



Keepers of the Fire

EARTH

September 28, 2023 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Tonight's screening and live performance of *Memories to Light* is a tribute to the theme of earth and land as sites of migration. Local musicians Danny Clay, Gabby Wen, and Sophia Shen elevate this film compilation of Asian American home movies with an interpretive performance of the score. *Memories to Light's* panoramic juxtaposition of vintage and modern images and sound showcase the warmth and vigor of Asian American lives and stories. The film, directed and edited by Chester Canlas and Antonio Remington with an original score composed by Danny Clay and Theresa Wong, was originally commissioned by the McEvoy Foundation for the Arts and the Center for Asian American Media in conjunction with McEvoy Arts' 2021 exhibition *Next to You*. Earlier presentations include those at McEvoy Arts in 2021 and in Chinatown as part of *Neon Was Never Brighter* in 2022.

Keepers of the Fire is a series of evenings by five Bay Area curators responding to the five elements: earth, fire, water, air, and ether. These intimate, twilight gatherings bring together artists and public audiences to commune around fire pits for curated films, conversations, and live performances inside the bastions of Fort Point National Historic Site. *EARTH* is curated by Susan Miller, McEvoy Foundation for the Arts executive director.



Memories to Light

Directed and edited by Chester Canlas and Antonio Remington

Original score composed by Danny Clay and Theresa Wong

Live performance by Danny Clay, Gabby Wen, and Sophia Shen

Curated by Susan Miller

Danny Clay is a composer and educator whose work is deeply rooted in curiosity, collaboration, and the sheer joy of making things with people of all ages and levels of artistic experience.

Sophia Shen is an award-winning composer, sound artist, pipa performer/improviser based in the San Francisco Bay Area. Through subtle texture and intricate timbre, her music weaves music and sounds into immersive listening experiences.

Gabby Wen mainly works with synthesizers and guqin as a musician, drawing influences from soundscapes in natural and urban environments, ritualistic music of various traditions, and aesthetics of ancient Chinese art and literature.

Susan Miller is the founding executive director of McEvoy Foundation for the Arts, San Francisco. As a curator and producer Susan has developed exhibitions, catalogs, and programming for McEvoy Arts; The Exploratorium, San Francisco; The Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago; New Langton Arts, San Francisco; and The Wexner Art Center, Ohio, among other institutions.

Keepers of the Fire is presented by FOR-SITE in collaboration with the National Park Service and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy. *Keepers of the Fire* is made possible thanks to generous support from Joanna Drake & Christopher Smith, Tad J. Freese & Brook Hartzell, Peter & Beverly Lipman, Robert Joseph Louie Memorial Fund, and Claire & Holden Spaht.