

CENTER FOR ASIAN AMERICAN MEDIA PRESENTS
CAAMFEST 37

Multifaceted Japanese and Japanese American Representation Appears Across Decades at CAAMFest37

San Francisco, CA (April 9, 2019) - Japanese representation is a mainstay at [CAAMFest](#), presented by the [Center for Asian American Media \(CAAM\)](#), and this year's edition promises a multifaceted array of films and events representing key moments in Japanese and Japanese American history. Spanning across decades, these stories begin at the dawn of film with the 100-year retrospective of **THE DRAGON PAINTER**. Japanese internment during World War II is captured on celluloid in Jon Osaki's **ALTERNATE FACTS: THE LIES OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066**, and tribute to the late San Francisco Public Defender, Jeff Adachi, will be presented by Chihiro Wimbush and Corey Tong at **A TRIBUTE TO JEFF ADACHI: (1959 - 2019)**.

THE DRAGON PAINTER is a dreamy and surreal romance that broke new ground in Hollywood. Starring legendary Japanese actor Sessue Hayakawa, the film continues to woo audiences with its stunning visuals and masterful storytelling. This screening is presented with a live score by Japanese American singer-songwriter Goh Nakamura.

ALTERNATE FACTS: THE LIES OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066 highlights the racism and political maneuvering behind Executive Order 9066 that led to the World War II incarceration of Japanese Americans, and it traces the tenacity of the decades-long redress movement. The film is directed by Japanese American Jon Osaki who serves as the Executive Director at the Japanese Community Youth Council.

Japanese American Jeff Adachi, the former San Francisco Public Defender, filmmaker, and community activist will be honored at **A TRIBUTE TO JEFF ADACHI: (1959-2019)**. The program will include clips from his films and a preview of the last film he was working on at the time of his untimely passing. The tribute will also include appreciations by CAAM, friends and former colleagues, and members from the Asian American and independent film communities.

Other films with Japanese or Japanese American representation include:

DEMOLITION GIRL, directed by Genta Matsugami, is a Japanese film about a high school girl who supports her unemployed family in an unusual way — as a performer in fetish videos crushing objects with her feet.

MINIDOKA (precedes ALTERNATE FACTS), a young Seattle activist traces back his family history of incarceration during World War II and applies lessons learned to the politics of today
OKAASAN (MOM) (IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY Shorts Program), takes place in rural Japan where a mother and daughter attempt to reconnect after dealing with the loss of a loved one.

SPEAK EASY, B (OUT/HERE Shorts Program), delves into the mind of B, who is coming to terms with depression.

Japanese American Tina Takemoto is the director of two experimental shorts at CAAMFest37: **SWORDED LOVE** (FOLLOW ME Shorts Program), Fleeting cinematic impressions of star-crossed swordsmen are captured in the oblique wanderings of emulsion lifted from a stray reel of a 35mm kung fu action film.

WAYWARD EMULSIONS (OUT/HERE Shorts Program), shows queer glimpses of a wayward woman captured in bits of emulsion lifted from stray reels of a 35mm Asian drama.

For more information and to purchase tickets for CAAMFest, please visit <http://www.caamedia.org>.

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About CAAMFest:

CAAMFest, formerly the San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival (SFIAAFF), celebrates the world's largest showcase for new Asian American and Asian film, food, and music programs. Annually presenting over 120 works in the Bay Area, CAAMFest presents its 37th year from May 9-19, 2019. For more information, please visit <http://www.caamfest.com>.

About CAAM:

CAAM (Center for Asian American Media) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to presenting stories that convey the richness and diversity of Asian American experiences to the broadest audience possible. CAAM does this by funding, producing, distributing, and exhibiting works in film, television, and digital media. For more information on CAAM, please visit www.caamedia.org.