What would happen if we placed the lives of Filipino women at the center of a transnational narrative about U.S. and Philippine histories? This talk explores the connections and divergences among three Filipino women Encarnacion Alzona, Ines Cayaban, and Pacita Abad who migrated to the United States at different times during the twentieth century, led singular careers in education, public health, and visual art, and left documentation of their lives and work for posterity. In doing so, they reveal the opportunities, but also constraints of the legacy of the U.S. colonial presence in the Philippines.