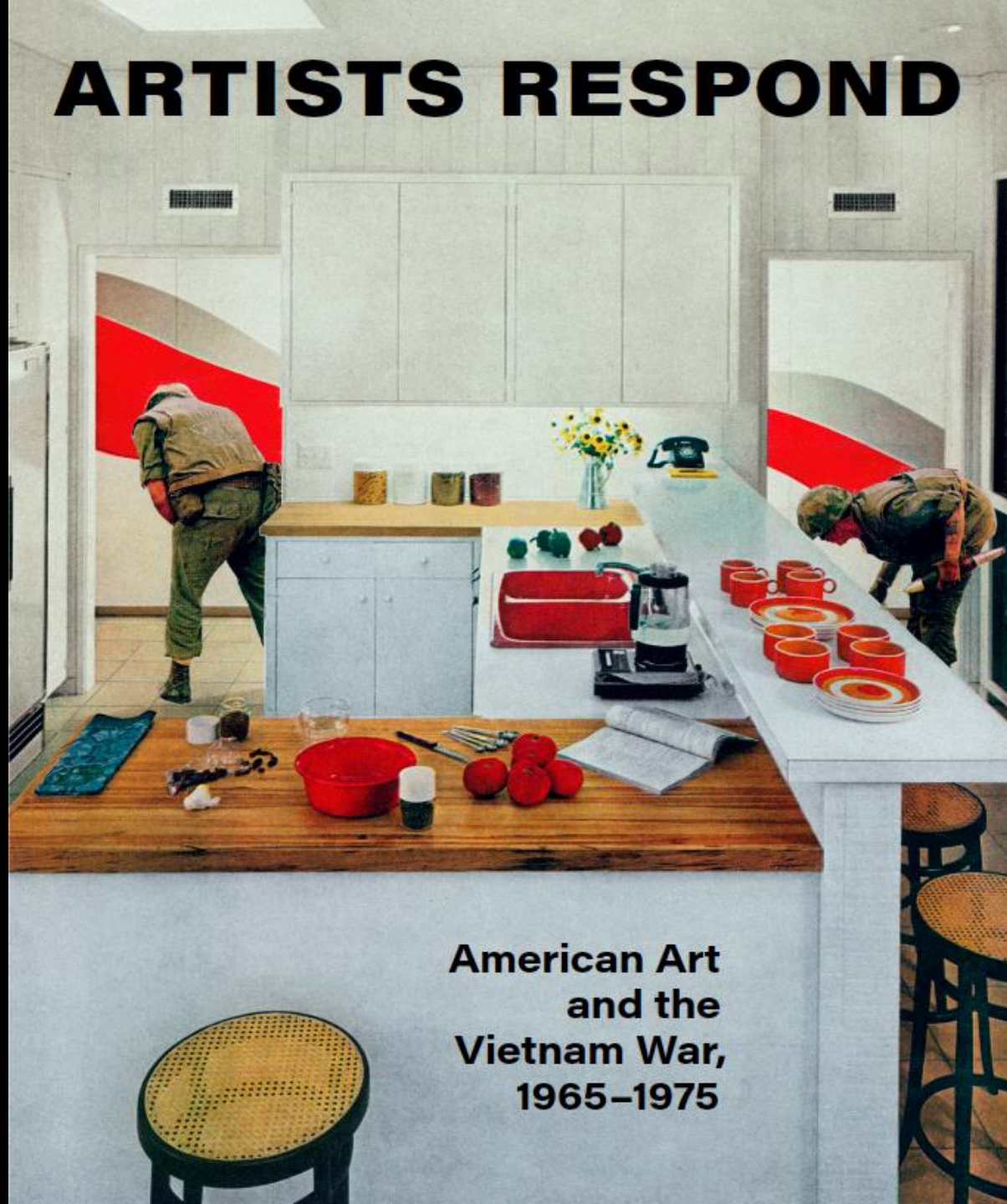


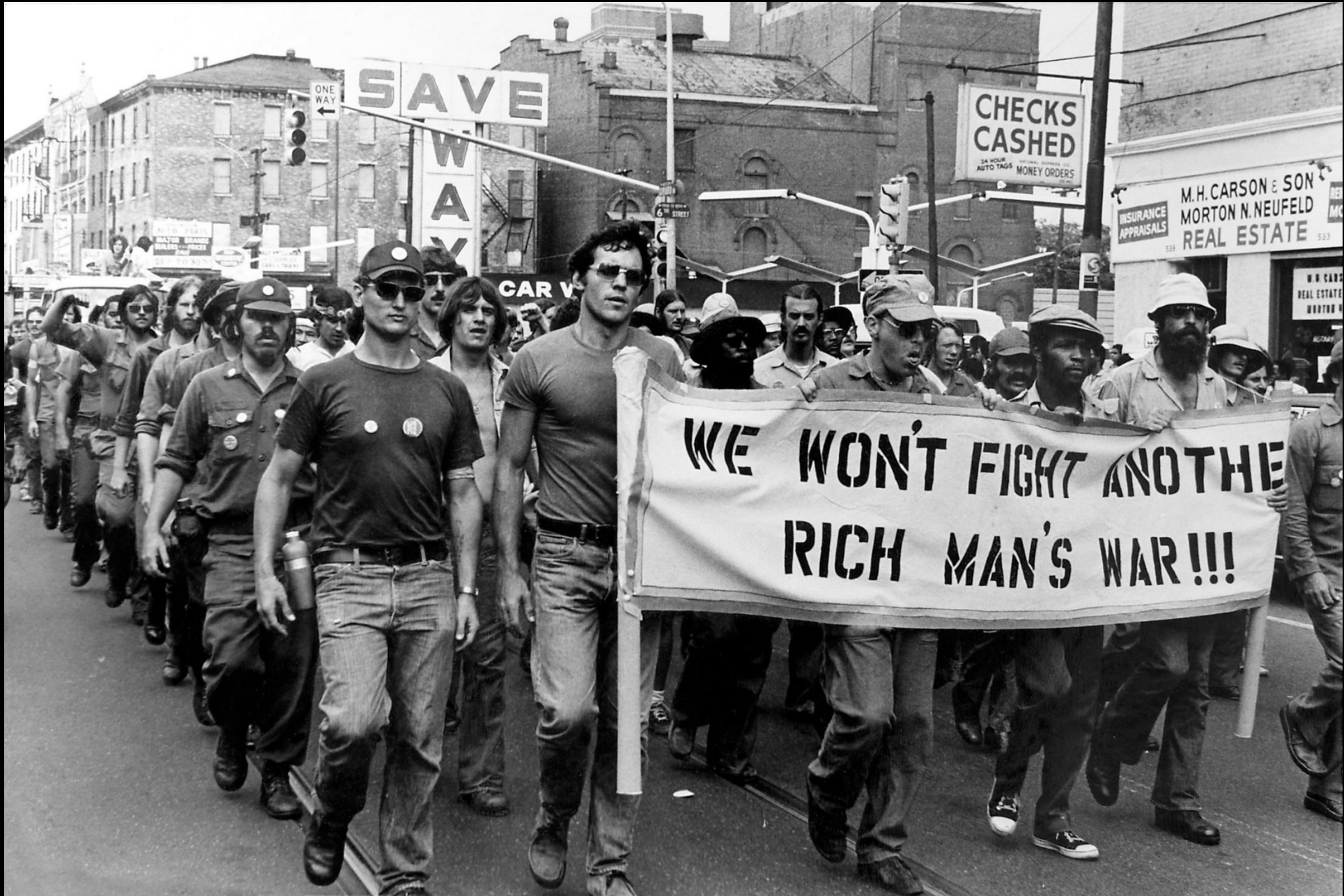
# ARTISTS RESPOND



**American Art  
and the  
Vietnam War,  
1965-1975**









Our foreign policy must always be an extension of this nation's domestic policy. Our safest guide to what we do abroad is a good look at what we are doing at home.

