



A film by  
**Abby Ginzberg and Ken Schneider**  
**Ginzberg Productions**  
510-367-3499  
abby@socialactionmedia.com

**[www.thentheycamedoc.com](http://www.thentheycamedoc.com)**  
TRT: 50 minutes



Photo by Dorothea Lange

### LOGLINE:

Japanese-Americans incarcerated during WWII stand up to current threats to civil liberties in a dramatic retelling of a history we shouldn't forget.

### SYNOPSIS:

Seventy-six years after Executive Order 9066 paved the way for a profound violation of constitutional rights —the forced incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans—And Then They Came for Us, brings history into the present. The award-winning 50-minute documentary, retells this challenging chapter of the U.S.'s past through the perspective of Japanese American activists speaking out against the Muslim registry and travel ban. Produced by Peabody-winning filmmakers, Abby Ginzberg and Ken Schneider, the film features newly rediscovered photographs of Dorothea Lange.

### THE FILMMAKERS

**Abby Ginzberg** (Co-Director/Co-Producer) is a Peabody-winning producer and director who has been making award-winning documentaries about race and social justice for the past 30 years. Her most recent documentary, ***And Then They Came for Us*** has screened at film festivals across the country and won an Accolade Award. ***Agents of Change***, co-directed with Frank Dawson, tells the story of the black-led student protest movement of the late 1960's, which led to the creation of black and ethnic studies programs across the country. It will be

broadcast on America Reframed in Feb, 2018 and won the Audience and Jury award at the Pan African Film Festival.

Her film *Soft Vengeance: Albie Sachs and the New South Africa* (2014) won a Peabody award and has screened at film festivals around the world winning four audience awards for Best Documentary. Her work as a documentary filmmaker took her to the Academy Awards in 2012 with a short documentary film, *The Barber of Birmingham: Foot Soldier of the Civil Rights Movement*, for which she was the Consulting Producer. The Barber premiered at Sundance in 2011 and won numerous awards for Best Short Documentary at film festivals across the US.

Abby's documentaries, *Soul of Justice: Thelton Henderson's American Journey* and *Cruz Reynoso: Sowing the Seeds of Justice* (about an African American and Latino judge) have aired on public television and been screened at film festivals across the United States and abroad and won numerous awards, including a Silver Gavel and CINE Golden Eagle for *Soul of Justice*.

She is currently at work on a documentary about the tipped minimum wage called *\$2.13 and Change*.

She is the President of the Berkeley Film Foundation and on the Boards of the Thelton Henderson Center for Social Justice at UC Berkeley Law School, The Impact Fund and the Yale Law School Visual Advocacy Project.

**Ken Schneider** (Co-director, Editor) is a Peabody award winner who believes in the power of film to affect hearts and minds. For 25 years, Ken has produced, directed and edited documentaries, focusing on war and peace, human rights, artists' lives, unearthing buried American history, and contemporary social issues. Ken co-edited the Oscar-nominated *Regret To Inform*, a film the New York Times described as "unforgettable ... exquisitely filmed, edited and scored." His films have appeared on PBS' *American Masters*, *POV*, *Independent Lens*, *Frontline*, *Voces*, on HBO, Showtime, Al-Jazeera, and in television and film festivals worldwide. He edits in English and Spanish. Films he edited have won Primetime and documentary Emmys, two Peabodys, a Columbia-Dupont Award, IDA (International Documentary Association) awards, an Indie Spirit Award, top awards at Sundance, and been nominated for an Oscar.

As a director, Ken is half of the husband and wife team that collaborates as PatchWorks Films ([www.patchworksfilms.net](http://www.patchworksfilms.net)). Their most recent feature *Havana Curveball*, a coming of age tale about Cuba, baseball, and family, was awarded Best Documentary at the Boston and Seattle Children's film festivals, and won the Jury Prize at Olympia International Film Festival in Greece. Prior work includes, San Francisco Film Festival Audience Award-winner *Speaking In Tongues* (ITVS, CAAM, LPB, PBS) and ITVS-funded *Born in the U.S.A.* (Independence Lens). He is currently completing *Los Hermanos/The Brothers*, the story of two Cuban-born brothers long separated by geopolitics but united by music.

A partial list of his projects includes: *Regret To Inform*; *The Judge*, *Have You Heard From Johannesburg*; *Soft Vengeance: Albie Sachs and the New South Africa*; *In Football We Trust*; *Mankiller*, *The Good War and Those Who Refused To Fight It*; *El Poeta*; *Orozco: Man of Fire*; *Ralph Ellison: An American Journey*; *Store Wars*; *School Colors*; *Bolinao 52*; *Ancestors in the Americas* and *Speaking in Tongues*. Ken's editing can be seen on [kenschneidereditor.net](http://kenschneidereditor.net).

