

## **ArtBlue Studio with oil paintings by Nguyen Lam**

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Nguyen Lam was born in 1941 in Can Tho, graduated from Gia Dinh College of Fine Arts in 1965 and from that day until his departure on June 28, 2025, "never left painting" as he said about himself. In 1966, Nguyen Lam was a founding member of the Young Artists Association with Nguyen Trung, Mai Chung, Dinh Cuong, Nguyen Phuoc, Ho Huu Thu, Do Quang Em... Only in their twenties, the Saigon artists of that time wrote the most beautiful page of Southern fine arts.



**Nguyen Lam – Abstract, 2019, oil on canvas, 110×140 cm**



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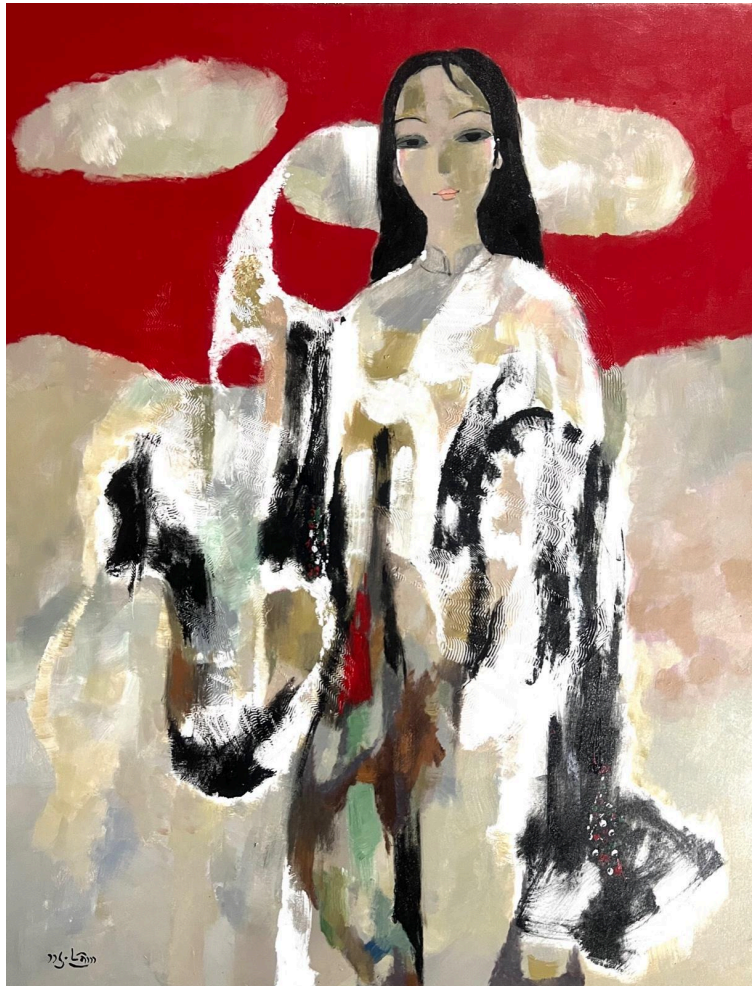


**Nguyen Lam – Abstract, 2020, oil on canvas, 130×130 cm**

In his early years of painting, Nguyen Lam painted oil paintings in the direction of realism and expressionism, influenced by the Impressionist movement. According to Nguyen Trung, "Nguyen Lam's paintings were as honest and genuine as he was, even when he later turned to abstraction. His paintings (in the early period) often depicted the world of poor families or poor

neighborhoods with deep, dark colors in oil or lacquer (in the later period), which were valuable contributions to modern painting in the South." That color palette remained with Nguyen Lam for many years in his oil paintings, but was dotted with patches of grayblue, purple-blue, and brighter yellow and red.

Until the mid-1980s, Nguyen Lam's painting career took a new turn when he chose lacquer to express his creativity and emotions. He continued to explore and enrich traditional lacquer art, "modernizing" lacquer with abstract language - a challenge for any artist who had made friends with this difficult material.



**Nguyen Lam – Young Woman, 2021, oil on canvas, 100×130 cm**



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Since immersing himself in lacquer, Nguyen Lam has not often returned to the material from which he first began his career, so the exhibition commemorating the 100th day of the artist's death - organized by ArtBlue Studio in Singapore in collaboration with Huyen Art House in Ho Chi Minh City - is a notable art event. Because the exhibition introduces to the public 25 oil paintings by Nguyen Lam. As a person who especially loves Nguyen Lam's paintings, she began collecting the artist's works since 2005 and has organized many exhibitions of his paintings at ArtBlue Studio.

About ten years ago, during my visit to an Art Fair in Singapore, I had the opportunity to visit ArtBlue Studio and was surprised by the scale of this gallery and the valuable works of many Vietnamese artists preserved and displayed here. It is truly a great honor

to have an overseas gallery that completely introduces Vietnamese paintings like that. So it is not an exaggeration when the Singapore Art Gallery Guide introduced ArtBlue Studio and praised it: "A treasure trove of undiscovered Vietnamese paintings"!

**September 13, 2025**  
**Nguyen Trong Chuc**