

Stephanie Syjuco



Already Home: AAPI Artists on Belonging

Curated by Shannon Lee

Relative to the history of Asians in America, the term “Asian American” is fairly new. Coined in 1968 by the Japanese American historian Yuji Ichioka as a way to build a self-defined political coalition, the term is one that attempts to encompass and place a single identity on a vast, often disparate diaspora of racial and ethnic ancestry that includes East Asians, South Asians, and Pacific Islanders. Within this rich multitude, however, is a common experience of otherness. We are often made to feel as though we do not belong, that we should “go back to where we came from.”

Between Yellow Peril, the Chinese Exclusion Act, Japanese Internment, the murder of Vincent Chin, and the current spike in violence during the COVID-19 pandemic, no matter what our individual histories are, we have been told time and time again that we will always be seen as foreigners. Artists have long been at the forefront of refuting this narrative, exploring the legacies of colonization and othering, and demonstrating through their works that Asians belong in this country as much as the next person. In celebration of AAPI Heritage Month, this curated collection, titled “Already Home: AAPI Artists on Belonging,” highlights artworks that explore what it means to be Asian in America. Artists like Masao Gozu, Stephanie Syjuco, and Hong-An Truong all take a documentarian’s approach, making long-invisible histories visible through their use of photographs and archival material. Meanwhile, artists like Tseng Kwong Chi, Steven Young Lee, Jiha Moon, and Monica Kim Garza turn racist tropes and prejudices on their heads, subverting the orientalizing Western gaze using performance, ceramics, and painting, respectively.

Other artists, like [Andrew Hem](#) and [Mikey Yates](#), make use of intimacy in their work, investigating the internal, day-to-day experiences and psychology of being Asian American through contemplative portraits. For [Rina Banarjee](#), [Cecile Chong](#), and [Hangama Amiri](#), the meaning imbued in physical material allows them to merge seemingly fragmented identities into a cohesive whole.

These artists and their works do not represent the whole of the Asian experience in America, but from the various angles they take and the means they use to create their work, they highlight and explore what it means to call this country home.

Featured Artists



Shahzia Sikander

Pakistani-American, b. 1969



Suchitra Mattai



Andrew Hem



Mark Yang

South Korean, b. 1994



An-My Lê



Rina Banerjee
Indian, b. 1963



Zoé Blue M.
American, b. 1994



Monica Kim Garza
American, b. 1988



Steven Young Lee



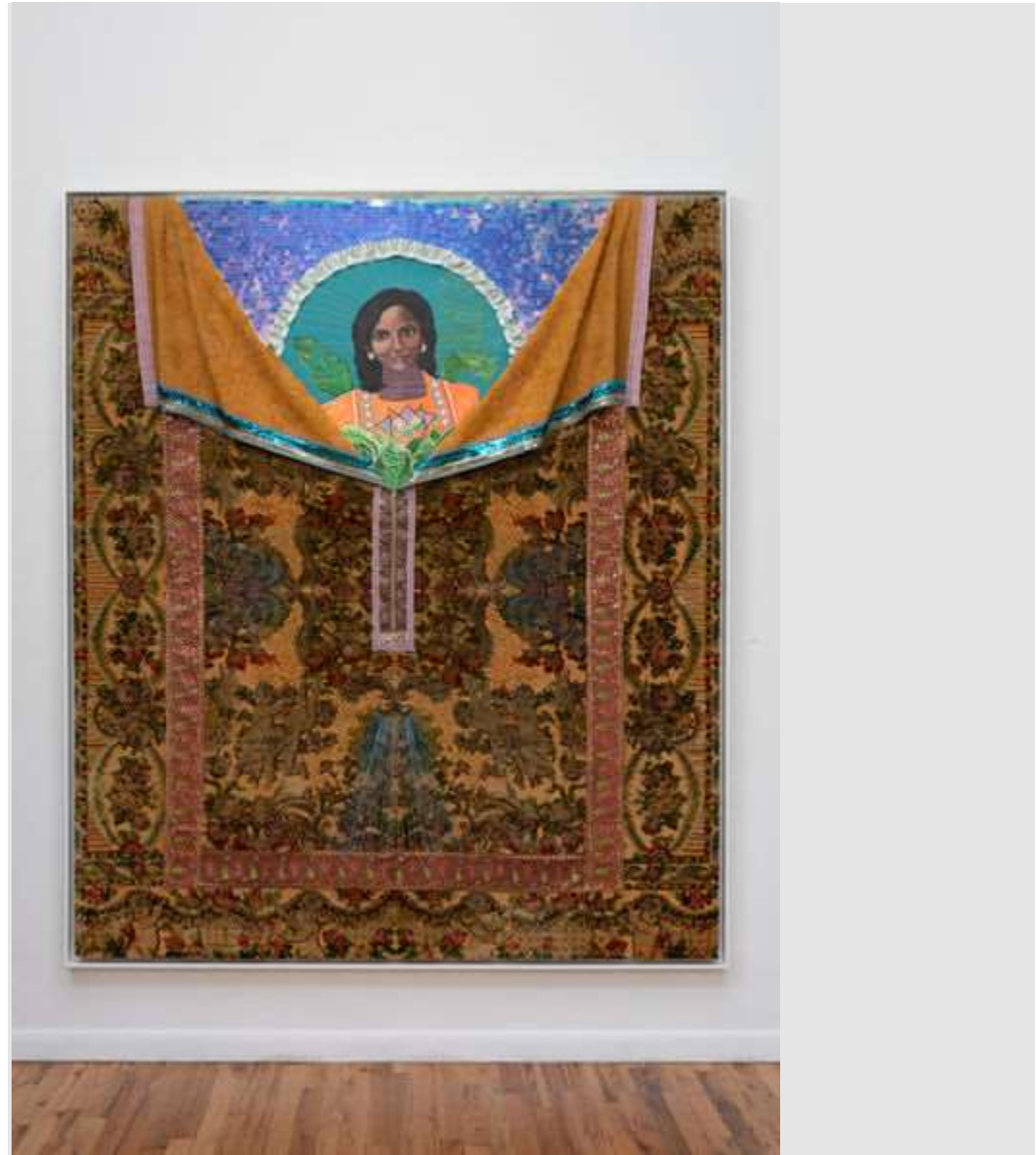
Hiroya Kurata
Japanese-American, b. 1980



