

VOX PRODUCTIONS

LONI DING, PRESIDENT

HIGHLIGHTING THE SPIRITED
STRUGGLES IN PEOPLE'S
EVERYDAY LIVES...

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Vox Productions

Highlighting the spirited struggle in people's everyday lives... Vox Productions is nationally recognized for its innovative and engaging film and video works.

Vox Productions' TV work ranges from fast-paced public service spots... to feature length documentaries. Among them: *600 Millenia: China's History Unearthed*, a 90-minute PBS special that surveys the internationally acclaimed Archaeological Finds of the People's Republic of China traveling collection; *Nisei Soldier: Standard Bearer for an Exiled People*, a half-hour PBS documentary on the Japanese American soldier in World War II... the dramatic contradiction of being a liberator abroad while a prisoner at home; *With Silk Wings*, an award winning nationally broadcast 4-program series on Asian American women; "Voter Registration," and other TV PSA's for commercial broadcast.

The wide spectrum of Vox's productions includes... educational and industrial shorts and programs for broadcast. Consultation services have been provided for government agencies, and numerous non-profit organizations.

Vox Productions is a full media service. Experienced in all phases of consultation, planning and production: needs assessment, concept development, production funding and financing, executing program production, promotion and distribution.

Vox uses its own broadcast equipment: remote broadcast mini-cam... 16mm film units... off line post production editing. A multi-racial crew works with Vox Productions: talented professional film craftsmen, technicians and musicians of the San Francisco Bay area.

Vox Productions Staff

Loni Ding, President of Vox Productions. A 14-year TV and film veteran... director and producer of 10 PBS documentaries... three-time Emmy Award winner. In 1981 she received the Broadcast Preceptor Award from San Francisco State University. Her broad film interests include teaching media at the University of California, Berkeley. Recognized in her field, she was appointed by the city of San Francisco to a commission for cable TV policy... elected to the national board of the Association of Independent Video and Filmmakers... selected for the national board of the Film Fund and board of directors of Western Public Radio. Co-founder: National Asian American Telecommunications Association (NAATA); Open Studio, KQED-TV's community access production and broadcast service. Ms. Ding founded Vox Productions in 1977 and has extensive experience raising funds for all Vox productions.



The beauty of the past is seen through the magnificent collection of artifacts surveyed in *600 Millenia: China's History Unearthed*. This remarkable 90 minute film—focuses on the art exhibit of the Archeological Finds of the People's Republic of China, its American tour in 1975... attracting record breaking crowds.

The political significance of the tour—breaking the cultural barrier between the United States and China—as well as the artifacts themselves, are carefully examined in this full circle journey... China... to Europe... to the United States... and back to China.

The art objects range in date from the Paleolithic period to the 14th century; including the jade suit of a princess and the famous flying horse of Kansu. Film footage from the People's Republic of China shows the detailed work at excavation sites where many of the artifacts were unearthed: methods of identification, classification and restoration of the finds.

Intercut with images of striking bronze and ceramic artifacts, is a visual examination of the massive preparations necessary to stage such an exhibit—plans to accommodate large crowds... publicity and promotion... production of the opening ceremonies attended by the Chinese ambassador. Also shown are responses of the Chinese American community to this first cultural exchange between the United States and China.

PBS 1975, 90 minutes
Produced at KQED public TV, San Francisco
Funded by: Bank of America
Produced, directed, written and edited by Loni Ding
Camera: John Andreini
Original music: Lui Pui Yuen

nisei soldier

The dramatic story of soldiers who were liberators abroad...prisoners at home: the saga of the 2nd generation American-born youth of Japanese ancestry who, with their relatives were confined in internment camps...yet volunteered to serve the United States war effort abroad during World War II. This extraordinary, 30-minute documentary reveals on film, for the first time, the little known story of the 442nd Japanese American Regimental Combat Team: "the most decorated unit in U.S. military history."

Nisei Soldier draws on a wide range of archival footage and present day interviews with Nisei veterans—to chronicle the history of these young men...fighting at Monte Cassino...liberating Rome...remarkably rescuing Texas' 'Lost Battalion' in France.

Nisei Soldier links warfront and homefront, uncovering a hidden chapter...a controversial episode in American history. The injustice of the internment camps; the anguishing struggle of the Nisei to rescue their families from imprisonment; their loyalty to a government which was causing them pain and sorrow; and their uncommon valor in combat...all these subjects are fully illuminated in this powerful documentary.

PBS 1984, 30 minutes

Funded by: Corporation for Public Broadcasting
California Council for the Humanities
Washington Commission for the Humanities
National Endowment for the Humanities

Produced, written, directed and edited by Loni Ding

Camera: Michael Chin

Original music: Makoto Horiuchi

Awards: CINE Golden Eagle, Washington, DC, 1984
American Film Festival, Blue Ribbon, history,
New York, 1984

Chicago International Film Festival, Silver
Plaque, 1984

Screened: Museum of Modern Art, NY
House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.
Margaret Mead Film Festival, NY
Mannheim International Film Festival, W. Germany
Hawaii International Film Festival

Bean Sprouts

5 half-hour PBS programs. The fun and serious moments of growing up Chinese American.

