



Mai American

A 70-year-old Vietnamese American refugee living in Oregon writes down her life story, indelibly shaped by the War in Vietnam. As she shares what she has written with her filmmaker son, they begin separate but parallel journeys confronting the traumas of their past and the emotional divide in their present.

Filmed over the course of ten years, “Mai American” is an exploration of intergenerational trauma within families, the mythologies that are built within family histories and the dynamics between parent and child. Told against the backdrop of the broader Asian American and immigrant experience, and nearly 50 years after the end of the War in Vietnam, the film is an intimate portrayal of an American immigrant woman, her family and the power of a woman’s story—a power that can often be forgotten or overlooked by even her own children.



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PROJECT STAGE: Post-production

SUPPORTERS: Sundance Institute, Center for Asian American Media, BAVC Media, MacArthur Foundation, Asian American Documentary Network, Haverford College, Regional Arts and Culture Council, California Film Institute