

Asian American Film and Video



Edited by

Johana Diaz, Cory Ford, Evan Kaufman, Vince Uy

Forward

Message from Professor Banh

*I am proud and honored to have such talented students this Fall 2024 semester in ASAM148: Asian Film and Visual Culture. They have truly excelled in spreading *Asian Joy and Love* by drawing, writing and producing creative works on Asian American media luminaries such as Bruce Lee, Anna May Wong and Godzilla. They have truly done something that most students don't do which is to shed light on forgotten and unknown subjects. These students went very deep and each and every one of the publications holds a beautiful story and message.*

I especially want to commend all the hardworking editors Johana Diaz, Cory Ford, Evan Kaufman, and Vince Uy. These student editors are astounding in shepherding their fellow students' works. Yes this semester all our students "got married" in this publication but it was these editors who would put them all together in a coherent manner. I very much enjoyed watching these students leadership skills in action. This speaks to their good integrity, ethics and deep care for their fellow students.

Introduction

A Note From the Editors

ASAM 148 explores the diverse contributions of Asian Americans and Asians to the world of film, television, and art. Thanks to Professor Banh, the class covered a wide range of topics from Asian representation in media to Godzilla to Asian Genres such as Bollywood and Korean Drama. The vision behind this project was to capture the depth of Asian and Asian American art, emphasizing their culture and global impact.

As editors of this project we are grateful to have had the opportunity to work with each one of our classmates, and we would like to thank and acknowledge all of the contributors for their dedication and hard work to representing Asian joy and love. We hope that you will enjoy it!

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Asian American TV

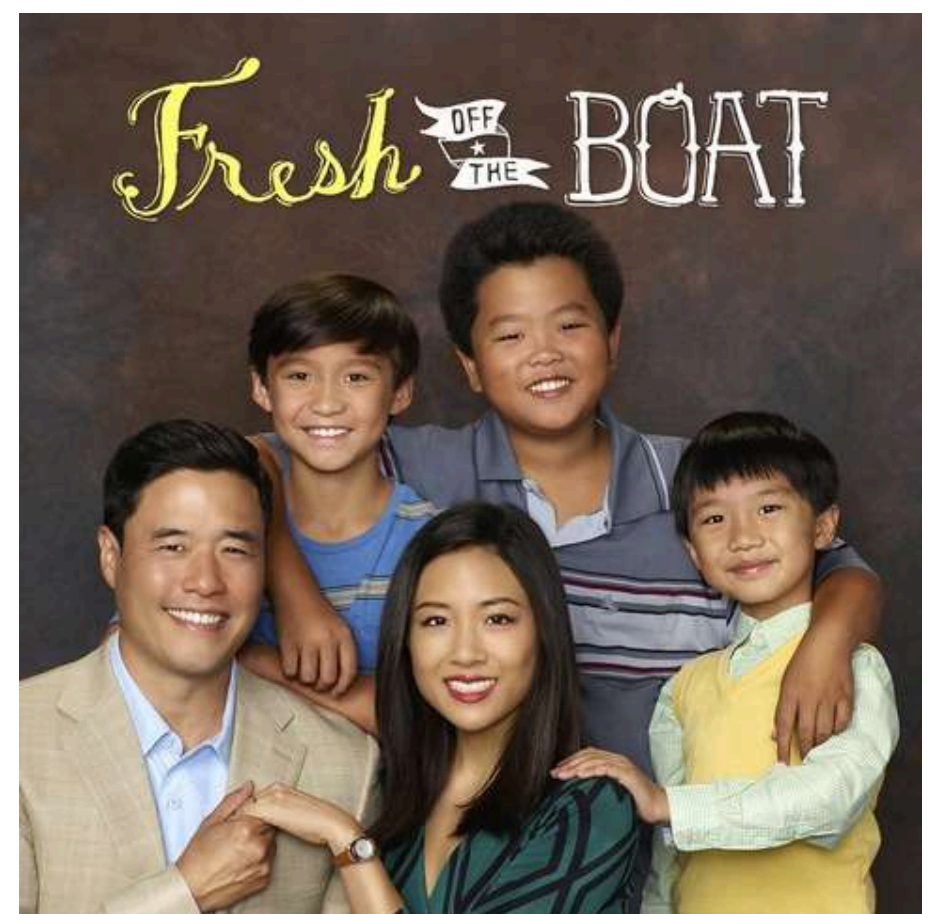
WHAT IS ASIAN AMERICAN TELEVISION?



Asian American Television is a broad concept covering shows that center around Asian American characters or themes. These shows are often created by Asian Americans to capture diverse perspectives and experiences.

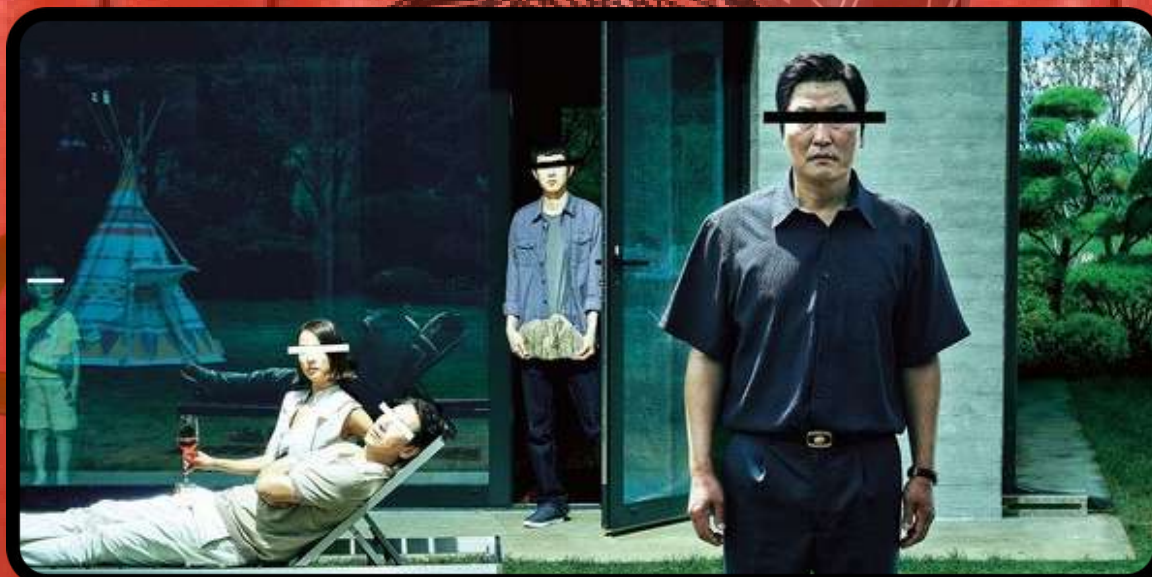
Some of the experiences that are told in these television shows are telling a story about migrating to America and trying to adapt to a culture that is totally different than their own.

