



THAI BUI

Micaëla Gallery
49 Geary Street, No. 234
San Francisco, CA 94108 USA
415.551.8118
micaela.com

Winter Salon 2009

THAI BUI

Don't Pressure Me, 2009

No. 1643

Inner tube, stone, spike.

4.5 x 3 x 3 in.



Don't Pressure Me, 2009

No. 1690

Inner tube, stone, spike.

2 x 4.5 x 2 in.



Winter Salon 2009

THAI BUI

Don't Pressure Me, 2009

No. 1705

Inner tube, stone, spike.

2.5 x 7 x 2 in.



Don't Pressure Me, 2009

No. 1714

Inner tube, stone, spike.

2.5 x 6.5 x 2 in.



Don't Pressure Me Project

Don't Pressure Me is an ongoing project that I began in 1999. I like the idea of an inner tube, an inflatable object, transformed into a solid ball with a stem. In this way, it looks like it could be inflated when it is not. The title of the piece, *Don't Pressure Me*, is an outcry from the ball's perspective. The piece could be interpreted as a weapon, such as a grenade or a bomb.

I make the pieces by cutting out strips of inner tube from a bicycle or car. I wrap the inner tube around itself continuously until it acquires the shape of a solid ball. Some balls have gold or copper leaf applied to the surface. The air pump of the inner tube serves as the "stem" of the ball.

The collection is displayed on metal shelves in haiku format: five on the top row, seven on the middle row, and five on the bottom row. The pieces can be displayed individually, or on pedestals.

Thai Bui's sculptures combine seemingly disparate elements into harmonious compositions. He reconfigures common objects into wildly different forms. For example, bike tires become river rocks - at times resembling shadows of enormous spiders on walls - at others resembling canon balls.

THAI BUI bio



Thai Bui was born in Ha Noi, Viet Nam in 1960. Following his arrival to the United States in 1981, he earned his BFA from the San Francisco Art Institute in 1988 and his MFA from Stanford University in 1992. He received several scholarships in visual art and taught sculpture at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

THAI BUI curriculum vitae



Education

- 1992 MFA, Stanford University
- 1988 BFA, San Francisco Art Institute

Teaching Experience

- 1995 Intermediate/Advanced Sculpture, University of California, Santa Cruz
- 1992 Undergraduate seminar, sculpture, Stanford University
- 1990-92 Teacher's assistant, sculpture (with Professor Richard Randell, clay modelling and constructed art welding), Stanford University

Awards

- 1990 Stanford University Scholarship, Stanford, CA
- 1988 Harold E. Weiner Memorial Prize, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA
- 1987 Skowhegan Scholarship, School of Painting and Sculpture, Skowhegan, ME
- 1985 SOBEL Scholarship, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA

Group exhibitions

- 2009 Don't Pressure Me, Tadioto Gallery, Ha Noi, Viet Nam
- Looking Ahead, Euphrat Museum of Art, De Anza College, Cupertino, CA
- 2007 Witness to War: Revisiting Vietnam in Contemporary Art, International Center for the Arts at San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA
- 2006 Salon d'Ete, Micaela Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2005 Salon d'Ete, Micaela Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2003 Uncommon, Articultural Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1999 Made in USA, Pacific Bridge Gallery, Oakland, CA
- 1997 Drawings: Realism to Abstraction, A Contemporary Survey of the Bay Area, Triton Museum of Art, Santa Clara, CA

- 1996 An Ocean Apart: Contemporary Vietnamese Art from the Unites States and Vietnam, San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, CA
- Double Portrait: Vision of Vietnam, San Francisco Art Commission Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1995 Radius 1995, Palo Alto Cultural Center, Palo Alto, CA
- SF MoMA Rental Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1994 Sculpture, d.p. Fong Galleries, San Jose, CA
- A New Generation: Vietnamese American Contemporary Art, California State University, Fullerton, CA
- Sculpture, Vorpall Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1993 Nuoc Mam, San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, San Jose, CA
- A N 3 D, Vorpall Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- New Territory, Grove Gallery, University of California, San Diego, CA
- 1992 Here and Now Now and Then, Longwood Arts Gallery, Bronx, NY
- Painting & Sculpture, Recent Work, Vorpall Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- Asian American Contemporary Art Exhibition, San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA
- Brotherhood of Man, Arts Council of San Mateo County, Belmont, CA
- 1989 San Francisco Airport Commission Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- William Sawyer Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1988 Vorpall Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, San Jose, CA
- Diego Rivera Gallery, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA
- 1987 Gift Center Expo, San Francisco, CA
- William Sawyer Gallery, San Francisco, CA

THAI BUI curriculum vitae



Art in Public

2003 Adobe Creek Project, Palo Alto, CA (to present)

Publication

2005 KQED Television SPARK Program: Studio visit: Thai Bui

1999 The Intuitive Eye, Asian Art new, July/August, p. 56

1996 Tools as Art: The Hechinger Collection, Pete Hamill, Harry N. Abrams, Inc., Publishers, New York, NY, p. 150

Collection:

San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, CA
Kenneth A. Cowin, New York, NY
Beverly M. Essex, San Francisco, CA
Mark Freidus, New York, NY
Larry Green, Mill Valley, CA
Dustin Hoffman, Los Angeles, CA
Eliner Howenstine, Marin, CA
Linda D. Stupski, San Francisco, CA
Irv Tepper, New York, NY
Tri Kim Vu, Foster City, CA
Jerry A. Zimmer, Santa Barbara, CA
Pamela K. Bonino, San Francisco, CA
Mike Dean, San Francisco, CA
Vernon Edgar, Morgan Hill, CA
Robert Gilbert, Kennesaw, GA
John Hechinger, Washington, DC
Linda Kalin, Oakland, CA
Elsie + Walter Leach, Los Altos Hills, CA
Donald Magnin, San Francisco, CA
William Sawyer, San Francisco, CA
Stu Silerstein, Skowhegan, ME
Sam Tchakalian, San Francisco, CA
Bertram M. Tonkin, San Francisco, CA
Vinh Kim Vu, San Jose, CA
Pia Stebler + Beat Holder, Switzerland
Renate Klipstas, Portola Valley, CA

Robert Kass, San Jose, CA
Norman Larivieri, San Jose, CA
Carolyn Lund, San Jose, CA
Tom Mazzolini, San Francisco, CA
Roger Poyer, Los Gatos, CA
Susie Schlesinger, Petaluma, CA
Teresa Stace, San Francisco, CA
Michael Rosenthal, Menlo Park, CA
Thien Do, Oakland, CA
Janie Driscoll, Mountain View, CA
Ray Ashley, San Jose, CA
Michael Corrigan, Santa Barbara, CA
Steve Choi, Los Angeles, CA
Renee Winick, Stanford, CA
Peter G. Costello, Baltimore, MD
Ralph + Sheila Pickett, Saratoga, CA
Cuong Tran, Los Altos, CA
Marguerite Fletcher, Palo Alto, CA
Thang Do, San Jose, CA



Micaëla Gallery
49 Geary Street, No. 234
San Francisco, CA 94108 USA
415.551.8118
micaela.com

All content and images are courtesy the artist and Micaëla Gallery, and protected by all copyright laws everywhere. The names, Micaëla and Micaëla Gallery, as used in the context of representing artists and selling artworks are trademark and copyright names, and are also protected by all copyright and trademark laws everywhere. 1997-2009 © Micaëla and Micaëla Gallery, LLC.