LINDSEY HARRIS JOHNSON





FIGHT  
COMMUNISM  
INSIDE  
THE U.S.A.

I AM AN  
AMERICAN  
I WILL LIVE  
LIKE ONE  
I AM WILLING  
TO DIE TO  
BE ONE

PEACE OF CHRIST  
NOT COMMUNISM'S  
VICTORY OVER  
COMMUNISM!!

PLEASE  
DONT TRUST  
THE RED  
MURDERERS

BE A  
MURDERER



May 1965: Artists protest the escalation of the war at LACMA

February 1966: The *Artists' Tower of Protest* (also known as *The Peace Tower*), organized by The Artists Protest Committee and designed by sculptor Mark di Suvero





David Hammons  
*America the Beautiful*, 1968  
Lithograph and body print



LeRoy Henderson, *First Anti-Vietnam March*, 1967

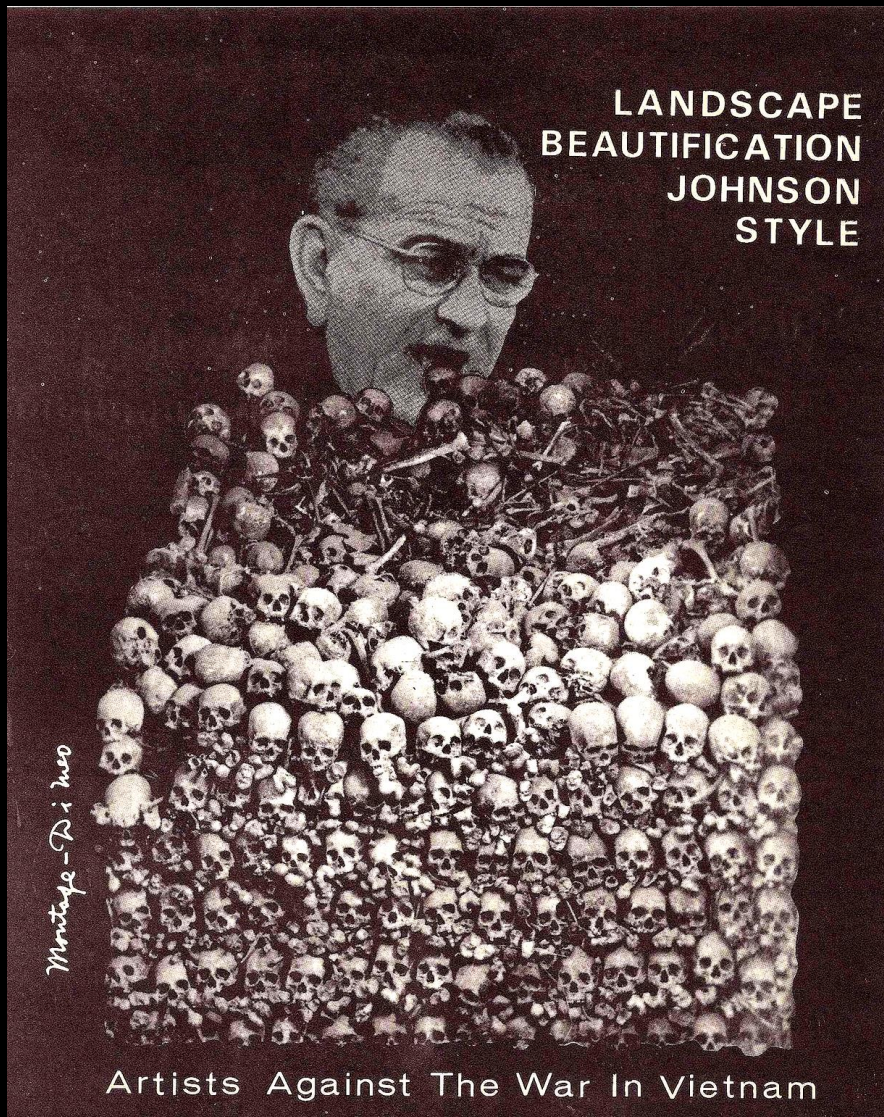




Judy Chicago  
*Immolation*, 1972  
Performance photograph



May Stevens  
*Big Daddy Paper Doll*, 1970  
Acrylic on canvas



Dominick DiMeo  
*Landscape Beautification Johnson Style*, ca. 1966  
Photomechanical collage



Philip Guston  
*San Clemente*, 1975  
Oil on canvas



Dan Flavin  
*monument 4 for those who have been  
killed in ambush (to P.K. who reminded me  
about death), 1966*  
Fluorescent lights

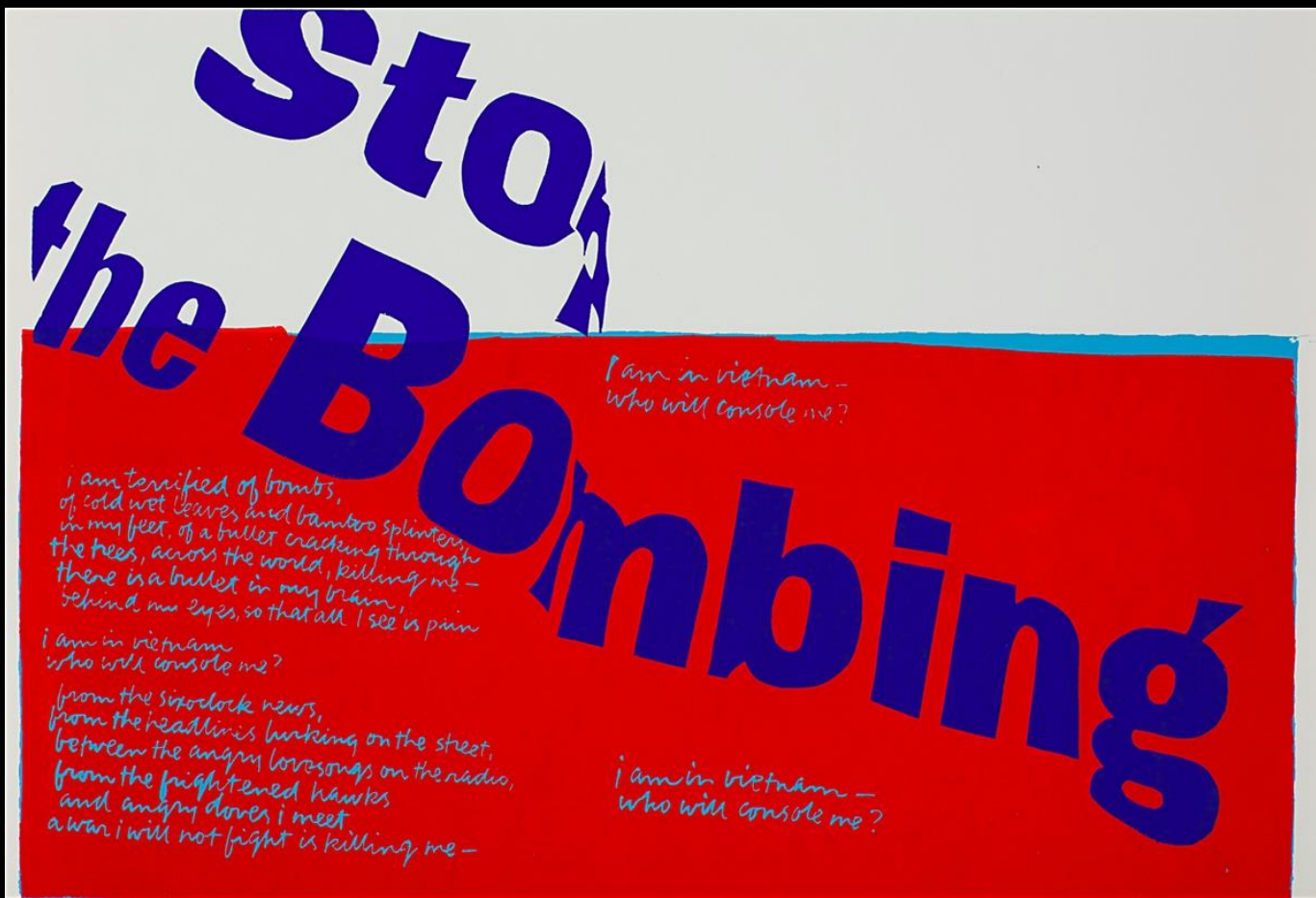
NO WAR  
NO IMPERIALISM  
NO MURDER  
NO BOMBING  
NO NAPALM  
NO ESCALATION  
NO CREDIBILITY GAP  
NO PROPAGANDA  
NO BULLSHIT  
NO LYING  
NO IGNORANCE  
NO GRAFT  
NO DRAFT  
NO FEAR  
NO SLAVERY  
NO POVERTY  
NO HUNGER  
NO HATE  
NO INJUSTICE  
NO EVIL  
NO INHUMANITY  
NO CALLOUSNESS  
NO CONSCIOUSLESSNESS  
NO CONSCIENCELESSNESS

