

ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

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DRONE & DRONE

LAN CAO and GREGOR SIEDL

<https://siedlcao.com/drone-drone/>

Drone & Drone is a composition for rotating Vietnamese aeolian flutes that is conceived and developed by artist group Siedl/Cao during the Uncool Residency. This work centers around “drone” – both as a pilotless aircraft i.e. the future of warfare and at the same time “drone” as an ancient healing sustaining sound. „Drone & Drone” invites contemplation on the dual nature of humanity—the potential to create beauty, goodness, and transcendence while also possessing the power to destroy both the world and ourselves.

Not many people know that some of the earliest unmanned drones were used by the American army during the Vietnam war, primarily for military observation, electronic warfare, decoy missions and in psychological warfare. On the contrary the bamboo flutes used in this installation come from a long-standing and still vibrant tradition of singing kite-flutes in Vietnam, which symbolizes people’s hope for peace and prosperity.

Text: Lan Cao and Gregor Siedl