



Lion Dance, San Francisco Chinatown by Jake Lee

A Lost & Found Discovery: The Jake Lee Heritage Paintings

2010 has been a great & exciting year for the Chinese Historical Society of America as we have recovered a significant piece of our history through 8 long-lost paintings!

It all started the Friday before Presidents' Day Weekend when we received a message that eleven paintings would be at auction in Los Angeles the following Tuesday. These turned out to be the famous Jake Lee paintings that the restaurateur Johnny Kan commissioned for his landmark Kan's Restaurant in the early 1960s.

Each of these visually stunning pieces showcases specific aspects and milestones in early Chinese American history. The collection includes scenes of San Francisco's Chinatown, railroad-building at Cape Horn, Sonoma wine country, cigar & lantern making in San Francisco factories, and

the 1888 champion Chinese fire-hose team of Deadwood, South Dakota.

For many years, these stunning paintings hung in the private *Gum Shan* dining room of Kan's Restaurant. After Johnny Kan's death in 1972, the restaurant changed hands, and the paintings soon disappeared in subsequent years.

Once we confirmed that these were in fact Jake Lee's paintings up for auction, we flew to LA to bid on—and won—seven of the eleven paintings! The four remaining Jake Lee paintings were purchased by a Southern California collector who has since expressed his willingness to be an exhibit partner.

Then, a day after the auction, we learned of the location of the missing 12th painting and retrieved it. So within a span of one week, we

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Upcoming Events

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 2010 at 1:30-4 pm at Fort Mason Center, San Francisco

Angel Island: Immigrant Gateway
Book Launch with Authors Erica Lee & Judy Yung

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2010 at 5:30 pm at CHSA

Water Ghosts Book Reading with Author Shawna Yang Ryan

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 2010 at 1 pm at CHSA

"Angel Voices" DANCE & POETRY with Poet/Playwright Genny Lim & Dancer Lenora Lee

11 am "The Architecture of San Francisco's Chinatown" WALKING TOUR by Executive Director Sue Lee

**CHINESE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY OF AMERICA**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Paul Fong, *President*
Connie Young Yu, *1st Vice President*
Doug Chan, Esq., *2nd Vice president*
Linda Cheu, *Treasurer*
Elsie Lam, *Secretary*
Steve Adams
Cedric Cheng
Barre Fong
Cindy Hu
Sandy Lee
Ty Lim
Russell Leong
Paul Tsang
Alisa Yee
Brian Yee
Jeffrey P. Woo, *Legal Counsel*

BOARD EMERITI

Him Mark Lai (deceased)
Philip P. Choy

FOUNDERS

Thomas W. Chinn
C.H. Kwock
Chingwah lee
H.K. Wong
Thomas W.S. Wu, DDS

STAFF

Sue Lee, *Executive Director*
Judy Hu, *Communications Director*
Lenora Lee, *Operations Manager*
Michelle Louie, *Administrative
Executive*
Pam Wong, *Programs Coordinator*
Charlie Chin, *Artist-in-Residence*
Francis Wong, *Special Projects
Manager*

WANTED: Museum & Walking Tour Docents, please apply



Photo by Don Cheu

CHSA Artist-in-Residence Charlie Chin will offer a three session workshop that will provide training for effective CHSA Museum Docents.

Workshop topics will include The History of Chinatown, San Francisco and the Basics of Public Speaking. This workshop is open to youth and adults who wish to support—and are

enthusiastic about—CHSA Museum’s efforts to inform the general public about the history of the Chinese American Community.

The workshop session will be Saturdays: July 31, August 7 & 14 from 10 am-1 pm at CHSA, 965 Clay St. Please contact **Pam Wong** at pwong@chsa.org to sign up or for more information.

Jake Lee Paintings Found

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

recovered 8 of the 12 long-lost Jake Lee paintings!

As a steward of the Chinese American community narrative, the Chinese Historical Society of America is extremely proud to have brought these spectacular paintings back to San Francisco as part of our collection.

The paintings have many stories to tell, and their potential for exhibition programming is enormous. As we re-introduce them to local audiences, we know that a much broader audience will be inspired by them as well. Please stay tuned for exciting developments in regards to the Jake Lee Paintings!

