S6543 SONG TRONG SO HAI  (VIETNAM, 2005)
(Other titles: Living in fear; Upwards)

Credits: director, Bui Thac Chuyen ; writers, Bui Thac Chuyen, Nguyen Thi Minh Ngoc.
Cast: Tran Huu Phuc, Mai Van Thinh, Dang Thuy My Uyen, Mai Ngoc Phuong Ngo Pham Hanh Thuy.
Summary: Black comedy set in southern Vietnam in the period following unification in 1975. Tai (Tran Huu Phuc) is a bigamist who lives in fear that the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese will slaughter all those who fought for the South and is astonished when nothing of the sort happens. He then develops a morbid fascination with the land mines that litter the countryside. Denied official status as a sapper because of his past political affiliations, he supplements his income by trafficking in black market barbed wire and defused mines, the result of digging in restricted areas at night. His personal problems deepen as his two wives give birth in adjacent hospital beds, but his acceptance of this, like the land mines strewn around his house, represent a sort of absurdist liberation, a place beyond fear.

Scheib, Ronnie. “Living in fear (Song trong so hai)” Variety  (Sep 25-Oct 1, 2006)
WWW publication only, via LexisNexis Academic]
“Vietnam ‘Living in fear’ wins best new talent in Shanghai” Global news wire, Thai press reports  (Jun 29, 2006) [from LexisNexis Academic]

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