

## Linda Ohama

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**PROFILE** Since the early 1970's, Linda has worked as an exhibiting visual artist, educator, and independent filmmaker.

She was born and raised in Rainier, Alberta where her parents had a family potato farm. She is a third generation Canadian of Japanese ancestry (sansei) and has always been an active member of her cultural and arts communities, both locally and internationally.

Presently, she continues directing films, writing, teaching and working to help foster cultural and educational ties between Japan and Canada. She initiated special programs including a sister high school exchange program between schools in Obu, Japan and Vancouver, Canada, the '2009 Chibi Taiko Vancouver-Onomichi project', and the 2011 Canada-Japan Kids for Kids Cloth Letter project.

Linda graduated with degrees in arts (political science and fine arts) and education, She graduated from the University of Calgary (Alberta) and Bishop's University (Quebec).

After teaching art in both public and private schools in Quebec and Ontario for several years, she moved to the West Coast and turned her attention to her professional visual arts and film careers.

Since then, she has had numerous exhibitions in major galleries across Canada and has produced and directed several independent films that received international screenings, television broadcasts and several distinguished awards.

Her community work has included sitting on various Board of Directors including three terms for BC Arts Council (Victoria, B.C.), four terms for Moving Images Distribution (Vancouver), three terms for the Canadian Independent Film and Video Fund (Ottawa, Ontario), two terms Uzume Taiko (Vancouver), two terms for National Nikkei Heritage Centre (Burnaby, B.C.) and five terms for Chibi Taiko (Vancouver).

She has also served on assessment juries for the Canada Council, Canadian Independent Film and Video Fund, DOXA, BC Arts Council, and Heritage Canada.

Linda continues to enjoy her family, write, lecture and produce films from Vancouver, British Columbia and Onomichi, Japan.

### **SOME ART EXHIBITIONS:**

- 1970-77: various group shows, Quebec and Ontario  
1981 -“*Ohama 81*”, Capilano College Art Gallery, North Vancouver  
1982 -“*Five Printmakers*”, Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver  
-“*Juried Int’l Print Exhibit*”, Pratt Graphic Gallery, New York  
1984 -“*Ohama, Works on Paper*”, Burnaby Art Gallery, Vancouver  
1985 -“*4 Gallery Artists*”, Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver  
-“*Darcus and Ohama: Cove Paintings*”, St. Francis in the Woods,  
West Vancouver  
1986 -“*Darcus and Ohama*”, Surrey Art Gallery, Surrey  
1987 -“*Ohama, West Coast Works*”, Vancouver Real Estate Board  
1988 -“*Visions of Power*”, Earth Spirit Festival, Leo Kamen Gallery,  
Toronto  
1989 “*Memories and Desires*”, Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver

### **WORKS INCLUDED IN**

British Columbia Archives  
National Archives of Canada  
Canada Council Art Bank  
Burnaby Art Gallery Archives  
Prince George Art Gallery Archives  
Surrey Art Gallery Permanent Collection

### **FILMOGRAPHY:**

#### **“THE LAST HARVEST”**

1992, 60 minutes, 16 mm color  
Harvest Productions Ltd.  
Roles: writer, producer, director, narrator, co-editor

#### **AWARDS & FESTIVALS INCLUDE**

- Canadian Heritage Award, Yorkton Film Festival 1993
- Silver Cup, Philadelphia I.F.F. 1994
- Silver Plaque, Chicago I.F.F. 1994
- Bronze Plaque, Columbus I.F.F., 1994
- Best Documentary, Banff Television Festival 95
- New York Intl Asian American Film Festival 1993
- Vancouver Intl Film Festival 1993

- Hawaii Intl Film Festival 1993
- Bombay Intl Film Festival 1994
- San Francisco Intl Asian American F.F. 1994
- Cinema du Reel, Paris, France 1994
- Intl CUSO Conference, Bangkok, Thailand 1995
- Sydney Intl Film Festival, Sydney Australia, 1995

First window broadcasts: CTV Television Network in Canada  
and NHK in Japan

### **“WATARI DORI, A BIRD of PASSAGE”**

1999, 30 minute, digital video

White Pine Pictures

Roles: writer, director, narrator, co-editor

Episode for *Scattering of Seeds* series

First window broadcaster:

History Television

#### AWARDS

- Houston Film Festival Gold Award

### **“NEIGHBOURS, WILD HORSES & COWBOYS”**

1997, 60 minutes, 16 mm color

Wild Horse Productions Ltd.