By: Adam Xiong



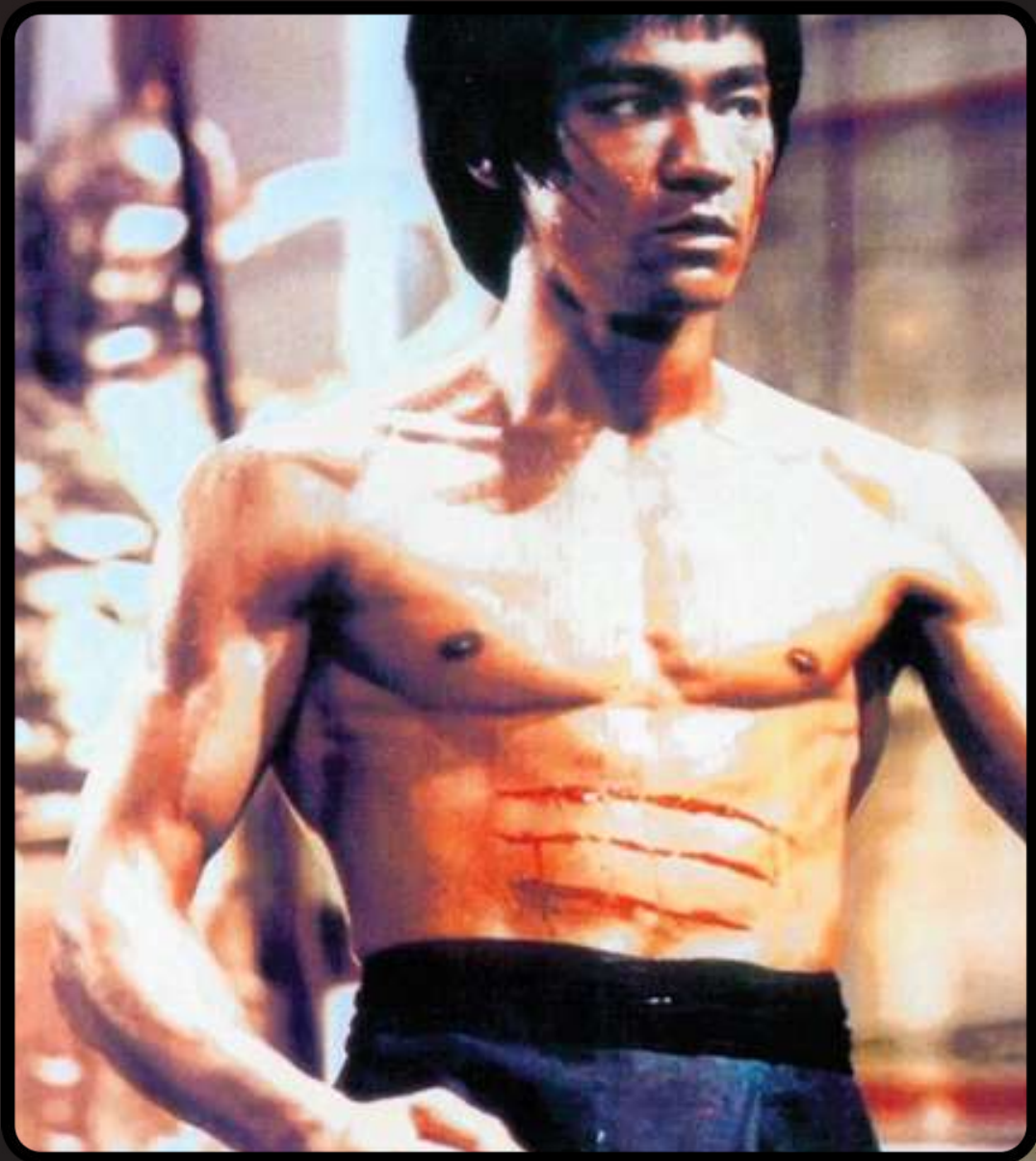
SPOTLIGHT ON ASIAN AMERICAN TELEVISION

Asian American films explore the experiences and identities of Asian Americans, challenging stereotypes and offering nuanced perspectives. They amplify Asian American voices in cinema by addressing themes like migration, identity, and community (Okada 2015).



BY

JONATHAN OCEGUERA-SANCHEZ



Bruce Lee (1940-1973) was a martial artist and cultural icon who reshaped Hollywood's depiction of Asians. Known for *Enter the Dragon* and *The Big Boss*, he challenged stereotypes, portraying Asians as strong, clever, and heroic. Lee's influence extended beyond films, blending martial arts with personal growth, inspiring millions. His legacy represents resilience, authenticity, and self-expression against discrimination (Maeda 2022).



“Be water, my friend” - Bruce Lee



Anna May Wong (1905-1961) was the first Chinese American Hollywood star, known for her elegance and resilience. Appearing in classics like *The Toll of the Sea* (1922) and *Shanghai Express* (1932), she challenged stereotypes and paved the way for Asian American artists. In 2022, she became the first Asian American featured on U.S. currency, honoring her legacy. (Lim 2019, 45).

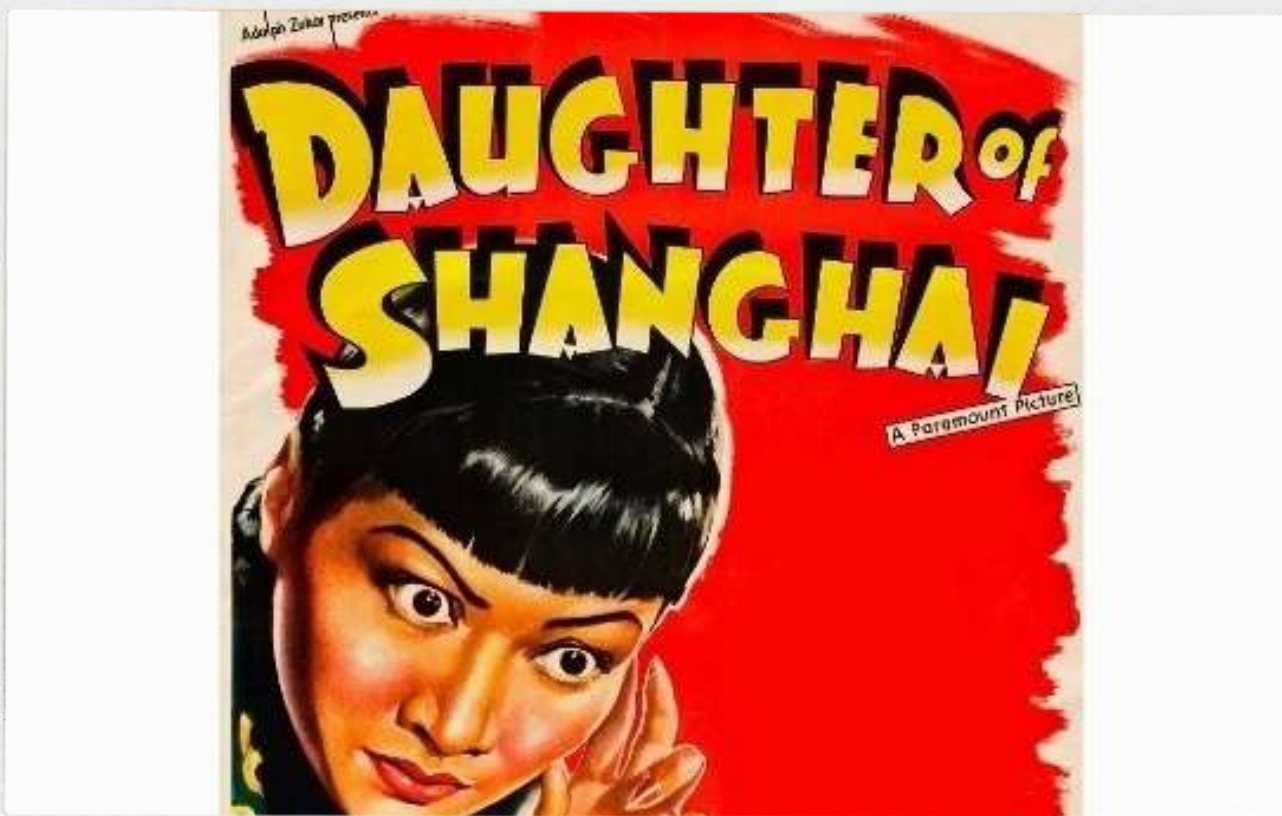
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Asian Americans in Hollywood



DRAGON LADY 14/08/2

"DAUGHTER OF SHANGHAI"
(1937)

ANNA MAY WONG HAD
ROLES WHERE SHE
OFTENED PLAYED THE
ROLE OF THE "DRAGON
LADY", A TIME WHERE
ASIAN WOMEN WERE
HYPERSEXUALIZED

"FLOWER DRUM
SONG" (1961) THIS
MOVIE WAS THE
FIRST MOVIE TO
INCLUDE A MAJORITY
ASIAN CAST IN A
MUSICAL FILM/



FIRST MAJORITY ASIAN
CAST FILM



YELLOW FACE !

"BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S"
(1961) BLATANT
YELLOWFACE AS WHITE
ACTOR PLAYED ASIAN
CHARACTER PURELY BASED
ON RACIALLY DRIVEN
STREOTYPES OF ASIANS.

BY: MENG MORE
YANG

"BETTER LUCK
TOMORROW" (2002)
DIRECTED BY JUSTIN LIN.
FIRST MOVIE TO DISPLAY
THE AUTHENTIC ASIAN
AMERICAN EXPERIENCE
WITHOUT RELYING ON
MAINSTREAM STREOTYPE.



AUTHENTICITY



COUNTER CULTURE

"HAROLD & KUMAR GO
TO WHITE CASTLE"
(2004)

THIS MOVIE BROKE
CULTURAL BARRIERS
AND STEROTYPES OF
ASIANS/ASIAN
AMERICAN.

"CRAZY RICH
ASIAN" (2018)
THIS FILM BROKE
ASIAN GENDER
STEREOTYPE OF
MALE AND
FEMALES.



BEAUTY

Bruce Lee

Bruce Lee

Vanessa Vang



How has Bruce Lee Impacted the World?

Practitioners were motivated by Lee's Jeet Kune Do philosophy to branch out from traditional martial arts. He is widely regarded as the most significant martial artist in history.

