



Museum of Chinese in America

FAQs for the Core Exhibit

WITH A SINGLE STEP

Stories in the Making of America

WHAT
is the meaning of the
exhibition title?

The exhibition title is inspired by the Chinese Taoist philosopher, Laozi, who said, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." MOCA presents the Chinese American experience as an American story—a heroic journey of obstacle, triumph, understanding, and ultimately, home.

HOW
is the exhibition
designed?

The exhibition is designed around the architectural heart of the museum—the light-filled courtyard. Much like the rooms of a traditional Chinese house, each section of the exhibition is connected to the courtyard, which represents our cultural and historical heritage—a touchstone in our many different journeys as Chinese Americans.

WHEN
will the full exhibit
be on view?

The exhibition installation will be completed by MOCA's grand opening on September 22, 2009.

**What are the
CORE PORTRAITS?**

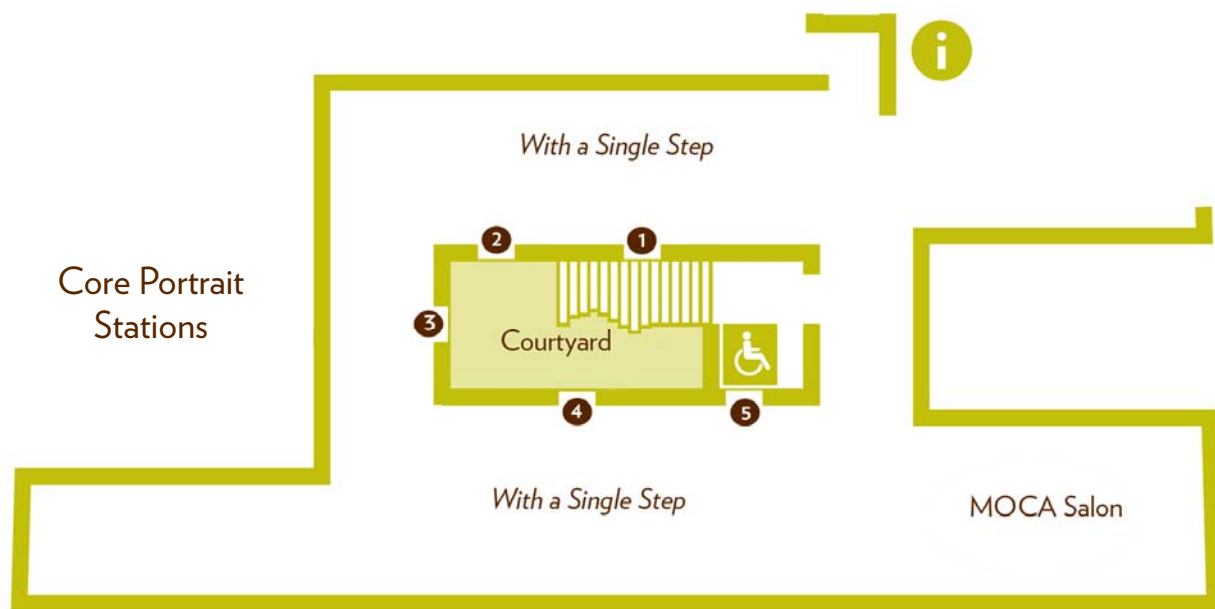
The Core Portraits are film shorts (3-5 minutes in length) that wrap around the courtyard in the core exhibit. They portray Chinese Americans whose lives exemplify a particular historical era in Chinese American history. Over time, new portraits will be produced and rotated in.

**The Core Portraits are spoken
in the first person.**

The first-person scripts were crafted by an all-star cast of Chinese American writers, who based their writings on oral histories, diaries, and other primary and secondary sources provided by the museum.

WHO
wrote these scripts?

- Maxine Hong Kingston (*Woman Warrior*)
- David Henry Hwang, playwright (*FOB*, *M Butterfly*, *Yellowface*)
- Gish Jen (*Mona in the Promised Land*, *Who's Irish*)
- Ha Jin (*Waiting*, *A Free Life*)
- Stan Lai, playwright (*Secret Love in Peach Blossom Land*, *The Red Lotus Society*)
- Henry Lu, director (*Moxie Pictures*)
- Helen Zia, journalist (*My Country Versus Me*, *Asian American Dreams*)



Who are the Core Portrait SUBJECTS?

