

VMAN

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**ACTORS ON
THE RISE**

**ASHLEY OLSEN
DOES MEN**

AND SUMMER'S BREAKOUT STAR

**JOSEPH
GORDON-LEVITT**

IN PRADA
BY DAVID SIMS

**BOLD
MEN'S
FASHION
FROM
SUMMER
TO FALL**

US \$5.50 CAN \$9.25 DISPLAY UNTIL AUGUST 11, 2009





◀ A CREATIVE FOUNDATION

"I'm not into residencies in general. You have all these obscure residencies in Germany or Norway—I'm like, 'No way,'" the Vietnam-born, Berlin-based artist **Danh Vo** said recently over a café crème in Montmartre. "But here in Paris there are a lot of things I like." The current artist-in-residence at the **Kadist Art Foundation**, Vo concludes his five-month stay in May with an exhibition at the organization's Paris space that will continue the exploration of authorship, ownership, and appropriation he has pursued over the last decade, often through the lens of personal history—including his family's escape from Vietnam in 1975 and their subsequent status as refugees, then Danish citizens.

While in Paris, Vo has been pursuing several lines of research that will inform other upcoming projects, including a solo show at Kunsthalle Basel in June. "Paris is really good because, as a colonial power, they kept so many things," Vo explains. "A lot of countries' knowledge is based on French excavation." He's been captivated by the Paris-based Vietnamese filmmaker Lam Le, relics on display at the Society of Foreign Missions of Paris that show the brutality of Vietnam, and the original chandeliers of the Hotel Majestic, a luxury hotel off the Champs Élysées which served as Germany's military headquarters in occupied France and was later the site of the agreement for U.S. troop

withdrawal from Vietnam in 1973.

Kadist first connected with Vo when it acquired his 2007 installation *Good Life*, which cataloged photos of young Vietnamese men taken by an American serviceman during the war. Vo's practice of social and institutional critique fits well within Kadist's international program. Since opening its doors in October 2006 with a show by Cuban artist Wilfredo Prieto, Kadist has built a collection and program of residencies and exhibitions with the objective to support contemporary art production. The foundation's structure is designed to offer artists and curators a platform outside of the commercial gallery system and weighty French institutions. Kadist also benefits from its position within an anonymous family-run organization that also manages the Tsadik Foundation, a humanitarian initiative. Kadist recently opened a residency program in San Francisco, and by 2010, Kadist curator Sandra Terdjman sees the two organizations becoming more intertwined, with activist artists potentially collaborating with NGOs. "The international aspect is often missing in Paris, and France in general," Terdjman says. "But we see Kadist as part of a moment when Paris is finally opening up a bit." It's a shift that should help bring more socially minded artists, like Vo, to the City of Lights. **LILLIAN DAVIES**

GOOD LIFE, 2007, COURTESY KADIST ART FOUNDATION
WWW.KADIST.ORG