

**BETWEEN THE LINES:**  
Asian American Women's Poetry  
A videotape by Yunah Hong



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## **Asian American Women's Poetry**

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"'Between the Lines' offers rare interviews with over 15 major Asian-Pacific American women poets. Organized in interwoven sections such as Immigration, Language, Family, Memory, and Spirituality, it is a sophisticated merging of Asian-American history and identity with the questions of performance, voice, and image. This engaging documentary serves as poetry reading, virtual anthology, and, perhaps most importantly, moving testimony about gender, ethnicity, aesthetics, and creative choice. The carefully edited interviews and poems read reflect the filmmakers desire to show both individual voice and diversity within the Asian-American women's community. Theoretically as rich as the images and poems provided, there is also an implicit conversation in the video about the possibility and usefulness of an Asian-American women's aesthetic/poetic. Using carefully selected archival images, historical footage, and brilliant photography as the scrim through which we hear the poets, 'Between the Lines' provides important and lively viewing for literature, history, ethnic and women's studies classes." - Joseph Boles, Visiting Scholar, Center for Visual Culture, Bryn Mawr.

**2001, 60 minutes, Color, Video**

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**CINE Golden Eagle Award in Non-Broadcast  
Chicago Asian American Film Festival  
Toronto International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival  
Not Hollywood: A Feminist Film Festival  
Vermont Women's Film Festival  
Seoul Women's Film Festival**



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"A poetically conceived anthology of Asian American women poets, this documentary is a rare treat, presenting live footage of some of the finest female voices in Asian American writing today." *Linden Chubin*, Asia Society

"...a probing, thoughtful examination into the artistic processes of emerging and leading Asian American female artists. *Between* is not a how-to documentary but a personal inquiry into language and poetry. The movie plays like one long running deep meditation..."

*Quang Bao*, Managing Director, Asian American Writer's Workshop

"Yunah Hong's engrossing video provides us with the grounding we need to be able to follow the imaginative flights of these important poets. This documentary itself a poem, walking the line between experimental video and documentary film, showing us new ways to see and hear."

— *Peter X Feng*, University of Delaware

"This beautiful video offers an intimate look at a diverse group of Asian-American women poets. We learn where they came from, what inspires them, and how gender figures into their lives and their art."

— *Elaine Kim*, Asian Women United



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**Director**

Yunah Hong

**Producer**

Yunah Hong

**Script**

Yunah Hong

**Cinematography**

Dmitry Kibrik

Suzanne Newman

Sylvia Calle

**Editing**

Jennifer J. Wollan

**Music**

Sang Won Park

**Cast/Characters**

Wang Ping

Mitsuye Yamada

Lois-An Yamanaka

le thi diem thuy

Staceyann Chin

Cathy Song



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Yunah Hong is a New York based video/filmmaker. She was born in Seoul, Korea, and moved to New York in 1985 to pursue her studies in video art. Her latest documentary is *"Between the Lines: Asian American Women's Poetry"* (2001). Her other works include, *"Becoming an Actress in New York"*, *"Styles Section"*, *"Through the Milky Way"*, which was awarded First Prize in Video Art at the 1992 Tam Tam International Video Festival in Italy, *"Here Now"*, winner of the Special Jury Award at the 2nd Seoul Short Film Festival, and a feature screenplay, *"Monday"*, which was an official selection of PPP 1998: Pusan International Film Festival Film Market.

She received a B.F.A. degree in applied arts from Seoul National University and a M.A. degree in communication arts from New York Institute of Technology.



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## **Artists' Fellowships** **2000 Fellows and Panelists**

### **Yunah Hong**

In *Between the Lines: Asian American Women's Poetry* and *Memory/all echo*, Yunah Hong explores themes of Asian and American identity and cultural and linguistic displacement. "I am working on creative ways to visualize a personal or common history and at the same time explore the possibility of varying narrative forms." The video *Between the Lines* is intended to introduce under-represented Asian American women's voices by focusing on the work of three poets. *Memory/all echo* was inspired by the writings of Theresa Hak Kyung Cha, a Korean American writer and filmmaker, and is a visual montage of her book *Dictee*.



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