Stephanie Syjuco



Jiha Moon
Korean, b. 1973



Suchitra Mattai
Caribbean Queen, 2020
K Contemporary

\$24,000



An-My Lê

Untitled, Thanh-Hoa, 1998

Aperture Foundation

\$1,000



Stephanie Syjuco
Cargo Cults: Java Bunny, 2016
Catharine Clark Gallery
Contact for price



Jiha Moon
Procession - Detourist, 2012
Toshkova Fine Art Advisory
\$1,500



Tseng Kwong Chi
New York, New York, 1979
Yancey Richardson Gallery
\$20,000 - 30,000



Mark Yang
Hip Throw, 2019
Steve Turner
\$5,500 - 6,500



Hangama Amiri

Sahar, Nail Salon and Eyelash Extensions #3, 2020

T293

Contact for price



Binh Danh

Untitled #8, from the series, "Aura of Botanical Specimen", 2017

Lisa Sette Gallery

\$2,500 - 5,000



Stephanie Syjuco
Cargo Cults: Head Bundle, 2016
Catharine Clark Gallery
Contact for price



Zoé Blue M.
The Gatekeepers, 2021
Anat Ebgi
Contact for price



Shahzia Sikander

Adrienne Rich: Prospective Immigrants Please Note, 2019

Pilar Corrias Gallery

Contact for price



Steven Young Lee

Vase with Yellow Glaze and Lobed Rim, 2020

Duane Reed Gallery

\$9,600



Jiha Moon

Yellow Wish, 2021
Mindy Solomon Gallery
Contact for price



Monica Kim Garza
East Market, 2018
V1 Gallery
Contact for price



Mikey Yates
Coffee with Tito Jo, 2021
Taymour Grahne Projects
Contact for price



Tseng Kwong Chi
New York, New York, 1979
Yancey Richardson Gallery
\$10,000 - 15,000



Cecile Chong
Open Seating, 2015
Kenise Barnes Fine Art
\$2,800



Hong-An Truong

Reflection: Anti U.S. War in Vietnam in San Francisco, 1969 , 2018

Rubber Factory

Contact for price



Hong-An Truong

We want self-determination for Asian Americans [I Wor Kuen 12 Point Platform and Program], 2018
Rubber Factory
Contact for price



Rina Banerjee

Make me a summary of the world! She was his guide and had traveled on camel, rhino, elephant and kangaroo, dedicated to dried plants, glass houses - for medical study, vegetable sexuality, self-pollination, and fertilization her reach pierced the woods, country by country. , 2014

L.A. Louver

\$75,000



Monica Kim Garza
Far East Market, 2018
V1 Gallery
Contact for price



Steven Young Lee
Gourd Vases with Dodos, 2018
Ferrin Contemporary
\$17,000 - 20,000



Andrew Hem

Drifterz, 2019
Galerie Openspace
€5,500



Hiroya Kurata
Udon or Burger, 2020
Hollis Taggart
Contact for price



Masao Gozu

Pell Street (Chinatown), 3pm January 2nd, 1976

Court Tree Gallery

\$1,000

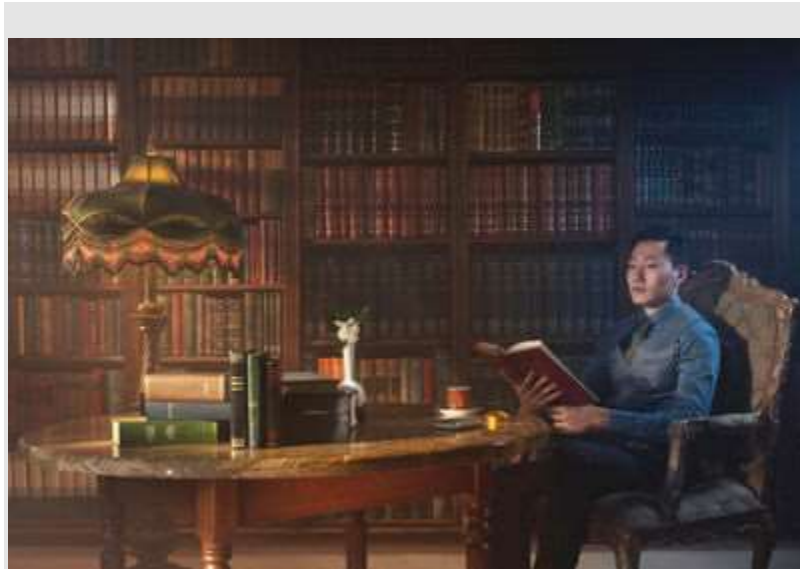


Cecile Chong

Isolated Examples, 2018
Kenise Barnes Fine Art
\$2,400



Mikey Yates
Merienda, 2020
Taymour Grahne Projects
Contact for price



Bin Feng

The American Dream - Scriptorium, 2015

Eckert Fine Art

\$4,000

https://www.artsy.net/collection/already-home-aapi-artists-on-belonging?utm_medium=email&utm_source=sailthru&utm_campaign=aapi-month&utm_content=feat-works-05-03-21&utm_term=23727215