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M O U C H E T T E F I L M S

548 Fifth Street San Francisco, Ca. 94107 415.495.3934

"DAYS OF WAITING"

Brief Description

DAYS OF WAITING, a new film by Steven Okazaki, tells the compelling story of artist Estelle Peck Ishigo, one of the few Caucasians to be incarcerated by the United States government along with 110,000 Japanese Americans in 1942.

Ishigo refused to be separated from her Nisei husband, Arthur, followed him into the camps and spent three and a half years behind barbed wire in Pomona, California and Heart Mountain, Wyoming. A gifted artist, Ishigo, committed herself to recording what she saw and felt through her art with hundreds of sketches, paintings and photographs.

The film relates the moving story of Ishigo's tragic childhood, her marriage during a period of rampant racism against Japanese Americans, her decision to enter the camps, internment life, Arthur's death, her lone battle for redress and her poverty stricken life after the war.

The film was produced and directed by Steven Okazaki whose previous works include the PBS documentaries SURVIVORS and the Academy Award nominated UNFINISHED BUSINESS, as well as the independent feature LIVING ON TOKYO TIME.

"Estelle's story is truly an American tragedy," stated the filmmaker, "but what emerges is a story of an extraordinary woman who would not accept injustice and refused to give in to defeat or bitterness." The filmmaker discovered Ishigo, now 89 years-old, alone and forgotten, in a convalescent hospital in Los Angeles. "After the internment, she lived in dire poverty, surviving on five dollars a week, two cans of soup a day."

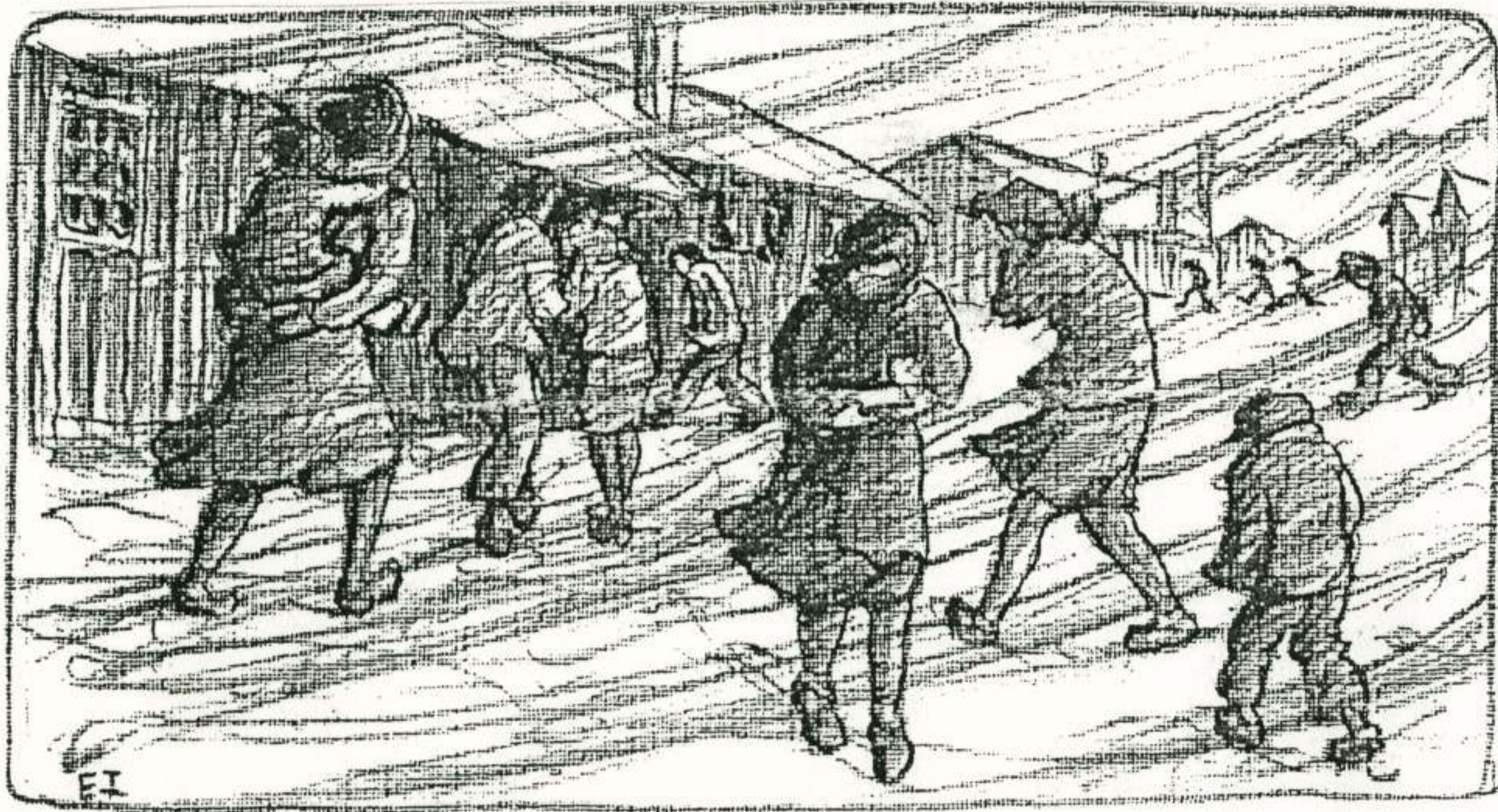
With the assistance of associate producer Cheryl Yoshioka and advisor Bacon Sakatani, who was twelve years old at the time of his internment at Heart Mountain, the story was pieced together after hundreds of hours of research through Ishigo's personal papers and her special collection at the University of California, Los Angeles.

DAYS OF WAITING was produced under the aegis of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for broadcast on PBS next year. Additional funding was provided by the Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation, Zellerbach Family Fund and Columbia Foundation.



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548 Fifth Street San Francisco, Ca. 94107 415.495.3934



September 14, 1989

Dear Edith —

You are cordially invited to attend a special preview screening of Steven Okazaki's *Days of Waiting*.

This compelling new film tells the story of Estelle Peck Ishigo, an artist and one of the few Caucasians to be interned with the Japanese Americans during World War II.

The screening will take place on Wednesday, September 27th, from 6:15 pm to 7:15 pm, at the Variety Club Screening Room at 582 Market Street, near Montgomery Street.

Seating is very limited, so if you would like to attend, please RSVP by calling or leaving a message at Mouchette Films, 495-3934. There is no admission charge and refreshments will be served.

Hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Gail Nakatsu
Director of Development

Major funding for *Days of Waiting* was provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Additional funding was provided by the Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation, Zellerbach Family Fund and Columbia Foundation.