

**THE CULTURAL LIFE OF VIETNAMESE PEOPLE
THROUGH THE ART OF HÁT XẨM**

Nguyễn Thị Hiền - Nguyễn Thị Nhung

Vietnam National Institute of Culture and Arts Studies

Hát XẨM is a unique form of folk music with a long history and is performed throughout the Northern Delta region of Vietnam. The art of hát xẩm is not only a livelihood of the poor working classes in the countryside but also in urban areas. With its simple, rustic lyrics, the art of Hát XẨM has consistently presented a vivid picture of the working life and activities of the Vietnamese people through the ups and downs of history. In this article, we discuss the value of Hát XẨM in reflecting the material and spiritual life of Vietnamese people. In this way the essay affirms and promotes the practice of Hát XẨM in contemporary society.

Keywords: Life, Hát XẨM, Vietnamese people, spirit, culture.