

# PRESS RELEASE



*Huong Viet*  
Performing Arts Group

## Vietnamese Music Celebration II

**Saturday, July 20, 2013 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm**

On Saturday July 20, 2013, the Huong Viet Performing Arts Group will host a program of Vietnamese Traditional Music featuring the following Vietnamese music masters:

- Professor Phuong Oanh (Gold Medal l'Academia Culturelle de l'Asie, Paris, France)
- Professor Ngoc Dung
- Professor Pham Thuy Hoan (Gold medalist)
- Kim Uyen (dan tranh gold medalist)
- Van Anh (dan tran gold medalist, Emmy Award winner)
- Pham Duc Thanh (dan bau gold medalist)
- Hai Yen (tam thap luc & K'longput gold medalist)
- Thuy Van (Vietnamese traditional instruments silver medalist)
- Thanh Hoa (bamboo flute gold medalist)

Also joining in the program, Vietnamese traditional music performing arts groups from around the world:

- Phuong Ca Dan Ca Quoc Nhac Ensemble (Paris, France)
- Phuong Ca Oslo (Oslo, Norway)
- Tieng Hat Que Huong (Houston, Vietnam, & Germany)
- Melody Institute Inc. (Shoreline, Washington)
- Tre Viet Ensemble (Toronto, Canada)
- Viet Nam Ensemble (Toronto, Canada)
- Tieng Hoai Huong Ensemble (Portland, Oregon)
- Van Anh Vo Ensemble (San Jose, California)
- Tieng Vong Que Huong (San Jose, California)
- Huong Viet Performing Arts Group (Everett, Washington)

### **Shorecrest Performing Arts Center**

**15343 25<sup>th</sup> Ave NE**

**Shoreline, WA 98155**

**Reserved Seating: \$40**

**For tickets, call (425) 361-2265**

To purchase tickets by mail, please make your check payable to Huong Viet Performing Arts Group and send to the following address:

**Huong Viet Performing Arts Group**

**13322 Hwy 99 S. Ste 101**

**Everett, WA 98204**

Visit our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/huong.viet> for photos of previous events.

[info@vietmelody.org](mailto:info@vietmelody.org)

<http://www.vietmelody.org>

## **ARTIST BIOS**

**Professor Phuong Oanh, PhD** was born in Da Lat in central Vietnam in 1945. She graduated from the Vietnamese Conservatory of Music in Saigon in 1962 and taught music at Saigon National Conservatory of Music from 1964-1975. In 1969 she founded the Phuong Ca Dan Ca Quoc Nhac music school. In 1996, Prof. Phuong Oanh completed her music degree and received credentials of National Professor of Dan tranh (equivalent to a PhD degree in the USA). During over forty years of teaching Vietnamese traditional music, Prof. Phuong Oanh has trained many eminent Vietnamese traditional artists, including artists Kim Uyen, Kim Hien, Ngoc Dung, Nguyet Anh, and Van Anh. With her ensemble, Prof. Phuong Oanh has performed throughout the world. In recognition of her many contributions to traditional music, she was awarded in 1988 the gold medal for music from the Asian Cultural Academy.

**Professor Ngoc Dung** began to study the Vietnamese zither at the age of seven. She graduated from and taught at the Art and National Conservatory of Music and Drama College, Saigon, Vietnam from 1967-1979 specializing in the 16 to 22 thin metal strings instrument "Đàn Tranh" ( Vietnamese zither). The Echo of the Motherland, also known as "Tieng Vong Quê Hương", is a professional non-profit musical organization located in the City of San Jose in the heart of Northern California's Silicon Valley. It was founded in 1980 by Professor Ngoc Dung. In 1999, the group obtained nonprofit status, and in 2000, Echo of the Motherland raised thousands of much needed fund for an orphanage in Vietnam. Many talented and now well-known actors, singers, musicians in the Vietnamese community have graced the stage at the Echo of the Motherland's performance events, and the group continues to attract professional actors, singers, and musicians as young as 7 years of age from across the country each year. 2007 marks the group's 27th year of production in the United States.

**Professor Pham Thuy Hoan** was born on Jun. 26, 1942 in Nam Dinh, Vietnam. After studying Dan Tranh at the Saigon National School of Drama and Music, she was awarded the Gold Medal from the school in 1960 and graduated as the best of her class in 1962. In 1966 she became the leader of the Hoa Sim National Music and Folk Song Group, which also included Prof. Phuong Oanh in France, Quynh Hanh, Huyen Tran and Ngoc Dung. She was professor at the Saigon National School of Drama and Music until she retired in 1997, and was also a guest professor at the Hue National School of Music. After retirement, Pham Thuy Hoan remains committed to the the teaching and performance of dan tranh, and works as director of Tieng Hat Que Huong which she founded in 1981. Thanks to her excellence as a teacher, her students have become talented artists in traditional music. She has written many famous study books for self study of the instrument. In 1993 she was awarded the Diploma of Merit from the Ministry of Culture and Information for excellence in the training of young talent who won top prizes in international and national music competitions. In 1994 she received the title of "Eminent Teacher" from the Ministry of Education and the medal "Excellent Contribution to Education" in 1995. Now her students are spread all over the world and help bring Vietnamese traditional music to Vietnamese communities everywhere.