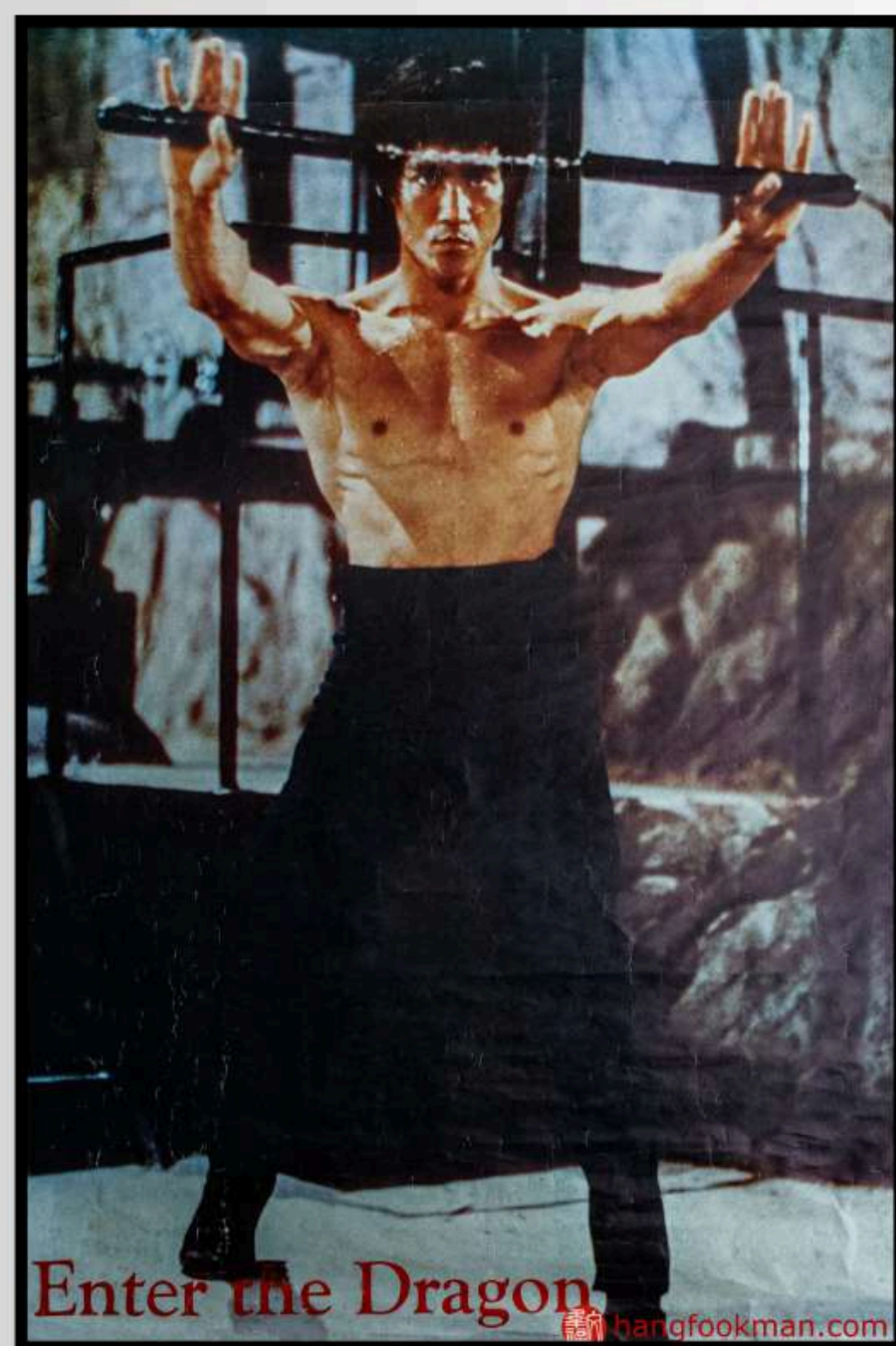


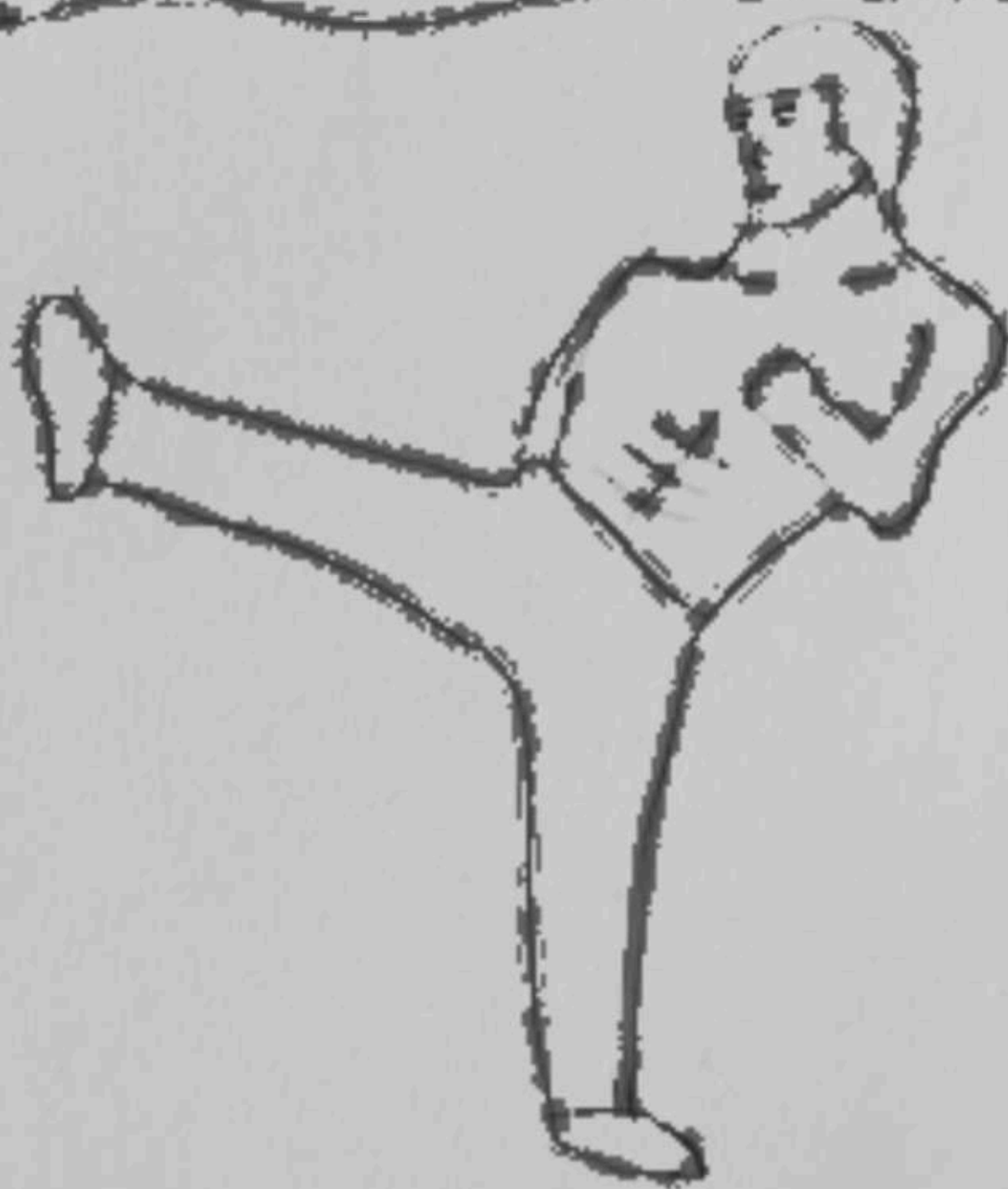
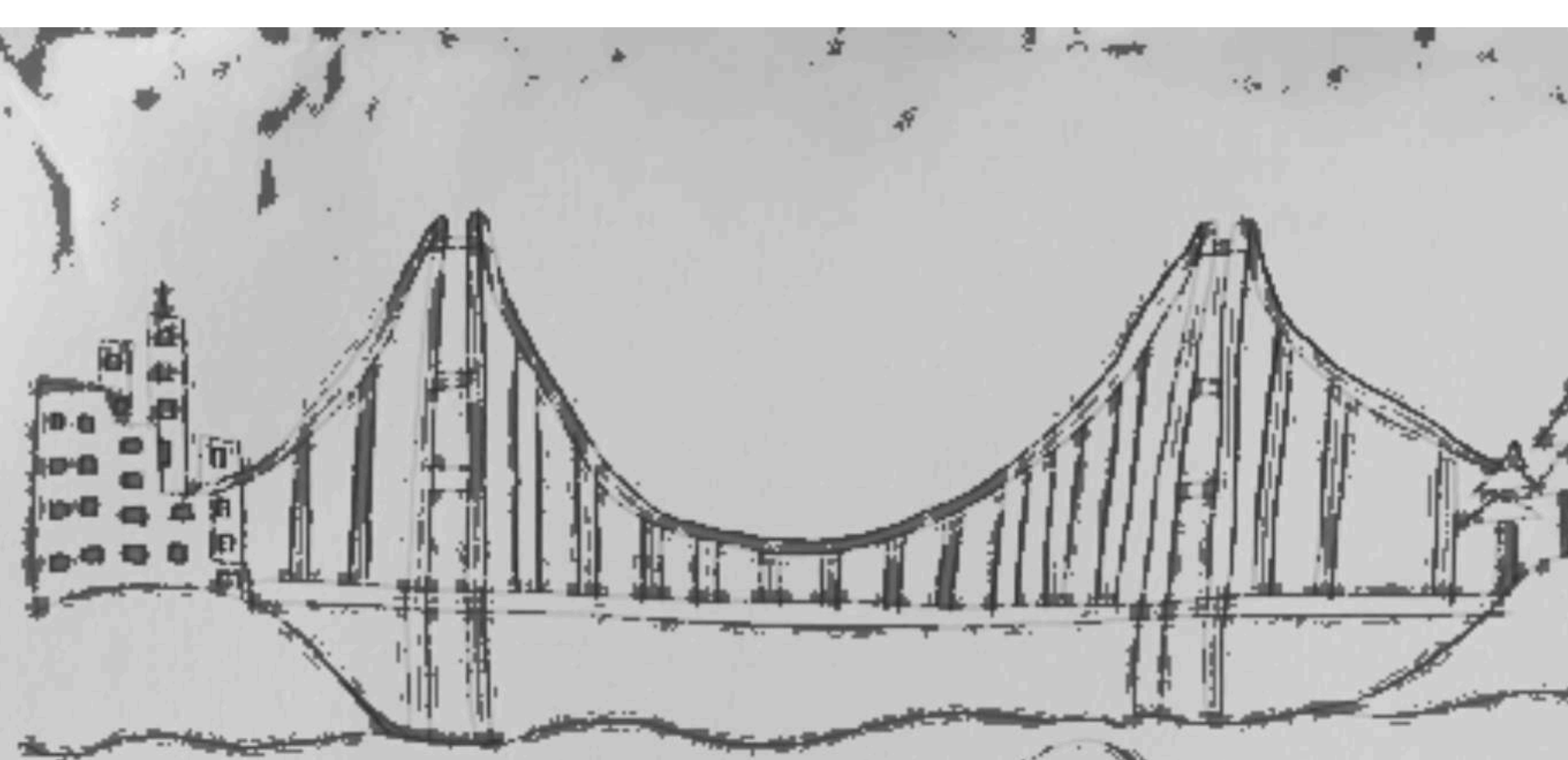


