



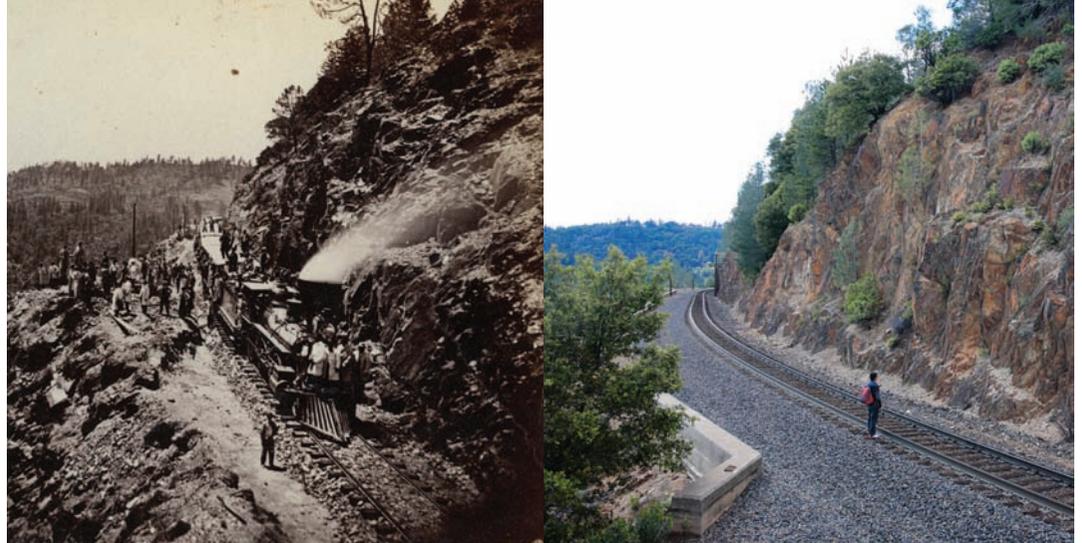
Bulletin 簡報

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA MUSEUM February 2016 | Vol. 52, No. 1

Railroad photography journeys back in time *Exhibition features historic & contemporary photos by Alfred Hart & Li Ju*

The fruitful collaboration between the Chinese Historical Society of America and Stanford University's Chinese Railroad Workers in North America Project (CRRW Project) to recover the untold stories of Chinese railroad workers continues strong in its fourth year. New for 2016, the CHSA Main Gallery hosts a new exhibition produced by Stanford University's CRRW Project and Guangxi Normal University Press Group. Titled *The Chinese Helped Build the Railroad, the Railroad Helped Build America*, the multi-panel exhibition presents a comprehensive historical overview of how the First Transcontinental Railroad was built, and how thousands of Chinese laborers made the completion of the railroad possible.

Due to space constraints, the full exhibition will be displayed at CHSA in four parts from now through September 2016. It prominently features contemporary photographs by photographer Li Ju. Beginning in 2012, Li Ju visited sites from the Pacific Railroad route four times. Inspired by Alfred Hart's historic photos of the Pacific Railroad from the 1880s, Li Ju traveled across mountains, canyons, and deserts and searched relentlessly to find the sites of Hart's original photos. Li Ju's photography is paired with original Alfred Hart photographs from



Left: Courtesy Alfred A. Hart Photograph Collection, Stanford University. Right: Courtesy Li Ju

Alfred A. Hart's famous railroad photographs (such as *Excursion Train at Cape Horn, 3 miles above Colfax*) are paired with contemporary versions by photographer Li Ju in the new Stanford exhibition.

Stanford University's collection, and captures the grand scope of the railroad building effort and the challenging landscape of the Sierra Nevadas. These side-by-side comparisons of past

and present reveal how Pacific Railroad construction sites look today.

The Chinese Helped Build the Railroad first premiered in November 2015 at Stanford Uni-

versity, and CHSA is the first venue to showcase the exhibition outside of Stanford. Discussions are underway to bring the exhibition to other venues in the United States.

The Chinese and the Iron Road Exhibition On Tour

Demand remains high nationally for CHSA and Stanford CRRW Project's first traveling exhibition *The Chinese and the Iron Road*, which premiered in June 2015. Now on view at the UC San Diego Library, future venues include the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum (March), Folger Stables (April-May) and the Yolo County Libraries (June).

Interested in exhibiting *The Chinese and the Iron Road* at your venue or organization? Contact

Pam Wong at pwong@chsa.org to inquire about availability.

Save the date: June 4, 2016

The 2nd annual "Chinese and the Iron Road" event is slated for June 4, 2016 at the CHSA Museum. This joint CHSA & Stanford CRRW Project program will honor the legacy of Chinese railroad workers and their descendants, and update the public on the latest efforts to uncover this lost history. Event details TBA.

Artist selection for CRRW Memorial Monument Project

Five artists from a pool of 18 have been selected in a public voting process to propose designs for the CRRW Memorial Project. The future monument honoring Chinese railroad workers will be placed near Gold Run, California off Interstate 80 and will be unveiled May 2018. To learn about the artists and contribute to this project, please visit crrwmemorialproject.com. CHSA is a fiscal sponsor of the CRRW Memorial Project.

Happy Year of the Monkey! Read about CHSA's annual Lunar New Year Celebration on February 20th, plus other upcoming events on Page 2.

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

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Upcoming CHSA events

CHSA Celebrates Year of the Monkey

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 11AM-4PM

CHSA Museum will be hosting its annual Lunar New Year celebrations once again. Welcome the Year of the Monkey with us with a dragon dance performance by Corey Chan and Kei Lun Martial Arts. Rosemary Gong will give a presentation on “The Festive and Fortuitous Foods of the Chinese New Year.” We will also give thanks to all our donors who have supported us in the past year.

