

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
**19<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY DISORIENT ASIAN AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL OF OREGON**  
**March 8-10, 2024 Art House; Eugene, OR**  
**March 11-17, 2024 Virtual Program; Eventive**  
**Sneak Preview February 17, 2024; Art House Eugene**

**Seeds of Kinship**

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The DisOrient Asian American Film Festival of Oregon takes place in-person March 8-10 at The Art House in Eugene (formerly the Bijou Theater) <https://www.eugeneartthouse.com/> and online on Eventive, March 11-17. Join us as we launch “Seeds of Kinship”, our 2024 hybrid festival celebrating 19 years of Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander independent films! Our thoughtfully curated program includes narrative and documentary features and shorts, in-person Q&A’s and flexible, accessible, online programming—providing a rich, inspiring, and engaging experience.

Passes and tickets:

- Passes and tickets for live and virtual films may be purchased online at [www.disorientfilm.org](http://www.disorientfilm.org). Please see our website for the full festival program and schedule.

Festival Film Highlights:

- **Opening Night film: A Great Divide:** Feature Narrative, OR Premiere, by Director Jean Shim. Seen through the eyes of a Korean American family that leaves the Bay Area for small-town Wyoming, A GREAT DIVIDE addresses the emotional and psychological impact of racism and xenophobia on Asian Americans, the loneliness and sacrifice of immigrant sojourners and the generational expectations that weigh on their children. Q&A with Jean Shim, MeeWha Alana Lee, Emerson Min and Jeff Yang to follow screening. Also available in our virtual program. Jeff Yang will be signing copies of The Golden Screen: The Movies That Made Asian America after the screening.
- **Centerpiece film: Photographic Justice** Feature Documentary. Using his camera as a “weapon against injustice,” Chinese-American photographer Corky Lee brought art and politics together through his decades-long documentation of the Asian American experience. Armed with 19 years of footage of Corky in action, director Jennifer Takaki honors this unsung hometown hero in this beautiful tribute. Q&A with Jennifer Takaki, and Producers George Hirose and Linda Woo to follow screening. Screening with short film: A Roll of Film by Akash Achal Dhruva
- **Closing Night Film: Unbroken Ties:** Feature Narrative directed by Graham Streeter and Grace Swe Zin Htaik. A Burmese orphan’s journey to find his place in America unravels a web of secrets, betrayals, and connections that challenge his identity, his friendships, and his sense of belonging. Post-screening Q&A with Producer Peter K. Yap and Destinee Yang. Also available in our Virtual program.

Other film highlights include:

- **Ashima**, Feature Documentary by Kenji Tsukamoto; PNW Premiere. An intimate portrait of elite rock climber Ashima Shiraishi as she travels to South Africa to try to become the youngest person in the world to climb a V14 graded boulder problem. Emotional and rooted in character, ASHIMA is a love letter not only to climbing, but to immigrant parents and the realization of the American Dream. Post-screening Q&A with Director Kenji Tsukamoto
- **Nurse Unseen**: Feature Documentary, Filmmaker Michele Josue; PNW Premiere. This film explores the little-known history of the unsung Filipino nurses who risked their lives on the COVID frontlines while facing a resurgence of anti-Asian hate in the streets. The film unearths the colonial ties between the Philippines and the U.S. that has led to Filipino nurses becoming the backbone of American and global healthcare systems. Post-screening Q&A with Director Michele Josue
- **Starring Jerry As Himself**: Feature Documentary, Filmmaker Law Chen. A family documents how their immigrant father Jerry, a recently retired Florida man, was recruited by the Chinese police to be an undercover agent, only to discover a darker truth. Also screens in our Virtual program with Academy Award Nominee **Island In Between**, by Director S. Leo Chiang
- **The Gardener**: Feature Documentary. Filmmaker Derek Shimoda. A whimsical Japanese immigrant forges a deep-rooted bond with nature when life gives him a bitter one. Post-screening Q&A with Director Derek Shimoda. Screening with short film: Dragonfly by Julia Morizawa
- **Hawai'i Strong**: Impactful, insightful, beautiful. Stories about Hawai'i, by Hawai'i filmmakers.
- **12 Shorts Programs, including 1 free program! Highlights include:**
  - **Korean Kaleidoscope**: Humorous, poignant, inspired—this shorts program reflects the many facets of Korean American storytelling.
  - **Seeds of Justice**: A shorts program celebrating the community builders who tirelessly work for justice, bringing us all closer together.
  - **Fil-Am Films (Free)**: Celebrating fun and family through Filipino American shorts!
  - **Family . Food . Love**: Stories that nourish and satisfy, and celebrate our community connections.
  - **Grit**: Stories of fearlessness, fortitude and courage!
  - **Kindred Spirits** Shorts with beauty, magic, comfort and love.

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