

ASIAN MUSIC CIRCUIT

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THE HUONG THANH TRIO: TRADITIONAL MUSIC OF VIETNAM

The Asian Music Circuit is delighted to present the UK Premier Tour of Huong Thanh Trio. Huong Thanh Trio will perform in London, Newcastle, York, St. Ives in Cornwall and Nottingham from 30th May to 14th June, 2009.

Using a variety of ancient instruments, the Huong Thanh Trio performs the rarely heard traditional music of Vietnam. The artists, based in Paris, have spent their lives far from their country and their music expresses their longing to return to a homeland that has long since disappeared and is just a memory.

Huong Thanh explains her devotion to traditional music by saying that she lost 25 years of the evolution of Vietnam: “the problem for me when I’m in Vietnam, is that I’m looking for something that doesn’t exist anymore, the Vietnam I loved before coming here [Paris]. So that’s why it’s important to keep the tradition, because it’s the only thread I have to this past Vietnam”.

The group comprises **Huong Thanh** as vocal, **Hong Nguyen** on sen luth (chordophone), zither, drums, percussions and vocal and **Daniel Nguyen/Hao Nhien Pham** on dan nguyet (moon- shaped lute), vielle, dan bau (monochord) and vocal.

Huong Thanh Trio are eagerly awaiting to continue their critically acclaimed success in Europe and the Asian Music Circuit is honoured to tour them in the UK.

Tour dates:

30 th May at 7.45pm	Southbank Centre's Purcell Room at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, London
2 nd June at 6.30pm	Workshop at the Asian Music Centre, London
3 rd June at 7.00pm	The Sage Gateshead, Newcastle
5 th June at 7.30pm	National Centre for Early Music, York
12 th June at 7.30pm	St. Ives Arts Club, Cornwall
14 th June at 4pm	As Part of the One World Festival, Nottingham

For more information about this tour and artists interviews please contact:
 Kate Goodale kate@amc.org.uk

For a sample of Huong Thanh Trio's performance, please visit:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MZ5mW-rds5Q>

REVIEWS AND QUOTES ABOUT HUONG THANH:

'This woman has a voice that melts glaciers & make deserts bloom with roses'

Ian Anderson, Folk Roots

'Huong Thanh is a powerful singer with an ethereal voice that touches your heart and opens up the little known and extraordinarily beautiful world of Vietnamese music'

Lucy Duran, Lecturer, Music department, SOAS, & presenter, BBC Radio

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BIOGRAPHY OF HUONG THANH

Born in Saigon, Houg Thanh comes from a family of renowned traditional musicians, and at the age of 10 learned from the famous singers of Cao Luong – a renovated opera that mixes traditional singing, dance and theatre. Since her move to Paris in 1977, Thanh has taken part in Cao Luong shows throughout Europe.

In 1995 she met Hong Nguyen who brought her to the world of Jazz, a style of music she had never performed before.

In 1996 Houg Thanh was invited to sing for the anniversary of the declaration of Human Rights at UNESCO.

To date, Huong has released four albums: Moon and Wind, Dragonfly, Mangustai and Fragile Beauty.

In 2007, she won the France Musique des Musiques du Monde.

ASIAN MUSIC CIRCUIT

The Asian Music Circuit is the leading company in the UK producing quality tours and concerts of music from Asia alongside a year round education programme including an annual Summer School and now its own unique multi-media Asian Music Centre.

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