One of the first Asian performers to portray the hero in an action movie from the United States was Lee. In the 1970s, he is recognized for having initiated the Kung Fu craze in Hollywood. The Big Boss, Fist of Fury, The Way of the Dragon, and Enter the Dragon are some of Lee's films.

**"Be water,
my friend."**

The first actor to unite East and West was Lee. He contributed to a shift in how Asian and Chinese cultures were perceived.



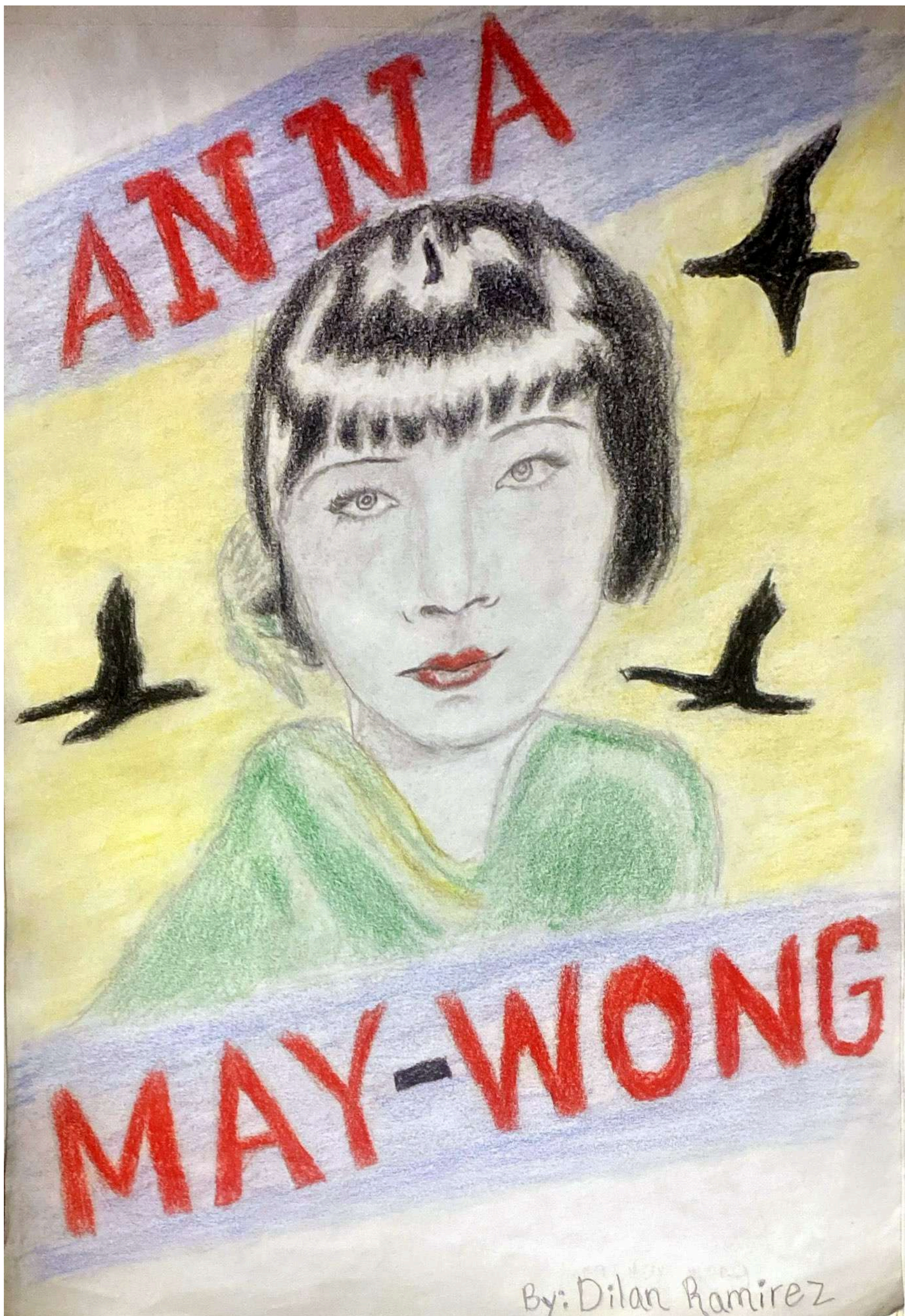


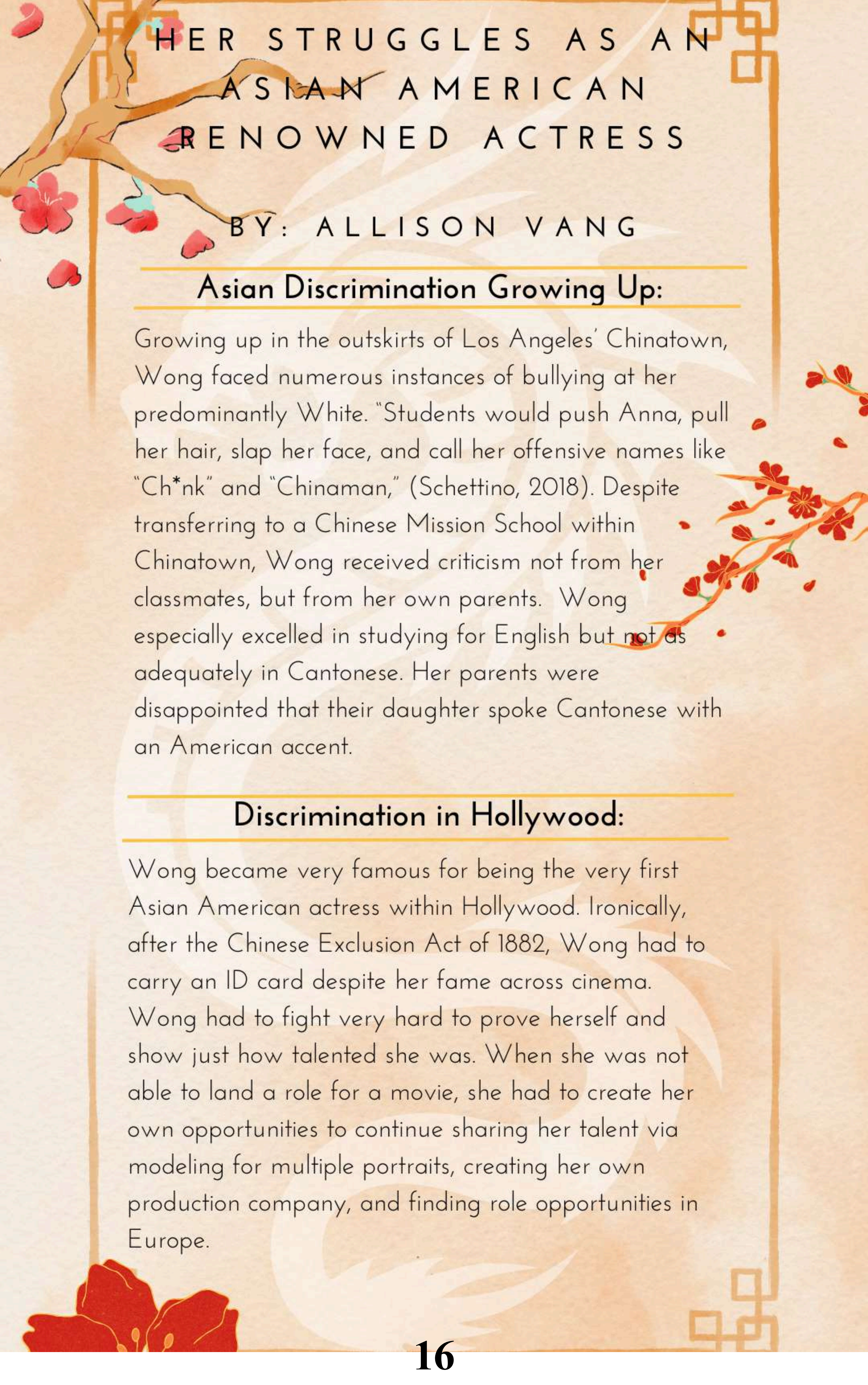
On November 27, 1940, in the year and hour of the dragon, Bruce Lee was born Lee Jun Fan in San Francisco.

