

Words from Eiko Otake

Thank you for coming.

I am an immigrant from Japan.

I have been in the U.S. since 1976.

I did not come to this country because of hardships,
or oppression of my home country.

I could have returned and lived in
Japan if I had wanted.

Then why am I still here? I ask myself.

I am here to perform.

I am here to be seen by you.

I am here to encounter, various people and various experiences.

One at a time.

Two humans getting to know each
other on a deeper level feels radical.

Yet doable.

Once that happens, we cannot go
back to our prior selves.

I ask your eyes.

I ask your mind.

Lingering on, we will not forget.

In your gaze, each piece becomes
a performance.

I dance with you here, now.