

Phung-Tien Phan
kein Charakter
May 2 – June 18, 2025

The dinosaurs forgot their lines again. They roll out anyway, wearing their silly smiles, pompoms on their tails. In the back row somebody claps, another just watches.

Phung-Tien Phan doesn't offer a story, no hero protagonist, but a costume rack of archetypes, as interchangeable as they are ephemeral. If a recent realization in Phan's work is, as Stanton Taylor writes for a previous exhibition, that all identity is performance, then here the flimsy pursuit of a 'true Self' is exchanged for a quasi-anthropological study of social behavior. Phan's actors try on these characters, a contemplative gaze, a pose for the mirror: being together, dining alone, evolving consciousness. A mother, daughter of Vietnamese immigrants, artist. A political artist? Is there any such thing as a non-political artist? Here, we find the artist as a product, wrapped in cellophane and ornamented with saccharine bows, inextricably interwoven with mechanisms of extraction and consumption.

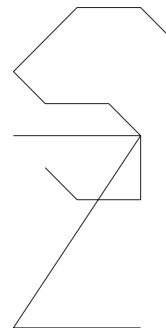
Meanwhile, a stick figure aimlessly wanders between buildings that have no memory of being built. It is spring. No real destination, just endless choices.

The humdrum of the everyday is treated with affection in Phan's work, reflected in the choice of rudimentary materials. Working with elementary, ephemeral matter serves as an antidote to the permanence and authority asserted by traditional sculpture and its easy commodification. Perhaps this delicate precariousness serves as a stance against the soft imperialism of a techno-utopian worldview. Dino Phan slouches onwards, lopsided but unbothered.

No character, no problem.

We have our setting. Now what's the script?

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List of Works

clockwise

Phung-Tien Phan, *Dino Essen*, 2025
wood, kitchen cloth, wooden sticks, cloth,
cellophane, glass, plate, glass knife, alu sheet,
serviette, dino, red string, glass crystal, rice
74 x 100 x 50 cm

Phung-Tien Phan, *Dino Alone*, 2025
mirror, glass, dino, plush, ball, rope, wood
40 x 50 x 9 cm

Phung-Tien Phan, *Dino art historian Phan*,
2025
cardboard, styrofoam, sticks, paper, needles,
coins, alu sheet, flowers, plush ball, dino
120 x 80 x 33 cm

Phung-Tien Phan, *Girl at Heart 4*, 2025
cardboard, artists own clothing, chloe plat-
form show, chandelier, dino, cellophan, maul
trip
120 x 80 x 30 cm

Phung-Tien Phan, *Dino Rights*, 2025
wheels, wood, wooden sticks, cable ties, string,
rope, plush balls, needles
205 x 80 x 40 cm

Phung-Tien Phan, *Dino Zoo*, 2025
wheels, wood, wooden sticks, glaze, cable ties,
feathers, pins, rice
80 x 40 x 220 cm

Phung-Tien Phan, *Dino Fraud*, 2025
wooden stool, cardboard, playing cards,
wooden sticks, glass, dino, feather, red string
120 x 80 x 115 cm

center

Phung-Tien Phan, *Dino Egal*, 2025
wheels, wood, mirror, glass, cloth, alluminium
rods, wooden sticks, string, dino, feather, plush
ball
354 x 200 x 40 cm

room 2

Phung-Tien Phan, *Landscape*, 2025
acrylic on canvas, linen, ball-pen drawing,
flower
dimensions variable

corridor

Phung-Tien Phan, *Volkswagen 8*, 2025
wood, wheels, coffee machine, flowers,
kitchen cloth, glass, photo, insence sticks, sand,
minature furniture, coffee filter, light bulb,
cellotape
36 x 117 x 24 cm

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