

**Clement Hanami** is a Japanese American contemporary artist focusing on conceptual installations dealing with themes of identity and multiculturalism.

He graduated with a BFA and MFA from UCLA with specialization in New Genres in 1988 and 1992, respectively. Hanami's works have been shown in California, New York and Mexico. His works are in public and private collections such as The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA, Craft and Folk Art Museum, LA Municipal Art Gallery, Armory Center for the Arts, Long Beach Museum of Art, and Santa Monica Museum of Art, amongst others.

Hanami has served as the Japanese American National Museum's Vice President of Exhibitions since 1992.

**Ana Iwataki** is a writer, curator, and PhD candidate at the University of Southern California. Her research examines the intersection between Asian American art and cultural-spatial politics, with a focus on Los Angeles from the 1970s to the present. As a curator and community activist deeply rooted in Los Angeles, she extends these critical engagements through collaborative work with artists and community partners. She recently curated the exhibitions *Portrait of a Publisher as a Political Project: 30 Years of Kaya Press* and *Kaya Micro Operas: Alternatives to Archiving* (ONE Archives at the USC Libraries), *Nancy 2024* (LA Artcore), *Itinéraires Fantômes* (CAPC Musée d'Art Contemporain de Bordeaux), and *Yoshie Sakai: Grandma Entertainment Franchise* (Vincent Price Art Museum).

**Susan H. Kamei** is a public historian and author of the award-winning book *When Can We Go Back to America? Voices of Japanese American Incarceration during World War II* (Simon & Schuster 2021). A descendant of incarcerated, she draws upon family and community stories to convey to diverse audiences the continuing relevance of the Japanese American incarceration to contemporary issues of racial identity, immigration, citizenship, and the threat to civil liberties. She is a USC adjunct professor (teaching) of history and affiliated faculty with the USC Shinso Ito Center for Japanese Religions and Culture.

**Kris Kuramitsu** is an independent curator and educator based in Los Angeles, currently co-organizing the exhibition *Afterlives: Japanese American Artists and the Postwar Era* with Clara Kim for the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, opening in February 2027. Her recent curatorial projects include *my hands are monsters who*

*believe in magic* at the Armory Center for the Arts in Pasadena and *Open Sky* at the Benton Museum of Art at Pomona College in Claremont.

**Sanae Nakatani** is an Associate Professor at the University Education Center at Tokyo Metropolitan University, currently hosted by USC History Department as a Fulbright visiting scholar. Her current research focuses on the role of Nisei artists in shaping the concept of modern design in the US and Japan in the early post-WWII period.

**Nayan Shah** is Professor of American Studies & Ethnicity and History at USC. His books have explored Asian Americans and their experiences of migration, illness, incarceration, and creativity. His new research explores Asian American artists and how they express refuge, vulnerability and wonder in the natural world. To learn more about his research projects and publications visit <https://www.nayanshah.org>