

# Powell Street Festival

January 2004 Volume 10 Number 1

## Powell Street Festival 2003 in Review



Hip no dori at the 2003 Powell Street Festival

Photo by Barb Yamazaki

The Powell Street Festival celebrated its 27th anniversary on Saturday, August 2nd and Sunday, August 3rd. This year's theme was *Powell Street Paths: Old Routes, New Directions* and we were treated to the usual amazing performances and delicious food, and luckily this year, to excellent weather as well!

This year, we were able to present performances by 10 Japanese Canadian artists from elsewhere in Canada, as well as dancer from Japan, **Kei Takei**, and musician from Seattle, WA, **Aiko Shimada**. One of our featured out-of-town artists was the **Lemon Creek Harmonica Band**, who performed in the Firehall Theatre and on the main stage in the

park. Thanks to Diane Kadota and Kathy Shimizu for organizing the fundraising campaign to bring these talented Nisei from Toronto to Vancouver – and to all of our generous donors for making it happen! CBC Newsworld even produced a piece on the Lemon Creek-ers while they were in Vancouver.

As usual, the Festival couldn't have happened without the support of our dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers, as well as our partners, sponsors, and funders. Many thanks to our summer staff: our fantastic Production Coordinator, Vanessa Kwan, and our Volunteer Coordinator, Jenny Uechi.



Lemon Creek Harmonica Band and Harry Aoki

Photo by Barb Yamazaki

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## Society News

We are just finishing wrap-up of our last festival and fiscal year and hope you will all come to our Annual General Meeting for 2003 on March 14th (more info enclosed). We are also in the midst of organizing projects for the 2004 festival and preparing for Asian Heritage Month in May.

The Programming Committee will be holding a focus group session on February 15th, 2004, at the Western Front, 2:30-5pm, for any interested artists in the community. The Committee is also currently accepting proposals for programming for our 2004 and 2005 seasons and is looking for a member of the theatre community to sit on the committee. The committee is also looking for a curator/coordinator to work with the GM on the 2005 visual art project which has been loosely established as an exhibit of graphic narrative art. We welcome brief proposals from those interested in this project.

The Society is always searching for volunteers to help out year-round in the office and with events, as well as during the Festival in July and August, and for community members interested in joining the Board of Directors.

Please contact Miko at 604 683 8240 for more information on any programming or society matters.

### WE WANT YOUR EMAIL ADDRESSES!

We're trying to compile an email database so we can keep you up-to-date on current PSF Society events and save paper at the same time! Please email Miko at [miko@dkam.ca](mailto:miko@dkam.ca) and we'll get started on it!

The PSF programming committee requests donations of used magazines for our artist and community collaboration project, *Nikkei in Transition*, facilitated by Haruko Okano. Please call Miko at 604 683 8240 or 739 9388 if you want to arrange a time to drop off magazines of general interest, language-specific, and/or Japanese language.



Mr. Nobu on stage at PSF

Photo by Beto Yamazaki

## Community Events



### YASUJIRO OZU at the Cinematheque

Celebrating the centenary of Yasujiro Ozu's (1903-1963) birth, Pacific Cinematheque will screen 33 works by the internationally celebrated Japanese director. Ozu's films were rarely seen in the West until the early 1970s. This retrospective is a rare opportunity for Vancouver audiences to see 31 of Ozu's films on newly struck 35 mm prints, provided by the Criterion Collection/Janus Films in New York. Includes: *Toyko Story*, *Late Spring*, *Woman of Toyko* and *The Flavour of Green Tea Over Rice*. For more information, please visit [www.cinematheque.bc.ca](http://www.cinematheque.bc.ca) or call 604.688.FILM (24-hr Info Line).

### POWELL STREET FESTIVAL SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SUNDAY, MARCH 14TH, 2004, 1-2pm, TONARI GUMI (511 E. Broadway)

All Powell Street Festival Society members are encouraged to attend! Community members are also welcome – what a great opportunity to join the Society! Refreshments will be served.

Community supporter and partner, Katari Taiko will be holding their AGM from 2-3pm. We encourage you to stay for this!