NO ART OF WAR  
NO ART IN WAR  
NO ART TO WAR  
NO ART ON WAR  
NO ART BY WAR  
NO ART FROM WAR  
NO ART ABOUT WAR  
NO ART FOR WAR  
NO ART WITH WAR  
NO ART AS WAR

WAR CHIEF  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
U.S.A.



NO WAR  
NO IMPERIALISM  
NO MURDER  
NO BOMBING  
NO NAPALM  
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NO CALLOUSNESS  
NO CONSCIOUSLESSNESS  
NO CONSCIENCELESSNESS



(Sister Mary) Corita Kent  
*stop the bombing*, 1967  
Color screenprint 15 1/2 x 23 1/8 in  
Corita Art Center, Los Angeles



I am in Vietnam--who will console me?  
I am terrified of bombs, of cold wet leaves and bamboo splinters in my feet, of a bullet cracking through the trees, across the world, killing me-- there is a bullet in my brain, behind my eyes, so that all I see is pain I am in vietnam--who will console me? from the sixoclock news, from the headlines lurking on the street, between the angry love songs on the radio, from the frightened hawks and angry doves I meet a war I will not fight is killing me--I am in vietnam, who will console me?

Stop the Bombing



Hans Haacke  
*News*, 1969  
RSS newsfeed, paper, and printer











# VIETNAM ONE WEEK'S DEAD

Small text block providing details about the Vietnam War, including dates and statistics.

May 28 - June 5, 1969





Martha Rosler  
From "House Beautiful: Bringing the War Home" series, c. 1967-72  
Photomontage

Martha Rosler  
*Vacation Getaway*, from *House Beautiful: Bringing the War Home*, 1967-72  
Photomontage



In a secluded vacation spot, privacy isn't a problem, so you go all out with glass, for view, light, and visual spaciousness. Simple or no-pattern coverings, soft colors, and small-scale furnishings add to illusion of size. Blue of the ceiling and brown of the beams extend through the glass walls to the eaves from living room to the outdoors.

MARTEL

The image shows three maroon rectangular panels arranged horizontally on a white background. Each panel contains white text in a bold, sans-serif font. The first panel on the left contains the text 'ONE THING', the middle panel contains '1965', and the third panel on the right contains 'VIET-NAM'.

ONE THING

1965

VIET-NAM

On Kawara  
*Title*, 1965  
Acrylic and collage on canvas

Introduction

In Vietnam can now be seen the opening round of the last big fight, the conflict between East and West - that ultimate conflict that will determine the shape of mankind's future. The values of West, China, the war in Vietnam is the beginning of the war with China (for Vietnam is ideologically a part of China) and the war is qualitatively different from all others because it is being fought not for was males or land, but for the minds of men.

America is trying to sell a doctrine to the Vietnamese. For a hundred years it tried to get the same thing to China. America's overwhelming interest in China was in obtaining for itself the qualification of maturity that would be bestowed on the nation responsible for bringing China into the world after 3,000 years of obscurity. But despite the artifices and the Coca-Cola, China turned and bit the hand that was tempting it toward "civilization." America never forgave China, perhaps because it could never understand how any country could choose communism. So it put the rejection of Americanism down to a Russian plot or a collective psychosis of the Chinese people, while never abandoning the desirability of the doctrine it was exporting. This same misplaced confidence in the universal goodness of American values was to prompt their imposition on the Vietnamese.

The opportunity arose when, to keep Europe strong against the latest common enemy, Russia, the United States decided to help France by helping it in that most un-American activity, a colonial war. When France was forced to quit, America stayed on, using the excuse of "containing" that "expansionist delinquent," China, thereby creating the American dependency of South Vietnam. France was an embarrassment. Its hands were lashed as a colonial power; it had come to Vietnam to quit. America came to take nothing, only to give. And all it asked in return was that the Vietnamese accept its values, norms, morals and beliefs - in short, its total ideology.

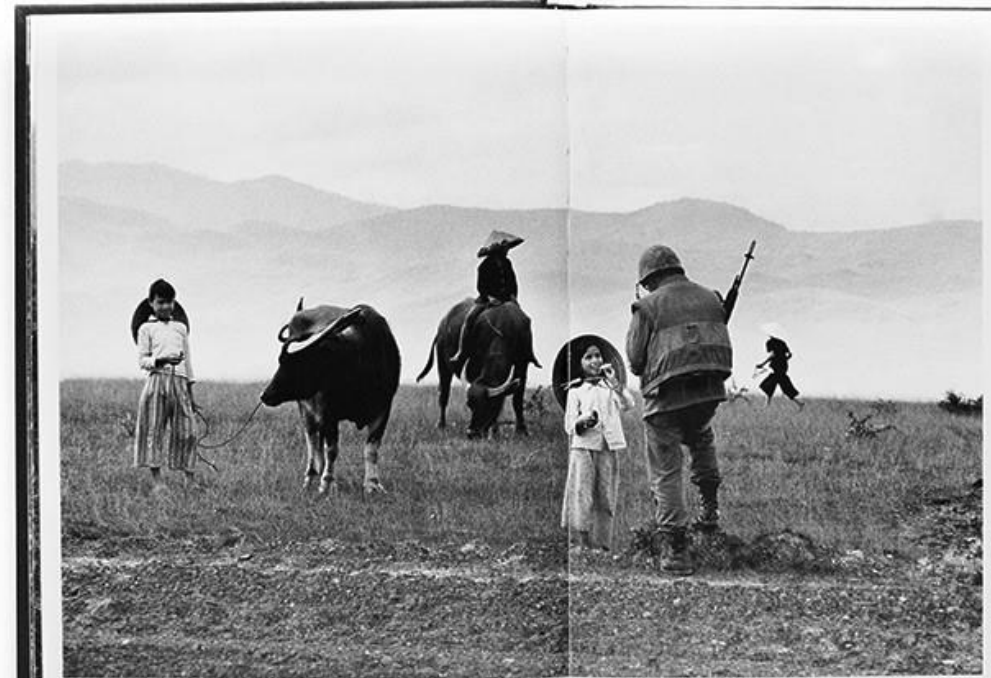
For ten years, from 1954 to 1964, America tried the "soft sell." Over the years, in the face of increasing failure, the selling became harder. The government grew impatient and any resistance was attributed to a Communist plot (which was, after all, the only logical reason for anyone to reject a product of such self-evident excellence). And it became permissible to kill off anyone sick enough to prefer the other brand - communism. By 1965 mass resistance

was so great the Marines had to be sent in to carry out the hard sell, followed by an additional 2,000,000 military men. The sell became tougher still - but so did the resistance. More drastic measures had to be taken. Vietnam had to be "restructured" to allow better "sales penetration" and more people had to be killed, until finally the ultimate absurdity was reached: the people were being killed to be "saved" from the different flavor of the other brand.

