

News Release

South Seattle Community College

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

February 2, 2007

Northwest Film Premiere: From a Silk Cocoon

*The discovery of a small metal box uncovers
a family story shrouded in silence for more than 60 years*

SEATTLE, Wash. — The Northwest premiere of the award-winning documentary, “**From a Silk Cocoon,**” will be Tuesday, Feb. 20, 6:30 p.m. at South Seattle Community College, Jerry Brockey Student Center, 6000 16th Avenue S.W., in West Seattle.

Held in recognition of Japanese American Day of Remembrance, the event will feature an introduction and post-film discussion by Dr. Satsuki Ina, executive producer, co-director and writer.

The event, sponsored by the Japanese American Citizens League of Seattle and the SSCC Office of Diversity & Retention, is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be provided. For reservations, call (206) 768-6455.

Woven through censored letters, diary entries and haiku poetry, is the true story of Shizuko and Itaru, a young Japanese American couple whose shattered dreams and forsaken loyalties lead them to renounce their American citizenship while held in separate prison camps during World War II. They struggle to prove their innocence and fight deportation during a time of wartime hysteria and racial profiling.

“*From A Silk Cocoon* tells of the frightening and tragic outcome resulting from the wartime hysteria and racial profiling that occurred in the name of ‘military necessity,’” according to Ina, daughter of Shizuko and Itaru, who based the film on personal documents she recently discovered.

“Chilling similarities in government decision-making, euphemistic language, and suspension of constitutional and human rights in the name of national security are echoed in today’s post 9/11 America,” she added.

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Among others, the film has earned a Northern California Emmy, Silver Telly, New York International Independent Film & Video Festival award. To learn more about the film, go to www.fromasilkcocoon.com.

Day of Remembrance commemorates the signing of Executive Order 9066 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on February 19, 1942, following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, authorizing the evacuation and incarceration of 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry living on the West Coast, most of whom were U.S. citizens or legal permanent resident aliens.

In Washington State, nearly 13,000 people of Japanese descent ultimately were sent to detention centers. Most Seattleites ended up at Camp Minidoka near Hunt, Idaho, while the majority of rural Western Washington evacuees went to Tule Lake in California.

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Media inquiries:

- To arrange an interview with the film's executive producer and co-director, Dr. Satsuki Ina, contact Jo Anderson, Director, Office of Diversity & Retention, (206) 768-6455 | janderson@sccd.ctc.edu
- Sherry Reichert, PIO interim – through Feb. 9, (206) 764-5308 | sreichert@sccd.ctc.edu

Campus Community:

The following press release about the February 20 premiere screening of the award-winning documentary, "From a Silk Cocoon," was sent to:

MEDIA:

Alki News, Beacon Hill News/South District Journal, ColorsNW Magazine, El Mundo, The Facts, Filipino American Herald, Highline Times/Des Moines News, Hokubei Hochi (North American Post) / NW Nikkei, The Initiative, International Examiner, Korea Daily News, Korea Post, Korea Times, Northwest Asian Weekly / Seattle Chinese Post, Phuong Dong, Planet Guru, Puget Sound Business Journal, Runta Somali News Magazine, Sea Latino, Seattle Chinese News, The Seattle Medium, Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Seattle Times, Siete Dias, The Skanner, Soy Source, Vashon-Maury Island Beachcomber, Vietnamese Northwest Newspaper, West Seattle Herald/White Center News, World Journal, Youmaga, SCCtv, The City Collegian – Seattle Central, The Sentinel - South Seattle; The Polaris – North Seattle.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Japanese American Citizens League, Nikkei Manor, Kokoro Kai adult day program, Nikkei Horizons continuing education program, Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee, Wing Luke Asian Museum; 4Culture; Densho: The Japanese American Legacy Project.

ONLINE MEDIA CALENDARS:

City of Seattle: Online Calendar of Community Events, Craigslist, Fauntleroy Community Association, KPLU NPR 88.5 FM, Megawatt - West Seattle, Northwest Source, Puget Sound Business Journal: Calendar, Seattle Convention & Visitors Bureau, Seattle Insider (KIRO TV): Calendar of Events, Seattle PI: community, cultural, arts, Seattle Spin: events, culture & media, Seattle Times: community, cultural, arts, Seattle Weekly: Calendar of Culture and Arts Events, Seattle Woman Magazine, Seattle24x7.com: Calendar of Events, The (Tacoma) News Tribune: Community Events, The Business Examiner - Pierce County and South Sound Editions: Calendar of Events.

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