

THE WEIGHT OF MOUNTAINS
APPLICATION SUMMARY AND DRAFT TEMPLATE

HO CHI MINH CITY, VIETNAM: DECEMBER 2, 2025 – FEB 28, 2026

The Weight of Mountains is a filmmakers platform, residency, and a loose collective.

Filmmakers come with their own individual ideas, as conduits and conjurors they respond to evocative notions of site-specifics.

Artistically, TWOM filmmakers explore the intersection of humanity and environment through their unique and reciprocal influences on-site. This may enable a collective and ongoing rhetorical investigation into the metaphoric and poetic notions of 'the weight of mountains' – as an allegory for an immeasurable affect of being in and with a place.

To varying degrees, filmmakers work with communities, locals, lore, subtleties, and stories inherent to both their own practice and the specific regions they are immersed into.

Over December 2, 2025 – February 27, 2026 The Weight of Mountains filmmakers residency will be held in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. This is the dry season, temperatures range from 25 - 35C and humidity is ever persistent. Our collaborators are A Farm International Artist Space and RMIT University Vietnam.

***PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS FORM IS NOT YOUR APPLICATION.
YOU MUST USE THIS FORM ONLY AS A TOOL TO DRAFT ANSWERS.**

ALL ANSWERS TO BE SUBMITTED ONLINE HERE:

<https://form.jotform.com/251207420074041>

1.

Short biography

(Please introduce your creative and professional history – 300 words max)

2.

Links to website and previous film work

(You must have made two pieces of film work to apply, please include passwords for any private videos)

3.

Tell us about your voice as a filmmaker – what is it about your films that make them your own? How have you defined this voice (or continue to try) and how do you feel this may set you apart as a unique filmmaker today?

(300 words max)

4.

Please discuss a recent project in relation to a future idea that helps you to explain a path you are (potentially/actually) taking with the direction of your work. This idea does not have to be done with The Weight of Mountains.

(300 words max)

5.

THE PREAMBLE:

The theme of humanity as it intersects with environment is central to The Weight of Mountains.

1. By humanity, we mean philosophical, physical/bodily, presence/absence, anthropocene/chthulucene, cosmic, sensory, emotionally human, post-human, spectrums of character, psychological, analysis or reflection (and more).

2. By environment we mean the natural world, constructed spaces, physical surroundings, site, global politics/economics/science or societal concerns, lawscape, immersive situations or hyper-objects (and more).

THE QUESTION:

Tell us how you perceive your work as inspired by, working with, or touching upon both of these concepts? What threads will continue to be focused on?

–OR–

If your work does not currently consider an intersection of humanity and environment - what makes you want to consider this now with The Weight of Mountains and how do you envision this progress or change for yourself? (I.e. is it a shift of practice? new ideas? etc).

(Please note, if you are applying as a travel documentary filmmaker we will NOT accept your submission to TWOM unless you address a radical diversion of practice and a deeper interpretation of the world and your approach to film in this question – TWOM is not for tourist or travel film)

(450 words max)

6. Given your answer to the previous question, please expand upon what it is about the landscape or your perception of Ho Chi Minh City that you want to explore in your work? How do you think this location will enhance your filmmaking voice?

(250 words max)

7. Why leave your home/current situation/work or location for 3 months? Please tell us your personal and professional motivations. Knowing you will work without a crew, production team, producer, or granted budget from TWOM? Why now, why us?

(250 words max)

8. Please give a brief description of your attitudes as a filmmaker. Eg: What enables you to work independently, to embrace the challenge of creating a short film in 3 months, while adapting to a new environment? Perhaps share a past experience from working solo, or when working in a foreign place, or when things got rough but you pulled yourself (or others?) through

(250 words max)

9. Please list (in dot points) any skills, software, techniques, or abilities that you can offer as a workshop, lecture, or class to HCMC locals AND/OR ideas for skill exchanges or creative 1 day project initiatives with other filmmakers in residence.

Attachments Required:

- Artist's Curriculum Vitae (no more than 3 pages)
- 1 Professional Reference Letter
- 1 Character Reference Letter

These letters help us show who you are.

* A professional letter of reference being from anyone you've worked with (can be collaborator/curator/venue/university etc) that can state who they are and how they know your professional work; how it sits within the industry, your direction or ideas, and your abilities/approach/attitude.

*A personal character reference letter provides character based insights - personality, spirit, approach to film/work/projects/life, ability, drive, or kindness etc. It can be from a collaborator,

colleague, artist/filmmaker, or anyone who has known you in life situations that can present insight into who you are more *personally* than professionally.

To submit:

Fill out the form online and upload your attachments

<https://form.jotform.com/251207420074041>

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MIDNIGHT, JUNE 2, 2025. GMT+7 (HO CHI MINH CITY TIME)

For questions, email twom.film@gmail.com

Working language for TWOM on-site is English but we highly encourage those with a different mother tongue to apply.

All shortlisted applicants will be contacted for a Zoom interview mid to late June, 2025.