This view of America's involvement in Vietnam is, admittedly, at variance with the commonly held one that sees the whole venture as a simple case of the American military-industrial complex practicing genocide on the Vietnamese. That America somehow planned Vietnam as the grand spectacle to introduce world-wide revolutions throughout the Third World by showing them how ruthlessly they would be suppressed, requires a belief in the omnipotence of U.S. foreign policy. Such a belief can only be held by those who have not seen the workings of American policy in action.

This book, as I hope, reveals that the events in Vietnam occurred because of the absence of the restraining influence of consummate wisdom. For the overwhelming impression afforded by Americans in Vietnam is one of stupidity rather than evil, an observation accentuated by comparison with the Vietnamese. I contend that Vietnam is the godfish bowl where the values of Americans and Vietnamese can be observed, studied, and because of their contrasting nature, more easily appraised. I maintain that the reason America became involved in Vietnam and the reason for its failing so dramatically there is because of fundamental deficiencies within the American system.

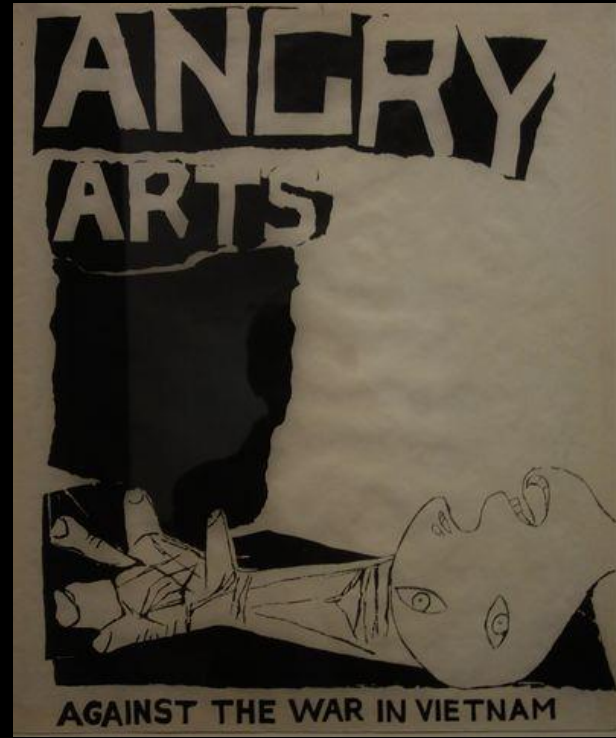
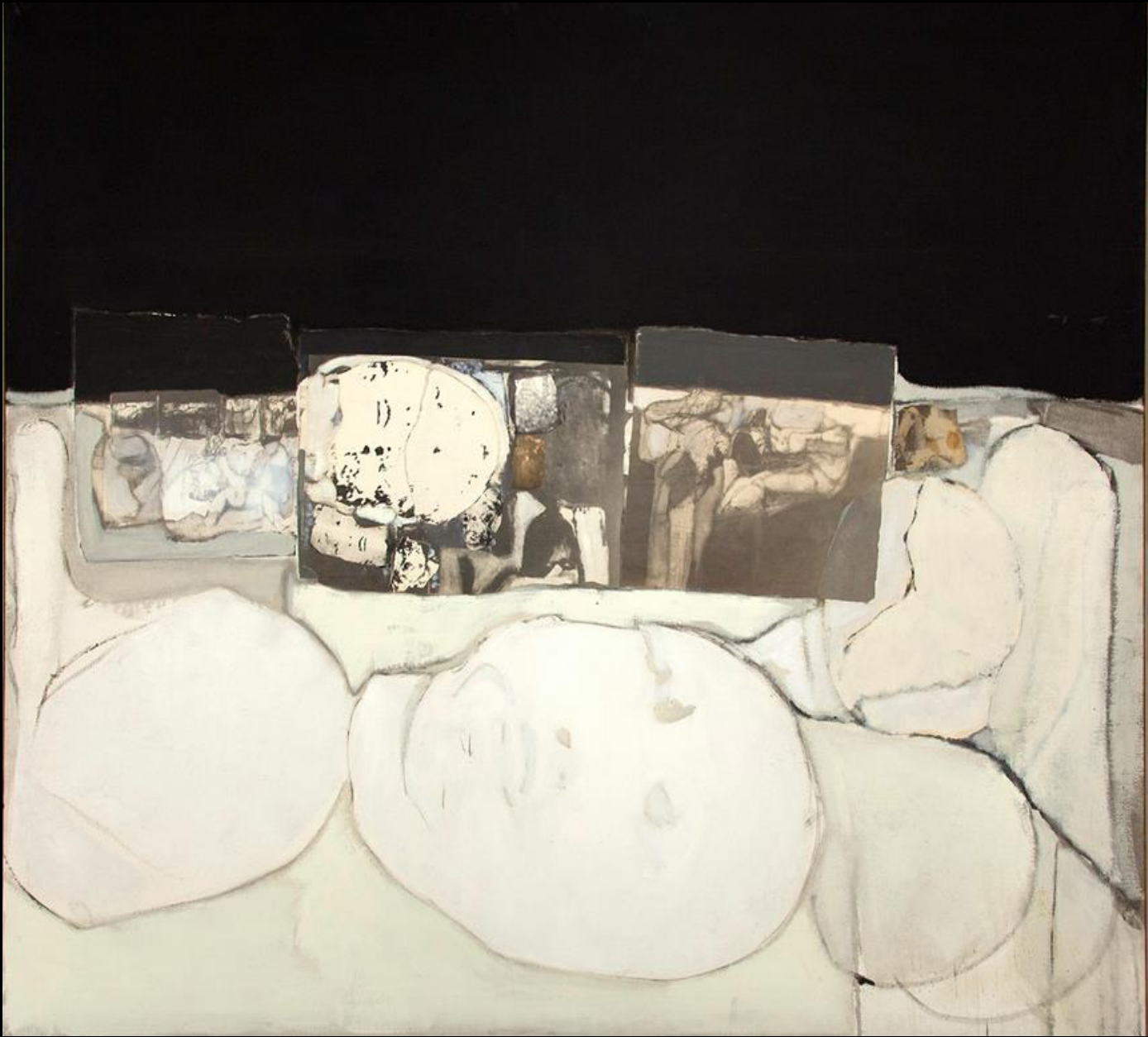
This book is not, however, intended to be a list of the 500's which failed, compiled for the purpose of overlooking the deficiencies and ensuring success next time. The American miscalculations made in Vietnam are overshadowed by and stem from the folly of the original view that deemed it possible for a society like America's to impose itself on that of the Vietnamese. This view was based on an ignorance that later fulfilled progress and prompted recourse to the asset America has in abundance - the tools of destruction. And so, hand in hand with increasing failures, more and more death was rained down on the Vietnamese people. Despite the moral census of mankind, and to the eternal shame of the American people, the killing continues today.



LEFT: A Marine approaches a woman, 20, at the 1000-hour mark of the 1000-hour war. The woman is carrying a child on her back. RIGHT: A child in a field of water buffalo. The child is the daughter of a man who was killed in the war. The child is the only one left of her family. The child is the only one left of her family. The child is the only one left of her family.

