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## Le Van Khoa Collection

1841-1876

7 images (0.1 linear feet)

Call no.: MS 170



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The composer, photographer, and educator, Le Van Khoa arrived in the United States as a war refugee from Vietnam in May 1975. Largely self-taught as a photographer, he was co-founder of the Artistic Photography Association of Vietnam and has published three books of his work. He holds the distinction of being the first Vietnamese photographer to mount an exhibition at the U.S. Congress building.

The seven photographs in the Le Van Khoa collection are artistic reflections of life in Vietnam, including four taken in the imperial city, Hue.

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## Photographs

### Vietnam War

## Background on Le Van Khoa

The composer, photographer, and educator, Le Van Khoa arrived in the United States as a war refugee from Vietnam in May 1975. A creative autodidact, Le Van Khoa was born into a poor family in the Mekong Delta city of Can-Tho, on June 10, 1933. Having taught himself to read and play music, he was awarded a prize at the age of 19 for two songs submitted to a national contest, and through the publicity that followed, landed a job as a host for a children's television show.

Musically, Le Van Khoa has been both prolific and versatile. The author of hundreds of compositions and arrangements, he has worked with performers ranging from Vietnamese folk ensembles to western orchestras. His major works include the "Symphony Vietnam 1975," a moving commemoration of the war in Vietnam, and a lyrical elegy to the victims of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, but his arrangements have been used extensively by the Ngan Khoi Chorus and the Vietnamese American Philharmonic Orchestras.

For over fifty years, Le Van Khoa's other main creative outlet has been photography. Beginning in the mid-1950s, he began studying the craft, becoming serious enough by 1965 to help found the Artistic Photography Association of Vietnam. He has published three books of his work, and since emigration, has continued to take images and teach, including a stint at Salisbury State College (1976-1977). Recognized with a gold medal from the Trierenberg Super Circuit in Austria and special mention by the Al Thani International Photo Competition, he holds the distinction of being the first Vietnamese photographer to mount an exhibition at the U.S. Congress building.



Going home

## Scope of collection

The seven photographs in the Le Van Khoa collection are artistic reflections of life in Vietnam, including four taken in the imperial city, Hue.

## Inventory

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Le, Van Khoa: Drying grains (South Vietnam)

1985

10.5 x 24 cm.

Folder 1

Image of farmers laying out grain to dry in the sun.



Le, Van Khoa: Early morning on the Perfume River, Hue

1985

13.5 x 25 cm.

Folder 2

Image of a boat poling past other boats on the Perfume River.



Le, Van Khoa: A ferry boat (central Vietnam)

1985

18.5 x 24.5 cm.

Folder 3

Image of a group with boxes and a bicycle ferrying across a river.



Le, Van Khoa: Going home

1985

19.5 x 25 cm.

Folder 4

Image in silhouette of boy riding a water buffalo through fields, leading a calf behind.



Le, Van Khoa: Minh My Tower, Hue

1985

19.5 x 25 cm.

Folder 5

Image of the Phuoc Dien tower in the Thien My pagoda in the village of Huong Long, north bank of the Perfume River.



Le, Van Khoa: Ngo Mon, Hue

1985

19.5 x 24.5 cm.

Folder 6

Image of the Ngo Mon Gate at the Kinh Thanh Hue (Hue capital citadel).



Le, Van Khoa: Royal dancers in imperial palace

1985

14.5 x 24.5 cm.

Folder 7

Image in traditional dancers performing at the Imperial city, Hue.

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## Administrative information

### Access

Copyright has been retained by the photographer.

### Provenance

Gift of Le Van Khoa via Lucy Nguyen, 1985.

The images in this collection were donated to SCUA after being exhibited in the Student Union Art Gallery, UMass Amherst, on Sept 27-28, 1985.

### Processing Information

Processed by I. Eliot Wentworth, Jan. 2016.

### Language:

English

### Copyright and Use (More information )

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## Search terms

### Subjects

Boats and boating--Vietnam--Photographs

Ferries--Vietnam--Photographs

Grain--Harvesting--Vietnam--Photographs

Hue (Vietnam)--Photographs

Pagodas--Vietnam--Hue--Photographs

Palaces--Vietnam--Hue--Photographs

Rivers--Vietnam--Photographs

Vietnam--Photographs



Water buffalo--Vietnam--Photographs

## Genres and formats

Photographs

## Link to similar SCUA collections

Photographs

Vietnam War



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