration with Vietnamese partners. In 2018, Institut Français of Vietnam created the Villa Saigon artist residency program with the aim to establish enduring ties between French contemporary creation and the Vietnamese cultural scene. Indeed, every year, this program allows a dozen French artists, from all disciplines, to live in Ho Chi Minh City for one to three months to develop an artistic project, in partnership with local cultural workers. The Institut Français provides logistical and financial support, and accommodation at Villa Saigon, located in the center of HCMC. Every year, the Villa Saigon "Reciprocity" program, in partnership with the Institut Français of Paris, invites three Vietnamese artists for an artist residency at the Cité Internationale in Paris.

ABOUT GALERIE QUYNH

Recognized as Vietnam's leading contemporary art gallery, Galerie Quynh has been promoting contemporary art practice in the country for over two decades. The gallery is known internationally for its consistently focused programming and educational initiatives. Working with a select group of emerging, mid-career and established Vietnamese artists, the gallery also exhibits the work of distinguished artists from around the world. In keeping with its mission to develop a sustainable ecosystem for the arts in Vietnam, the gallery collaborates with artists, curators, museums and art spaces locally and internationally to organize talks and lectures as well as to produce publications in English and Vietnamese. In May 2014 the gallery founded the non-profit educational initiative Sao La. Currently spearheaded by Dalat-based artists Nguyen Kim To Lan and Nguyen Duc Dat, Sao La comprises a young, diverse group of passionate creatives working loosely as a collective.

A new chapter began in December 2017 when the gallery moved to a 600 square-meter space in Dakao, District 1. Spread over four floors, the gallery is able to produce more ambitious programming and play an even more vital role in the cultural community in Vietnam.

www.galeriequynh.com