

# THAO NGUYEN PHAN

\*1987 Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam  
lives and works in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

**Thao Nguyen Phan** studied painting in Vietnam and then experimented with the medium of film for the first time during her MFA (Master of Fine Arts) in Chicago. She was accepted into the Rolex Protégée program in 2016 and was accompanied for two years by New York-based performance and video artist Joan Jonas. Important impulses for her work emerged from this collaboration. Drawing on the literature, philosophy and history of her country, Thao Nguyen Phan's work reflects on the current social and environmental changes brought about by colonization and exploitation in her native Vietnam. Whereby Vietnam, as a plot, is representative of the rapid changes in the entire Asia-Pacific region. In her videos, drawings, paintings, and installations, she often draws on images from fairy tales, folk tales, and traditional narratives. In dialogue with images from the present, fascinating parallels emerge in her observation of our society. Her video works are often a recourse into history and at the same time a poetic commentary of the present and sometimes frightening outlook into the future.

