**Introduction:** *A Beautiful Afternoon with Birds Returning to Nests* is a painting on paper. The artist is a twelve-year-old boy from Vietnam.

**Overview:** The centerpiece of this painting—composed primarily with blue hues—is two birds flying across a lightly speckled sapphire blue sky.

**Details:** A larger bird is painted in the upper left side of the artwork closely followed by a smaller and similarly painted bird. The beaks have only been suggested by a jagged line and the visible eye of each bird is a simple white dot. The avian bodies are sleek and graceful with plumage that subtly moves from light to deep turquoise. The birds blend closely with their inky blue-black shadows emphasizing their forked tail feathers, reminiscent of long fluttering coat-tails.

**Publication note:** This image is published by Milner Library at Illinois State University as part of the International Collection of Child Art.