Philip Jones Griffiths  
*Vietnam Inc.*, 1971  
Book











**¡FUERA DE  
INDOCHINA!**







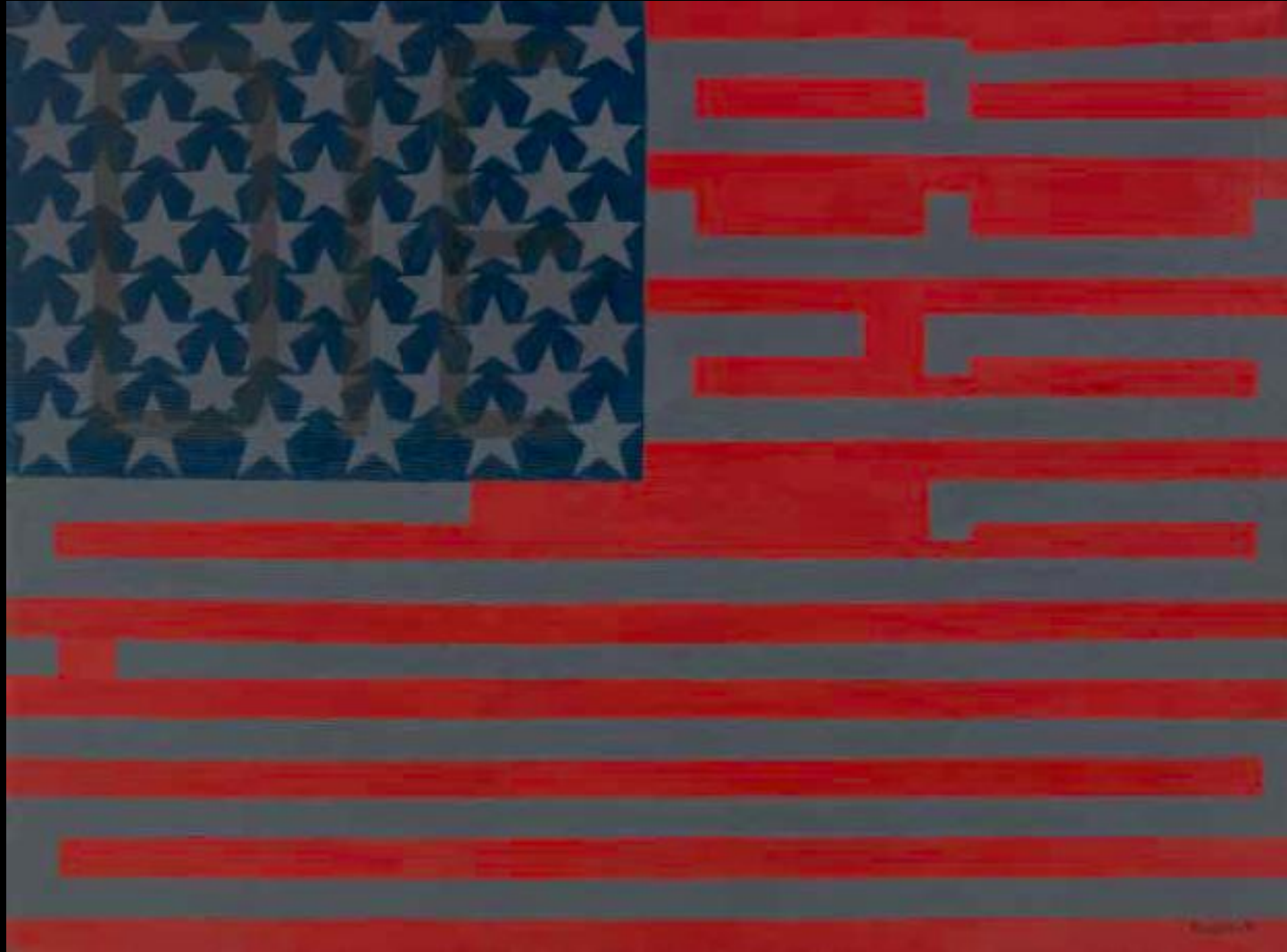


This woman is  
northvietnamese  
southafrican,  
puertorrican,  
colombian,  
black,  
argentinian,  
my mother,  
my sister,  
you, I.









"Whitey on the Moon"

A rat done bit my sister Nell.

(with Whitey on the moon)

Her face and arms began to swell.

(and Whitey's on the moon)

I can't pay no doctor bill.

(but Whitey's on the moon)

Ten years from now I'll be paying still.

(while Whitey's on the moon)

The man just upped my rent last night

('cause Whitey's on the moon)

No hot water, no toilets, no lights.

(but Whitey's on the moon)

I wonder why he's upping me?

('cause Whitey's on the moon?)

I wuz already paying him fifty a week.

(with Whitey on the moon)

Taxes taking my whole damn check,

Junkies making me a nervous wreck,

The price of food is going up,

An' as if all that shit was't enough:

A rat done bit my sister Nell.

(with Whitey on the moon)

Her face and arm began to swell.

(but Whitey's on the moon)

Was all that money I made last year

(for Whitey on the moon?)

How come there ain't no money here?

(Hmm! Whitey's on the moon)

Y'know I just about had my fill

(of Whitey on the moon)

I think I'll send these doctor bills,

Airmail special

(to Whitey on the moon)



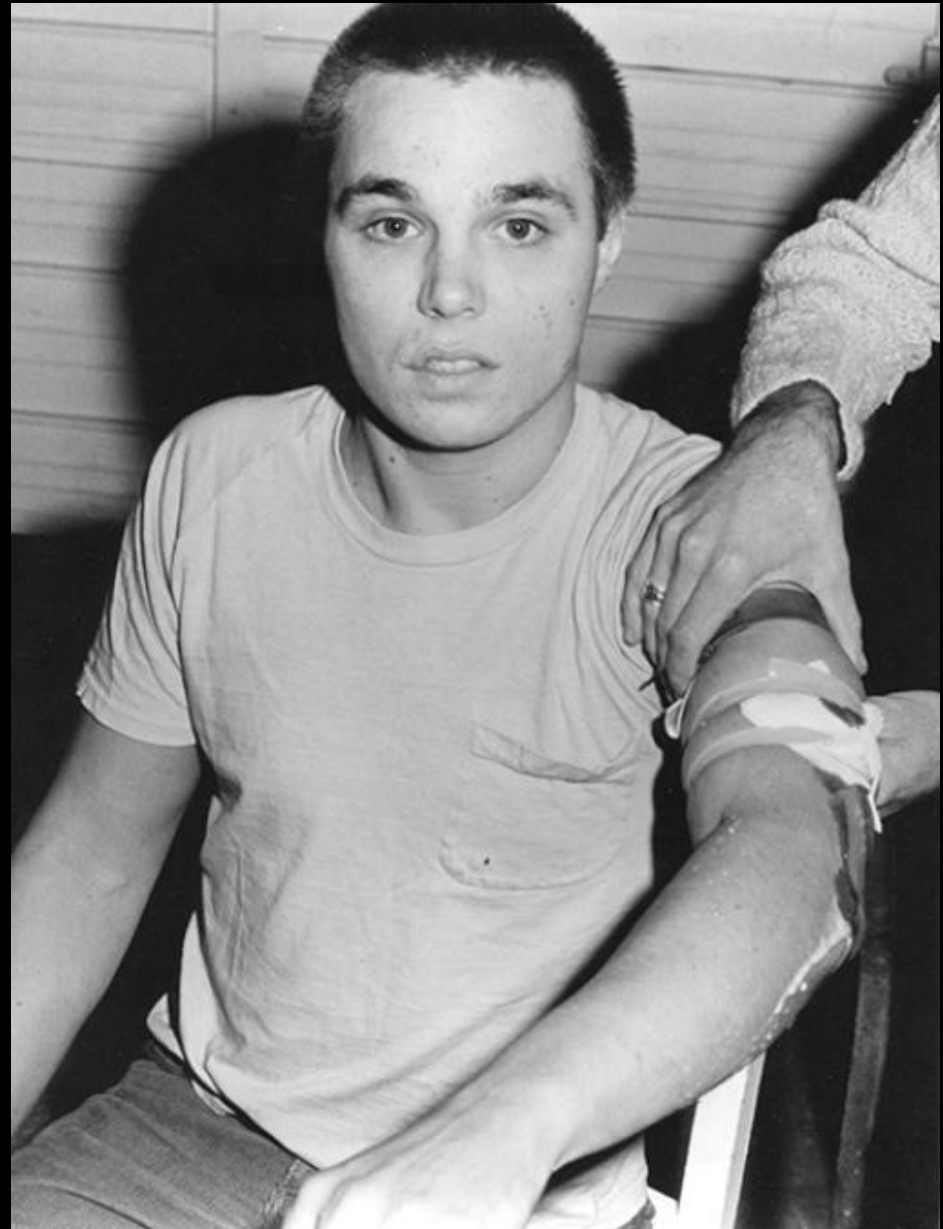


Yayoi Kusama  
*Anatomic Explosion on Wall Street, 1968*  
Performance photograph













