



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FROM: Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience (The Wing)
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Wing Luke Museum to Open New Art Exhibit on the History of Ethnic Enclaves in America

“My primary motivation as an artist is to capture life in the Chinatowns of America as I see it. As someone born and raised in Seattle’s Chinatown, I have fond memories of a childhood spent hanging out in Canton Alley, in between both [Kong Yick] buildings. I wore out many shoes running up and down King Street, jumping on the metal doors in the sidewalk. I knew many of the merchants, some of whom are still there....[All] these buildings have too much history. Too much meaning. They’re too important to a fading generation of the Chinese community, and to our future generations.”
- Dean Wong

Seattle, WA: Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience (The Wing) is excited to present a new exhibition that focuses its lens on ethnic enclaves.

Borne of the necessities of survival and the restrictions of racism, ethnic enclaves like Chinatowns, Nihonmachi, Little Manilas, and more formed in the late 19th and early 20th centuries across the country, reminding newcomers of home as they forged new opportunities in a new land. Over time, these neighborhoods have become a vibrant part of the American landscape -- even as they have faced economic and cultural challenges ranging from neglect to gentrification.

In *Life Wide Angle/Close Up*, curator Carina A. del Rosario brings together photography and video-based installations that examine the history of ethnic enclaves, the role they play for established communities and recent arrivals, and their creative and resilient responses to the pressures they face. Featured artists include Chinatown Art Brigade, Andrew Hida, Melissa Ponder, Dean Wong, and a crowd-sourced slideshow.

You’re invited:

- Thursday, May 9, 2019, 6 – 8 PM – Special exhibit preview and program for Members and invited guests only. Curator Carina A. del Rosario scheduled to speak.
- Saturday, May 25, 2019, 3 PM – The Chinatown Art Brigade, alongside the Chinatown-International District Coalition and the Historically Redlined Communities Coalition, will share stories of creative organizing against gentrification and displacement in their communities.

Amateur and professional photographers are invited to submit images for the exhibition’s crowd-sourced slideshow by Nov. 1, 2019 at wingluke.org/wide-angle-close-up-submissions/

The *Life Wide Angle/Close Up* exhibit will be on display through April 19, 2020.

For more info about the exhibit, visit wingluke.org/life-wide-angle-close-up

The **Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience’s** mission is to connect everyone to the rich history, dynamic cultures and art of Asian Pacific Americans through vivid storytelling and inspiring experiences to advance racial and social equity. As a Smithsonian Affiliate, National Park Service Affiliated Area, and the only pan-Asian Pacific American museum in the nation, The Wing is a national treasure, preserving and sharing the personal stories of the Asian Pacific American community. www.wingluke.org