Vanessa Vang

James Hong School

Anna May Wong





HER STRUGGLES AS AN ASIAN AMERICAN RENOWNED ACTRESS

BY: ALLISON VANG

Asian Discrimination Growing Up:

Growing up in the outskirts of Los Angeles' Chinatown, Wong faced numerous instances of bullying at her predominantly White. "Students would push Anna, pull her hair, slap her face, and call her offensive names like "Ch*nk" and "Chinaman," (Schettino, 2018). Despite transferring to a Chinese Mission School within Chinatown, Wong received criticism not from her classmates, but from her own parents. Wong especially excelled in studying for English but not as adequately in Cantonese. Her parents were disappointed that their daughter spoke Cantonese with an American accent.

Discrimination in Hollywood:

Wong became very famous for being the very first Asian American actress within Hollywood. Ironically, after the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, Wong had to carry an ID card despite her fame across cinema. Wong had to fight very hard to prove herself and show just how talented she was. When she was not able to land a role for a movie, she had to create her own opportunities to continue sharing her talent via modeling for multiple portraits, creating her own production company, and finding role opportunities in Europe.

HER STRUGGLES AS AN ASIAN AMERICAN RENOWNED ACTRESS

BY: ALLISON VANG

Standing Up Against Discrimination

Wong missed out on so many roles as an Asian American. Although there were many roles for “Asian characters”, the anti-miscegenation laws prevented Wong from getting any roles that involved any non-Asian male leads. As a result, “There [was] little for [Wong] in Hollywood, because, rather than real Chinese, producers prefer Hungarians, Mexicans, American Indians for Chinese roles,” (Schettino, 2018). Anna May Wong eventually grew tired of continuously playing the exotic, vengeful, martial arts master, submissive, lotus flower or dragon lady who always gets killed off in the end. Wong even turned down the role for O-Lan the lotus concubine from *The Good Earth* and it was later given to Luise Rainer, a White woman, consequentially who won an Oscar for that role.

Anna May Wong's Impact

Wong's perseverance, tenacity, and passion for her craft as a founding Asian American actress within Hollywood and an inspiration for generations to come. Through her struggles, cinematic talent, drive, and opportunities, she has instilled the acknowledgement and representation of her people in an empowering way.

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Anna May Wong - A Legacy of Progress and Struggle in Early Hollywood

Anna May Wong, born in 1905, was able to find mainstream success both in Hollywood and overseas despite the constant racism and discrimination she received. While these waves of racism temporarily washed over her and hindered the work she would take, it would not stop her from pursuing what she loved to do; acting. She stands the test of time as a role model for Asian Americans wanting to pursue the field of film and represents that no matter the challenge, you can always make a difference and leave a lasting impact.

by Adan Solis



WHO PIONEERED ASIAN AMERICAN FILM?



Anna May Wong was the first to pioneer Asian representation in film and movies. She faced discrimination to pave the trail for other Asian American actors to star in films and movies.

Wong's family discriminated against her for pursuing her dream to star in films and movies. Also in the film industry, she would be discriminated against by having roles taken from her due to her ethnic background.

By: Adam Xiong

Godzilla

WHO IS GODZILLA?

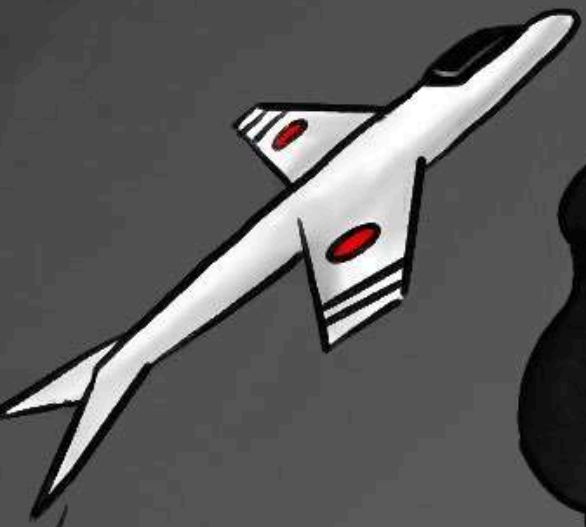
BY JASMIN CHAVARRIA



GODZILLA IS FROM JAPAN AND WAS CREATED FROM THE MOVIE GODZILLA(1954), DIRECTED AND CO-WRITTEN BY ISHIRO HONDA. THIS MOVIE DEPICTS THE FEAR OF THE JAPANESE AFTER THE NUCLEAR BOMBINGS OF HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI. GODZILLA(1954) IS A DESTRUCTIVE MONSTER THAT DESTROYS JAPAN AND REPRESENTS THE NUCLEAR BOMBINGS.

Bayes Harris

What is Godzilla



Bayes Harris



GODZILLA



WHY GODZILLA WAS CREATED

During World War II, The Japanese went through a lot of trauma. Right before the war ended, America decided to bomb Japan to give them an example what they would do if they did not stop doing what they were doing. Godzilla was created to distract the people from the fear of atomic bombs. Godzilla in a way is a physical form of fear that the Japanese created. It was created to be a great way for Japanese to fight this initial fear. In the movies, they would fight Godzilla to signify that they had a fighting chance and to not lose hope.

MORE INFORMATION AT WWW.ASAM148.COM

FATMAN
WAS THE
BOMB
THAT HIT
NAGASAKI.



The two bombs that were dropped on Japan were called Fat man and Little boy.

LITTLE BOY WAS
THE BOMB THAT
HIT HIROSHIMA.



By: Gabriel Burns

Bollywood

ART IN BOLLYWOOD

By Vince Uy

FASHION



Bollywood fashion is an ambassador for India's fashion industry, setting trends that have influenced national and international designs. Clothing includes traditional garments such as the anarkali, salwar kameez, saree, kurta, and more. The industry is supported by renowned designers like Manish Malhotra and Sabyasachi Mukherjee.



Modern Bollywood fashion features both traditional and contemporary designs, such as patiala salwar along with a long sleeve.

This trend was popularized by Kareen Kapoor in the film "Jab We Met".

Work cited:

Singh, Dr Jashandeep, and Kanupriya Gupta. "Bollywood and Fashion Trends in India: A Longitudinal Study." *International Journal of scientific research and management (IJSRM)* 2.1 (2014): 491-495.

ART IN BOLLYWOOD

DANCE



Bollywood dance is a fusion dance style between a plethora of classical Indian dance forms such as Bhangra, Kathak, Bharatnatyam, and Odissias as well as western hip-hop, jazz, belly dancing, and contemporary. Dances have storytelling purpose in Hindi films.



This dance style embodies significant tension between traditional Indian culture and modern global influences. Bollywood dance continues to attain global recognition, becoming a powerful ambassador of Indian culture worldwide.

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Chatterjee, Esha Bhattacharya. "Contemporary Bollywood dance: Analyzing it through the interplay of social forces." *International Journal of Scientific and Research Publications* 6.6 (2016): 54-60.

WHAT IS BOLLYWOOD?

BY EVAN KAUFMAN

INTRO

BOLLYWOOD CAN BE DESCRIBED SIMPLY AS THE INDIAN FILM INDUSTRY. IT ROSE TO FAME DURING THE THIRD WORLD LIBERATION FRONT PROTESTS FOR ETHNIC STUDIES TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN UNIVERSITIES. BOLLYWOOD TODAY IS KNOWN FOR ITS EXTRAVAGANT DANCES, CHARACTERIZED BY MANY BRIGHT COLORS AND CLOTHING CLOSELY TIED TO INDIAN CULTURE.