**George Takei** (featured), primarily known for playing Hikaru Sulu in the television series *Star Trek* (1966) and the first six features, has had a varied career acting in television, feature films, live theater and radio. He also is a successful writer and community activist.

Takei was born Hosato Takei on April 20, 1937, in Boyle Heights, Los Angeles, California. His mother, Fumiko Emily (Nakamura), was born in Sacramento, to Japanese parents, and his father, Takekuma Norman Takei, worked in real estate and was born in Japan's Yamanashi Prefecture. Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, George and his family were forcibly removed from Los Angeles to the Rohwer Relocation Center in Arkansas, and later, as the war was ending they were incarcerated in a camp at Tule Lake in Northern California. Takei's first-hand knowledge of the unjust incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans in World War II, poignantly chronicled in his autobiography, *To the Stars*, created a lifelong interest in politics and community affairs.

He recently collected over 300,000 signatures opposing the Muslim travel ban and remains an outspoken activist against the travel ban and registry.

**Satsuki Ina**, Ph.D., was born in the Tule Lake concentration camp during WWII. She is Professor Emeritus at California State University, Sacramento and currently has a psychotherapy private practice in Berkeley, California where she specializes in the treatment of community-based, historical trauma. She has produced two documentary films on the subject of the Japanese American incarceration, *Children of the Camps* and *From A Silk Cocoon*. Her soon to be released book, *The Poet and the Silk Girl: Love & Protest in an American Concentration Camp* is based on letters written between her parents while held in two separate prison camps during WWII.

**Ashley James** (Director of Photography) holds Bachelor and Master of Fine Arts degrees in Filmmaking and has national television credits. He is the co-founder (with Kathryn Golden) of Searchlight Films.

Recent documentaries include: Director, *Kitka and Davka in Concert-Old and New World Jewish Music (PBS)*; Producer/Director *Gordon Parks—The Man and His Music* a 90-minute television special featuring Issac Hayes, Danny Glover and the Oakland (CA) Symphony Orchestra; Director/Cinematographer, *Bomba – Dancing the Drum, (PBS)*, a one-hour portrait of the legendary Cepeda Family of



Puerto Rico; *Producer/Director Home and Almost Free*, a one-hour film about ex-convicts in the San Francisco Bay Area; Director of photography for *Zen Brush Mind* & Kazuaki Tanahashi – *Painting Peace* for the Buddhist Broadcasting System (Netherlands)

Other films include: Director of Photography for the 2012 Academy Award nomination for Best Short Documentary, *The Barber from Birmingham*; Producer/Director, *We Love You Like A Rock – The Dixie Hummingbirds*, the feature-length film about the legendary gospel quartet; *And Still We Dance*, a one hour portrait of the San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival and the premiere program for KQED's *From San Francisco* series; Producer/DP for *Zenju's Path & Moments of Illumination* for the Buddhist Broadcasting Network (Netherlands); Producer/Director *American Treasure*, and *Tchuba Means Rain*, two ethnographic films about the Cape Verdean-American community of New England. Other Director of Photography credits include: *Blacks & Jews* by Snitow Kaufman Productions; *Street Soldiers* by Avon Kirkland; *Crumb*, a portrait of cartoonist Robert Crumb; *Isadora Duncan – Movement From The Soul*; *I Can't Believe You're Forty, Charlie Brown*; *The Color Of Honor*; *Booker*; *Ethnic Notions*; *Cut Loose*; and *Ancestors In America*, among many other programs for international broadcast, and cable television.

**Vicente Franco** (Director of Photography) is one of the most respected documentary cinematographers working in the US. He has shot numerous award-winning films including Academy Award-nominated films, ***Daughter from Danang, The Most Dangerous Man in America: Daniel Ellsberg and the Pentagon Papers***. Other recent films include ***Finding the Gold Within, Havana Curveball; Don't Stop Believin': Everyman's Journey; Standing on Sacred Ground: Fire and Ice*** and Frontline's ***Rape in the Fields***. He recently shot a segment of ***Hard Earned*** produced by Kartemquin Films. He shot the US segments of ***Soft Vengeance*** and was Director of Photography on Abby's films, ***Soul of Justice*** and ***Cruz Reynoso***.