KAN RECOLLECTIONS

Do you have memories or memorabilia from visits to Kan’s Restaurant? Ever enjoy the cocktail of Almond Eye, or spot a celebrity (à la Marilyn Monroe and Joe DiMaggio) at the bar?

Please share your experience with us! **Send to Judy Hu at CHSA, 965 Clay Street, San Francisco, CA 94108**

OPENING & UNVEILING: Second Saturdays are a hit

2010 is a year of new openings! Beginning this year, CHSA is once again opening its museum doors every Saturday from 11 am to 4 pm. Every Second Saturday of the month, the museum will also feature special programming followed by historical walking tours conducted by Artist-in-Residence Charlie Chin or Executive Director Sue Lee.

The Year of the Tiger roared in with the grand opening of the new exhibit “The Architecture of San Francisco’s Chinatown” on Saturday, March 6. In April, CHSA commemorated the anniversary of the April 18, 1906 Earthquake with Artist-in-Residence Charlie Chin presenting *History Alive! Hugh Liang: Eyewitness to the 1906 Earthquake & Fire* on the Second Saturday.

Subsequently on May 8th, to commemorate the anniversary of the May 6, 1882 passage of the Chinese Exclusion Act, CHSA Board Vice President Connie Young Yu presented a special program entitled *Patchwork History* about how the Chinese Exclusion Act became insti-

tutionalized, along with its insidious effect on American consciousness long afterwards.

Yu discussed how anti-Asian policies became so entrenched that its injustices and inhumanity were hidden in history. But as Yu points out, it was people’s activism—from detainees writing on the walls of the Angel Island barracks to community protests—that have kept America from forgetting.

Yu also discussed her new book, *Patchwork History: The People’s Bicentennial Quilt*, which illustrates how Chinese labor on the railroad, immigration exclusion, and concentration camps during World War II are among the “patches” stitched back into American history, are.

Following Yu’s successful book reading was a record-breaking attendance for a Second Saturday on June 12th for the “At Liberty’s Door” exhibit opening, along with a screening of Freida Lee Mock’s film “Jung Sai.” A successive screening of the documentary “Carved in Silence” with Filmmaker Felicia Lowe for

Second Saturday on July 10th also proved to be very popular.

Continuing into the summer, August 14th will feature at 1 pm “Angel Voices” music, poetry, & dance with Poet/Playwright Genny Lim & Dancer Lenora Lee. “The Architecture of San Francisco’s Chinatown” Walking Tour by Executive Director Sue Lee will precede the performances at 11 am.

A portion of the program will feature “Passages,” the new interdisciplinary collaborative work between choreographer/dancer Lenora Lee, media designer Olivia Ting, and composer Francis Wong. It is in homage to Lee’s maternal grandmother, Lee Ping To, who immigrated through the Angel Island Immigration Station in 1940, the year that the Station was closed.

All presentations on Second Saturdays are free with paid museum admission (\$3 for the general public, free for members) while walking tours are \$10 for members, \$15 for the general public.

Public Art Proposals for the Chinese Recreation Center on View at CHSA July 21- August 4, 2010

All members of the public are invited to view the proposals for new public artwork at the New Chinese Recreation Center and provide feedback.

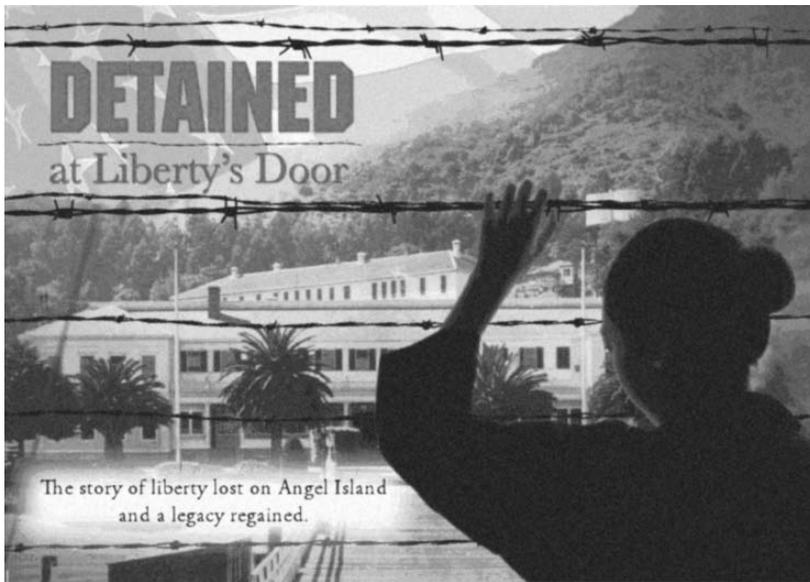
These proposals will be on view at CHSA from July 21–August 4, 2010. Three artists/artist teams—Colette Crutcher, Liang Liqing, and Margarita Soyfertis and Vadim Goretsky—were selected by the Chinese Recreation Center Artist Selection Panel (convened by the SF Arts Commission) to create public art proposals for the exterior of the new Center. A comment book will be located onsite for visitors to sign.