NO-NO-NO-NO-NO



Leon Golub  
*Vietnam II*, 1973  
Acrylic on canvas



Nancy Spero  
*Bug, Helicopter, Victim*, 1966  
Gouache and ink on paper











BABY THE  
FUCKIN YOU GET  
AINT WORTH  
THE FUCKIN  
YOU TAKE

A SOLDIER'S  
CHRISTMAS  
IN VIETNAM



THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE ARMY AND AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20315  
FORM NO. 1 (REV. 10-1-60)  
GPO : 1961 O - 562-100

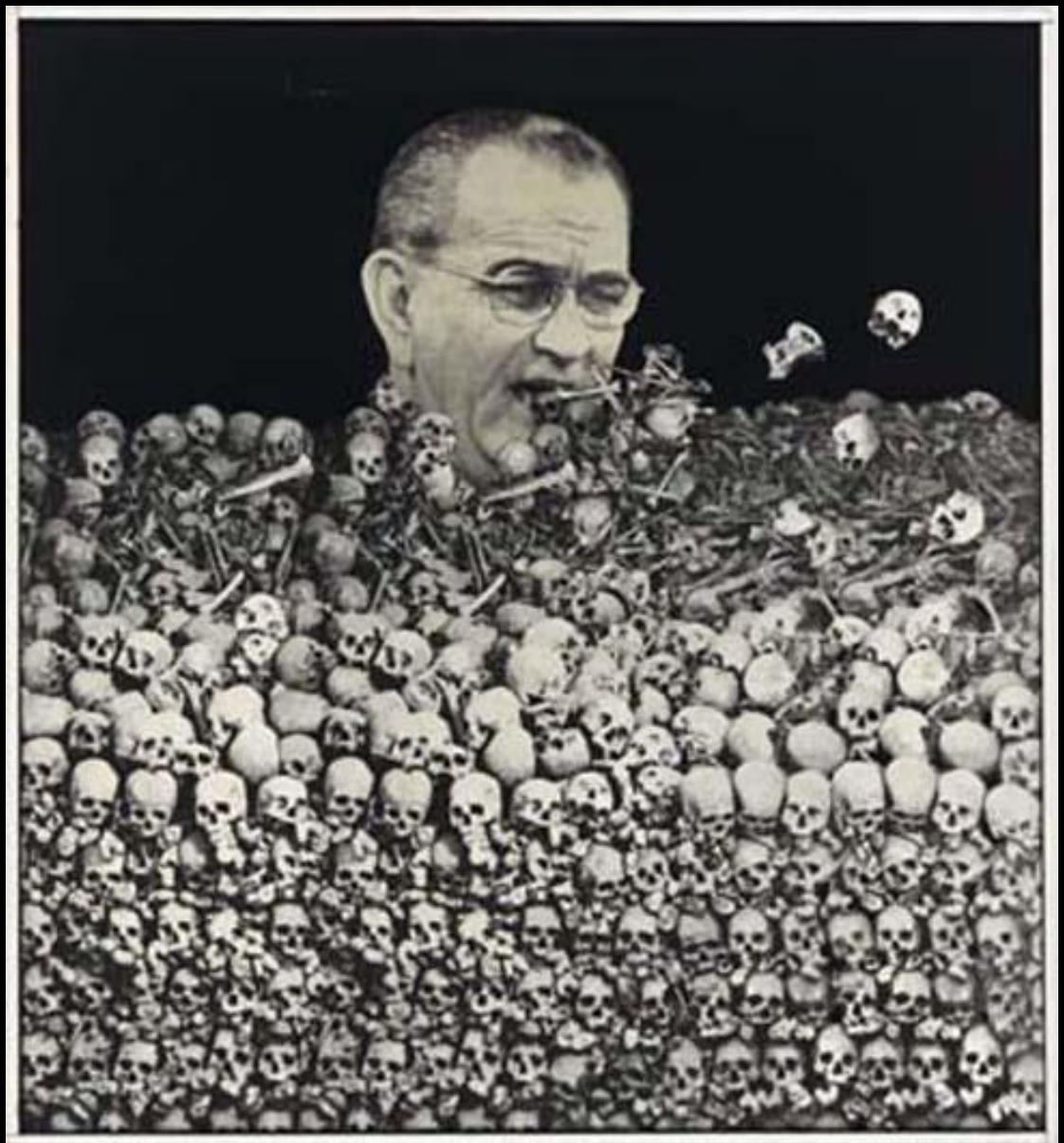


20,000 AMERICANS KILLED IN VIETNAM

SO FAR

US SERVICE  
MEN BEING  
FUCKED BY NUMBER  
IN VIETNAM













行刑的歡樂

樂之教

行刑的歡樂

樂之教

林行之警司徵市民防範策

街坊會望當局注意春雨間

印尼對美肝油有社  
法太約防四十八光四成交二千

由八心河內色佈學預與美談判入息

油蘇地百十條元開大埔南約飾紳

克宮表焦慮重由中  
旺角兩名居民  
以對付所請  
級淡份

中共阻止其  
暴風險危的

滿布藉口  
題湖榜大角止

花墟南華舉行  
昨日花墟甲組定

兩場比賽  
遇止整

克宮表焦慮重由中  
旺角兩名居民  
以對付所  
級淡份

把武裝發給「革命工人以對付所  
入南大學中

克宮表焦慮重由中  
旺角兩名居民  
以對付所  
級淡份

克宮表焦慮重由中  
旺角兩名居民  
以對付所  
級淡份

克宮表焦慮重由中  
旺角兩名居民  
以對付所  
級淡份

沙利士會長年會中強調

樂歡的刑行

香港警區長賽純來後

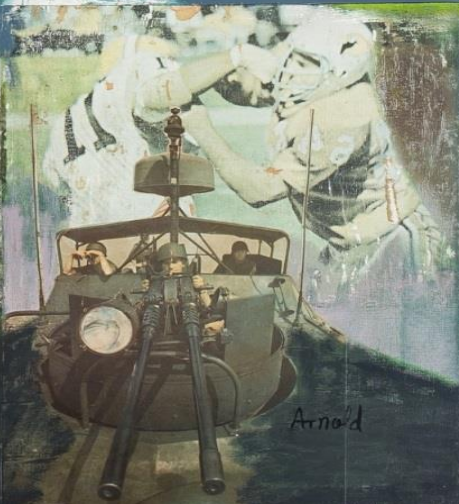
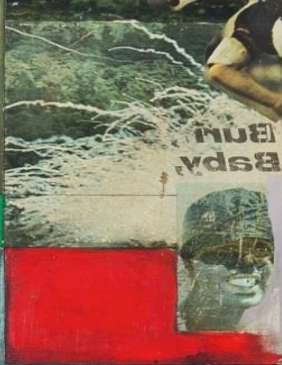
樂歡的刑行

