Film List



*Note: I need to develop a separate Pacific Islanders focused film list with the help of my colleagues.*

**Films**

* *A Village Called Versailles* (2010): <http://www.pbs.org/frontlineworld/rough/2008/08/a_village_calle.html>. (15 mins short version; 1 hr full length version)   
  youth organizing, Vietnamese refugees, environmental justice, anti-racism, community building, intergenerational trauma and challenges
  + <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/08/16/opinion/sunday/post-katrina-vietnamese-success.html?_r=0> (article complicates the culture as success argument for the return of this community)
  + <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=9163113> (includes a Q&A podcast)
  + Race and environmental injustice: <http://www.thenation.com/article/race-best-predicts-whether-you-live-near-pollution/>
* *Pass or Fail Cambodiatown* (2014). <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/america-by-the-numbers/episodes/episode-106/> (26 mins)  
  model minority myth, Cambodia Americans, Long Beach, CA, education inequality, youth violence
* “High Point Summer,” Southeast Asian Young Men’s Group, 32 minutes, <https://vimeo.com/160788580> *Sopheak began this video diary early in the summer of 2006. He planned to document his life as a refugee from war-torn Cambodia and to explain the meaning of the term, "thug life." However, his summer is ultimately defined by violent tragedy.Connection to South Seattle****.***

# “Chanthadeth,” 11 minutes, <https://vimeo.com/133001156> Chanthadeth grew up hating his name. Although he was born of Lao and Cambodian parents, he grew up with his Cambodian mother, and he did not have connection with his Lao relatives. In this short film, Chanthadeth explores his bicultural identity and learns the importance of acknowledging both of his cultural heritages. Connection to South Seattle.

* *American Revolutionary: The Evolution of Grace Lee Boggs* (2014). <http://www.pbs.org/pov/americanrevolutionary/> (90 mins)

Race relations, community organizing, Asian-Black relations, Detroit, social justice and social movements, activist biography

* *Unnatural Causes: How Inequality is Making Us Sick* (2008), Episode “Place Matters” is 30 minutes and highlights a Southeast Asian family that experiences stress from the environment and trauma. There is a South Seattle connection. <http://www.unnaturalcauses.org/about_the_series.php>
* *New Year Baby*: <http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/newyearbaby/>[[1]](#footnote-1) Second generation Khmer identity, return journey, intergenerational trauma and the Khmer Rouge persecution
* *Master of None,* Available 2015 on Netflix. Stars Aziz Anzari, comedian, and Alan Yang. Addresses comedy, racial identity, Asian American issues, romance, parent conflicts, immigration, and miscellaneous. Episode 2 of Season 1 is very critically acclaimed.
  + <http://www.slate.com/articles/arts/television/2015/11/aziz_ansari_s_master_of_none_on_netflix_reviewed_a_truly_great_sitcom.html>
* *Maya Lin: A Clear Strong Vision (1994).* A film about the work of the artist most famous for her monuments such as the Vietnam Memorial Wall and the Civil Rights Fountain Memorial.
* *Saving Face (2004)* about a Chinese American daughter and her love for her mother, LGBT issues, intergenerational conflict, NYC backdrop.
* *Journey from the Fall (2006),* about a Vietnamese family’s refugee departure and arrival in the US.
* *Last Days in Vietnam (2015).*
  + *Christoph Giebel, UW history prof, wrote an op/ed about the film:* [*http://www.seattletimes.com/opinion/in-vietnam-former-enemies-must-accept-responsibility-for-war/*](http://www.seattletimes.com/opinion/in-vietnam-former-enemies-must-accept-responsibility-for-war/)*.*
* *To Be Takei (2015),* a documentary about George Takei, who was the actor Sulu in the original Star Trek series and has since been an outspoken LGBTQ rights advocate.
* *Linsanity (2013),* a documentary about Jeremy Lin, Taiwanese American who grew up in California, went to Harvard and played college basketball, and later who rose to fame during the 2012 NBA while playing for the NY Nicks.
* *Among B-Boys (2011),* <https://vimeo.com/ondemand/amongbboys>.Explores a movement of Hmong youth with a starting point in the California Central Valley, going back to the early 1990′s in Fresno, CA. Many of these b boys/b-girls are on a quest for respect and even fame through their skills. In this search for success in the breakdancing world, these youth must also navigate their way and strike a balance between their identities as Hmong and B-Boys. The documentary, directed by Christopher Woon aka Paper Son, features Bboys Villn and Mpact of Underground Flow, Sukie and Velocity/Soul Rivals, Charles of Soul Control, Vang of Among B-Boys, Airsteps, Wizardz and more!
* *Dragon: The Bruce Lee Story (1993).* Fictionalized biographical account with action themes, about Bruce Lee, the actor/martial artist who has a connection to Seattle. Here’s the actual biography: <http://www.brucelee.com/bruceleecom/file/biography.pdf>.
* *The Debut (2001)* a Filipino American coming of age story.
* *Seattle’s Community Stories:* One Generation`s Time: The Legacy of Silme Domingo and Gene Viernes:[*http://www.seattlechannel.org/CommunityStories?videoid=x21162*](http://www.seattlechannel.org/CommunityStories?videoid=x21162)*;* 12/31/2013: A documentary on the lives and legacy of Seattle Filipino American fishing cannery union activists Silme Domingo and Gene Viernes, who were murdered in 1981 for their union reform work.
* *Don’t Stop Believin’ (Everyman’s Journey)* (2012) about the search for a vocalist replacement in the band Journey. Arnel Pineda came from the Philippines and was recruited into the band.
* *Documented (2013)* <http://documentedthefilm.com/>, about the journey of Jose Antonio Vargas, an undocumented Filipino student living in the US.
* *Jake Shimabukuro: Life on Four Strings,* <http://www.lifeonfourstrings.com/>Now streaming on Netflix.
* *The Kite Runner (2007),* After spending years in California, Amir returns to his homeland in Afghanistan to help his old friend Hassan, whose son is in trouble.
* *Geographies of Kinship-The Korean Adoption Story (in production, May 2016),* is a feature-length documentary that follows Korean adoptees from the U.S. and Europe, each on a unique journey related to their adoptions
* In the Matter of Cha Jung Hee (PBS, 2010)
* Vincent Who? (2010) A film about the 1982 beating death of Vincent Chin by a father and son in Detroit. Mini-interview clips are available here: <http://www.vincentwhofilm.com/interviews/index.php>
  + Pair this film with a discussion of this Huffington Blogpost by Dr. Scott Kurashige: <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/scott-kurashige/vincent-chin-murder_b_1621433.html>.