**Le Thi Kim (Kim Uyen)** is a composer and virtuoso of Vietnamese traditional music on đàn tranh. In 1984, she received the National Gold Medal for Excellent Đàn Tranh Performance. Throughout years studying đàn tranh at the Vietnamese Conservatory of Music, Ms. Kim Uyên continuously ranked first in her class and graduated as a valedictorian. Upon her completion for master degree in music at Monash University, Australia, with a Women's Scholarship, Ms. Kim Uyên actively performed and participated in many traditional musical programs across Asia, Australia, United States, Canada, and Europe. She has produced six albums about đàn tranh and Vietnamese traditional music, and appeared in numerous radio and television programs. Ms. Kim Uyên is also a member of many prestigious Vietnamese traditional music groups such as Tiếng Hát Quê Hương, Thiếu Nhi Lê Văn Khoa, Back to Back Zither, and Hồng Lạc. She is now residing in Ontario, Canada. Currently, Ms. Kim Uyên is an advisor for Hướng Việt Performing Arts Group.

**Vo Van-Anh** devotes her life-long passion and mastery of the dan tranh zither to the creation of distinctive music blended with a cultural essence that can only come from this unique Vietnamese instrument. Among her accomplishments are the 2009 Emmy® Award-winning soundtrack for the documentary "Bolinao 52", which she co-composed and recorded, and the soundtrack for the Sundance best documentary and 2003 Academy Awards® nominee "Daughter from Danang". Van-Anh also co-composed and recorded for the recent documentary "A Village Called Versailles", winner of the New Orleans Film Festival Audience Award.

Van-Anh began studying dan tranh from the age of four, and graduated with distinction from and taught at the Vietnam Academy of Music. In 1995, Van-Anh won championship in the Vietnam National Dan Tranh Competition along with the first prize for best solo performance of modern folk music. She has since performed in more than fourteen countries and recorded in many broadcast programs inside and outside of Vietnam.

**Pham Duc Thanh** is a world-renowned musician known for his masterful ability on the Vietnamese one-stringed instrument (Dan Bau). He was born in 1958 in Ninh Binh, Vietnam. His talent was fully apparent from his youth: he was adept at the Cheo drumming style at age 4, he learned the mandolin at age 5, and he had begun playing Dan Bau (monochord) and Dan Nhi (2-string fiddle) at the age of 5. In 1974, Duc-Thanh left Hanoi to join the largest Cheo opera troupe in Vietnam and officially became a professional Dan Bau performer. At the end of 1978 he was the only Dan Bau musician of the Cheo opera stage to attend the national Dan Bau competition of Vietnam in Hanoi ; soon after, he went to Saigon to study further the music of central and southern Vietnam . In October of 1983, he graduated with top honors from the Center for Musical Research of Vietnam. It was here that he became recognized as one of the rising musicians on Dan Bau in traditional as well as modern music.

**Hai Yen** is the daughter of Professor Phạm Thủy Hoan, an executive director of Tiếng Hát Quê Hương Ensemble. Hải Yến entered Conservatory of Music in Saigon, Vietnam, in 1979 majoring in Đàn Tranh. After six years, Hải Yến changed her major to World's Percussions and graduated in 1989 with honor. Since then, Hải Yến has toured many countries such as South Korea, China, Hong Kong, Macau, Thailand, Singapore, Japan, France, Germany, Belgium. Hải Yến's most noted accomplishment include First Prize for Tam Thập Lục (Vietnamese 36 strings dulcimer) Performance in 1981-1982 and Gold Medal for K'long Put at the Musical Festival in Okinawa Japan 1999.

**Thuy Van** graduated from the Vietnam National Conservatory of Music in 1988. Since graduation, she participated in many professional traditional music groups and taught music at many music schools. In 1988, she received a Silver medal for best performance on traditional Vietnamese instruments.

**Thanh Hoa** is regarded as one of the most accomplished professional Vietnamese bamboo flute player in the present day. Some of her achievements include the Gold medal award for Vietnamese bamboo flute performance in 1989, and the Gold Lotus Award for best ensemble performance in 1997. Artist Thanh Hoa has been invited to perform in concerts around the world, as in Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, etc. Besides performing and teaching, she has composed many important solo pieces for the bamboo flute, including "Gray Smoke in the Evening Hearth", and has written extensively on the Vietnamese bamboo flute.