DIVERSITY

BOLLYWOOD FILMS WERE SOME OF THE FIRST TO HAVE PROPER DIVERSITY IN THEIR CASTING, WHICH WAS RARE FOR THE PERIOD IN WHICH THESE FILMS WERE INITIALLY MADE. MUCH OF ITS DIVERSITY MAY HAVE BEEN CAUSE BY THE OSTRACIZATION OF ASIAN ACTORS IN HOLLYWOOD, BUT NONETHELESS THEY WERE CASTED AND AND MADE A DIFFERENCE. BOLLYWOOD FILMS WERE MADE AS EARLY AS 1949, BUT BOLLYWOOD FILMS DID NOT START TO GAIN TRACTION UNTIL THE 1970S AFTER THE THIRD WORLD LIBERATION FRONT PROTESTED FOR UNIVERSITIES LIKE THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES, TO HAVE ETHNIC STUDIES COURSES.

HISTORY

THROUGHOUT HISTORY, ASIAN AMERICANS HAVE BEEN UNDERREPRESENTED IN EVERY ASPECT OF LIFE. IT HAS BEEN UP TO THEM TO ADVOCATE FOR THEMSELVES TO HAVE THE SAME OPPORTUNITIES AS EVERYONE ELSE. THE BOLLYWOOD FILM INDUSTRY, AND ASIAN AMERICAN FILM IN GENERAL, HAS ACTED TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN ASIAN AMERICANS AND GETTING RECOGNITION IN HOLLYWOOD.



IMPORTANT FIGURES

THROUGHOUT HISTORY, MANY IMPORTANT FIGURES HAVE EMERGED FROM THE BOLLYWOOD FILM INDUSTRY. ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT IS AAMIR KHAN, AN ACTOR, PRODUCER, AND DIRECTOR IN BOLLYWOOD. HE IS REGARDED AS "MR. PERFECTIONIST" AND HAS MANY ACCOLADES TO HIS NAME, SUCH AS MULTIPLE FILMFARE AWARDS FOR BEST ACTOR (SARAN 2014, 1). AFAQ AHMAD EXPLAINS, "THE WAY AAMIR KHAN PORTRAYS VARIOUS CHARACTERS IN HIS MOVIES MAKE HIM A PERFECT ACTOR OF ADAPTABLE CHARACTERISTICS" (AHMAD 2019, 1). KHAN'S TALENT HAS HAD A SUBSTANTIAL IMPACT ON BOLLYWOOD FILMS AND HAS HELPED SOLIDIFY THE BOLLYWOOD FILM INDUSTRY AS AN INDUSTRY ABLE TO PROVIDE BOX OFFICE HITS AND APPEAL TO THE PUBLIC.



EVOLUTION

MUCH LIKE ANY OTHER INDUSTRY IN THE WORLD, THE BOLLYWOOD FILM INDUSTRY HAS EVOLVED WITH THE TIMES DEPENDING ON WHAT THE PUBLIC FINDS INTERESTING. IN THE PAST, THE MAIN CHARACTERS IN BOLLYWOOD FILMS CONSISTED MAINLY OF MEN SINCE THE PATRIARCHY WAS SOMETHING NOT ADEQUATELY ADDRESSED. IN TODAY'S WORLD, BOLLYWOOD AND FILMS, IN GENERAL, ARE MORE INCLUSIVE FOR WOMEN AND OTHER MINORITIES. THE BOLLYWOOD FILM INDUSTRY CAN BE "...BEST UNDERSTOOD IN THE CONTEXT OF SOCIAL DIVISIONS, SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS PREVALENT AT THAT PARTICULAR TIME" (DEAKIN AND BHUGRA 2012, 167).

CONCLUSION

BOLLYWOOD IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPACTFUL ASPECTS OF ASIAN AMERICAN FILM AND FILM IN GENERAL. FROM ITS DIVERSE HISTORY TO ITS ACTORS THAT BECAME FAMOUS BECAUSE OF BOLLYWOOD, THE BOLLYWOOD FILM INDUSTRY IS NOTHING SHORT OF SPECTACULAR. FROM ACTIVISM IN THE LATE 1970S TO NOW, BOLLYWOOD HAS BEEN AT THE FOREFRONT, PROVIDING A GREAT EXAMPLE OF WHAT ASIAN AMERICANS CAN DO AND HOW THE BOLLYWOOD FILM INDUSTRY CAN BE MARKETABLE TO THE PUBLIC TO PROVE THAT MINORITY GROUPS CAN BE SUCCESSFUL IN THE MEDIA'S EYE. IN CONCLUSION, BOLLYWOOD STANDS AS ONE OF THE MOST DIVERSE FILM INDUSTRIES BECAUSE OF ITS VAST HISTORY AND PERSEVERANCE THROUGHOUT HISTORY.

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BOLLYWOOD

By: Issak Flores

Bollywood, also known as the Indian Film industry, established in the year of 1903, is the second largest film industry composing 10,000 films every year. Based in the city of Mumbai, Bollywood combines the film tactics of Bombay and Hollywood hence why the suffix of the name is the same. In many of the Films there is the use of lots of dancing, and amazing music that relates to the Indian culture.

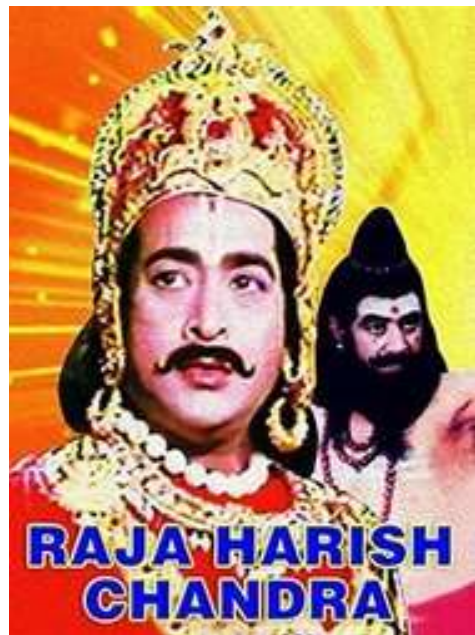


BOLLYWOOD HISTORY

The origin of Bollywood can be traced back to the nineteenth century, where a picture was presented by the Lumiere brothers in 1896. This picture then inspired the still photographer Harishchandra Sakharam Bhatavdekar to purchase his first camera and debut his first picture, The Wrestlers, regarded as the first motion picture in Indian cinema. Moving forward to the year 1931 where many tend to believe the first featured Indian film to be created, this film is known as Raja Harishandra, this film was directed by Dadasaheb Phalke.



LUMIERE BROTHERS
(1862-1952) (1864-1948)



RAJA HARISHANDRA
(1913)

