## Contents

Acknowledgements ..... vii
Notes on contributors ..... $i x$
Introduction Myths of (post)modern Vietnam ..... 1
Catherine Earl
Section I Facts: Multiplying knowledge production about Vietnam ..... 15
Chapter 1 Blurring the boundaries: Rethinking public space from Ho Chi Minh City's streets and alleyways ..... 23
Marie Gibert
Chapter 2 Rereading Confucianism: A feminist gender project ..... 45 Minna Hakkarainen
Chapter 3 'Korean suits are only the latest Vietnamese uniform': Looking past myths of change and continuities in  ..... 66Philip Martin
Section II Fictions: Interpreting evidence in knowledge production ..... 93
Chapter 4 Soviet influence on Vietnamese development policy - some myths ..... 99
Vladimir Mazyrin and Adam FfordeChapter 5 Curtailed choices: Exploring conditions of employment,housing and health among undocumented labourmigrants in Ho Chi Minh Ciry130
Nguyen Thi Hong-Xoan and Catherine Earl
Chapter 6 On the myth of 'uncivilized' rural people in the city ..... 163
Asbley Carruthers and Dang Dinh Trung
Section III Fantasies: Shaping interests and tactics in knowledge production ..... 183
Chapter 7 Myths in the understanding of the process  ..... 189
Adam Fforde
Conclusion Ways of knowing Vietnam today ..... 211
Catherine Earl
Index ..... 231
Figures
I.I: HCMC's alleyways: Daily diversity and reversibility ..... 32
1.2: Inventory and location of shopping malls in HCMC today ..... 36
1.3: Revealing the 'collective social urban frame' of HCMC ..... 38
5.1: Small private garment workshop in HCMC ..... 143
5.2: Shared rented boarding house room in Thu Duc District, HCMC ..... 142
5.3: Thatched shelter of an undocumented service industry worker in Thu Duc District, HCMC ..... 144
Tables
5.1: Assistance in finding a job by working sector and sex ..... 139
5.2: Housing area per young migrant ..... 142
5.3: Health status of female and male young labour migrants ..... 146
5.4: Current health status compared to before migration ..... 147
5.5: Percentage of respondents having health insurance by employment sector ..... 147

