

**FOODWAYS TEXAS GREATER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT – ICONIC  
RESTAURANT PROJECT – KIM SON RESTAURANT – PART ONE -  
INTERVIEW WITH TRI LA - Date of Transcript: 1.19.2019**

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1 [Interviewer requests and receives permission to record the  
2 interview and to use the information gathered]

3

4 [00:00:00]

5 INTERVIEWER: SHERRI SHEU: Shall we get started?

6 [Background Noise]

7 Alright.

8 My name is Sherri Sheu.

9 I'm here with Andrew Gansky with The Iconic Texas Restaurants  
10 Project.

11 The date is April twenty-sixth [26<sup>th</sup>], two thousand twelve [2012].

12 [Background Noise]

13 It is about a quarter till two [1:45].

14 And I am here with Mr. – Mr. Tri La of Kim Son Restaurants.

15 [Background Noise]

16 And shall we?

17 [Background Noise]

18 And if you will, introduce yourself and uh, - where you work and you  
19 date of birth for the record?

20

21 INTERVIEWEE: TRI LA: Hi, my name is uh, - Tri La.

22 I work at Kim Son Restaurant, uh, - here in Houston, Texas.

23 Uh, - born in April first [1st], nineteen seventy-one [1971], uh, - in  
24 uh, - Ben Long [sp], Vietnam.

25 Uh, - came to The United States in nineteen uh, - eighty [1980].

26 And uh, - well, first [1st] we opened our first [1st] restaurant in  
27 nineteen-eighty two [1982].

28 [Background Noise]

29 [00:00:52]

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30 [00:00:52]

31 [Background Noise]

32 INTERVIEWER: SHERRI SHEU: Okay, so, can you tell us a little bit  
33 about the history of Kim Son, however you want to?

34 [Background Noise]

35

36 INTERVIEWEE: TRI LA: Uh, -, the history of Kim Son is uh, - my  
37 parents owned uh, - uh, - a small restaurant in Vietnam, before we  
38 came.

39 We left uh, - Vietnam, in nineteen seventy-eight [1978] after The  
40 War.

41 And uh, - we were considered 'The Boat People', if you uh, - heard of  
42 it.

43 Uh, - we left Vietnam, in nineteen-seventy-eight [1978].

44 [Background Noise]

45 We didn't arrive here till nineteen-eighty [1980].

46 [Background Noise]

47 Within those two [2] years we stay in the - - Indonesian uh, -  
48 Refugee Camp - -

49

50 [00:01:28]

51 NOTE: RECORDING ENDED ABRUPTLY HERE AT THIS POINT.

52

53

54 [00:01:28] End of Audio Recording – TRI LA – KIM SON

55 RESTAURANT – PART ONE - Date of Transcript – 01.19.2019