IMPORTANT FIGURES

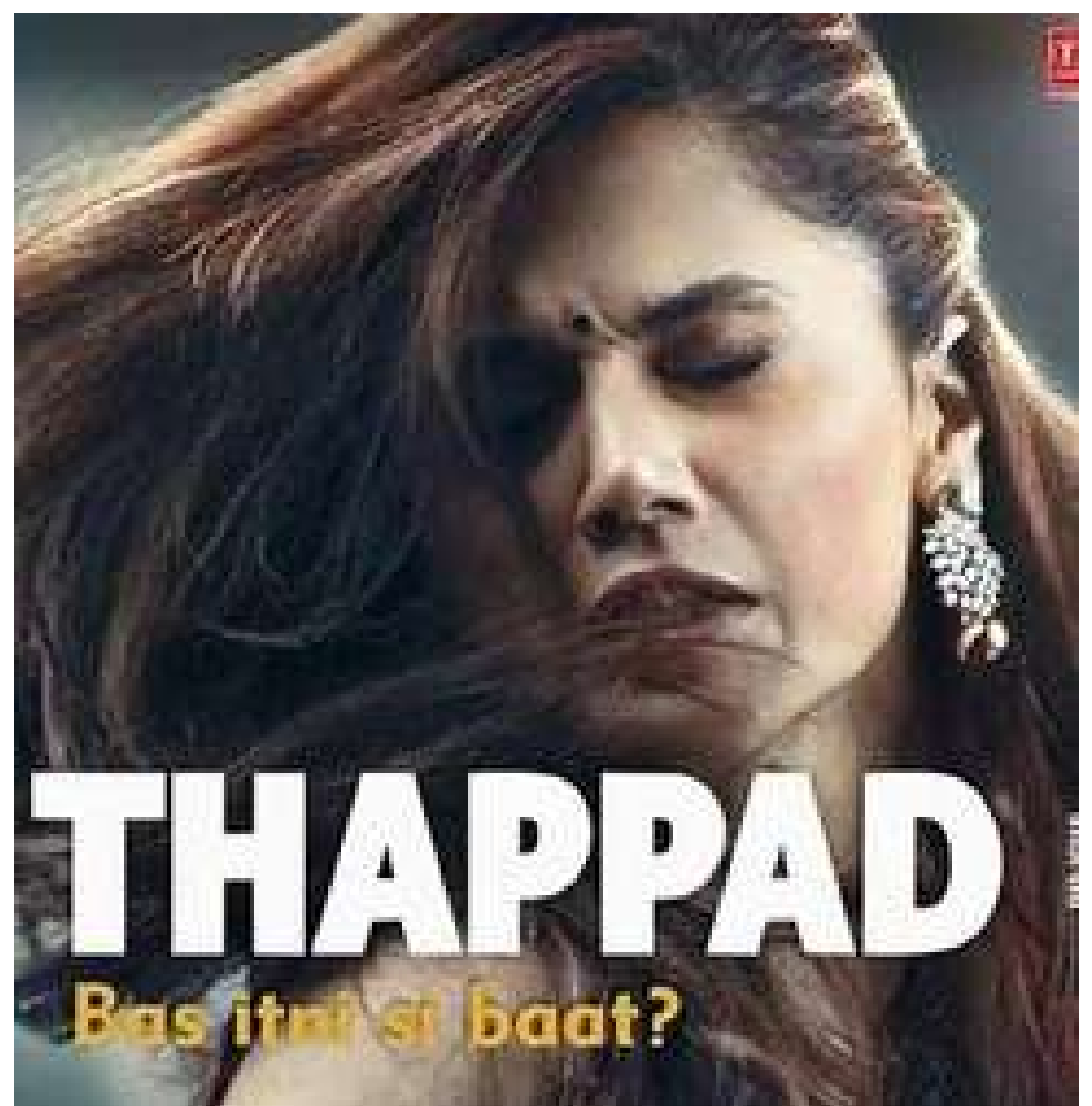
- Dadasaheb Phalke (Dhundiraj Govind Phalke), founding father of Indian film
- Another historical figure for Indian films is Dilip Kumar. He is widely known as the greatest acting exponent in India
- Lumiere Brothers
- Harishchandra Sakharam Bhatavdekar
-
-



DILIP KUMAR (1922-2021)

TOP 5 BOLLYWOOD FILMS

1. Thappad (2020)
2. Monsoon wedding (1995)
3. Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge (1995)
4. Queen(2014)
5. Article 15 (2019).



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Korean Drama

KOREAN DRAMAS

By: Karina Ramirez



K-DRAMAS OVER TIME

South Korean Dramas in the late 1990s to the early 2000s were the first wave of Hallyu as K-dramas generated interest outside of South Korea because of their emotional family-centric themes. The second wave of Hallyu is where K-dramas became even more popular and global with the help of YouTube as it now became easier to access these dramas with the add-on of subtitles in various languages the audience for K-dramas grew. This era of K-dramas set included new genres such as fantasy, action, and historical fiction which gained the interest of younger audiences. From mid-2010 till 2024, K-dramas have become globally popular. With the success of films such as *All of Us Are Dead (2022)* and high-budget shows like *Squid Game (2021)*. Netflix took an investment in Korean original dramas. Through this platform, these shows have become more accessible with dubbing/ subtitles in various languages driving its popularity.

KOREAN DRAMAS



Streaming platforms are the reason for the mass popularity of K-dramas in the United States but also the compelling storytelling and their cultural engagement. Netflix saw the increased interest in K- Dramas from the first drama they picked up *Love Alarm (2019)* and started investing in more Korean content productions such as *Squid Game* and *It's Okay Not to Be Okay*. Also. The Structure of K-Dramas usually only has one season with longer episodes and a clear and enthralling story, unlike American TV shows which often have multiple seasons that tend to be drawn out, and many times their stories are left unfinished as it has become common for shows to be canceled. Themes like love, family, and Korean traditional values are what intrigues American audiences. From the fast-paced relationships seen in American TV shows to the slower whimsical love stories in K-dramas bring a nice sense of fresh air.

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Korean Wave

BY: JESSE ROJAS



A study was done in the U.S. that exhibits results that, “women make up 65% of Korean drama fans in the U.S.” (Chuang & Lee, 2013, para. 15). This information is important because it allows the Asian Film industry insight to who their target audience is.

“In relation to the screen-tourism phenomenon, the recent emergence and international popularity of Korean popular culture and its apparent impact on inbound tourism is notable” (Kim & Wang, 2012, para. 15). With such an influx of tourism in Korea resulting from the Korean Wave we can see yet again the impact K-drama has made, allowing for significant economic growth from just tourism alone.

Korean Drama’s popularity could not have been made possible without the many contributions of previous Asian filmmakers, “made three groundbreaking martial arts films that transformed him into Asia’s biggest movie star.

This trilogy examined nationalism and transnationalism, showcased the martial arts philosophy that Bruce had developed while on the West Coast, and galvanized audiences not only in Asia but throughout the world” (Maeda, 2022, p.24).

Korean Drama is a part of a fairly recent sensation, this sudden boom is known as Hallyu or the Korean Wave “The Korean wave, which is the popularity of Korean entertainment outside Korea, is a fairly new phenomenon” (Parc & Chang, 2013, p. 126).

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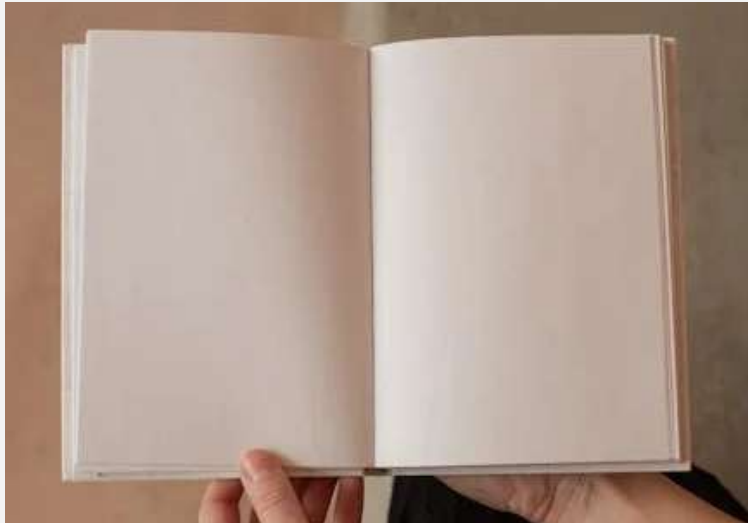
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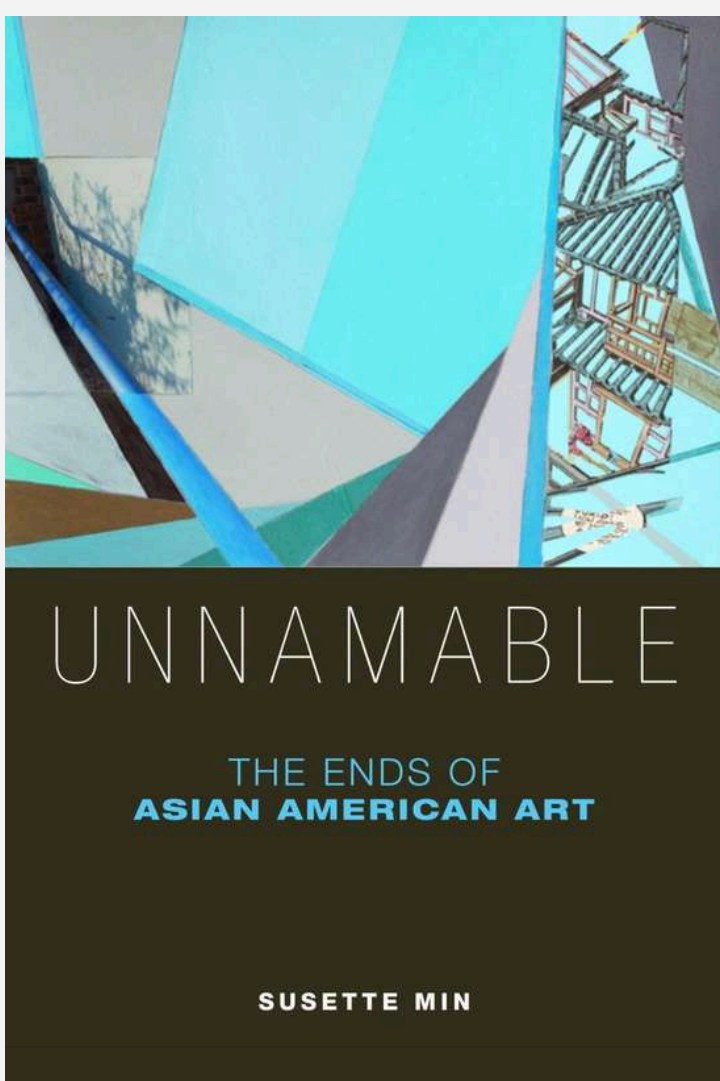
Asian American Art

What Is Asian American Art?

