

Weaving a Day, Mourning a Life: The Mother and Daughter-in-Law of Phúc Sen

Curated by **Dala Nguyen**

On view:

September 4 - October 24, 2026

Tues. - Sat., 11am - 6pm

Opening Reception: Friday, September 4, 6 - 8pm

Location:

291 Church Street, NYC, and 3D Online

Featuring work by:

Trung Duc Nguyen - Minh Sang Chu - Chu Thieu - Tra My Phan



Trung Duc Nguyen, *Where the Thread Begins*, 2026

In Phúc Sen, a village in Cao Bằng province in northern Vietnam, blacksmithing has defined the community for generations. While its forged knives are known throughout Southeast Asia, another tradition remains largely unseen: within the same households, women weave the funeral garments that will accompany their families into death.

Weaving a Day, Mourning a Life takes this quiet practice as its point of departure, following two generations of Nùng An women whose relationship to weaving reflects broader changes in contemporary rural life. As younger generations leave the village and daily rhythms shift, the future of this intimate tradition becomes increasingly uncertain.

Bringing together four artists working across photography, moving image, sound, and textile installation, the exhibition explores cultural memory, ritual labor, and the material practices through which care, kinship, and mourning are sustained. Rather than presenting the Nùng An weaving tradition as ethnographic spectacle, the exhibition offers four distinct artistic responses that open broader conversations about memory, material culture, and the passage of time.

Weaving a Day, Mourning a Life invites visitors to consider how knowledge is carried across generations, and how meaning is woven slowly into everyday acts of making. It is a reflection on legacy, women's labor, and the enduring relationship between cloth, ritual, and human experience.

Weaving a Day, Mourning a Life was selected through apexart's Open Call. For more information and images visit <https://apexart.org/nguyen.php> or contact maryam.ghoreishi@apexart.org.

Dala Nguyen is a Vietnamese visual artist and curator exploring cultural memory, ritual, and transformation through interdisciplinary storytelling.

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