Artist proposals will be available



Courtesy of SFAC

for viewing during CHSA’s normal business hours of Tuesday–Friday from 12 noon–5 pm & Saturdays 11 am–4 pm. Proposals are also available online at www.sfartscommission.org/pubartcollection/ (see the link under the “Public Meetings” section). Please email comments to Eleanor Beaton at eleanor.beaton@sfgov.org by August 6 at 12 noon.



Detained at Liberty's Door

**Chinese Historical Society of America
965 Clay Street, San Francisco**

“Detained at Liberty’s Door” traces the formation of the Angel Island Immigration Station and highlights the inspiring story of Mrs. Lee Yoke Suey, the wife of a native-born citizen, who was detained for more than fifteen months on Angel Island.

Only an association with one of California’s most powerful and iconic families secured her freedom.



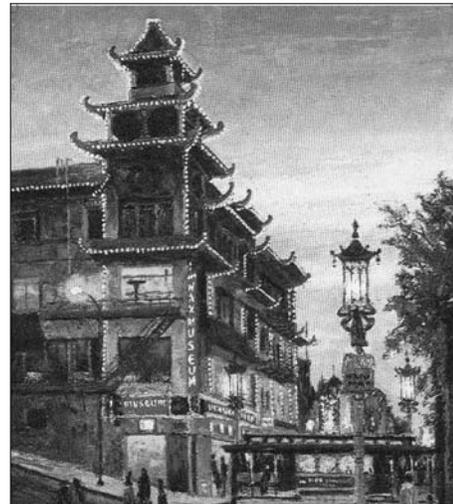
Passages

**Dance Mission Theatre
3316 24th Street, San Francisco
September 24, 25, & 26**

“Passages” is the new interdisciplinary collaborative work between choreographer/dancer Lenora Lee, media designer Olivia Ting, and composer Francis Wong. Celebrated poet, playwright, and performer Genny Lim will join in the program with a special reading in our commemoration of the Centennial of the Angel Island Immigration Station.

Presented by Asian Improv Arts, in collaboration with the Chinese Historical Society of America Museum and the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation.

**For more information, please email:
Lenora@asianimprov.org**



The Architecture of San Francisco's Chinatown

**Chinese Historical Society of America
965 Clay Street, San Francisco**

The striking architecture of Chinatown is explored from its beginnings in the mid-19th century through the rebuilding following the Great Earthquake & Fire of 1906 to its presence as one of the country’s most vibrant and enduring neighborhoods.

Featuring an interactive walking tour map, digital images, never-before-seen etchings, and special objects, the exhibit is a thoughtful exploration into San Francisco’s Chinatown.

Community Hearing on Renaming SF Chinatown Library after Him Mark Lai



Photo by Leland Wong

The San Francisco Library Commission held a community hearing on Thursday, July 15th at 4:30 pm about adding the name of the late historian Him Mark Lai to the Chinatown branch library.

All attendants were invited to speak. Each speaker was allowed a maximum of two minutes. Him Mark's contributions to the library & importance to the community were highlighted.

Him Mark Lai, an internationally renowned archivist and historian of Chinese America and a highly respected leader of the community, passed away on May 21, 2009.

Besides being a historian and archivist, Him Mark Lai was a generous and effective teacher. Virtually every dissertation and book on Chinese America

Besides being a historian and archivist, Him Mark Lai was a generous and effective teacher. Virtually every dissertation and book on Chinese America in the past thirty years is indebted to Him Mark's research, collection materials, or guidance.

in the past thirty years is indebted to Him Mark's research, collection materials, or guidance. For more information on Him Mark Lai, please visit The Him Mark Lai Digital Archive Project at <http://himmarklai.org/>.