**ASIAN AMERICANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS**

**A BRIEF FILM BIBLIOGRAPHY BY CULTURES**

**South Seattle College**

**(compiled by Dorrienne Chinn, ESL Faculty)**

**CHINA**

*Farewell My Concubine* (1993)

*The Blue Kite* (1993)

*To Live* (1994)

**CHINESE-AMERICAN**

Community Stories: Uncle Jimmy (2006)

<http://www.seattlechannel.org/CommunityStories/episodes?videoid=x26648>

**HAWAI’I**

*Hawaiian: The Legend of Eddie Aikau* (2013)

*The Land Has Eyes* (2004)

*The New Oceania* (YouTube)

<http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=the+new+oceania&FORM=VIRE1#view=detail&mid=EA2E72CBEB4E8AC23CF9EA2E72CBEB4E8AC23CF9>

*The Untold Story: Internment of Japanese-Americans in Hawai’I* (2012)

*Then There Were None* (2008)

**HONG KONG**

*Hero* (2002)

*House of the Flying Daggers* (2003)

**INDIA**

*Pather Panchali* (1955)

*Salaam Bombay* 1998)

*Slumdog Millionaire* (2009)

**IRAN**

*Baran* (2001)

*Children of Heaven* (1999)

*The Color of Paradise* (1997)

**JAPAN**

*Dreams* (1990)

*Grave of the Fireflies* (1988)

*Princess Mononoke* (1997)

*Rashomon* (1950)

*Spirited Away* (2002)

*Tokyo Story* (1953)

*Ugetsu* (1953)

**JAPANESE-AMERICAN**

*Conscience and the Constitution* (2000)

*Farewell to Manzanar* 1976)

Community Stories:

Dr. Ruby (2011) http://www.seattlechannel.org/CommunityStories/episodes?videoid=x24248

Enfu (2015) <http://www.seattlechannel.org/CommunityStories/episodes?pageNum=1&itemsPer=25&displayType=Tiled_Thumbnail>

**KOREA**

*Tae Guk Gi: The Brotherhood of War* (2004)

**KOREAN-AMERICAN**

Community Stories: From Yoomee to Deborah (2006)

<http://www.seattlechannel.org/CommunityStories/episodes?pageNum=4&itemsPer=25&displayType=Tiled_Thumbnail>

**VIETNAMESE**

*Cyclo* (1995)

*Scent of Green Papaya* (1993)

*Vertical Ray of the Sun* (2001)

**TAIWAN**

*Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon* (2003)

*Eat Drink Man Woman* (1992)

*Pushing Hands* (1992)

*The Wedding Banquet* 1993

**YouTube**

*A Community Grows Despite Racism*

<http://densho.org/learning/default.asp?path=times/Times.asp>

*Looking Like the Enemy*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sUEXSNBVdGY&index=2&list=PL_txUBUpMcH7c55JVOMMd-G0EIQ-mpjQ_>

*American Concentration Camps*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wyDLr8Svoio&index=3&list=PL_txUBUpMcH7c55JVOMMd-G0EIQ-mpjQ_>

*Japanese America Responses to Incarceration*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=55F5VfNXk9g&index=4&list=PL_txUBUpMcH7c55JVOMMd-G0EIQ-mpjQ_>

*Righting a Wrong*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UoF8L_bFYxw&list=PL_txUBUpMcH7c55JVOMMd-G0EIQ-mpjQ_&index=5>

1. This film would be paired well with excerpts of the book [The Silence: How Tragedy Shapes Talk](http://www.amazon.com/Silence-How-Tragedy-Shapes-Talk/dp/186508512X/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1446852307&sr=1-1&keywords=how+tragedy+shapes+talk.) by [Ruth Wajnryb](http://www.amazon.com/Ruth-Wajnryb/e/B001IU0POW/ref=dp_byline_cont_book_1). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)