Water Sonnet

Khải Đơn

Drink this water from the highest mountains
Splitting glaciers and feeding mangoes
This water diffuses Tibetan's monks' ash
from their self-immolation yearning return
Drink this water, taste those scattered from home
in the cursing power of our shinning Buddha
Gulp this water diluting temple's smoke
mourning Vientiane sky, Thai's stampeding elephants
May Buddha melt on fire on flesh on killing fields
His lips swallows the bleeding Tonle Sap
The land the sun never sets all summers
Borders sketches his fraudulent smirks
Now drown in water where Buddha betrays---
Concrete dams choke the way to oceans.

Khải Đơn is a writer from the Mekong Delta, the region produces majority of rice in the world. Her creative sphere is centered on the devastation and depleted culture of the sinking land into the rising sea. Her poetry collection *Drowning Dragon Slips by Burning Plains* was published by Texas Tech University Press, in which the poems questions how women and daughters would imagine a liveable space after the catastrophe.