Asian American
Women’s Voices

55 items for Women's History Month, 2021

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1. Cheers to muses: contemporary works by Asian American women. San Francisco: Asian American Women Artists Association, 2007. ISBN: 0978735900. 125p., softcover, 9.5x8 inches, as new; profusely illustrated with color photos of works by the artists, many of them based in the Bay Area. (#203514) $20.00

2. Iva Toguri (d'Aquino): victim of a legend. San Francisco: The National Committee for Iva Toguri, Japanese American Citizens League, 1975. 32p., 5.5x8.5 inches, introduction, epilogue, appendixes, bibliography, original stapled orange wraps. (#109350) $30.00

Biography and defense of the woman accused of acts of treason as Tokyo Rose.


Announces that Woo will return to UC Berkeley to teach after having been fired, it says, "because she is a socialist feminist, a trade unionist and a lesbian." Woo was rehired with a two-year contact and nearly $50,000 in an out of court settlement.

4. Mervyn's California presents Kristi Yamaguchi's A Golden Moment: An extraordinary skating concert to benefit the fight against breast cancer [signed by four Olympic medalists]. n.p.: Mervyn's, 1999. [36p.], very good in wraps, program booklet with numerous color photos of the skaters and other performers, some of them signed. Also included is an "International Figure Skating" magazine with cover story on Yamaguchi and a full-page ad for this skating concert; a black and white photo of Yamaguchi is laid in. (#182889) $75.00

The program booklet is signed on various pages by Olympic medalist skaters Kristi Yamaguchi, Tara Lipinski, Lloyd Eisler, and Scott Hamilton, as well as vocalist Keiko Matsui, two members of the German band Bell Book and Candle, and Mervyn's president Bart Butzer.

5. Of our own voice. San Francisco: Asian American Women Artists Association, 1997. 64p. spiral-bound exhibition catalog, with photos of the mostly Bay Area artists and black/white reproductions of their work, 9.5x9 inches, wraps. (#73735) $22.00


Memoir of a Korean woman who studied in Japan and immigrated to the US in 1948. Discusses the Japanese colonial period and her commitment to Christianity. At the time of writing she was affiliated with a Korean-American Christian organization in Los Angeles.

9. [Boggs, Grace Lee]. "A revolution that is based on the people exercising their creativity in the midst of devastation is one of the great historical contributions of humankind." Grace Lee Boggs [poster]. n.p., [201-]. inch poster, very good, undated but from the late 2010s. (#249147) $40.00
Social media posts show this poster being held as a sign at one of the Women's Marches of the Trump era.


Program for the event, including messages of congratulations and ads.


On Hu Na, the Chinese tennis player who defected to the US in 1982 and sought political asylum, causing a diplomatic incident.
15. Hom, Nancy; artist. Secret Chinese/Secret American [screen print poster]. [Los Angeles]: the artist; Self-Help Graphics, 2003. 20x26 inch screen print poster on rag paper, with artwork by Hom depicting two blindfolded masks back-to-back. Limited edition of 81, with number penciled at lower left, signed by the artist at lower right. A lovely, fine example, from the holdings of the poet herself. (#200771) $250.00 Hom notes that "Secret Chinese/Secret American was spurred by the arrest of James Yee, a Chinese American Army Captain and Muslim chaplain accused of espionage at the Guantánamo Naval Base – along with other incidences of distrust that surrounds the Chinese presence in this nation. Chinese in the U.S. are often perceived as secretive and the Chinese Exclusion Act (1882 to 1943) compelled Chinese to keep their true identities secret. The three words, 'Secret Chinese American,' can be read in many different ways, with different meanings - Secret Chinese American, Chinese American Secret, Secret Chinese, American Secret, etc. I did this as part of an artist residency at Self Help Graphics in Los Angeles. The facial profiles with their eyes blindfolded symbolize how blinded society can be to us when we can't reveal our true selves."

16. Hom, Nancy; artist. [Sisters]. [screen print poster]. [San Francisco]: the artist, 1983. 15x17 inch screen print poster on rag paper, with artwork by Hom depicting two women laughing together. Limited edition of one 75, with number penciled at lower left, signed by the artist at lower right. A lovely, fine example, from the holdings of the poet herself. (#200770) $150.00 Hom notes that this piece was "Commissioned by Big Sisters of the East Bay, which provides strong and enduring, professionally supported 1-to-1 relationships for children and young adults." The piece is untitled, by Hom refers to it as "Sisters."

17. Hom, Nancy; artist. Uchaleda’s Carnaval [screen print poster]. [San Francisco]: the artist, 1982. 15x17 inch screen print poster with artwork by Hom depicting a figure descending into a tropical forest on a beam of light. A lovely, fine example, from the holdings of the artist herself. (#200769) $150.00 Hom notes that "My friend, choreographer, dancer, and musician Adela Chu, was the catalyst for several of my posters, including the series on SF CARNIVAL, which she founded. One day she told me she had a dream that a dancer named Uchaleda (her name scrambled) came down on a beam of light to a tropical forest. I created this image inspired by her dream."

18. Hom, Nancy; artist. Unbound Feet presents "Yellow Daughters" [screen print poster]. Berkeley: Asian American Studies, UC Berkeley, 1981. 14.25x17 inch screen print poster with artwork by Hom depicting herself as a small child, together with her mother. A lovely, fine example, from the holdings of the artist herself. (#200732) $150.00 Hom notes that "This is a silkscreen poster advertising the last reading of Unbound Feet, a group of 6 Chinese American women writers (of which I was one), at Wheeler Auditorium, UC Berkeley. The members of Unbound Feet were Genny Lim, Nellie Wong, Kitty Tsui, Canyon Sam, Merle Woo,
and myself. We performed our writings in the Bay Area and in LA. The image is of my mother and me as a baby in Toisan, China, where I was born.


