

‘Come On, Girls, Let’s Go Bail Water’

[Ho Xuan Huong?]

[Archive]: A Collection of Six Vietnamese Silk Screen Posters

[No place]: Phong phú [?] [circa 1975]

\$1800



Six original silk screen posters. Each measures about 15½" x 18½". Each is printed in six vibrant colors: purple, burgundy red, orange, blue, green, and gold. Very few short tears at some edges, and the upper margins a little uneven, else fine. A suite of compelling images of young women in traditional informal dress, four of which depict a woman being courted by a young man, and two that depict a pair of young women working together outside: one in a rice paddy field and one at the ocean. Each poster has two lines of text. Our Vietnamese is rusty, but the two lines of text appear to be proverbial couplets of folk wisdom pertaining to the agonies or follies of budding love, or couplets from the erotic poetry of Ho Xuan Huong, a famous female Vietnamese poet from the late 18th and early 19th Centuries. In particular Huong’s poem “Bailing Water” closely reflects the poster depicting two women on a rocky coast maneuvering a bail between them with ropes, that they are dipping into the water of a river as it flows into the ocean. A rare set of mildly suggestive propaganda posters. [BTC#390336]

Hỡi cô tát nước bên đàng
Sao cô múc ánh trăng vàng đổ đi...



Trái đu gởi học khom khom cật
Gởi uôn lưng ong ngựa ngựa lông...



Hàng về ta chẳng cho về
Ta năm vật áo ta để bài thơ.



Còn sợi lạt "Già" đi chợ lới
Sâu thì đến bẹn, nông đến sợi...



Chàng ham ruộng cả áo liền
Chỉ ham cái bút cái nghiên anh đồ...



Còn một cái còi đám tèo
Anh đành bán nốt anh theo cô mình

