Popularly known as the “Siamese Twins,” Chang and Eng achieved fame exhibiting their conjoined bodies across nineteenth-century America. Born in Siam, they became U.S. citizens at a time when naturalization was limited to whites, married two white sisters in North Carolina, had 21 children between them, and owned dozens of slaves. *The Lives of Chang and Eng* considers these early Asians in America amid the turbulent terrain of class and respectability in the 1830s and 1840s, the increasingly divisive debates over slavery and sectionalism, and the tensions of national reunion in the years following the Civil War.