



Asian Heritage Month

Gala Performance of Asian Canadian Artists

Friday, May 31, 2013, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Bata Shoe Museum

327 Bloor Street West (St. George Subway Station)

Map at: <http://www.batashoemuseum.ca/visiting/location.shtml>

For more information, please visit www.asian-heritage-month.org

FREE ADMISSION: Please register at asianheritagecanadian@yahoo.ca

Draft Schedule

MC's: Bo San Chan, and Elliot Karantjas

*** Opening Address: Mrs. Sonja Bata, Founding Chairman, Bata Shoe Museum**

Mrs. Sonja Bata was born in Switzerland, where she studied architecture. In 1946 she married Thomas J. Bata, the son of a well-known Czechoslovakian shoe manufacturer who had emigrated to Canada at the beginning of World War II. His family enterprise in Czechoslovakia had been nationalized under the Communist occupation. From the beginning, Sonja Bata shared her husband's determination to rebuild the organization and took an active interest in what was to become a global footwear business.

Over the years, she grew increasingly fascinated by shoes, their history and the reasons why specific shapes and decorative treatments had developed in different cultures. During her travels, she realized that some traditional forms were being replaced with western shoes,

reflecting changing lifestyles to some extent influenced by the production of the spreading Bata factories serving local markets.

Since the 1940s, Sonja Bata has scoured the world for footwear of every description, from the most ordinary to the most extraordinary. Her combined interest in design and shoes has led to a very personal collection, with examples from many cultures and historic periods.

Her strong belief that in a democratic country citizens should actively contribute their talents to community needs is reflected in her many philanthropic activities. She has been active in many volunteer organizations in the educational, health and environmental fields, including: Chairman, National Design Council; Honourary Chairman, World Wildlife Fund Canada (Chairman 1983–1985); Governor, Junior Achievement of Canada (Chairman 1985–1988); Chairman, Governor's Council of North York General Hospital; The Council for Canadian Unity; The Council for Business and the Arts in Canada; and Founding Chairman of the Bata Shoe Museum in Toronto. In addition, Mrs. Bata has served on a number of business boards including Alcan Aluminum, Canada Trust, and the Canadian Commercial Corporation.

Honours awarded to Sonja Bata include: Officer of the Order of Canada, Honourary Doctor of Laws, Honourary Doctor of Humane Letters and Honourary Captain (N). An edited list of her awards includes: Shoe Person of the Year, 1985; Woman of the Year, North York Chamber of Commerce, 1992; McClure International Service Award, 1991; Canadian Business Hall of Fame, 1991; CESO Award for International Development, 1990; B'Nai Brith Humanitarian Award, 1984; and Silver Medal of the United Nations Environmental Programme, 1982.

***Opening Address: Mr Justin Poy, Honorary Patron, Asian Heritage Month-CFACI**

Justin Poy is the Founder and President of the Justin Poy Agency, a national full-service agency based in Toronto specializing in English and ethnocultural marketing and advertising. Justin has served on the Board of Directors of the Trillium Gift of Life Network, the Kidney Foundation of Canada and the Ontario Media Development Corporation. He is also very active in the Chinese Canadian community, serving as Vice-Chair of The Canadian Foundation for Chinese Heritage Preservation and as Chair of the Toronto International Film Festival's Chinese Advisory Council. Justin is currently a Director of the SickKids Foundation among others. He is the recipient of the University of Toronto's Arbor Award for outstanding volunteer leadership and the Queen's

Golden and Diamond Jubilee Medals. Most recently, Justin was appointed the Honorary Patron of Asian Heritage Month (CFAC) and the Virtual Museum of Asian Culture and Heritage.

***Welcome:**

Professor Emily Gilbert, Director, Canadian Studies Program, University College, University of Toronto (Read by Alice Ho)

Dean Barbara Sellers-Young, Faculty of Fine Arts, York University (Read by Alice Ho)

*** Keynote Speech:**

""Chinese Food and Music in Canada"--- a personal view of the evolution of Chinese cuisine and oriental music in Canada in the last 50 years" by **Professor Chan Ka Nin**, Faculty of Music, University of Toronto, Composer of IRON ROAD

*** Arias from opera "Lesson of Da Ji" by Alice Ho**

Vania Chan, soprano Alice Ho, piano Chan Ka Nin, guitar

Alice Ping Yee Ho

Alice Ping Yee Ho |何冰頤| is a Hong Kong-born Canadian composer acclaimed for her "distinctly individual" style and "organic flow of imagination." Considered "among the most important composers writing in this country" (D. Ariaratnam, The Record, Kitchener, ON), she has written in many musical genres and received numerous national and international awards, including the du Maurier Arts Ltd. Canadian Composers Competition, MACRO International Composition Competition, Luxembourg International Composition Prize, Hunter's Award for Best Classical Composer, and International League of Women Composers Competition.

