TO BE TAKEI. *George Takei and his husband Brad go for a drive in* To Be Takei. *The documentary explores how the personal details of Takei's life, notably his childhood experiences in the internment camp and the struggles of being a gay Asian-American actor, also become the platform of advocacy in his later years. (Photo courtesy of Starz Digital Media)*

Where no man has gone before

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and what happens when you make a biographical film about a well-known celebrity and his family — the reluctant co-stars — who find themselves thrust in front of the camera and unsure of how much they want to share. It is clear that as much as this film is about Takei and his amazing career, it is also about Brad, their partnership and marriage, and that "to be Takei" also applies to Brad, who took on George's last name when they married. *To Be Takei* is a joint affair, and Brad is the devoted, behind-the-scenes figure who pays attention to the details and enables George to be the public figure he is.

This endearing, inspiring film is appealing on so many levels. What stands out for me is Takei's loud and deep chuckle that punctuates his sentences. And it is so distinctive and frequent that it becomes a part of the soundtrack. It is resonant of his optimism and snarky but playful sense of humor. This will probably comes as no surprise to Takei's millions of Facebook fans who have come to expect Takei's hilarious and incisive social commentary on his newsfeed.

And now, in addition to this film, George Takei fans have another thing to look forward to: *Allegiance*, a musical about the Japanese-American internment starring Takei, which will premiere on Broadway later this year.

To Be Takei is screening at 7:00pm on May 18 at McMenamins Kennedy School (5736 N.E. 33rd Avenue, Portland) as part of QDoc: The Portland Queer Documentary Film Festival. For more information, call (503) 249-3983 or visit <www.queerdocfest.org>. To learn move, visit <www.tobetakei.com>.

A beautiful glimpse of life after internment for Japanese Americans in Portland

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those they recognize.

In addition to the post-war collection of photographs, visitors can view images taken by Frank and his father, George Hirahara, while they were incarcerated at the Heart Mountain internment camp in Wyoming from 1943 to 1945. There, Frank served as photo editor and photographer for his high school's "Tempo" annual. Together, he and his father captured a surprising volume of photos and even dug out a relatively sophisticated darkroom underneath their barrack.

The Heart Mountain photo collection was donated to Frank's alma mater, Washington State University (WSU), and WSU's Manuscripts, Archives, and Special Collections has collaborated with O.N.E. for this display.

THROUGH THE EYE OF A LENS. *"Capturing a Generation through the Eye of a Lens: The Photographs of Frank C. Hirahara, 1948-54" provides a revealing glimpse of the lives of Japanese Americans in Portland after World War II. Pictured are Ben Kasubuchi (left) and Mary Okita Kasubuchi at an Oregon Buddhist Church picnic. (Photo courtesy of the Oregon Nikkei Endowment, Frank C. Hirahara Collection)*

"Capturing a Generation through the Eye of a Lens: The Photographs of Frank C. Hirahara, 1948-54" is on view through June 15 at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, located at 121 N.W. Second Avenue in Portland. Hours are 11:00am to 3:00pm Tuesday through Saturday and noon to 3:00pm on Sunday. To learn more, call (503) 224-1458 or visit <www.oregonnikkei.org>.

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