

Genie Hien Tran

she / they

9/28/1996

Genie Hien Tran, or Trần Phan Minh Hiền, is an interdisciplinary artist and poet based in Minneapolis, MN. She was born in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam and is currently pursuing her MFA degree in Visual Arts at Minneapolis College of Art and Design. Her work takes the form of collage, installation and writing in order to explore the boundaries of form and material, of poetic text and imagery. As a migrant in the U.S, Tran creates work that engages with familial narrative and cultural history through working with memory, so as to conjure up dialogues of identity, home and belonging. Her work operates as a sign of resilience and a starting point for healing while surviving in the state of transience.

Submission 1: *self portrait*

This poem was one of the first poem written as I reflected on my self-identity, of being a Vietnamese migrant living in the U.S.

Submission 2: *beginnings*

This poem was written from the view of my grandfather, who was a Viet Cong fighting in the Vietnam war. I tried to imagine what it must have been like for him to be at war defending against Western colonialism, all the while missing the birth of his daughter at home.

Submission 3: **First Place Winner-** 10.8231° N, 106.6297° E

This project is an active form of memory. I construct this act of remembrance through the use of found texts, writing, archival photographs, process-driven mark making in order to create a passive investigation into my parents' lives. By making this work, I wanted to look holistically at who my parents are and were as human beings, what they liked and who they loved, so as to uncover the somewhat universal familial dynamics between children and their parents, between a person and their home.