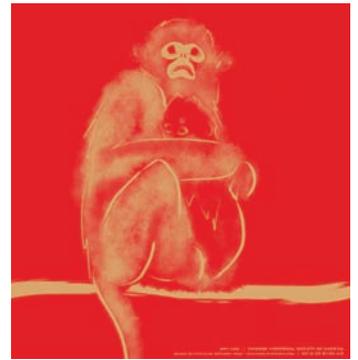


Illustration: Amy Lam, CHSA. Based on photo by Giovanni Mari: commons.wikimedia.org

Broken Blossoms—The Story of Four Chinese Women and Their Journey from Servitude to Freedom

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1PM-3:30PM

CHSA is pleased to present *Broken Blossoms—The Story of Four Chinese Women and Their Journey from Servitude to Freedom*, a play by Eddie Wong. The play is based on the true story of four Chinese women forced into prostitution in Chinatown. These women were dubbed “broken or trampled blossoms” by San Francisco newspapers, however they were far from broken. These women testified against their captors and set a precedent for those who fight sex trafficking today.



National Archives

Making of Asian America book talk with Erika Lee

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1PM-3PM

Erika Lee, author of *Making of Asian America* will give a book talk on Saturday, March 26, 2016 at CHSA Museum. She will be discussing her new book followed by a Q&A. *Making of Asian America* is a definitive history guide reminding us that Asian Americans have a deep root in America’s history. This event is co-presented by Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, San Francisco State University’s Asian American Studies Department, The Oakland Asian Cultural Center, and National Japanese American Historical Society.



Photo courtesy Erika Lee

Our award-winning facilities are open for rentals



Photo: Steven Underhill

Host your next party at CHSA Museum! Our beautiful Julia Morgan-designed building was recently selected by the Art Deco Society of California’s 2016 preservation award. We have flexible spaces suited for a wide range of needs, whether you need a space for a networking party, reception, conferences, lectures, and more. Our professional and courteous staff will assist you and your organization to fit your needs. For inquiries, please email info@chsa.org or call (415) 391-1188.

CHSA would like to thank the following \$100 & up donors for contributing to our 2015 year-end campaign:

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Full list of 2015 year-end donors at chsa.org/support/supporters



CAAMfest, the nation's largest showcase for new Asian American and Asian films, is happening March 10-20, 2016, and CHSA is back as a co-presenter as well as a venue for the festival's events. This year, we are excited to support these local Chinese American filmmakers and artists who are part of the CHSA family:

Frank Wong's Chinatown: Special CAAMFest Sneak Preview Event
POST-SCREENING RECEPTION MARCH 12 AT CHSA MUSEUM, TIME TBA

Frank Wong's Chinatown (working title) is a story of self-taught 81-year-old artist Frank Wong who has spent the past four decades recreating his fading memories by building romantic, extraordinarily detailed miniature models of the San Francisco Chinatown rooms of his youth. This film takes the journey of



Photo: © Good Medicine Picture Company

one individual's life and maps it to a rapidly changing neighborhood from 1940s to present day. A meditation on memory, community, and preserving one's own legacy, Frank's three-dimensional miniature dioramas become rare portals into San Francisco's historic neighborhood and a window into the artist's treasure of composite memories.

This film is the first in a series of documentary portraits of San Francisco's Chinatown directed and produced by James Q. Chan and Corey Tong. More info at goodmedicinefilms.com

Memories to Light: Chinese American Home Movies, featuring music by Francis Wong
MARCH 16 AT CHSA MUSEUM, 7PM

For the fourth CAAMfest iteration of their innovative home movie initiative, CAAM is thrilled to present a compilation of Chinese American home movies from the



Photo courtesy CAAMedia

1930s through the 1970s, with live musical accompaniment by acclaimed jazz musician Francis Wong.

Memories to Light is a project to collect and digitize home movies and to share them, and the stories they tell, to a broad public. Visit the collections at caamedia.org/memoriestolight

The Detached by Tatsu Aoki/Lenora Lee
Dance: CAAMFest short film selection
SCREENING TIME TBA @ CAAMFEST.COM

Director /filmmaker Tatsu Aoki's collaboration with producer/choreographer Lenora Lee was filmed on Angel Island, popular for its expansive views of the San Francisco skyline and the former site of a US Bureau of Immigration inspection and detention facility, where officials detained, inspected, and examined approximately one million immigrants during the era of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882.



Photo: Robbie Sweeney

The Detached features Lenora Lee Dance performing in the East Garrison hospital, which was used as a US military processing station from 1900 to 1941. It was turned into a processing facility for prisoners of war after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941, and was a major point of embarkation for US troops headed toward the Pacific war zone.



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 info@chsa.org.

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Bulletin
CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA MUSEUM

Help us plan the future of CHSA's Main Gallery!

CHSA Museum is transitioning its Main Gallery into a new space that honors the past while looking towards the future. We are in the planning stages for a brand new permanent exhibit in keeping with our mission to promote the social, cultural and political history and contributions of the Chinese in America. In creating something new and sustainable, we will be in talks with historians, educators, sponsors, key players close to the museum . . . and YOU, the general public. We aim to be transparent with the public throughout this planning process.

We need YOUR help to make this vision a reality. Please consider supporting our efforts by making a contribution of any amount. Be sure to visit CHSA.org, subscribe to our weekly emails, and follow us on Facebook and Twitter to stay updated on our progress.



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