Often performed at national and international new music festivals (ISCM World Music Days, Ottawa Chamber Fest, Demarks' CRUSH New Music Festival, Asian Music Week in Japan, etc.), her works have also been played by major ensembles and soloists including the China National Symphony, Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra, Polish Radio Choir, Esprit Orchestra, the Toronto, Vancouver, Winnipeg, and Victoria Symphonies, Luxembourg Sinfonietta, Le Nouvel Ensemble Moderne, Penderecki String Quartet, New Music Concerts, percussionists Sumire Yoshihara and

Beverley Johnston, violist Rivka Golani, and St. John's Duo Concertante. Her discography includes releases on the Centrediscs, Blue Griffin, Electra and Phoenix labels.

Ms. Ho holds a Bachelor of Music degree in composition with high distinction from Indiana University and a Master of Music degree in composition from the University of Toronto. As a noted classical pianist, Ms. Ho had performed in many new music festivals, including a solo piano recital recorded by CBC Radio 2 in which she premiered Tan Dun's solo piano work "Traces II".

Vania Chan

Lyric coloratura soprano Vania Chan received her M.M. in Classical Voice from the Manhattan School of Music in New York, and graduated Summa Cum Laude from York University, receiving a B.F.A. with Specialized Honours in Music.

She had her Carnegie Hall debut in Weill Recital Hall as a first prize winner in the Barry Alexander International Competition in New York. At the Eckhardt Gramatté Vocal Competition (Brandon, Manitoba), Vania, in collaboration with acclaimed pianist Dr. Erika Crinó, won for best interpretation of the commissioned song cycle (Jocelyn Morlock's Involuntary Love Songs). This performance was broadcast on the radio by the Canadian Broadcasting Company.

Operatic roles include Olympia (Les Contes d'Hoffmann), Susanna (Le Nozze di Figaro), Armida (Rinaldo), Gretel (Hansel and Gretel), Nanetta (Falstaff), Lucia (Lucia di Lammermoor), Anne Trulove (The Rake's Progress), and Marie (La Fille du Régiment"). She recently premiered the role of the Moon in Toronto Masque Theatre's production of "The Lesson of Da Ji", by composer Alice Ping Yee Ho and Librettist Marjorie Chan.

Over the summer, Vania will sing the role of Morgana (Alcina by Handel) with Summer Opera Lyric Theatre, and will premiere a new operatic piece through Vocalypse Productions in Halifax. In the Fall, Vania will sing "Marianne's Requirements" by composer David Lidov in a York University recital featuring his music. www.vaniachan.com

* ***Cuisine Delights*** by Professor Chan Ka Nin

Michelle Colton, percussion Alice Ho, piano Chan Ka Nin, guitar

Chan Ka Nin

Chan Ka Nin is a distinguished Canadian composer whose extensive repertoire draws on both East and West in its aesthetic outlook. Professor of Theory and Composition at the University of Toronto, he has written in most musical genres and received many national and international prizes, including two JUNO awards, the Jean A. Chalmers Award, the Béla Bartók International Composers' Competition in Hungary, and the Barlow International Competition in the United States. In 2001 he won the Dora Mavor Moore Award for Outstanding Musical for his opera *Iron Road*, written with librettist Mark Brownell, depicting the 19th-century construction of the Canadian national railroad by Chinese migrant laborers.

Characteristically luminous in texture and exotic in instrumental colors, Prof. Chan's music has been described by critics as "sensuous," "haunting," and "intricate." The composer often draws his inspiration directly from his personal experiences: for example, the birth of one of his daughters, the death of his father, his spiritual quests, or his connection to nature and concern for the environment. Many prominent ensembles and soloists have performed his music, including the Toronto Symphony, National Arts Centre Orchestra, Hong Kong Philharmonic, Calgary Philharmonic, Nova Scotia Symphony, Esprit Orchestra, Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, Amici Ensemble, Gryphon Trio, Miró Quartet, St. Lawrence Quartet, Purcell Quartet, Amherst Saxophone Quartet, violist Rivka Golani, and oboist Lawrence Cherney. His substantial discography includes releases on the CBC, Centrediscs, ATMA, Analekta, Albany, and Summit labels, among others.

Born and raised in Hong Kong, Mr. Chan holds twin undergraduate degrees in electrical engineering and music from the University of British Columbia, where he studied composition with Jean Coulthard. He subsequently received Master of Music and Doctor of Music degrees from Indiana University, where he studied with Bernhard Heiden.

