

## Here to Stay by ManSee Kong



Third World Newsreel  
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## Here to Stay

*ManSee Kong, 2008, 7 minutes, Cantonese with English subtitles, United States*

### SHORT SYNOPSIS

Illustrates the effects of gentrification in Manhattan's Chinatown as an elderly man and fellow tenants in endangered single-room occupancy building await the results of an anti-eviction lawsuit. A TWN Workshop production and part of the Call for Change Series.

### LONG SYNOPSIS

Despite a shaky U.S. economy, gentrification pressures are on the rise throughout New York City and in areas across the country. Many believe that Manhattan's Chinatown is insular and "safe" from gentrification but a local tenant organizing group, Chinatown Tenants Union, knows that this is far from the truth. Uncle Wong, an 80 year-old tenant muses over the effects of gentrification as a long-term tenant living in one Chinatown's few remaining single-room occupancy (SRO) buildings, and explains why no one is willing to leave despite a pending anti-eviction lawsuit against their landlord.

### FILMMAKER'S BIO

A TWN Workshop alumna, ManSee Kong hopes to create films that expose the struggles and beauty of underrepresented communities as well as the inspirational commitment of organizers fighting for justice.

### SCREENINGS

Maysles Cinema, New York, 2008

Documentary Fortnight, Museum of Modern Art, New York, 2009

Asian American International Film Festival, New York, 2009

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## CREDITS

Director/Camera/Editor/Music:  
ManSee Kong

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2005 TWN Workshop  
TWN Staff  
My parents

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