## Community Events (continued)

### THE PLUM TREE

by Mitch Miyagawa

A Firehall Arts Centre  
Production

280 East Cordova  
Feb 11 - 28, 2004,  
Previews —  
Feb 6, 7, 8, 10

Opens Feb 11

Directed by Adrienne Wong  
Featuring: Karen Austin, David Fujino, Hiro Kanagawa

The roof of Frieda Wagner's house sags and leaks. Ever since her husband died, she's struggled to keep her u-pick berry farm running. One day, George Murakami, a Japanese-Canadian, comes to the farm looking for a way to rebuild his life, after his activist years in the Japanese-Canadian Redress Movement have finally paid off. Driven by the puckish spirit of his Uncle Mas, George is drawn to Wagner's farm in search of a more tangible connection to his past. *The Plum Tree* is a thoughtful, tender and delicate exploration of ownership and justice. Most of all, it's a story about families; how the perennial re-seeding of history affects every generation.

If you missed the 2003 Powell Street Festival presentation of the staged reading of *Plum Tree* with playwright Mitch Miyagawa in attendance, you have a second chance with this February production. Buy your tickets now!

Tickets: \$10 - \$20, Tuesdays - Saturdays at 8pm, Sundays at 2pm; Wednesday matinees at 1pm and are pay-what-you-can; Group rates available for groups of 10 or more.

For information or to book tickets: 604-689-0926



### VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL AT THE ROUNDHOUSE

2004 Vancouver International Dance Festival (VIDF) takes place March 9 - 27 at the Roundhouse Community Centre. The VIDF brings together contemporary dance from around the world, featuring local, national, and international dance artists in performances, master classes and workshops. It presents dance that moves the heart and soul, stimulates the mind, fuels the imagination, and charges the senses.

Performances at this year's festival include Vancouver's EDAM, Tara Cheyenne and Kokoro Dance featuring 18-piece jazz band Hard Rubber Orchestra; Germany's Thomas Lehmen and Tadashi Endo; David Pressault Danse and Rubberbandance from Montreal; Silesian Dance Theatre from Poland and Toronto's Kate Alton. Highlights of the Festival are works which combine live music and dance, including a collaboration between five local choreographers and the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, including a piece co-commissioned by Powell Street Festival, choreographed by Jay Hirabayashi with music by John Adams.

Tickets are \$25/\$20 students and seniors. For more information visit: <http://kokoro.ca> and <http://vidf.ca>; or call 604-662-7441.



Kokoro Dance at PSF 2003

Photo by Barb Yamazaki

Kokoro Dance will be holding a fundraising event "**The Look of Love**" in support of the 2004 VIDF on February 11, 2004 at the Opus Hotel in Yaletown, featuring enchanting dance and music performances, sumptuous food, and a live auction of goods and services donated by local businesses, merchants, craftspeople, and artists! Tickets are \$50 (includes \$25 tax receipt) and are available by calling 604-662-7441.

## Special Thanks and Acknowledgements

# Canada



**Canadian Heritage**

**Patrimoine canadien**



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Special thanks to Japan Airlines, OK Gift Shop, Vancouver New Music, Vancouver International Dance Festival, Vancouver International Writers Festival, The Source newspaper.

### Powell Street Festival Society 2004

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#### Festival Staff

Miko Hoffman,  
General Manager

### Thanks to our donors

(from July 2003, in alphabetical order)

Arnold & Sadie Arai  
Audrey & Art Arai  
Hideko Arai  
Midge Ayukawa  
Don Berg  
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Leslie Uyeda  
Peter & Ethel Wakayama  
Louise Wong  
Mas Yamamoto

## Become a lifetime member of the Powell Street Festival Society now!

Please note, Powell Street Festival Society's membership policy has changed. We now ask for a \$12 fee, which will get you a lifetime membership to the Society. Anyone who has previously paid a membership fee automatically remains on the membership list, if you wish.

- I would like to remain a member of the Powell Street Festival Society (PSFS) and continue to receive info on PSFS events.
- Please include me on the mailing lists for info on other Asian Canadian arts-related events, such as taiko performances, dance, theatre, etc.
- Please include me on your volunteer callout list.
- Please remove me from your members/mailling list.
- I would like to sign up as a new member.  
I have enclosed my one-time \$12 fee.
- Also enclosed is a donation for \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Postal code \_\_\_\_\_  
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