



**THE GRACE LEE PROJECT to air on AMERICA REFRAMED**  
**A film by Grace Lee**

**Tuesday, May 10, 2016 at 8 p.m.**  
**on Public Television's WORLD Channel**

[AMERICA REFRAMED](#)

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"DELIGHTFUL! A funny but complex meditation on identity, ethnicity and cultural expectations." – *Variety*

"FUNNY AND OFFBEAT!" - *Los Angeles Times*

April 26, 2016 – (New York, NY) – Grace Lee's acclaimed documentary **THE GRACE LEE PROJECT** will air **Tuesday, May 10, 2016 at 8 p.m.** on WORLD Channel ([check local listings](#)), as part of the fourth season of **AMERICA REFRAMED**, public media's newest documentary series hosted by Natasha Del Toro. The broadcast will be followed by 30 days of free streaming for audiences across the U.S. at <http://www.worldchannel.org/americareframed> starting on May 11th.

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Growing up in Missouri, award-winning Korean American filmmaker Grace Lee was the only "Grace Lee" she knew. Upon moving to New York and then California, she discovered quite the opposite.

In her quest to uncover how the Western name "Grace" became ubiquitous among Asian Americans, the filmmaker seeks out and speaks with many subjects named Grace Lee, soon learning the name's Hollywood origins, as well as its Christian and missionary roots. Through an array of first-person interviews, she finds that the name carries with it a stereotype of the model minority—or rather a "quiet, well-behaved overachiever." While a wide range of women, including a Hawai'i based television anchor, could fit a certain image of the name, others would break that mold.



Over the course of filming, the ad hoc investigation unfolds into a more profound and nuanced exploration of Asian American female identity. Initially lured by a perceived social uniformity, the filmmaker's unscientific study takes a turn in search of outliers. She pursues a rebel Grace Lee who tried to burn down her high school, a resilient single mother who sacrifices her comfort to care for another family's well-being, and a Silicon Valley teenager who spends evenings doing homework, playing piano, and painting graphic pictures of death and destruction. The city of Detroit provides her with the opportunity to meet the legendary activist and philosopher Grace Lee Boggs, a major figure in the Civil Rights, Black Power, Labor, Environmental Justice and Feminist movements. Eventually, filmmaker Grace Lee would turn their encounter into the Peabody-Award winning documentary *American Revolutionary: The Evolution of Grace Lee Boggs*, which aired on POV in 2014.

By listening to the personal accounts and journeys of diverse women carrying the Grace Lee name, the filmmaker moves beyond Western stereotypes and Asian cultural aspirations. Embracing shared traits and highlighting contradictions, the filmmaker focuses on the individuality and humanity of all who share her name.

### **Film Credits**

Director and Producer:            Grace Lee

### **About AMERICA REFRAMED**

**AMERICA REFRAMED** is a co-production of the WORLD Channel and American Documentary, Inc. and is hosted by journalist Natasha Del Toro.

Season 4 of AMERICA REFRAMED curates a diverse selection of films highlighting innovative and artistic approaches to storytelling from emerging and veteran filmmakers alike. Viewers will be immersed in personal stories from the streets of towns big and small to the exurbs and country roads that span the spectrum of American life. The documentaries invite audiences to reflect on topics as varied as culture, healthcare, politics, gun violence, religion and more. Several episodes feature a roundtable discussion moderated by host Natasha Del Toro with special guest commentators and filmmakers.



In 2015, AMERICA REFRAMED won a GRACIE Outstanding Series award, and was nominated for an EMMY award as well as an Independent Documentary Association award for best curated series. In its first season, AMERICA REFRAMED received five 2013 CINE Golden Eagle Awards, and one Imagen Awards nomination.

### **AMERICA REFRAMED Series Credits**

Executive Producers: Justine Nagan, Chris Hastings, Chris White  
Series Producer: Carmen L. Vicencio  
Host: Natasha Del Toro

### **Web and Social Media**

AMERICA REFRAMED can be accessed online via  
<http://worldchannel.org/programs/america-reframed/>  
and,  
<https://www.facebook.com/WorldChannel>  
<https://www.facebook.com/AmericaReFramed>

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### **AMERICA REFRAMED Co-Producers**

**American Documentary, Inc.** (AmDoc) is a multimedia arts organization dedicated to creating, identifying and presenting contemporary stories that express opinions and perspectives rarely featured in mainstream media outlets. AmDoc is a catalyst for public culture, developing collaborative strategic engagement activities around socially relevant content on television, online and in community settings. These activities are designed to trigger action, from dialogue and feedback to educational opportunities and community participation. AmDoc is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. For more information, visit: [www.amdoc.org](http://www.amdoc.org)

**The WORLD Channel** delivers the best of public television's nonfiction, news and documentary programming, including original content by and about diverse



communities, to U.S. audiences through local public television stations and streaming online at [worldchannel.org](http://worldchannel.org). WORLD reached 35.8 million unique viewers 18+ last year (55% adults 18-49) and over-indexes in key diversity demographics. Online, the WORLD Channel expands on broadcast topics and fuels dialogue across social media, providing opportunities for broad and diverse audience interaction.

WORLD is programmed by WGBH/Boston, in partnership with American Public Television and WNET/New York, and in association with PBS and National Educational Telecommunications Association. Funding for the WORLD Channel is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the Ford Foundation, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and the Kendeda Fund. For more information about The WORLD Channel, visit [www.worldchannel.org](http://www.worldchannel.org)

**Media Contact**

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