**Tatsu Aoki** (Composer) is a leading advocate for the Asian American community, as well as a prolific composer and performer of traditional and experimental music forms, a filmmaker, and an educator. He has produced more than 30 experimental films and is one of the most in-demand performers of bass, shamisen, and taiko, having contributed more than 90 recording projects and touring internationally during the last 25 years. Aoki is Founder and Artistic Director of Chicago Asian American Jazz Festival, which observes its twentieth year in 2015. Named President of San Francisco-based Asian Improv Records (AIR) in 1999, he has managed or produced more than forty AIR albums, notably the Max Roach and Jon Jang collaboration *The Beijing Trio*, and several projects in the hip-hop and Asian Pacific American arts arenas, from film screenings to concert series. In 2010, he received the Japan America Society of Chicago's Cultural Achievement Award as well as a 3Arts Artist Award. He received the "Living in our Culture" award by the Japanese American Service Committee

in 2014 and Jazz Heroes' Award by National Jazz Journalist Association in 2015. In the summer of 2016, his Miyumi Project ensemble was chosen as the official musical presenters for the unveiling of Yoko Ono's first permanent installation in North America, "SKYLANDING", in Chicago's own Jackson Park. The **Miyumi Project** is Tatsu Aoki's laboratory of sound, where he explores the nexus of cultures: Asian and American; Japanese and African; past and present. The compositions provide a conceptual framework for each band member to interpret. Each successive grouping of Miyumi musicians over the past two decades has contributed to the ongoing evolution of the work.

**Richard Cahan** (Consulting Producer) is the author or co-author of more twenty books, including *Un-American: The Incarceration of Japanese Americans During World War II*. He is also the co-author of two books about the photographer Vivian Maier as well as books about law, architecture, photojournalism, baseball, interior design and baseball. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois with a bachelor's degree in journalism. He worked for the Chicago Sun-Times for sixteen years, primarily as the paper's picture editor.

**Michael Williams** (Consulting Producer) is the author or co-author of more than a dozen books, including *Un-American: The Incarceration of Japanese Americans During World War II*. He writes, designs and publishes books under his publishing company CityFiles Press. He has co-authored two books on architectural photographer Richard Nickel, two books on photographer Vivian Maier, and two books on the history of Chicago through the photographs of the Chicago Sun-Times. He also produced a book about Chicago mass transportation called *Chicago: City on the Move*, a book about the long-term effects of reversing the Chicago River called *The Lost Panoramas: When Chicago Changed*.

**Jonathan Logan** (Executive Producer) is president and CEO of the Jonathan Logan Family Foundation. He brings more than 30 years of experience to the world of philanthropy. From his founding of Our Family Coalition and chairmanship of the Center for AIDS Services, to helping create the Logan Nonfiction Program at the Carey Institute for Global Good, Mr. Logan provides guidance and support to a significant number of nonprofits. His main areas of interest include investigative reporting, documentary film, social justice, photography, visual arts, music, and the performing arts. He is former chair and long-time board member of the Center for Investigative Reporting and serves on the board of the Berkeley Repertory Theatre. He is also a member of the advisory board of the Investigative Reporting Program of the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism.

## THE BOOK THAT INSPIRED THE FILM

*Un-American: The Incarceration of Japanese-Americans During World War II* by Richard Cahan and Michael Williams

One of the first visual looks at the Japanese-American internment, the book tells its story with brilliant pictures that bring into focus this important chapter in U.S. history, when the United States rounded up 120,000 residents of Japanese ancestry living along the West Coast and sent them to interment camps for the duration of World War II. Many abandoned their land. Many gave up their personal property. Each one of them lost a part of their lives.

Amazingly, the government hired famed photographers Dorothea Lange, Ansel Adams, and others to document the expulsion--from assembling Japanese Americans at racetracks to confining them in ten camps spread across the country. Their photographs, seventy-five years after the evacuation began, give an emotional, unflinching portrait of a nation concerned more about security than human rights.

Authors Richard Cahan and Michael Williams--noted photo historians--took a slow, careful look at each of these images as they put together a powerful history of one of America's defining moments. Many of the photographs have never been seen publicly, since many of them were impounded by the U.S. Army. The authors took the unusual step of tracking down many of the people who appeared in these striking photographs. Their interviews form the spine of *AND THEN THEY CAME FOR US*.