LEGACY DONATIONS

CHSA is grateful to the family and friends of the following individuals who have honored their legacy with donations.

IN MEMORIAM

2009

Dan Chu
Chuck Chun
Him Mark Lai
Paul Louie

2010

John Git Wong
P.Q. Chin
Tony Fong
Loni Ding
Yet Tong

We also offer a heartfelt thanks to the **Mabel Yick Louie** estate for her bequest to CHSA this year.

For many friends and members, a charitable bequest is the easiest and best way to make a gift to preserving Chinese American history. By means of a will or other estate plan, CHSA can be named as the beneficiary of a portion of an estate, or of particular assets to the estate.

These gifts support the CHSA Museum and archives to help preserve our enduring legacy and invaluable stories.

Angel Island: Immigrant Gateway to America Book Launch at Fort Mason

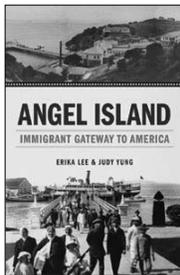
CHSA continues to mark the centennial of the Angel Island Immigration Station opening with a co-sponsorship of the book *Angel Island: Immigrant Gateway to America*.

This special reading will be held by the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation on **Saturday, August 7th, 2010 from 1:30–4:00 pm at Fort Mason Center** (at Laguna & Marina Blvd) in Building A, Golden Gate Room, San Francisco, CA 94123. Reception & book signing will follow a book talk and slide show by the authors.

In this landmark book, historians Erika Lee and Judy Yung provide the first comprehensive history of the Angel Island Immigration Station. Drawing on extensive new research, including immigration records, oral histories, and newly-discovered

inscriptions on the barrack walls, the authors produce a sweeping yet intensely personal history of Chinese “paper sons,” Japanese picture brides, Korean students, South Asian political activists, Russian and Jewish refugees, Mexican families, Filipino repatriates, and many others from around the world.

Angel Island: Immigrant Gateway to America is the official publication commemorating the immigration station’s 100th anniversary. A portion of the book sales will benefit the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation. Please visit www.aiisf.org for more info.



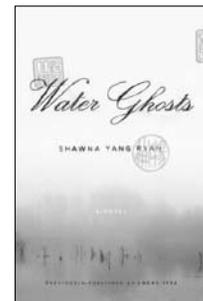
Asian America Now: Shawna Yang Ryan, *Water Ghosts*

In collaboration with The Asia Society & Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, CHSA will host a reading of *Water Ghosts* on **Tuesday, August 10, 2010 at 5:30 pm.**

Water Ghosts is set in the wake of the Immigration Act of 1924, legislation that barred many Chinese women from joining husbands who had immigrated to America in search of work. The absence of women defines life in Locke, California a community of bachelors where men outnumber women twenty to one and most of the women are white prostitutes. For this reason, when a boat bearing three mysterious and bedraggled Chinese women arrives one day out of the fog of the Sacramento Delta, suspicion and rumor spread rapidly among the townspeople of Locke. The women’s appearance is particularly baffling for Richard Fong, the manager of the Lucky

Fortune gambling parlor; the third is Ming Wai, the wife he abandoned in China years earlier.

When a flood threatens to wash away the entire town, the frightening power of the strange women will be revealed. In *Water Ghosts*, Shawna Yang Ryan tells a story of a marriage broken by separation and betrayal, a town brought to its knees by loneliness and longing, and what happens when a Chinese ghost story begins to come true.



**5:30 pm Registration;
6-7 pm Program,
reception and book
signing to follow.**

**\$5 Asia Society/Co-
sponsor Members; \$10
Non-members**

All That Work and Still No Boys Book Reading by Award-Winning Author Kathryn Ma

How do we survive our family, stay bound to our community, and keep from losing ourselves?

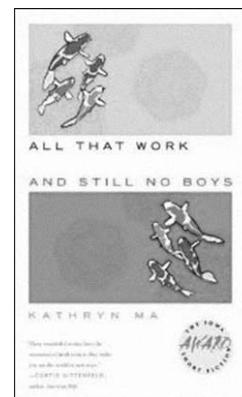
In preparation for summer reading, CHSA delightfully hosted local author Kathryn Ma in presenting her novel *All That Work and Still No Boys* on May 18th at 6 pm.