Taking the child's point of view...focusing on what is unique about Chinese American children's experiences... what they share in common with all children; *Bean Sprouts* gives an unusual intimate look into the homes, schools and communities of children from diverse backgrounds.

The "Sprouts"...a group of 8-12-year-olds...talking freely about themselves...displaying a talent for comedy and drama.

Show 1—"Try It You'll Like It"

A 10-year-old Chinese American boy learns how to move between traditional and contemporary lifestyles and values.

Show 2—"Boys and Girls, Girls and Boys"

"Women drivers!" "Boys will be boys" "Girls don't need jobs—they get married"...popular misconceptions explored through the eyes of children...their friends...and their family.

Show 3—"What Can You Show Me?"

A young, talented Chinese American boy faces the challenges of self-expression.

Show 4—"Movin' Around, Movin' Out"

School friends, face with their families, the bittersweet intimations of leaving home someday.

Show 5—"Growing Up From Here"

The Bean Sprouts dressing up...being photographed...going off to a Chinese New Year's party.

PBS 1980, 30 minutes each program

Funded by: U.S. Office of Education
McDonald's Corporation

Written, produced, directed, and edited by Loni Ding

Camera: Rick Butler, Michael Chin

Original music: Hiroshima (composer/arranger Dan Kuramoto)

Awards: Two Emmys

Action for Children's Television, Boston
Finalist, American Film Festival, NY, 1980

With Silk Wings

Asian American women at work, portrayed in 4 half-hour vignettes. "With Silk Wings," offers intimate glimpses of women—lives galvanized by fulfilling work, ties to their families and cultural backgrounds. A Chinese American shipyard welder, a Filipino American dress designer, a Japanese American university architect, a foreign born Korean American social worker: these are women of "With Silk Wings," telling their stories of strength... humor... perseverance.

Show 1—"Four Women"

An in-depth look at four working women, each extraordinary in her own way... yet down to earth.

Show 2—"On New Ground"

Delves into the experiences and workplaces of 10 Asian American women working in non-traditional occupations: their interest in their jobs... the difficulties they've encountered.

Show 3—"Frankly Speaking"

The rarely discussed dilemmas of youth... glimpsed in candid conversations by high school and college students.

Show 4—"Past and Present"

A brief overview of the history of Asian American women in the workforce is updated by current issues.

PBS 1983 ("On New Ground"); PBS 1985 ("Four Women")

30 minutes each program

Series produced, directed, written and edited by Loni Ding

Camera: Michael Chin

Original music: Gary Ramal

Funded by: U.S. Office of Education, Women's Education Equity Act

Awards: National Association of American Women in Radio and Television, 1983

Emmy finalist, 1983

2 programs American Film Festival finalists, 1983

How We Got Here: The Chinese

Over a one hundred year period they traveled by boat from China to America's Chinatowns. The story of *How We Got Here: The Chinese*: a first person historical account of the spirited struggle of Chinese immigrants to be recognized as Americans.

From the first footsteps on American soil, five generations ago, ... to life in contemporary Chinatown ... their journey is skillfully captured in this stirring film. *How We Got Here: The Chinese*, intercuts present day interviews with dramatizations of working on the railroad. It weaves the visual images of old photographs ... period newspaper headlines with distinctive music ... overheard snatches of conversation, graphically revealing the longlasting effort by Chinese Americans to achieve equal treatment and economic justice.

"*How We Got Here* is not another hard luck story of still another ethnic minority," said producer Loni Ding. "It's method is to testify to the truth, which understood and forgiven but not forgotten, allows us all to go about the business of building on a past acknowledged as our common history."

PBS, 1975

Produced, written, directed and edited by Loni Ding

Played at: National Conference, American Historical Association, 1973

Historical advisors: Philip Choy, Him Mark Lai

Awards: Emmy finalist, 1975

How We Got Here: The Chinese

Over the past hundred years, the Chinese have traveled by land and sea to America, the West Indies, and the Pacific. In the early days, they came as laborers, and in later years as immigrants. They have brought with them their own customs, their own language, and their own way of life. They have made a great contribution to the life of the United States, and we are proud to have them as our neighbors and our fellow citizens.

The Chinese have a long and rich history, and they have a great sense of pride in their own culture. They have a deep respect for their ancestors, and they have a strong sense of duty to their country. They have a great capacity for hard work, and they have a great ability to adapt to new environments. They have made a great contribution to the life of the United States, and we are proud to have them as our neighbors and our fellow citizens.

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