Roles: writer, producer, director, narrator, co-editor

#### AWARDS & FESTIVALS INCLUDE

- Gold Plaque, Chicago Intl Film Festival, 1998
- Special Jury Award, Yorkton Int Film Festival, 1998
- Special Jury Award, Northwest Film & Video Intl Film Festival, Portland, Oregon, 1998

First window national broadcaster: Vision TV

### **“THE TRAVELLING REVEREND”**

1999, 30 minutes, digital video, color

White Pine Pictures

Roles: writer, director, narrator, co-editor

Episode for *Scattering of Seeds* series

First window broadcaster: History Television

## **“OBAACHAN’S GARDEN”**

2001, 94 minutes, super 16 mm, color,  
National Film Board of Canada

Roles: writer, director, producer, narrator, co-editor

### **AWARDS**

- 2001 Audience Choice Award, Vancouver Intl F.F.
- 2002 Audience Choice Award, Newport Beach I.F.F.
- 2002 Audience Choice Award, Turin I.F.F., Italy
- 2002 Genie nomination, Best Documentary
- 2002 Leo Award, Best Director of Documentary
  - Leo Award, Best Scriptwriter
  - Leo Award, Best Sound
  - Leo Award, Best Cinematography
  - Leo Award, Best Sound Edit

### **FESTIVALS AND SCREENINGS INCLUDE**

- Montreal World Film Festival 2001
- Calgary Intl Film Festival 2001
- Vancouver Intl Film Festival 2001
- Laemmle Theatre, for consideration of Academy of Motion Pictures, Pasadena , California
- 2002 Palm Springs Intl Film Festival
- Canadian Museum of Civilization, Ottawa-Hull, 2002
- San Francisco Intl Asia American F.F. 2002
- Chicago Intl Asia American F.F. 2002
- Los Angeles Intl Asia American F.F. 2002
- New York Intl Asia American F.F., 2003
- Creteil France Intl Womens F.F., 2002, France
- Hot Doc Intl Documentary F.F., Toronto, 2002
- Hawaii Intl Film Festival, 2002, Honolulu
- UNIFEM (United Nations Development Fund for Women), 2003, Saratoga, Florida
- 17 city Japan Tour screenings: 2002, opening at the Canadian Embassy Theatre, Tokyo

### **“A SENSE OF ONOMICHI”**

2007, 20 minutes, digital HDV, NPO Onomichi

#### **FESTIVALS & AWARDS**

- Nominated for a Golden Sheaf Award, short documentary, Yorkton Film Festival, 2008.
- Tokyo International Short Short Film Festival 2011
- Mexico Short Film Festival

### **“SAKURA SAKURA”**

2008, 10 minutes, digital HDV, independent

### **“HARU WA AKEBONO: seeing spring thro the akebono”**

2009, 24 minutes, digital video, independent

- Powell Street Festival
- Vancouver Asian Film Festival

### **“TOHOKU NO SHINGETSU: A NEW MOON OVER TOHOKU”**

2016, feature length documentary, 97 minutes, and independent

#### **FESTIVALS, SCREENINGS & AWARDS INCLUDE**

- Vancouver International Film Festival 2016
- Calgary International Film Festival 2016
- Hawaii International Film Festival 2016
- Rome Independent Film Festival, 2016 nominated for best international documentary
- Screenings in Japan including Hiroshima Peace Memorial Theatre & Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum Theater
- Screenings in Canada & USA

### **SCREENPLAYS:**

#### **“OBAACHAN'S GARDEN”**

- Script, docu-drama

#### **“PERFECTION OF THE MORNING”**

- Screenplay based on the original book, Perfection of the Morning written by Sharon Butala, Harper Colins publishers.

**SOME REVIEWS:**

*Variety Magazine*, Hollywood, Dec 7 2002

-Film Review and full page

*Macleans Magazine*, October 28, 2002

-Two page article

*Take One Magazine*

-Feature article, May/June 2002

*Reel West Magazine*, Nov 2001

-Feature article

*Asahi Shinbun*, Japanese national daily newspaper

-feature article, November 18, 2002

**WEBSITES:**

[www.ohamalinda.com](http://www.ohamalinda.com)

[www.newmoonovertohoku.com](http://www.newmoonovertohoku.com)