Photo by Clem Albers

## **AND THEN THEY CAME FOR US - FILM CREDITS**

### **Produced and Directed by**

Abby Ginzberg

### **Co-Directed and Edited by**

Ken Schneider

### **Executive Producer**

Jonathan Logan

### **Associate Producers**

Richard Cahan

Michael Williams

### **Directors of Photography**

Ashley James

Vicente Franco

### **Sound Engineers**

Lauretta Molitor,

Claudia Katanayagi,

Jon Oh

Ramiro Segura

### **Production Assistants**

David Flores

Julian James

### **Audio Post Production by Berkeley Sound Artists**

#### **Re-recording Mixers:**

James LeBrecht

Dan Olmsted

#### **Dialog Editor:**

Erik Reimers

#### **Sound Design:**

Bijan Sharifi

#### **Graphic Design**

Mat Baldwin

#### **Color Correction**

Gary Coates

#### **Music Composed by**



Tatsu Aoki

Performed by Tatsu Aoki and the Miyumi Project

**Archival Photo Supervisor**

Michael Williams

**Post-Production Supervisor/Archival Researcher**

Sage Brucia

**Second Editor**

Eli Olson

**Additional Interviews by**

Richard Cahan

**Outreach and Engagement**

Joslyn Rose Lyons

Marcia Jarmel

**Editorial Consultants**

Richard Cahan

Richard Alden Feldon

Rick Goldsmith

Marcia Jarmel

Melanie Light

Jonathan Logan

Steve Okazaki

John Piane

Michael Williams

Denise Zmekhol

Susanne Zuerbig

**Archival Footage Courtesy of:**

ABC News Videosource

British Pathé

KABC

National Archives and Records Administration

Periscope Film LLC

Ronald Reagan Library

The Prelinger Archives

The WPA Film Library

Visual Communications

**Archival Photos Courtesy of**

Alamy Stock Photo

Ansel Adams

Bob Hsiang

Charles Mace  
Clem Albers  
Crystal K.D. Huie  
Department of Special Collections and University Archives,  
University Library, California State University, Sacramento  
Dorothea Lange  
Elizabeth Partridge  
Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco  
Francis Stewart  
Fred T. Korematsu Institute  
George Matsusaburo Hibi  
George Takei  
Getty Images  
Hikaru Iwasaki  
Hisako Hibi  
Japanese American National Museum  
Library of Congress  
National Archives and Records Administration  
Paul Kitagaki Jr.  
Reuters Pictures  
Satsuki Ina  
The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley  
Tom Parker  
Toyo Miyatake Studios

**Special Thanks**

Edie Barschi and Robert Jackson  
Denise Abrams and David Harrington  
Brad Takei  
Ibuki Hibi  
Satsuki Ina  
Gene Stewart

**Major funding for the film was generously provided by**  
The Jonathan Logan Family Foundation

**Additional funders:**

Nancy and Richard Robbins Family Foundation  
Ruth Shapiro

Inspired by the book

***Un-American: The Incarceration of Japanese-Americans During World War II***  
by Richard Cahan and Michael Williams

© Ginzberg Productions, 2017. All rights reserved.

## PRESS

Capital & Main | Years of Infamy: A New Documentary About the Japanese-American Internment

<https://capitalandmain.com/years-of-infamy-a-new-documentary-about-the-japanese-american-internment-1121>

WNET | "Senator Schumer visits ICP photo exhibition in New York,"

<http://www.thirteen.org/metrofocus/2018/01/then-they-came-for-me/> [video link]

Booklist Review |

[www.booklistonline.com/And-Then-They-Came-for-Us-/pid=9141833](http://www.booklistonline.com/And-Then-They-Came-for-Us-/pid=9141833)

Airwaves | American Prison Camps [radio program]

<https://archive.org/details/AmericanPrisonCamps>

SF GATE | Japanese internment camp documentary draws parallels to Muslim travel ban

[www.sfgate.com/movies/article/Japanese-internment-camp-documentary-draws-12265043.php](http://www.sfgate.com/movies/article/Japanese-internment-camp-documentary-draws-12265043.php)

Nichi Bei Weekly | "And Then They Stood Up for Them," Feb. 1-14, 2018.

[www.thentheycamedoc.com/s/2018-02-15-NBW-Film-Preview.pdf](http://www.thentheycamedoc.com/s/2018-02-15-NBW-Film-Preview.pdf)

The Michelle Meow Show | Abby Ginzberg, Vitaly Chernetsky

<https://soundcloud.com/michellemeowshow/abby-ginzberg-vitaly-chernetsky>

Contra Costa Lawyer | Echoes of History – 1942 – 1983 – 2017: From the Incarceration of Japanese Americans to the Travel Ban

<http://cclawyer.cccbba.org/2017/10/echoes-of-history-1942-1983-2017-from-the-incarceration-of-japanese-americans-to-the-travel-ban/>

NEWSREVIEW | Documentary about Japanese internment during World War II shows audience how to stop it from happening again

[www.newsreview.com/sacramento/and-then-they-came-for/content?oid=25071050](http://www.newsreview.com/sacramento/and-then-they-came-for/content?oid=25071050)

## FESTIVALS