By: Alfonso Hernandez



In a guest speaking youtube video there is an idea that “Asian American Art is seen as unnamable, and this art should be seen from a broader perspective in the community” (Susette Min, 51:06, 2024). This broad perspective may also bring diversity. Each piece can tell a story of fear, resilience, and vibrant creativity that enhances the collective cultural landscape. Examples of those arts are actors, films, readings, music, and physical art pieces. These provide unique perspectives and contribute to our world where everyone can share their voice.



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Asian American Art: Unspoken stories

By: *Haley Goldma*

What is Asian American Art?

Asian American art is difficult to define given the complexities of the vast cultures and experiences of those identifying with the term Asian American. Although this may be the case, the general interpretation of the term is the cultural identity of the artist or the art piece itself portraying an Asian-looking theme (Min, 2018, 2).



Importance

- Freely demonstrates themes of history, cultural identity, and personal experiences.
- Providing a unique display of the perspective of Asian Americans and their artists.



Telling a Story

Asian Americans have a unique viewpoint of culture, the combination of both Western and Asian customs Asian Americans are often forced to classify as one or the other. One outlet through which some Asian Americans express inspiration and creativity given this type of criticism is through art. For instance, Taiwanese American ceramic artist Stephanie H. Shih, whose work is about the pantry of the average Asian American, capitalizes on this idea saying, “Maybe I can, like, capitalize off their exoticization of me, right?” (Shih, 2020).

Additionally, Asian American art and its artists display the personal struggles of some of the Asian American community. After WWII, many Japanese Americans endured a poor quality of life within the internment camps, some Asian American artists were able to display this historical event. One of the first Asian American films in its genre, *Manzanar*, contains dark themes, as it highlights the internment of Japanese Americans, as well as their stories. “The straightforward documentary style of *Manzanar* considers the film as an extension of VC’s larger archival impulse regarding the internment and by extension, racial injustice at large” (Okada, 2015, 20). With this, the film portrays the “underlying ideological project of resisting racist imagery and historical marginalization” (Ibid).

Moreover, within the scope of the United States in the 1960s and 1970s, the political and civil rights movements were prevalent. “Asian American art is closely tied to the birth of the Asian American movement of the 1960s and 70s as well as a wide range of art movements of the same time period” (Kina, 2020). Asian American art challenged racial stereotypes and helped form a resistance to the rejection of Asian Americans in the art scene. The art of Asian Americans helped amplify and create an outlet for silenced stories.

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Tiffany Nguyen

Asian American Animation



Ashly Yang

Asian
American
Animation
by Victoria Xiong

Chloe's Internal Thoughts

College has been so stressful!

Will I fit in?

Make your Parents Proud

I'm 10 years old

RACISM

Sexism

Stereotypes

Chloe Park is a 10 year old Korean child prodigy from the television show, *We Bare Bears*. She faces the struggles as a young Asian character going through college facing real life situations.

A Study of Bears (Chloe Park TF/TG/AR) by Supertoons1 on C:C - Attribution-NonCommercial 3.0 License

WHAT IS NI HAO

KAI LAN?

**BY KAI YUJIN
VANG**



FRIENDSHIP!
CULTURE!
IDENTITY!
COMMUNITY!
DIVERSITY!



About the Editors and Contributors

About the Editors and Contributors

Jenny Banh is an associate professor of Asian American studies and anthropology at California State University, Fresno. She is the co editor of *Anthropology of Los Angeles: Place and Agency in an Urban Setting* and *American Chinese Restaurants: Society, Culture, and Consumption*.

Gabriel Burns is a first generation Filipino college student attending California State University of Fresno, majoring in Animal science with a pre-vet background. He was born in a small town in the central valley of California, also known as Porterville. Even though his major is Animal science, he has a passion towards filming due to his grandfather's involvement in film and photography.

Jasmin Chavarria is a proud first-generation college student at California State University, Fresno, pursuing a degree in Kinesiology with a focus on Exercise Science. She was born in Santa Maria, California, and raised in the small town of Los Alamos. Jasmin is passionate about health, fitness, and empowering others through physical wellness, aspiring to make a meaningful impact in her field.

Johana Diaz is a student (senior) at California State University, Fresno and she is majoring in Theatre Arts—General emphasis. She was an immigrant from the Philippines who came to the United States at the age of 10. She is currently a member of Magkaisa Filipino club and wants to be a part of the film industry representing Filipino Americans.

Issak Flores is a student at California state university, Fresno majoring in exercise science. Planning on entering PT school once graduating. His end goal is to become a physical therapist.

Cory Ford is a senior at California State University, Fresno majoring in psychology and is planning to attend graduate school to pursue his Ed.S. in school psychology. He is the treasurer of Psi Chi and a research assistant for the Carrasco Lab.

Haley Goldman is a first generation student majoring in Cognitive Science at California State University, Fresno. She is aiming to pursue a higher education to attend medical school. She is a contributor to the Asian American Film and Video class publication.

Bayes Harris is a Fashion Merchandising major and Asian American Studies minor attending Fresno State. Originally from Indianapolis, Bayes moved to Fresno before her Senior year of high school and proceeded to stay local for her first three years of college. She will continue pursuing her education in fashion merchandising and design at San Francisco State.

Alfonso Hernandez is a first-generation student majoring in Kinesiology to become a Physical Education teacher. He attended a Charter school, and from that school, he used his knowledge of graphic design and ethnic studies to create a digital drawing of Godzilla and a message showing the importance of Asian Art.

Evan Kaufman is a student at California State University, Fresno majoring in Deaf Studies- Interpreting and minoring in Asian American Studies. He hopes to change his minor into a double major in Fall 2025.

Jonathan Ocegüera-Sanchez, a Business Administration major with a Finance option at California State University, Fresno, aims to graduate in 2026. He aspires to establish his own hedge fund, combining his passion for finance and entrepreneurial spirit.

Tiffany Nguyen is a Biology student at California State University, Fresno; Currently progressing in her bachelors in Biology, she hopes to pursue a career in pharmacy.

Dilan Ramirez is a junior at Fresno State majoring in Film and Media. He is a contributor to the Asian American Film and Video class publication. He hopes to finish college and hopefully get a job working in Film as a cinematographer or as a screenwriter.

Karina Ramirez is a first-generation Mexican American student majoring in Psychology. She is attending California State University, Fresno, for her senior year. She is a contributor to the Asian American Film and Video class publication specifically the South Korean Drama portion of the publication.

Jesse Rojas is a first generation student double majoring in Kinesiology (emphasis in Physical Education) and Asian American Studies at California State University, Fresno. He is a contributor to the Asian American Film and Video class publication.

Adan Solis Is a senior at California State University, Fresno. Pursuing a Major in Viticulture with a minor in Enology. He is an active member of three Fresno State organizations: Viticulture Club, Rugby Club, and Wrestling Club. Currently working at the Jordan Agriculture Research Center as a Research Assistant for Dr. Brillante.

Vince Uy is a student at California State University, Fresno majoring in Environmental Sciences. He is an active member of the Magkaisa Filipino Club and aims to be a field researcher on environmental conservation, with an emphasis in marine science.

Allison Vang is a student at California State University, Fresno majoring in Psychology and minoring in Asian American Studies. She is a member of a research group exploring Culturally Responsive Pedagogies mentored by Dr.Emily Walter, a StudentAmbassador at the Richter Center and the secretary of the Active Minds Club on campus.

Kai Vang is currently an Asian American (Hmong) student that attends California State University, Fresno majoring in Nursing. He is an active student under the Human Health and Services department. Moreover, he is into his junior year and will be finishing shortly.

Adam Xiong is a student at California State University, Fresno majoring in Construction Management. He is an active member of the Hmong Student Association (HMSA) and a president of DBIA (Design-Build Institute of America). He is expected to graduate with his Bachelor's degree in Construction Management in Spring 2025.

Victoria Xiong is a student at California State University, Fresno majoring in Biology and minoring in Asian American Studies. She is an active member of the Health Careers Opportunities Program (HCOP) and is striving towards becoming a future Physician Assistant.

Ashly Yang is a student at California State University, Fresno majoring in Graphic Design emphasis on Illustration. Hoping to start up her own online store and freelancing artwork in her own art style and bring in awareness of the Hmong culture through art.

Mengmore (Ace) Yang is a biology student at Fresno State University. He is a field biologist that works with the endangered species of California. This is his last semester at Fresno State University as he is set to graduate Spring 2025.

Vanessa Vang is a Hmong American student attending California State University, Fresno. She is currently in her third year of college. Vanessa is set to graduate with her Bachelor's degree in psychology by spring of 2026. Upon graduation, she will attend Fresno State's master's counseling program to become a psychotherapist as her career.