ABOVE THIS  
SLUMBERING  
EARTH

GAMES  
GAMES  
GAMES



GAMES GAMES

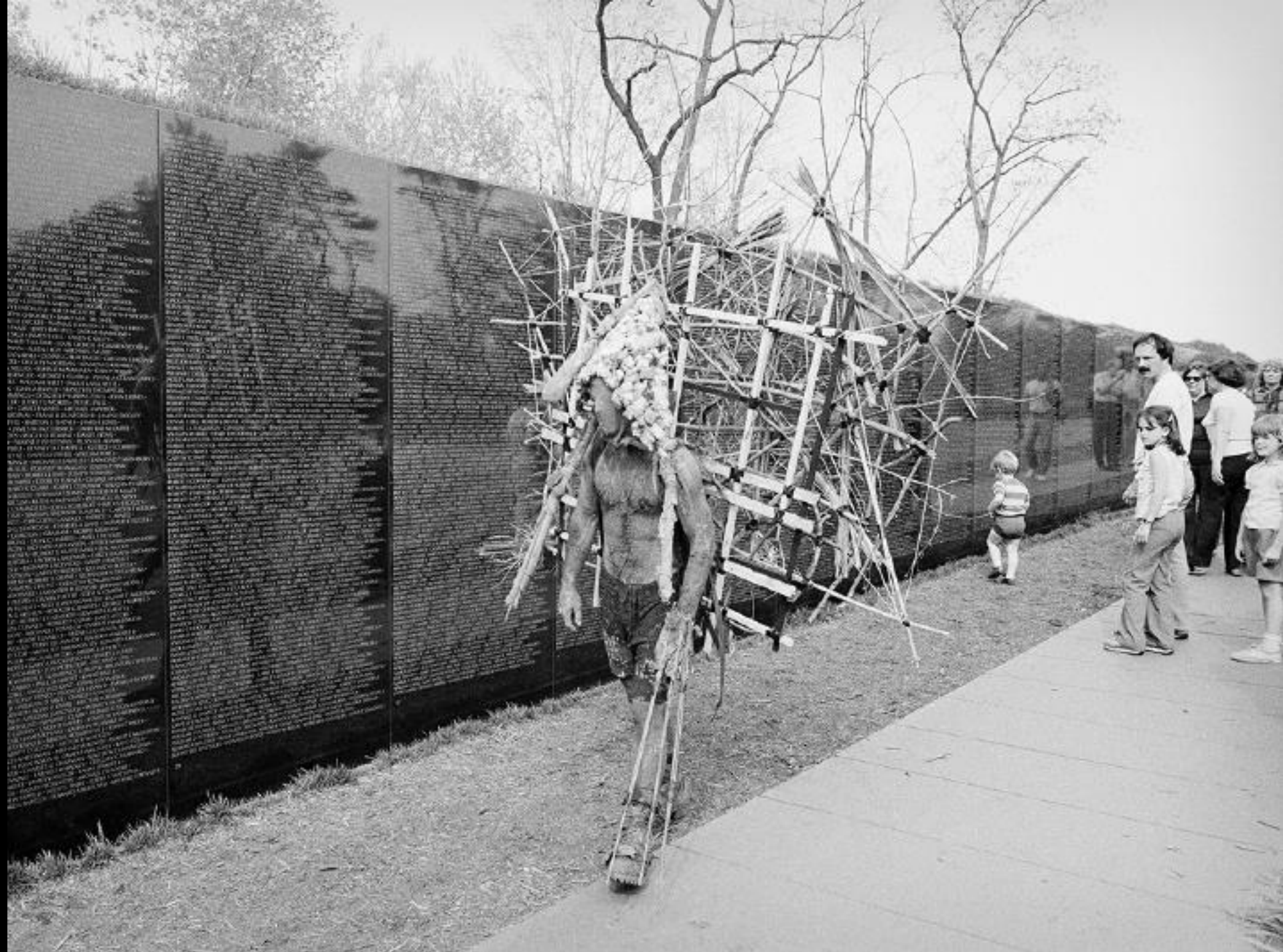






Wally Hedrick  
*The War Room*, 1967–68/2002  
Oil on canvas











I have seen unhonored death  
and it breathed a yellow smoke into my memory.  
I have drunk with a young man's terror and grief.  
any nuance of my pain, posture, becomes now,  
do not bother me with your new invulnerable thought!



i have seen unhonored death  
and it breathed a yellow smoke into my memory.  
i have drunk with a young man's terror and grief.  
any nuisance of any name posture boxes me now.  
do not bother me with your new invasions tonight!

