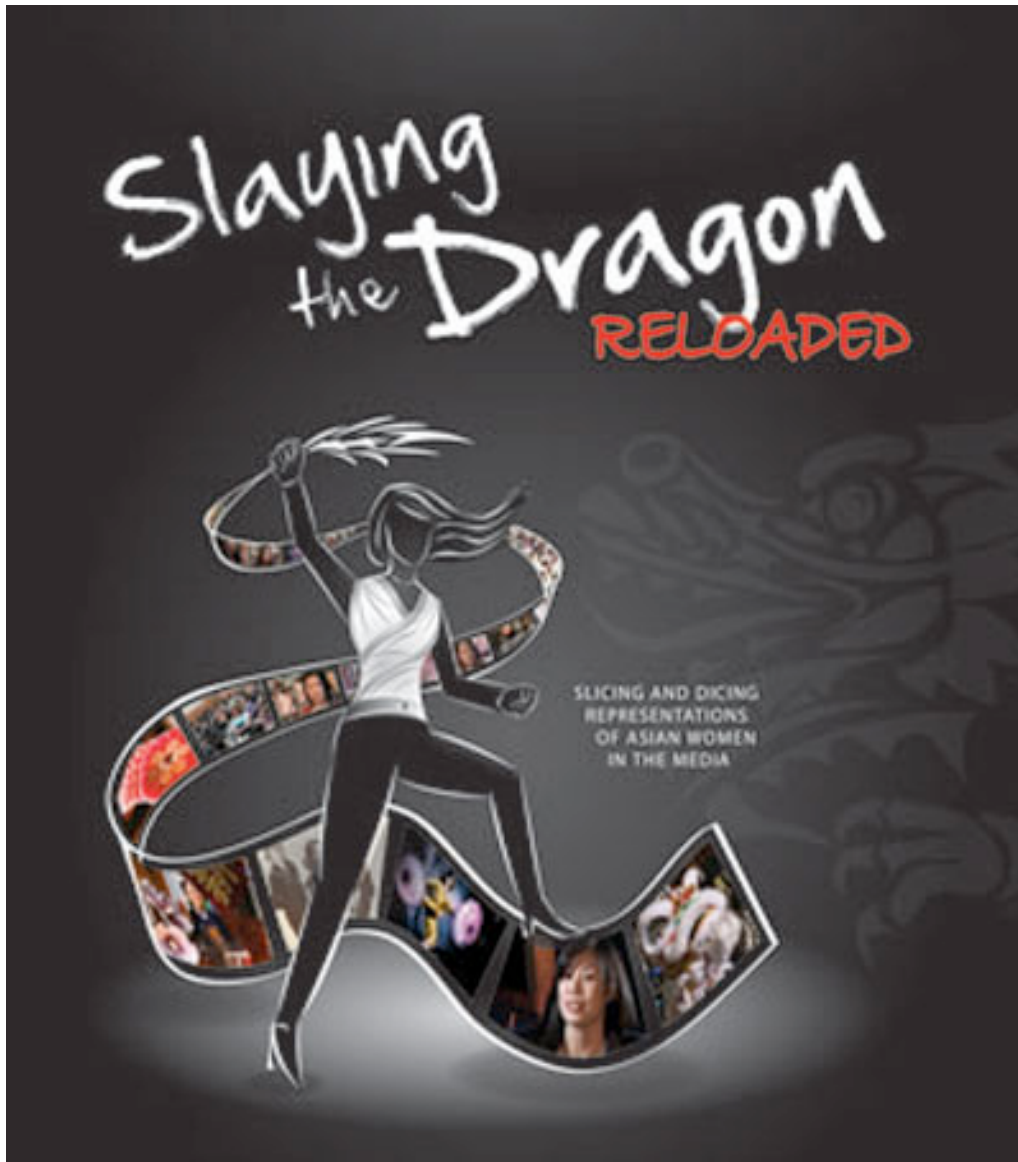


**Slaying the Dragon Reloaded:  
Asian Women in Hollywood and Beyond**

**A film by Elaine H. Kim**



**USA 2011/ Color/ 30 minutes**

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## **SYNOPSIS**

*Slaying the Dragon Reloaded: Asian Women in Hollywood and Beyond* is a 30-minute video documentary that explores representations of Asian and Asian American in American media to explore what has changed, what's been recycled, and what we can hope for in the future. Designed primarily but not exclusively for college classroom use, the first half of the video examines Hollywood images of Asian women from 1984 to the present to examine how commercial visual media in the U.S. reflect or ignore the dramatic social and demographic changes of the past quarter of a century. The second half of the video showcases the exciting ways Asian American cinema and new media such as YouTube seek to broaden, diversify, and challenge common notions about Asian women.

## **THE STORY**

*Slaying the Dragon Reloaded: Asian Women in Hollywood and Beyond 1985-2010* is a 30-minute video documentary sequel to the award-winning *Slaying the Dragon: Asian Women in U.S. Television and Film* (1988). In *Reloaded*, provocative film and television clips are intercut with voice-over narration and interviews with many Asian American students as well as scholars and critics who analyze issues in contemporary popular culture representation. The topics include assimilation, the connections between hypersexualization of Asian women and desexualization of Asian men, and portrayals of race and immigration in children's programming. Commentators also discuss representations of Asian women in films by Asian American male directors. Interviews of Asian American women filmmakers Mira Nair and Alice Wu are featured with clips from *Mississippi Masala*, *The Namesake*, and *Saving Face*. The last section of *Reloaded* examines YouTube star Happy Slip and speculates on alternative media's potential to create space for new images in the future.

*Reloaded* includes a 12-minute *Director's Footnote*, which reveals how the video was made and elaborates on topics such as transracial adoption, mixed race portrayals, the relevance of Asian popular culture to Asian Americans, and partnerships between African and Asian American artists.

## **DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY**

Elaine H. Kim is a professor and Head of Asian American Studies at University of California, Berkeley. She lectures on Asian American cinema and literature. In 1988, she served as Associate Producer of *Slaying the Dragon: Asian Women in U.S. Television and Film*, a 60-minute documentary film directed by Deborah Gee for Asian Women United of California, of which Kim is a founding member. Kim has served as a Co-Producer and Executive Producer of *Sa-i-ku: From Korean Women's Perspectives* (1993), a 40-minute video documentary directed by Dai-Sil Kim-Gibson about Korean immigrant women after the Los Angeles 'riots'; and *Labor Women: Asian American Women Organizers* (2002), directed by Renee Tajima-Pena. Kim has also written, edited, and co-edited ten books and has received Rockefeller and Fulbright fellowships.

## **CREDITS**

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