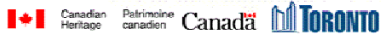
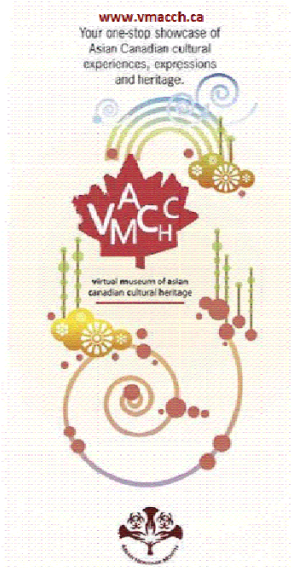


ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH FESTIVAL 2017

... showcasing cultural expressions and experiences of Asian Canadians



This project was made possible with the support of Department of Canadian Heritage through the Canadian Culture Online Strategy. Asian Heritage Month Festival is partially funded by the Government of Canada through the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Please visit <http://www.asian-heritage-month.org> and <http://www.vmach.ca> for details

Asian Heritage Month Festival is partially funded by the Government of Canada through the Department of Canadian Heritage and Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada



Canada 150 | Unity in Diversity: Fusion of Communities in Canada is partially funded by Canadian Heritage Canada 150 Fund, York University Canada 150 Fund, and Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada



Canadian Foundation for Asian Culture (Central Ontario) Inc.



Celebrating 10 years of Excellence



Richard Charles Lee
Canada-Hong Kong Library
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York Centre for
Asian Research

liberal arts &
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SOCIALSERVICESNETWORK
serving diverse communities

ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH-CANADIAN FOUNDATION FOR ASIAN CULTURE (CENTRAL ONTARIO) INC.
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH REELWORLD FILM FESTIVAL (WWW.REELWORLD.CA)
PROGRAMMED BY GAVE LINDO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, REELWORLD FILM FESTIVAL

ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH FILM FESTIVAL CANADA 150

UNITY IN DIVERSITY: FUSION OF COMMUNITIES IN CANADA

Introduction by Reelworld Programmer

Short Film Showcase

1. *Like the Flow of a River* | Director: Natalie Murao
2. *Descendants of the Past, Ancestors of the Future* | Director: Albert M. Chan
3. *Little Mao* | Director Allan Tong

Panel Discussion with filmmakers:

1. Q&A with filmmakers: Albert M. Chan and Allan Tong
 2. In conversation with feature filmmaker: Nayani Thiyagarajah, why it's important for Asian Canadians to tell stories and the diversity of storytellers in Canada
- Moderator: Reelworld Programmer

Feature Length Film:

Shadeism: Digging Deeper | Director: Nayani Thiyagarajah

FREE ADMISSION | Please register on Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/canada-150-asian-heritage-month-film-festival-unity-in-diversity-tickets-34626747534?aff=es2>

Sunday May 28, 2017 | 1 pm - 4 pm | Innis Town Hall

University of Toronto, 2 Sussex Avenue

Map at <http://www.utoronto.ca/townhall/contact.html> (St. George Stn)

Event Website: <http://www.vmach.ca/alpha/events/index.html>

PROGRAMME

Introduction by Reelworld Programmer

Short Film Showcase

Like the Flow of a River | Director: Natalie Murao

This film is a dramatic short film that focuses on a young girl's struggle to converse with her grandmother. The two generations of Japanese-Canadians are divided by a language barrier and are forced to communicate with each other after eating in a restaurant. The two characters connect by sharing a joke together, but their laughter eventually fades as they settle back into silence. The film explores the disconnect between generations, yet the bond that persists in family.

Natalie Murao is a filmmaker from Vancouver, BC. She is currently studying Film Production and Asian-Canadian Studies at Simon Fraser University. Although she enjoys dabbling in production design, her primary focus is to write and direct films that can engage the Asian-Canadian community through cinema.

Descendants of the Past, Ancestors of the Future | Director: Albert M. Chan

Expecting a baby girl, Chinese-Canadian Director Albert M. Chan realizes he is desperate to understand how his immigrant mother (played by Golden Globe nominee Tina Chen) and grandfather spent most of their lives apart.

Albert M. Chan is a Chinese-Canadian actor and filmmaker whose films have been recognized by the National Film Board of Canada and screened at more than 30 film festivals on four continents.

Little Mao | Director: Allan Tong

Little Mao tells the life story of Mao Tse-Tung through 12-year old Bobby Tung and his baseball team. After a pop fly liberates shy Bobby, the Chairman emancipates the neighbourhood kids from their chores and leads them to victory on the field. However, does Chairman Bobby take his power too far?

Allan Tong is a Toronto filmmaker, programmer and film journalist. His films I Want To Be A Desi (Bravo!FACT) and Grange Avenue have won awards and been broadcast on television. Tong is a Sundance Institute Documentary Fellow and he co-directed the documentary, The Flying stars, now broadcast on the CBC's Documentary Channel..

Panel Discussion with filmmakers:

1. Q&A with filmmakers: Albert M. Chan and Allan Tong

2. In conversation with feature filmmaker: Nayani Thiyagarajah, why it's important for Asian Canadians to tell stories and the diversity of storytellers in Canada

Moderator: Reelworld Programmer

Feature Length Film: *Shadeism: Digging Deeper* | Director: Nayani Thiyagarajah

This film explores the issue of shadeism, the discrimination between lighter-skinned and darker-skinned members of the same community. This issue around skin tone, of certain shades being considered better than others, was never missing from conversation while growing up for Director Nayani Thiyagarajah. She was able to feel its presence in conversations among family and friends, but she did not have the language to name it. And so, it became easier to ignore its presence, suppress its signs, and normalize its existence. In 2009, a conversation with her niece Maanu forced Nayani to face the fact that we cannot continue to ignore this issue. Silence will not save anyone from suffering. Alongside her friends and family, Nayani begins to recover and re-imagine what beauty means for women globally. This film looks at where shadeism comes from, how it directly affects women, and explores how we can move forward together.

Nayani Thiyagarajah is a director, writer, producer, trained doula and yoga instructor. She completed her Bachelor of Journalism at Ryerson University and her master's in Interdisciplinary Studies at York University. Thiyagarajah's first feature documentary "Shadeism: Digging Deeper" premiered in 2015. She is currently co-producing, writing, and directing multiple independent film projects.