In it, Kathryn Ma

exposes the deepest fears & longings that we mask in family life and observes the long shadows cast by history and displacement. Ma thoughtfully probes the immigrant experience, most particularly among northern California’s Chinese Americans, illuminating for us the confounding nature of duty,

transformation, and loss.

Kathryn Ma is a native San Franciscan who is the first Asian American author to win the Iowa Short Fiction Award. She has also won the 2008 David Nathan Meyerson Prize; her work has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize and Best New American Voices.



CHSA Executive Director Sue Lee is a Local Hero!

Through her diligent advocacy and dedication, CHSA Executive Director Sue Lee has brought to light untold stories of the Chinese American community. In honor of Asian Pacific American Month in May, KQED honored Sue Lee as a Local Hero in 2010!

KQED celebrated the richness and diversity of the SF Bay Area with a special lineup of programs. CHSA & Sue were prominently featured in television spots throughout May. Other community leaders honored were: Vane Feuy Chao of Asian Americans for Community Involvement; Kenneth Lee of Francisco Middle School; and Jeff Mori of Asian American Recovery Services.

Sue Lee, a third generation San Franciscan, was born at Chinese Hospital and grew up in the Richmond District. She graduated from UC Santa Cruz with a B. A. in history and

sociology, before returning to SF to work as a community organizer for the Chinatown Neighborhood Improvement Resource Center.

In 1981, Sue began her public service at San Francisco City Hall as a legislative aide to Supervisor Nancy Walker, then as a specialist on small business issues under Mayors Feinstein and Agnos. Under Mayor Willie Brown, she was the Director of Economic Development during the booming tech years and most recently was a Planning Commissioner for 6 years, where she also served as President. In her spare time, Sue helped create the Richmond District Neighborhood Center that is today a thriving, multi-purpose, multi-ethnic community center serving youth and their families.



Sue became Executive Director of CHSA in 2004 and is responsible for the stewardship of the Chinese American community narrative through its on-site and traveling

Sue's work in the community today is driven by an abiding desire for Chinese American stories to be told in a Chinese American voice.

exhibits, public programs, publications, and treasured collections.

Under her tenure, CHSA has thrived by expanding its audiences and collections with groundbreaking exhibits and innovative programs while pursuing major collaborations with organizations such as the de Young Museum, The Oakland Museum of California, The Bancroft Library at University of California at Berkeley, The California Historical Society, The San Francisco Museum & Historical Society, The Historical Society of the Northern California District Court, and many others.

Sue's work in the community today is driven by an abiding desire for Chinese American stories to be told in a Chinese American voice. She feels that this can only be done with the confidence provided by rigorous scholarship and the passion that comes from an intimate connection to the sacrifices and triumphs of those who have gone before.

National API Historic Preservation Forum

Over 150 Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders gathered in San Francisco for the National API Historic Preservation Forum on June 24-26.

CHSA welcomed the attendees with a special reception on the forum's opening night in its historic Julia Morgan-designed Chinatown YWCA building.

The conference highlighted issues such as: API preservation as synonymous with promoting community pride, cultural identity, and neighborhood vitality; creating opportunities for stewards and advocates for API heritage resources; increasing capacity and outreach; putting forward a pan-Asian preservation agenda and an expanded meaning for "historic preservation" to ensure a place for diverse groups.

Conference presenters and participants included: Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation; California Civil Liberties Public Education Program; California Japanese American Community Leadership Council; Chinese American Citizens Alliance; Chinese American Museum; CHSA; El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument; Filipino American National Historical Society; Guam Preservation Trust; Japanese American National Museum; Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California; Japantown Task Force; Little Manila Foundation; Little Tokyo Service Center; National Japanese American Historical Society; National Park Service, Western Region; National Trust for Historic Preservation; and Preserving California's Japantowns.

CHSA Partners with USF's Center for the Pacific Rim

Earlier this year, CHSA participated in a fruitful partnership with USF, Center for the Pacific Rim for a series of talks & author presentations:

Thursday, February 18, 2010 China's Environmental Challenge by Elizabeth Economy, Ph.D.

China's economic growth has come at a steep price. Levels of air & water pollution as well as land degradation are among the highest in the world.

China is among the leading contributors to global climate change, pollution of the Pacific, and the illegal timber trade. Can they protect its environment and sustain economic growth all at the same time?