Cannon 73





## **Artists Reflect: Contemporary Views on the American War**

**September 29, 2019 - January 5, 2020**

**Target Gallery**

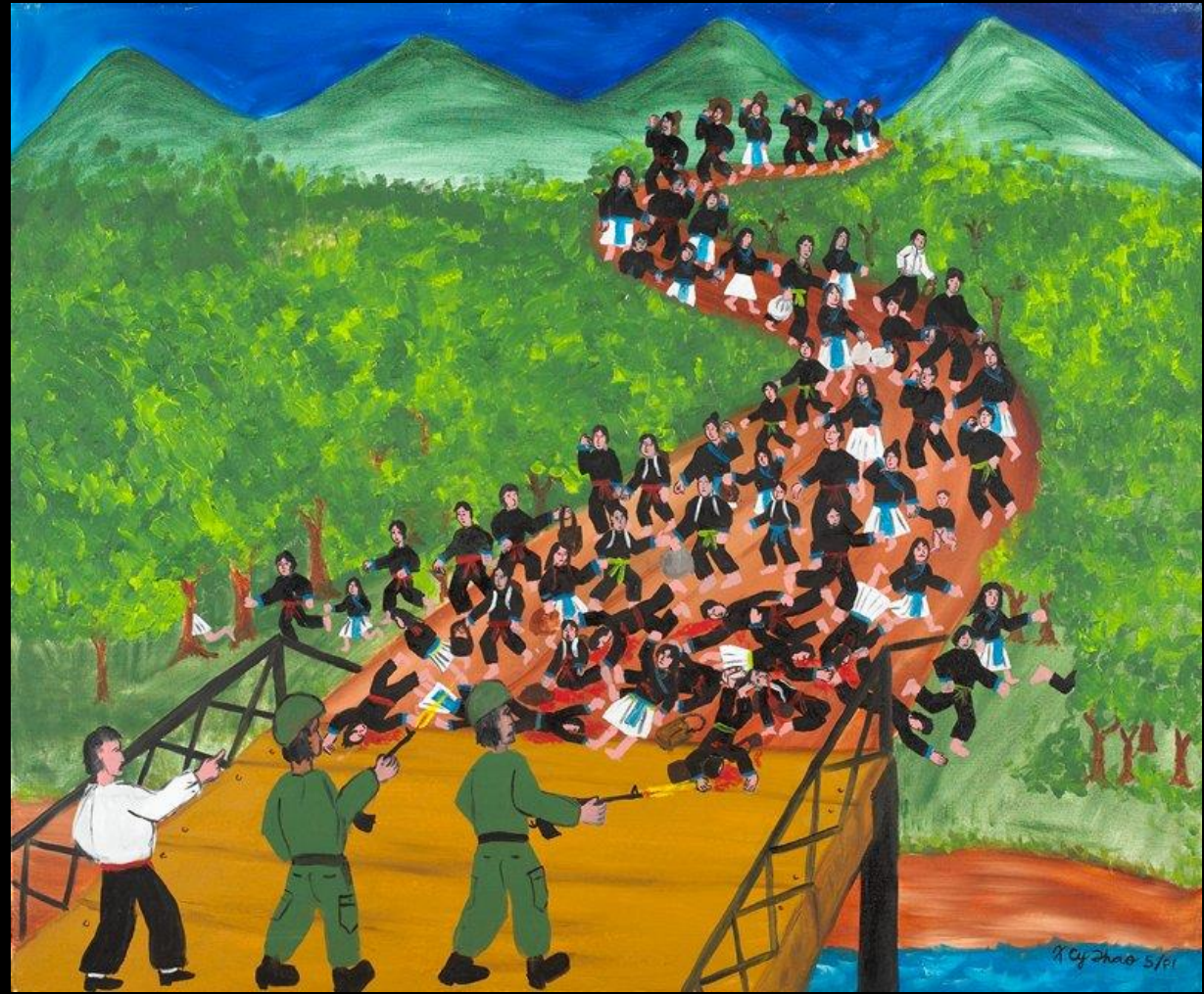


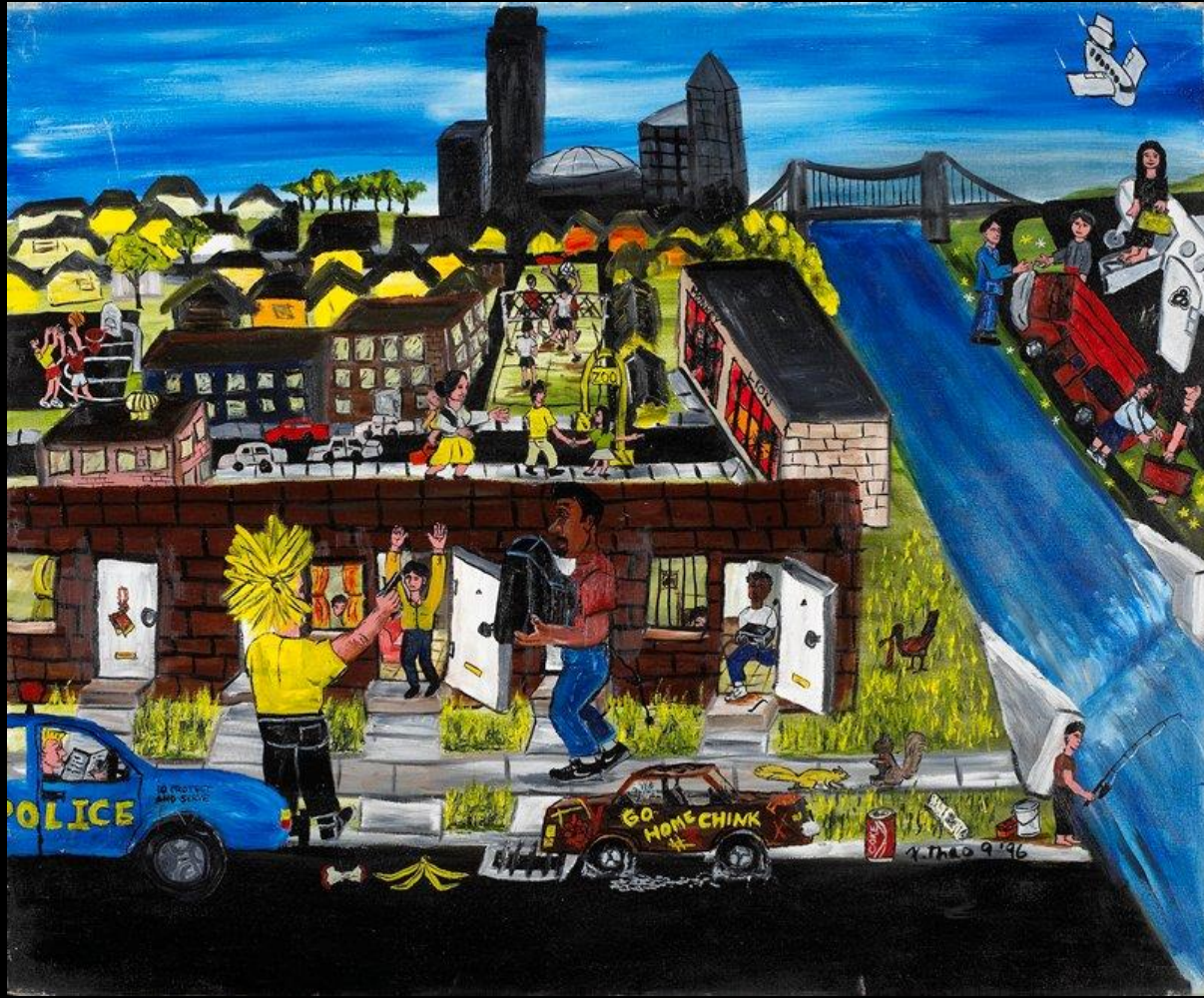
Tiffany Chung

*Reconstructing an exodus history: flight routes from camps and of ODP cases, 2017*

Embroidery on fabric

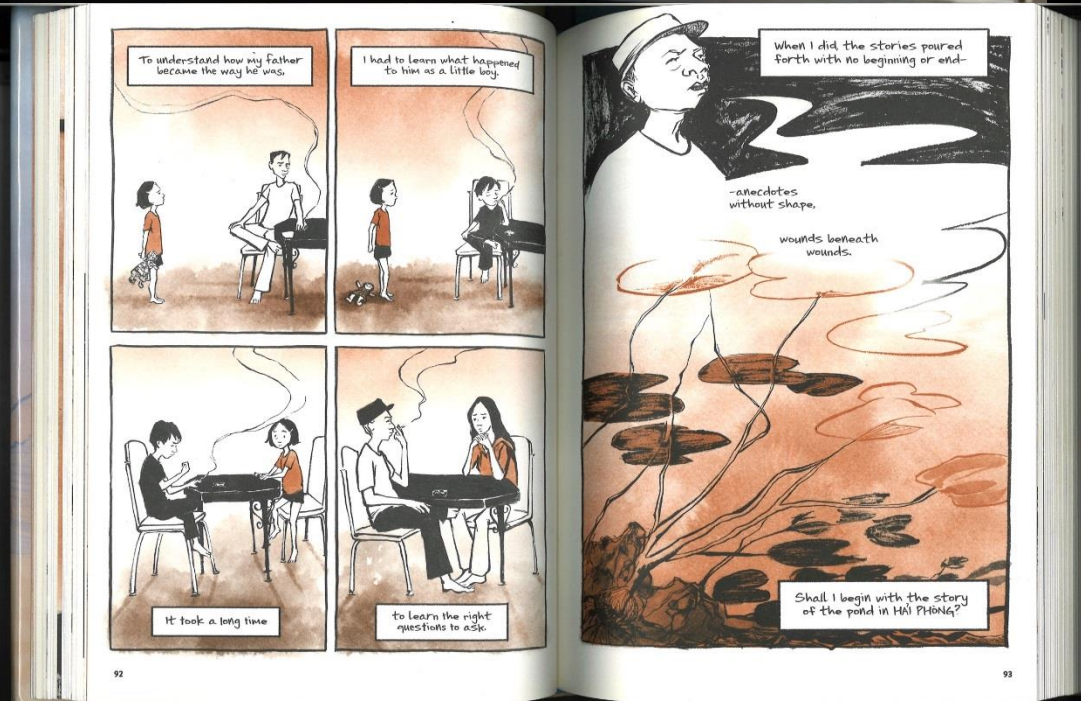
Minneapolis Institute of Art, the Henry Kinsell Endowment for Art Acquisition, 2018.12















The year of the woman, the decade from the sixties to the  
eighties began.  
The time has come when all women of the world should be equal to men  
and when they should be treated as such. The world is full of  
women who are doing the same old things, work through the  
same old ways, and the same old things are being done.  
The time has come when all women of the world should be equal to men  
and when they should be treated as such. The world is full of  
women who are doing the same old things, work through the  
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and when they should be treated as such. The world is full of  
women who are doing the same old things, work through the  
same old ways, and the same old things are being done.

In view of the response just made, how do we explain this to the American people?

You have been going all around the country speaking against aliens occupying jobs and now we might be stuck with 150,000 or 200,000 people which would tend to aggravate that problem, even though we admit them with the most humanitarian purposes in mind.

General CHAPMAN. Well, sir, if we could get rid of the illegals, it would open up a considerable number of slots. Well, we would have to do it on humanitarian grounds, and a sense of obligational grounds to these people, well recognizing that the impacts, if the numbers are very large, could be very serious. It would cost a lot of money for HEW to support them as they did the Cubans, initially.

Mr. EILBERG. You recognize the inconsistency involved if this committee, through the exercise of parole, is about to admit that large number of aliens, even though they are being paroled, and the inconsistency of the established situation even though the bulk of so many of those are illegals.

















