

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

35 Years Since the Fall of Saigon and Vietnamese Settlement in Australia

2010 marks 35 years since the fall of Saigon and the settlement of the first Vietnamese refugees in Australia. Thousands of people fleeing communist oppression by boat – known as the first ‘Boat People’ – in the 1970s and ‘80s have now successfully settled in many Western countries, including Australia.

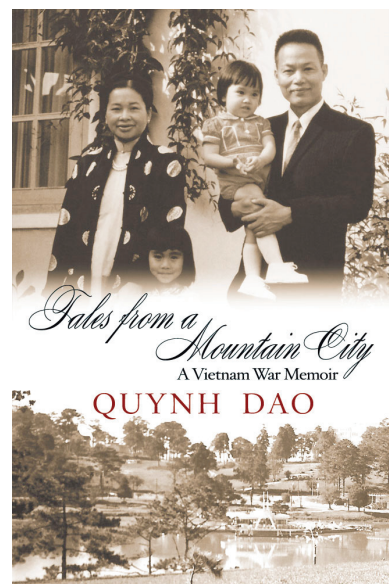
In commemoration of the anniversary of this event, Mr Tuong Quang Luu AO, former Head of SBS Radio – Australia’s National Multicultural Broadcaster, will launch *Tales from a Mountain City: A Vietnam War Memoir* at Swanston Hall (next to Melbourne Town Hall) on Friday 12 November. Former Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser wrote the foreword for the book and will be the Guest of Honour at the book launch.

Through the story of three generations of a Vietnamese family, *Tales from a Mountain City* retraces the journey of a proud people through their 5000 year history, of innocence and hope shattered again and again by the cruel tides of power and dogma.

‘Readers of this book will gain more understanding about the plight of refugees and asylum seekers.’ The Right Honourable Malcolm Fraser

‘Surprisingly, the author imbues this gruelling tale with lightness and charm appropriate to the naivety of a child... and, as in ‘The Diaries of Anne Frank’, finds a path through the terrible histories shielded from the absolute atrocity that is war.’ Driftwood

‘A notable contribution to the body of literature on this particular period of Vietnam,... a good source for overseas-born generations of Vietnamese background to understand one of the biggest exoduses of asylum seekers in the late 20th Century.’ Tuong Quang Luu, AO



Biography

Quynh Dao escaped Vietnam by boat to Malaysia and came to Australia as a refugee in 1979. She is a member of the Refugee Council and Amnesty International. *Tales from a Mountain City* is among the winners of the 2007 Australian Society of Authors mentorship program.

BOOK LAUNCH FRIDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2010
SWANSTON HALL (NEXT TO MELBOURNE TOWN HALL)
11 am – 12.45 pm

Tales from a Mountain City
A Vietnam War Memoir
by Quynh Dao

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Review copies are available upon request. Quynh Dao is available for interview.
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