Elizabeth explored these issues and more in this insightful talk. She is the author of *The River Runs Black*, a C.V. Starr Senior Fellow, and Director for Asia Studies, Council on Foreign Relations.

Co-sponsored by: CHSA, Asia Society Northern California, the World Affairs Council of Northern California, China Dialogue, and USF School of Business and Professional Studies.

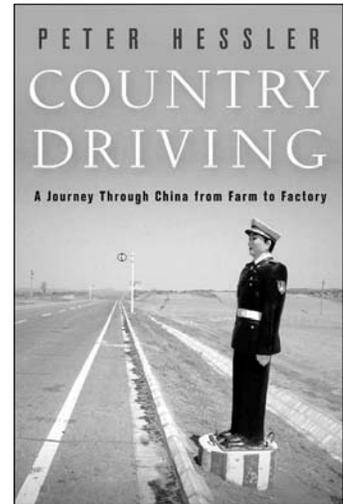
Tuesday, February 23, 2010 Presenting Peter Hessler & Leslie T. Chang

Author and journalist Peter Hessler returned to the USF campus to talk about his new book, *Country Driving: A Journey Through China from Farm to Factory*, together with his wife, fellow author Leslie T. Chang, who will discuss her book *Factory Girls: From Village to City in a Changing China*.

Tuesday, April 13, 2010 "Splendid Shanghai" A Conversation with Dr. Wen-Hsin Yeh, Director of the Institute of East Asian Studies

Dr. Yeh is a renowned historian of modern China and her *Shanghai Splendor* is the most important social & cultural study of this grand metropolis.

In it she captures a dazzling urban kaleidoscope that took the lead in modernizing China. This year's "Shanghai Expo" expects to draw 70 million visitors, the cost of which exceeds what Beijing spent on the recent Olympics. All this had a tumultuous past, which Dr. Yeh will share as she captures the rise of a maritime and capitalistic behemoth.



Asian Heritage Street Celebration

An estimated 100,000 attendees filled the streets of San Francisco's Civic Center and Little Saigon neighborhood for the 6th Annual Asian Heritage Street Celebration on Saturday May 15, 2010. CHSA was one of more than 160 booths ranging from arts and crafts, community, and nonprofits, lining Larkin Street from Grove to Ellis Streets.

As a special touch, the CHSA booth displayed the "Miss Chinatown USA: Glamour & Grace" traveling exhibit for the viewing pleasure of fairgoers.



Photo courtesy of CHSA

CHSA Highlights Chinese Films at Two San Francisco Film Festivals

As part of the San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival (SFIAAFF) in March, CHSA co-presented *A Moment in Time* where Oscar-winning director Ruby Yang and producer Lambert Yam (ex-owner of the historic World Theatre) explore the evolving role of movie theatres in San Francisco's Chinatown.

From Cantonese opera adaptations to Bruce Lee and Chow Yun Fat movies, Chinatown theatre brought a sense of community—and pride—to multiple generations.

During the 53rd San Francisco International Film Festival April 22-May 6, CHSA continued supporting films as a community partner in presenting four of the more than 100 unique programs of the finest independent, documentary and international cinema.

The Festival honored film icons including Robert Duvall and Roger Ebert; opened with Jean-Pierre Jeunet's dazzling caper *Micmacs*; featured the original score and live performance of Stephin Merritt to the silent epic *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*; celebrated a comedic legend on Closing Night with the documentary *Joan Rivers—A Piece of Work*, and so much more.

***Empire of Silver* (Dir. Christina Yao, China, 2009)** This lush epic tells a timeless story of love and succession, as the heir to a banking dynasty in northeastern China is called upon to sacrifice personal happiness to guide his family through the tumultuous turn of the 20th century.

***Last Train Home* (Dir. Lixin Fan, Canada/China co-production, 2009)** This visually stunning documentary draws viewers into the lives of a family of migrant factory workers



"A Moment in Time." Photo courtesy of Center for Asian American Media.



"Last Train Home." Photo courtesy of San Francisco Film Society.

on a grueling holiday journey back to their rural village—and the resentful child they left behind—in an intimate portrait of modern China.