- 1** Scholar **Yung Wing**, Connecticut (first Chinese to graduate from an American college—Yale University)
Labor contractor/Entrepreneur **Ah Quin**, California
- 2** Social commentator/ Journalist **Wong Chin Foo**, New York (first to coin the term “Chinese American”)
Paper son/ Laundryman **Tung Funn Hom**, New York
- 3** International film star **Anna May Wong**, California
Merchant **Charley Toy**, Wisconsin
- 4** Women Airforce Service Pilot (WASP) **Hazel Ying Lee**, Oregon (One of the first Chinese American women pilots to serve the American military)
Museum professional **Sheila Chin Morris**, Minnesota (Daughter of a paper son)
- 5** Journalist/ Activist **Helen Zia**, New Jersey/Michigan
Educator **Bonnie Lew**, Mississippi



美国华人博物馆

核心展览问答集

《千里之行》

历华人旅程，写美国历史

展览标题 意思为何？

展览标题启发自中国哲学家老子名言「千里之行，始于足下」。美国华人博物馆将美国华人经历视为美国历史一部分——这个旅程包含一连串障碍、胜利、理解，最后到达家。

展览设计 概念为何？

本展览环绕着博物馆建筑空间的中心——洒满日光的中庭。展览各部分如同传统中国家庭建筑，透过中庭彼此联结，象征着我们的文化和历史传承，更代表美国华人众多旅程里的一个里程碑。

完整展览 何时开放参观？

展览将于本馆 2009 年 9 月 22 日盛大开幕前装设完成。

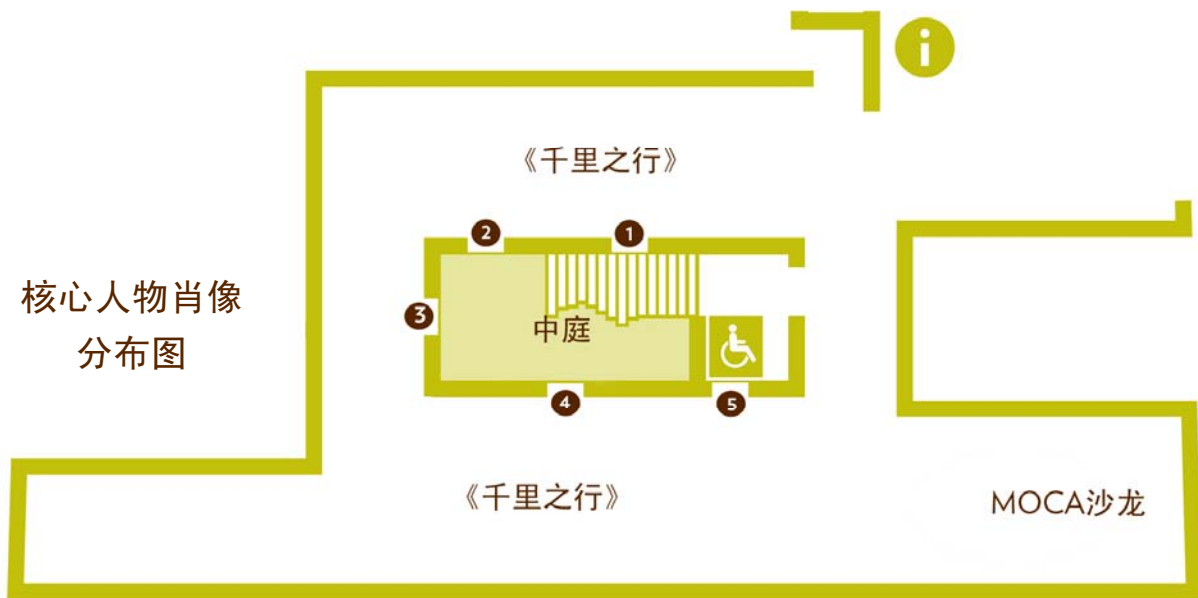
核心人物肖像 是什么？

核心人物肖像为核心展览中展出的短片（3-5 分钟不等），环绕着中庭，讲述几位美国华人不同的时代课题。我们计划在未来制作并更新这些人物肖像短片。

谁 创作了核心人物肖像 的第一人称叙事 脚本？

代这些第一人称脚本由数位知名美国华人作家们根据人物访谈、日记和其他本馆提供的第一、二手资料创作而成。

- 汤婷婷（《女武士》作者）
- 黄哲伦（《FOB》、《蝴蝶君》、《黄脸皮》剧作家）
- 任璧莲（《梦娜在希望之乡》、《谁是爱尔兰人？》作者）
- 哈金（《等待》、《自由生活》作者）
- 赖声川（《暗恋桃花源》、《飞达阿侠》剧作家）
- 陆宏（Moxie Pictures）
- 谢汉兰（记者，《我的国家与我》、《美国亚裔梦》作者）



核心人物肖像中有 哪些人物？

- ① 学者**容闳**，康乃迪克州人（首位美国大学华人毕业生，毕业于耶鲁大学）
包工头兼实业家**阿坤**，加利福尼亚州人
- ② 社会学评论家兼记者**黄清福**，纽约人（「美国华裔」一词创造者）
冒籍者、洗衣工**谭灿宏**，纽约人
- ③ 国际电影明星**黄柳霜**，加利福尼亚州人
商人**梅彩迺**，威斯康新州人
- ④ 女子空军服务队**李月英**，奥勒冈人（最早服役于美国军队的美国华人女性之一）
博物馆工作者**梁凤玲**，明尼苏达人（冒籍华人之女）
- ⑤ 记者、社会活动家**谢汉兰**，新泽西兼密西根人
教师**刘黄斌仪**，密西西比人