20. Jue, So Tai. [Publicity photo, depicting Jue in the film "Green Hatter Idea"]. n.p.: Fanchon & Marco; photo by Paralta, [1929]. Approximately 8x10 inch glossy, black and white photo of So Tai Jue (also known as Alice Jue and Alice Jewel) in the costume she wore in the film starring Gene Morgan. Very good obverse, reverse has pieces of paper tape around edge. (#202126) $125.00 Born in 1899, Anna Jue was a vaudeville singer and dancer and the sister of Jue Quon Tai, the Hollywood socialite married to director Harry Lachman.


22. Kim, Nina. Melancholy rainbow: a sitcomic (issues 1, 2, and 3). [San Francisco]: the artist, 2015. Three issues of the zine in staplebound wraps, 8.5x5.5 inches. 20 to 28 pages each, very good. All are 2015 printings; the first issue was originally published in 2012. (#225799) $30.00. Comics by a Korean-American artist examining dating, pets, etc. "I am apologizing in advance and warning you about the profanity. Some people find it fucking offensive and shit."


25. Kuang Yuku 鄺玉葵. Kongzi zhi ping deng da yi 孔子之平等大義. San Francisco: Jinshan guo xue han shou xue yuan 金山國學函授學院, 1930. 88p., slender paperback, small closed tear at bottom of front cover, otherwise very good. Text in Chinese. (#230895) $95.00 The author, a Toisanese woman who immigrated to the US, was editor of the San Francisco-based Confucian Digest. She wrote widely on the relevance of Confucianism to overseas Chinese.
Autobiography of "one of the rapidly growing number of Chinese women who have insisted upon being educated at the same level as Chinese men and on being given a chance to earn their own living..." -Publisher's blurb.


Poems by the San Francisco-based writer and activist.


30. Lowe, Stephanie. Korean Fan Dance [screen print poster]. [San Francisco]: the artist, 1981. 26x20 inch screen print poster depicting a woman performing the dance within the outline of a fan. Signed in pencil by Lowe and numbered 16/75. Very good. (#197129) $150.00

First book by the Japanese-American poet.

33. Neville, Tam Lin. Dreaming in Chinese. Cheyenne WY: Calypso, 1995. 20p., first edition staplebound 9x6 inch decorated wraps, a good clean copy. Poems written about China, after a year spent in Beijing, many or most a communing with poet Po Chui (A.D. 900) and his good friend Yuan Chen. At publication she lived in Indiana with husband and daughter. (#176444) $20.00

34. Ngoc An. Tu’ mien bien song. San Jose, CA: the author; printed by Papyrus, 2000. 157p., very good paperback, poetry in Vietnamese. Author's address stamp on front endpaper. (#242774) $20.00

35. [Scherr, Roberta; Christina Adachi]. Scherr, Governor / Adachi, US Senate / Vote Socialist Workers [poster]. Philadelphia: Socialist Workers Party, [1974]. 11x17 inch poster, minor toning, otherwise very good, with portraits of the candidates for state office in Pennsylvania. Reverse has vertical lines of toning, apparently from having been framed with a piece of corrugated cardboard for backing. (#255120) $125.00


Biography of Chen Xiangmei (Anne Chennault), wife of Flying Tiger Lieutenant Claire Chennault, who went on to become a reporter after her husband's death and led the National Republican Asian Assembly.


40. Tao, Taigeng [Grace Tao Yin] 陶太庚. Daigeng wen cun / Selected writings of Grace Tao Yin 太庚文存. Taipei: Chuankangyu wen wu guan 川康渝文物館, 1988. 7, 354 p., very good hardcover; text in Chinese with some portions in English, including letters from LBJ and other officials praising her work in organizing HemisFair and various World's Fairs, and correspondence from Asian-American organizations who worked with her to host Taiwanese exhibitions and trade fairs. (#166414) $18.00


Beauty guide for Vietnamese immigrants, with extensive ads for salons of various sorts (a major employment sector for Vietnamese immigrant women) and black and white photos of their customers post-treatment.


Poetry, prose, fiction.


Slightest edgewear, a near-fine copy, inscribed to a fellow poet. Chinese American author, born in Guizhou Province; father and other relatives were caught up in Cultural Revolution and imprisoned. Later an astrophysicist at CalTech. (#237549) $22.00


Published in the year the artist immigrated to the United States; she became the director and instructor of the Asian Arts Studio.


Performers included Adrienne Rich, Mary TallMountain, Nellie Wong, and others.


Yamada was kidnapped and sent from Japan to Seattle to work at a brothel in 1897. After escape and
conversion to Christianity in San Francisco, she became a well-known women's rights activist. She was invited to meet Eleanor Roosevelt in the same year this booklet was published.

52. Yonekura, Hisae. Yonekura Hisae daigo kushu 米倉久枝第五句集. Watsonville, CA; printed in Kyoto: Sounsha, 1977. 146p., very good hardcover, text in Japanese. Inscribed by the author in Japanese, with a handwritten note. (#237433) $95.00
The fifth collection of poetry by the author, who immigrated to the United States in 1915. She began publishing collections of her work in 1940. We do not find this collection in OCLC.


55. Sonia Johnson for President, Emma Wong Mar for VP [bumper sticker] [Los Angeles: Peace and Freedom Party, 1984. Orange and black bumpersticker, 3.5x8.5 inches, very good. Johnson was excommunicated from the Mormon church for her outspoken support of the ERA; Emma Wong Mar appears to have been the first Chinese-American candidate ever to appear on a presidential ticket. (#123049) $17.00.

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