



Dear VMDT,

I hope you enjoy these tidbits.

Have a happy spring day!

Nancy

Included:

- Migration and Memory
- Research/Child Emotion Reactivity Study/Upper Midwest/USA
- Pictures of Tam Binh # 1 and an invitation from the editor
- Minneapolis / St. Paul International Film Festival

Migration and Memory

Submitted by Kim Johnson (from the U of M Psych department newsletter)

Richard M. Lee, in collaboration with the Minnesota Adoption International Project, found in a recent survey of over 1,500 children adopted from Asia, Europe, and Latin America that racial discrimination is just as important as pre-adoption adversity when it comes to the behavioral development of children. This finding, based on parent reports, highlights the need to educate families of the effects of discrimination as a post-adoption risk factor and the need to develop programs to prepare children for discrimination.

Research/Child Emotion Reactivity Study/Upper Midwest/USA

Originally posted on the APV listserv

With a grant from the National Institutes of Health, the Wisconsin International Adoption Project (Waisman Center for Human Development, University of Wisconsin - Madison) and the Child Development Institute (Minnesota) are conducting a study on emotional reactivity in international adoptees. Portions of the study were formulated under the direction of international adoption specialist, Dr Dana Johnson of MN.

They're looking for study participants in the 8-9 yr old range (especially boys but maybe not limited to boys since we just rec'd notice) who were adopted at 8 mos or younger and spent less than 2 mos in institutional care.

Families from any geographic region are invited to participate. Minimal reimbursement for travel (ie \$20 to the child, overnight lodging in Madison, 35-100 miles \$25/more than 100 mi \$50). For more information on the WIAP visit (info on this study not posted yet but previous studies are listed at: <http://psych.wisc.edu/childemotion/current.html>)

Wisconsin contact: 608.262.5148 (Barb) or Minnesota 612.624.9322 (Meg)

Pictures of Tam Binh # 1 and an invitation

Posted on APV listserv

A woman, Elaine Perez, who recently traveled to Vietnam to adopt her son took these photo's and posted them at: www.dropshots.com/elaineperez

Editors note: Seeing Elaine's photos was especially interesting to me as my daughter was also adopted from Tam Binh. At that time the director was a dear nun, Sister Hai, who has since retired. My family along with four others in our group who adopted from Tam Binh (Griffins, Weisberg/Watchman, Christensen/Arneson) will be traveling to Vietnam in June and will be visiting Tam Binh. With the help of Caroline Ticarro-Parker and her staff in Vietnam, we will have the pleasure of Sister Hai's company during that visit. Caroline's staff found Sister Hai working in another orphanage very close to Tam Binh. Her new orphanage does not facilitate adoptions as the children all have living parents who have placed them for financial reasons but have not given up their parental rights. If you also have a connection to Tam Binh and/or Sister Hai and would like me to bring a note, photo's, a financial donation (sorry, my luggage can't hold anything more than paper), etc. please contact me. I would be happy to give them to either the new director at Tam Binh or to Sister Hai.

Minneapolis / St. Paul International Film Festival

www.mnfilmarts.org/festivals.php

Editors note: There are 120 screenings of 80 films from 40 countries but this is the only one I found one with any ties to Vietnam (it was filmed in North Vietnam):

The Chinese Botanist's Daughters

Director: Dai Sijie

Tuesday, April 24th - 9:15p.m. - St. Anthony Main

Thursday, April 26th - 5:00p.m. - Oak Street Cinema

Banned in China, sensitively directed by renowned novelist and filmmaker Dai Sijie (Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress), The Chinese Botanist's Daughters is set in 1980's China, when not all taboos were lifted (and, still aren't). In this sensual adventure, Min (Mylene Jampanoi), reared as an orphan and now a modern young woman, sets off on a six-week internship with a renowned botanist.

A secretive man and authoritarian father, this teacher lives on an island he has transformed into a luxuriant garden. Obligated to share this solitary, withdrawn life, his 20-year-old daughter, An (Xiao Ran Li), is delighted by Win's arrival. Amid Sijie's small delicate touches of nude, glistening bodies in filtered low light, old Buddhist monks and silhouetted temples, lanterns sparkling on nighttime lagoons, tender moments shared by the two girls, it is easy to see how quickly they form a bond, only to see their friendship develop into a disturbing, erotic, and forbidden relationship. The idea of separation is impossible; Min and An soon concoct a dangerous arrangement that will allow them to continue to live under the same roof, until male authority intervenes. "Because of the subject," comments the director, "we couldn't resort to a Chinese production company, it couldn't have gotten authorization..." The film is set around the famous **North Vietnam Kanlin gorges.**