***Vengeance* (Dir. Johnnie To, Hong Kong/China/France co-production, 2009)** This French and Hong Kong coproduction offers neo-noir fans and newcomers a genre-busting gem populated by a hit man turned chef, family men moonlighting as assassins, and earnestly official,

androgynous female detectives.

***Bodyguards and Assassins* (Dir. Teddy Chen, Hong Kong/China co-production, 2009)** Centering around an assassination attempt on Chinese revolutionary hero Sun Yat-sen in 1906 Hong Kong, this star-studded epic is a rousing, electrifying mix of history, revolution and martial arts. The first half is an intricate political thriller and the second half is just plain thrilling.

SF Chinatown Post Office named after Lim Poon Lee: The First Chinese American Postmaster

Following the dedication ceremony of the post office located at 867 Stockton Street on Saturday, March 14, 2010, many officials and dignitaries including Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, former California State Senator John Burton, and Governor of the U.S. Postal Service Thurgood Marshall, Jr. attended the reception that afternoon at CHSA.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi released the following statement following President Obama signing the bill, H.R. 3119 naming the Chinatown Post Office in San Francisco after former San Francisco Postmaster Lim Poon Lee:

"Dedicating the post office located at 867 Stockton Street in San Francisco's Chinatown as 'The Lim Poon Lee Post Office' is a cause for celebration for the City and County of San Francisco. When appointed Postmaster by President Lyndon Johnson in 1966, Mr. Lee was the first Chinese American Postmaster and the highest federally appointed Chinese American ever in our nation. Mr. Lee dedicated his life to public service and proud patriotism, including bravely serving our country in World War II.

"In San Francisco, we know that the beauty is in the mix, and Postmaster Lee enriched our city and transformed the face of the San Francisco postal system by increasing the hiring of women, minori-



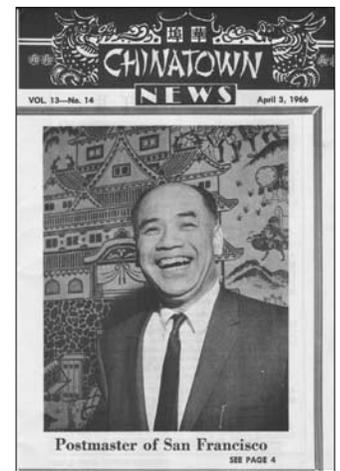
Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, with Governor of the US Postal Service Thurgood Marshall, Jr., addresses an audience at CHSA on behalf of renaming the SF Chinatown Post Office after Lim Poon Lee.



ties and disabled postal workers to ensure that the post office looked like the rest of our city in terms of its great diversity. Lim Poon Lee established this Chinatown post office in 1977, and in a fitting tribute to a remarkable San Franciscan that we now honor his life and achievements dedicating it to him."

Born in Hong Kong

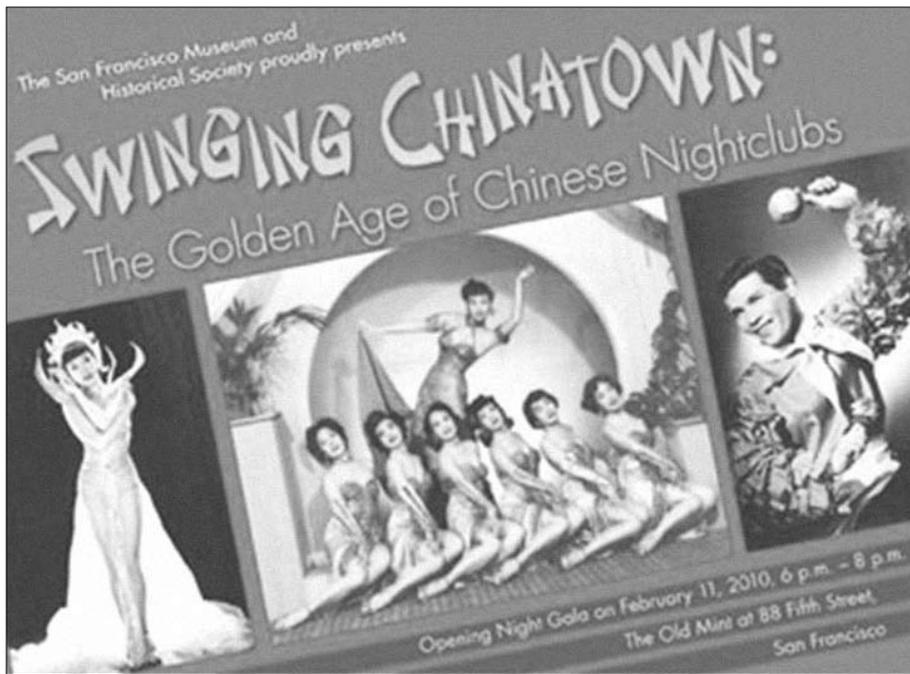
in 1911, Postmaster Lee moved to San Francisco with his family as an infant. After serving as a U.S. Army counterintelligence specialist during World War II, he attended the College of the Pacific and the Lincoln University Law School. Postmaster Lee passed away at the age of 91 in 2002.



