

We Tell Makers

We Tell prefers to call the many people who worked on the media projects in this exhibition makers rather than filmmakers, video artists, or directors.

First, very few of these works were produced by one person, so the auteurist model is insufficient.

Second, most of these were produced by collaborative, collective, or cooperative teams where members had shifting roles and made different kinds of contributions.

Finally, we offer the proviso that this list is most likely not complete and will evolve as more research about each of these films and their participatory production process is uncovered. We provide this list to honor the people who contributed to these works.

BIOGRAPHIES OF MAKERS

Spencer Nakasako was the facilitator for *Freedom on the Block?* (Vietnamese Youth Development Center, 2004) in San Francisco, California. He has over thirty-five years experience as an award-winning independent filmmaker. Besides a fifteen-plus year residency at the Vietnamese Youth Development CenterMedia Lab, he has lectured and had residencies at universities and institutions throughout the US and abroad. Spencer Nakasako has worked in the Southeast Asian communities of San Francisco and Oakland, training at-risk refugee youths to make films about their own lives. He is best known for his National Emmy Award-winning documentary *a.k.a. Don Bonus* (1995). His film *Refugee* (2004) won the Inspirational Film Award at the Hamptons International Film Festival, and his *Kelly Loves Tony* (1998) was nominated for Best Feature by the International Documentary Association.