

# CHINATOWN CAROUSEL

>> GRACE YIP AND LEO QUAN

*Chinatown Carousel, 2002*

Grace Yip and Leo Quan have produced a new piece to mark nearly a decade of adventure, self-reflection, and personal growth. Using photography, prose and poetry, Yip and Quan explore the interplay of the body-mind, human relationships, and present-moment awareness.

what is home?  
here family gathers  
grows together  
in sickness  
under the sheets  
in health  
over hearty meals

a place near  
land left in fear  
the voice ever in your ear  
somewhere you'd rather be  
anywhere but here

is home everywhere?  
a stranger's smile  
a friend's giggle  
a lover's embrace

home?  
here, you are free to care

please, your tone  
see all of me, it matters  
I say this gently, a feather  
the wounds I lick  
heart torn edges never again will meet  
health?  
not even fleeting it feels

awash in tears  
everything I held dear  
hanging, unclear  
losing grip  
fingertip by fingertip

anguish building fast  
haunted, my heart  
broken in this moment  
one last beat, time to quit  
on teary-eyed oceans set adrift  
beyond the horizon, still no sun  
love... I'm done

can't breath, gasping for air  
this smile never stranger  
in these shackles hardly a wiggle  
suffocated by this lonely embrace

only inside this emptiness to stare



my home a distant past  
yet this rhythm so familiar  
can we break in silence?  
let's revisit  
we can mend this rift  
you are my loved one  
once (and maybe still)