

Powell Street Festival

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Powell Street Festival 2003

– by Miko Hoffman



Chibi Taiko on stage at 2002 PSF

The PSFS Programming Committee is pleased to give you a taste of what's to come for our 27th Festival. **Powell Street Paths: Old Routes, New Directions**, in the park on Saturday, August 2nd and Sunday, August 3rd plus some off-site pre-festival events, will focus on youth and youth culture and on new collaborations. Special projects include:

- **Think Print Relate: Cultural Arrivals of Eight Vancouver Printmakers**, featuring *Taiga Chiba, Tomoyo Ihaya, Eunjin Kim, Shyh-Charng Lo, Shinsuke Minegishi, Lynda Nakashima, Fumiko Sumi, and Ari Tomita*. The exhibit runs from July 29-August 7 at Gallery 83.

- **Further East/Further West: Experimental Music by Japanese & Canadian Composers**, featuring *Mark McGregor, Masa Anzai*, and from Montreal, *Mitchell Akiyama*. This will be an evening concert at the Firehall Theatre on Saturday, August 2nd.

- The launch of our first ever **CD compilation!** Featuring Japanese Canadian musicians and composers from past, present, and future Festivals...

- *Hip Hop in the Park*: a performance event of hip hop culture, in partnership with Filipino and First Nations youth groups.

This year's Powell Street Festival will also feature two pre-Festival events: **Spatial Poetics II**, our follow-up to last year's successful event based on multidisciplinary, experimental, and

collaborative performances. Participating artists in **Spatial Poetics II**, to be held on Saturday, July 12th at the Blinding Light Cinema, include *Sook C. Kong, Baco Ohama, Cindy Mochizuki, Wayde Compton*, and *Rafael Tsuchida*. There will also be a pre-fest evening of readings by *Hiromi Goto* and two writers from Toronto, *Tamai Kobayashi* and *David Fujino* on Wednesday, July 30th at Gallery 83. More details on the Festival will follow in our July newsletter!

The Programming Committee is working year-round to develop new and innovative programming for future seasons. In February 2003 we held focus groups of a diverse selection of artists in the community at Video In. At these meetings, we discussed the transitional period the Festival is in, past Festival programming (what has worked? what hasn't worked?), invited suggestions and proposals from members of the community, and snacked on Alia's excellent homemade éclairs! We plan to have these community sessions on a regular basis – contact us if you'd like to get involved!

The Festival's community and professional programming can only improve and diversify if we have your input. We are always accepting proposals from artists in every discipline, for the current Festival and for future Festivals – we also encourage proposals for programming at other times of the year (separate from the Festival weekend).

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Powell Street Festival celebrates ExplorASIAN

– by Angus MacLean

May is Asian Heritage Month, and the Powell Street Festival Society is marking the occasion with the return of the **Powell Street Festival Workshop Series**. As part of *ExplorASIAN 2003*, the folks at Powell Street are holding a series of workshops that will introduce interested adults to techniques for producing traditional Japanese arts and food. We've brought back two of last year's most popular classes, **Ikebana** (flower arranging) and **Block Printing**, and added two new classes.

Yukio Moizumi gets things rolling on Thursday, May 8 as he guides participants step by step through the process of making their own **Gyoza and Shumai** (delicious dumplings filled with meat and/or vegetables). Yukio returns on May 22 to lead the class through the **Ohagi** making process (delicious azuki (red) bean and rice treat), but not before we've spent some time with the all-stars from last year's successful workshop series.

On May 15, the delightful *Kaz Takahashi* is back to introduce folks to the art and beauty of **Ikebana**. Kaz is with the Kado Sumi school of Ikebana in Vancouver, and her art "stresses the arrangement of natural materials in simple containers, beauty of line of the branches and colour of the flower". Not just about beauty, Ikebana is based on three main lines that symbolize heaven, earth and humankind. Bring a tuna can and a creative mind!

The series concludes with another of last year's highlights: **Block Printing** with engaging and accomplished local artists *Lynda Nakashima* and *Kathy Shimizu*. You'll learn simple techniques to make a print using rubber blocks. This is a versatile, fun style of print making that anybody can enjoy. Those of you who attended last year's sold-out workshop are welcome to come back and learn to make a colour block print this time!



Yukio Moizumi demonstrating at 2002 okonomiyaki workshop

We are also pleased to present to you one FREE workshop, '**How to use chopsticks: A Japanese Tradition**', courtesy of the *Vancouver Academy of Japanese Culture* on Thursday, May 15th. In this 40 minute session, which will begin at 6:30pm prior to the Ikebana workshop (which will begin at 7:30), you'll learn how to use chopsticks with good manners. We will provide chopsticks and brochures on chopstick etiquette. Please call to register, even though there is no fee.

Workshops will be held at Tonari Gumi (511 East Broadway, Vancouver) from 7:00-9:00pm (7:30-9:30 for Ikebana) and cost \$15 per session (\$20 for Block Printing). Please call ahead to register, as space is limited!

The **Powell Street Festival Workshop Series** is a fundraiser for the Powell Street Festival Society, and all the workshop leaders are generously donating their time. The workshops are a great way to participate in Asian Heritage Month. See you there!



participants at 2002 printmaking workshop

Matsuri!

A Powell Street Festival Society
CD compilation ...

The 2003 Powell Street Festival will serve as the launch of a CD compilation of Japanese Canadian composers and musicians produced by the Festival Society. The aim of this project is to serve as a fundraiser for future festivals and to provide exposure to the participating artists. We have received great response from musicians in the community and are still going through the submissions, so the list of confirmed artists will have to remain a secret for now! We'll keep you posted!

Special Thanks

Thanks to our donors (from July)

Midge Ayukawa
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The Board

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Photos by , Newsletter production by Alia Nakashima Newsletter article by Kimiko Murakami

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What can you get for 5 bucks?

A One Year Membership to the Powell Street Festival Society!

- You get two exciting issues of the PSFS Newsletter (Including a sneak preview of each year's Festival)!
- It's a great way to support the Festival and keep in touch.

Membership	\$5.00
Donations greatly appreciated!	_____
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Please make all cheques payable to: **Powell Street Festival Society, 475 Alexander Street, Vancouver, BC V6A 1C6**

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Membership is for 12 months from the date of registration; donations are gratefully accepted and a tax-deductible receipt will be issued for the amount over and above the membership cost.