

# FLAVOURS OF MEMORY:

## VIETNAM ON SCREEN

A Film Series

Filmstill from: The Taste of Pho by Mariko Bobrik, 2019

From September to December 2025, in conjunction with the exhibition “Symphony of Spices—Vietnamese Roots, Global Routes”, we present a film series that explores Vietnam’s history, social transformation, and culture of remembrance through the lens of food, family, and changing urban landscapes. Featuring films and documentaries by acclaimed directors, the series highlights Vietnam’s vibrant heritage and the enduring spirit of belonging across generations and borders.

**ethnographic  
museum**

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**THU  
11.09  
19:00**

### **The Taste of Pho**

What does the taste of *phở*, the iconic national soup dish, mean for the Vietnamese diaspora in Europe? Complementing the stories in the “Symphony of Spices” exhibition, this film follows a Warsaw-based Vietnamese cook who struggles to fit into European culture, which his ten-year-old daughter has already embraced as her own. It is a story about love, misunderstanding, and food.

*Film by Mariko Bobrik, Poland/Germany, 2019, 83’; Languages: Vietnamese, Polish; English subtitles.*

**THU  
02.10  
19:00**

### **Forgetting Vietnam**

Feminist theorist and filmmaker Trịnh T. Minh-hà’s experimental documentary provocatively connects myth, memory and Vietnamese folk cultures in post-war Vietnam. With image and sound recordings from 1995 and 2012, the film not only brings together two different historical times, but also different techniques and aesthetics. The film commemorates the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the reunification of Vietnam.

*Film by Trịnh T. Minh-hà, Vietnam/South Korea/USA, 2015, 90’; no dialogue; English intertitles.*

**THU  
06.11  
19:00**

### **Cu Li Never Cries**

A woman returns to Vietnam from Germany after the death of her long-estranged husband. She brings with her his urn and his pet Cu Li, a pygmy slow loris. Meanwhile, her young niece prepares for marriage. The two women’s shared anxieties about the future mirror the film’s poetic meditation on the present in which they live and on the complex echoes of Vietnam’s history.

*Film by Phạm Ngọc Lân, Vietnam/Singapore/France/Philippines/Norway, 2024, 92’; Language: Vietnamese; English subtitles.*

**THU  
04.12  
19:00**

Two documentaries reveal contrasting portraits of Hanoi: Trần Văn Thủy’s once-banned 1983 film explores life under socialism, while the Kleinen’s 2015 work captures the slow displacement of rural life by the capital’s relentless urban sprawl.

### **Hanoi Through Whose Eyes?**

*Film by Trần Văn Thủy, Vietnam, 1983, 45’; Language: Vietnamese; English subtitles.*

### **The Vanishing Village**

*Film by John Kleinen and Lennart Kleinen, Vietnam, 2015, 24’; Language: English.*