

RE:ORIENTATIONS



“WHAT DOES ASIAN CANADIAN QUEER IDENTITY LOOK LIKE TODAY?”

NIKO BELL, DAILY XTRA

RE:ORIENTATIONS

A FILM BY RICHARD FUNG

A fascinating look into the lives and thoughts of seven Queer Pan-Asian Canadians as they look back on *ORIENTATIONS*, a 1984 documentary in which they featured. How have they changed? And how has the world around them evolved and changed?

In 1984, Richard Fung released his seminal first documentary *ORIENTATIONS: LESBIAN AND GAY ASIANS*. Featuring 14 women and men in Toronto of South, East and Southeast Asian backgrounds, *ORIENTATIONS* was the first documentary to explore the experiences and perspectives of Queer Asians in North America. Capturing pivotal moments in Toronto's history, it presents an intimate portrait of the texture of gay life and politics at that time. *RE:ORIENTATIONS* revisits seven of the original participants as they see anew the footage of their younger selves, and reflect on their lives and all that has changed over the intervening three decades. Their interviews are deepened and contextualized by conversations with six younger Queer and Trans activists, scholars and artists. (2016, 62 min, Canada, English, French subtitled version available, HD, 16:9, stereo/5:1)

Featuring *ORIENTATIONS* participants: Sylvia Alfonso, Paul Cheung, Gary Joong, Prabha Khosla, Alan Li, Mary Woo-Sims and Tony Souza; as well as *RE:ORIENTATIONS* conversation with Ponni Arasu, Robert Diaz, Judy Han, Nathan Hoo, El-Farouk Khaki and Gein Wong. Performance by ILL NANA Diversity Dance Company: Jelani Ade-Lam, Sze-Yang Ade-Lam, Kumari Giles

Richard Fung was born in Trinidad and lives in Toronto. His award-winning documentaries and experimental videos have been widely screened and collected internationally, and his essays have been published in numerous journals and anthologies. Among other honors Richard is the recipient of the Bell Canada Award for outstanding achievement in video art, the Toronto Arts Award for Media Art, and the City University of New York's 2015 Kessler Award for significant influence on the field of LGBTQ studies. He is a Professor in the Faculty of Art at OCAD University.

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Camera: Kwoi Gin, Iris Ng

Editor: Dennis Day

Original Score Orientations: Glenn Schellenberg

Original score & sound design *RE:ORIENTATIONS*: Phil Strong & Thomas Hoy

Adaptation of Orientations score: Phil Strong and Thomas Hoy

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Teekah



"A necessary document."

GLENN SUMI, NOW MAGAZINE

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