

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
18th ANNIVERSARY DISORIENT ASIAN AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL OF OREGON
March 10-12, 2023 Art House; Eugene, OR
March 13-19, 2023 Virtual Program; Eventive
Sneak Preview February 24, 2023; Art House Eugene

We Generation

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The DisOrient Asian American Film Festival of Oregon takes place in-person March 10-12 at The Art House in Eugene (formerly the Bijou Theater) <https://www.eugenearthouse.com/> and online on Eventive, March 13-19. Join us as we launch “We Generation”, our 2023 hybrid festival celebrating 18 years of Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander independent films! Our thoughtfully curated program includes narrative and documentary features and short films, in-person Q&A’s and flexible, accessible, online programming—providing a rich, inspiring, and engaging experience.

Passes and tickets:

- Virtual-access passes and tickets for all films may be purchased online at www.disorientfilm.org. Please see our website for the full festival program and schedule.

DisOrient 2023 Sneak Preview: February 24, 6:00pm: Art House Theaters, Eugene, OR

- **Crossings:** Feature Documentary, OR Premiere.
Filmmaker Deann Borshay Liem and Peace activist Christine Ahn in attendance.
Tickets \$10 or festival pass. A group of international women peacemakers sets out on a risky journey across the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea, calling for an end to a 70-year war that has divided the Korean peninsula and its people.

Festival Film Highlights:

- **Opening Night film: Finding Her Beat:** Feature Documentary, OR Premiere, by filmmaker Dawn Mikkelson. A master of Japanese drumming and a Korean adoptee from Minnesota boldly convene an all-female troupe to perform Taiko, the Japanese drumming art that has been off-limits to women for centuries. With dynamic drum performances and do-or-die spirit, FINDING HER BEAT is an energizing and uplifting story of music, cultural expression and sisterhood. Q&A with Jennifer Weir and Tiffany Tamaribuchi to follow screening. Also available in our virtual program.
Screening with short film-- Safe and Seen on 82nd by filmmaker Dawn Jones Redstone.
- **Centerpiece film: 80 Years Later** Feature Documentary. 80 YEARS LATER explores the racial inheritance of Japanese American family incarceration during World War II through multigenerational conversations with survivors and their descendants. In the 80th anniversary of Executive Order 9066 that imprisoned 120,000 Japanese Americans in World War II, families still grapple with the legacy of their experience. How does one inherit traumatic history across generations? Q&A with Filmmaker Celine Parreñas Shimizu to follow screening. Also available in our virtual program.
- **Closing Night Film: Land of Gold:** Feature film by filmmaker Nardeep Khurmi. When truck driver Kiran hears pounding on a shipping container and finds a young Mexican-American girl inside, his already tumultuous life takes a drastic turn as he seeks to reunite her with her family. Post-screening Q&A with the filmmaker. No virtual screening.

Other film highlights include:

- **Above the Clouds,** Feature Narrative by Jon Hill; World Premiere
A lost dog, a cassette tape, and a backyard comedy show lead two Asian American strangers on a day they’ll never forget.
- **Golden Delicious:** Feature Documentary, Filmmaker Jason Karman

- When basketball-obsessed Aleks moves in across the street, Jake finds himself trying out for the basketball team to get his attention in this classic coming-of-age drama set in the digital age.
- **No No Girl:** Feature Narrative, Filmmaker Paul Daisuke Goodman; Eugene Premiere. Eighty years ago, on the eve of war and incarceration, a Japanese American family buries a secret in their backyard garden. Three generations later, a clue is discovered – unearthing the trauma and truth of their historic past.
 - **Liquor Store Dreams:** Feature Documentary. Filmmaker So Yun Um. As a daughter of Korean immigrants who ran a liquor store in South LA, So Yun Um decided that what she wanted to become a filmmaker, much to the bemusement of her father. In this vibrant and bold film, So Yun turns the camera on herself, her community and her friends, and documents a rarely seen slice of the American dream as she struggles with creating her own path in life.
 - **11 Shorts Programs, including 1 free program! Highlights include:**
 - **We Generation:** Shorts program celebrating the curiosity, poignancy, wisdom (and food!) that lovingly weave through our generational relationships.
 - **Community Rising:** Shorts program inspired by the community builders who create connections and bring us all closer together.
 - **Spirit of Youth (Free):** A celebration of the resilience, imagination and vibrancy of youth.
 - **Unstoppable Women:** A shorts program with women front and center—they've got the moves, the confidence, and the audacity to claim their space!
 - **Art is Our Story:** Art inspires...heals...transforms. Art is our story connecting us through the generations.

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