Bottom left: Speaker Pelosi engages the crowd following the ceremony.

Bottom right: The April 3, 1966 edition of Chinatown News featured Postmaster Lim Poon Lee on its cover.

Photos by Judy Hu.



Swinging Chinatown: The Golden Age of Chinese Nightclubs

The San Francisco Museum and Historical Society, in collaboration with CHSA, presented a glamorous new exhibit in February at the beautiful & historical Old Mint Building.

This rare exhibit featured vintage photos, costumes, & memorabilia of the Chinese American nightclub

scene's heyday in the 1930s & 40s.

The exhibit's opening gala was on Thursday, February 11, 2010. It was a festive affair with Ben Fong-Torres as master of ceremonies and a performance by the "Grant Avenue Follies"—a glorious troupe of former nightclub dancers that stunned the delighted crowd!

Hakone's Year of the Tiger Celebration: A Cultural, Historical, & Musical Legacy celebrating the Lunar New Year!

The beautiful Hakone Estate & Gardens in Saratoga was once again the scene of a special afternoon of entertainment and merriment on Saturday, February 20, 2010 from 12 noon to 4 pm.

The second annual gathering was co-presented by CHSA and supported by the US Chinese Women Cultural Organization, Chi Am Circle Club, and the Chinese Women's Club of Santa Clara Valley.

Entertainment for the gathering included: Charlie Chin, Story-telling & Chinese instrumental performances, Lion dancing & Chinese Opera & Tai Chi Master, Lunar Customs & Flower Arranging, Cooking Demonstration, & Lunar NY refreshments, Tour of Hakone Gardens

Angel Island Passages by San Francisco Girls Chorus

CHSA co-presented the five-time Grammy Award-winning San Francisco Girls Chorus in the world premiere of Angel Island Passages, a multimedia work by composer Chen Yi in collaboration with the Cypress String Quartet and award-winning Bay Area film maker Felicia Lowe, in two performances Friday and Saturday, June 4 and 5, at 8 pm at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

The new work commemorates the 100th anniversary of Angel Island Immigration Station, known as "the Ellis Island of the West," and evokes the experiences of Chinese immigrants in music, ancient and contemporary poetry, film, video and photography. Also on the program, entitled "A New Land, A New Song," were works by Stravinsky, Dvorak and others.



Photo courtesy of San Francisco Girls Chorus

The CHSA *Bulletin* is published multiple times throughout the year. To contribute articles about Chinese American community and historical news and events, please submit articles to judy@chsa.org.

Writer & Editor: Judy Hu || Design: Amy Lam



**CHINESE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY OF AMERICA**

965 CLAY STREET

SAN FRANCISCO

CALIFORNIA 94108

415 391-1188 TEL

415 391-1150 FAX

INFO@CHSA.ORG EMAIL

WWW.CHSA.ORG WEBSITE

TIME DATED MATERIAL

Nonprofit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit No.9103

San Francisco, CA



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

6 PM Reception & Silent Auction
7 PM Dinner

FOUR SEASONS HOTEL

757 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Black-Tie optional

FOR MORE INFORMATION
please call 415.391.1188 x101
or email gala@chsa.org

Master of Ceremonies

BEVAN DUFTY, MEMBER, SAN FRANCISCO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Featuring

THE PAINTINGS OF JAKE LEE

SPECIAL EXHIBIT: "DETAINED AT LIBERTY'S DOOR"

Honoring

ANGEL ISLAND IMMIGRATION STATION FOUNDATION (AIISF)
&
ANGEL ISLAND IMMIGRATION STATION HISTORICAL
ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AIISHAC)