Michelle Colton

Michelle Colton received her Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Toronto, where she also graduated with her Master's of Music degree in 2009. Michelle earned her Bachelor of Music Education and Percussion Performance degree from the University of Iowa in 2006. She teaches percussion ensemble, world music, and private lessons in the Greater Toronto Area. She received 1st place in the 2009 University of Toronto Concerto Competition

and in the 2011 DMA Recital Competition. She plays extra percussion with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and has shared the stage with NEXUS and Dame Evelyn Glennie.

*** Cantonese Opera**

By Chi Ping Lau & Lisa Lee; dancers: Karen Wong & Elven Koo

with dancers of Chinese Collective Arts Association

Ms. Chi-Ping Lau, a choreographer, dancer and dance educator, is the founder and Artistic Director of Chi-Ping Dance Group. She is a graduate of the Laban Centre, University of London, and is a member of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing, the Canadian Alliance of Dance Artists, the Canadian Dance Teachers' Association and a former director of Community Folk Art Council of Metro Toronto. Chi-Ping studied Chinese dance under the renowned dance artist, Sai-Fun Ng, and ballet and national folk dances under Stephen Kwok and Pearl Chan. While in Hong Kong, Chi-Ping taught dance instructors and instructed in dance programmes at universities. She has also been invited to participate in special training workshops and conferences for overseas Chinese dance professionals offered by the Ministry of Cultural of China since 1993.

*** A presentation and demonstration of North Indian Classical & Light Classical music**

By Gauri Guha (vocal) and Harpal Singh Kalla (Tabla)

-A fast classical song

-A Devotional song

-A folk song

Gauri Guha

Gauri is an established and highly acclaimed professional North Indian classical vocalist and recipient of many grants from the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, the Ontario Arts Council and the Canada Council.

For the last 35 years, Gauri has performed internationally in many prestigious conferences/concerts and had been interviewed in the TV, Radio and by the various

newspapers in India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Canada, the USA, Europe and the Caribbean Islands. She has eight albums to her credit.

In 1977, Gauri was sent by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), to the Cultural Centre, Guyana, South America, as a Cultural Officer/Music Teacher for three years. During that period, Gauri travelled extensively in Guyana, Trinidad, Barbados, Jamaica, Suriname and Venezuela. Etc.

Gauri is a regular teacher at the Sangit Academy, Brussels, Belgium and Integral Yoga Centre, Sitgas, Spain. In December 2006, Gauri sang in a movie called "The Hindu Tomb" at Lille Festival, France. A CD was released during the festival. In July 2007, Gauri taught Indian music at a Seminar, Neufchateau, Belgium which is the biggest dance and music seminar of Europe.

In 2009, Creations India awarded Gauri the Life Time Music Achievement Award.

Gauri has performed consecutively at the Asian Heritage Month Festival since 2006. By recognizing Gauri's contributions in the field of music in the Canadian Society, the Virtual Museum of Asian Canadian Cultural Heritage (VMACCH) made her a Member of the Advisory Board of the VMAVH and has produced a biography on Gauri which was launched on June 4, 2009.

Gauri is an examiner of Akhil Bharatiya Gandharva Mahavidyalaya, Maharashtra, India and Prachin Kala Kendra, Punjab, India. She conducts music examinations every year since 2009.

*** Classical Chinese Music by Dunhuang Chamber Ensemble**

with Yangqin: Anna Guo and Gu Zheng: Ting Hong

Dunhuang Chamber Ensemble

Anna Guo is a celebrated Yang-qin master and former Professor of Yang-qin at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. Anna has devoted herself to Chinese Chamber Music for over 35 years. As a soloist and founder of the 'Shanghai Women's Strings Quintet', she has performed worldwide in the United States, Japan, Netherlands, Belgium, Yugoslavia, Colombia, Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan and Hong Kong. Anna is well known for her versatility and brilliance on the stage. Her performances have won her critical and public acclaim as one of the world's best Yang-qin virtuosos. In 1993, she was awarded the City's Golden key from the Mayor of Lafayette, United States. Since 1996, Anna has made her career in North America. Co-founder

of the Dunhuang Chamber Ensemble, as a soloist she has been invited to perform with the Toronto Canadian Chamber Academy, the Scarborough Philharmonic, the Canadian Sinfonietta, Toronto Youth Orchestra, etc. She has been teaching at the World Music Centre, Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto since 2006. She has recorded over 10 solo and chamber music CDs and has published several academic works with Prof. Samuel Hong.

*** Chinese Dancing-Classical & Ethnic Folk Dances**

presented by Chi-Ping Dance Group & dancers of Chinese Collective Arts Association

Artistic Director: Chi Ping Lau

Chi-Ping Dance Group

Chi-Ping Dance Group has won countless awards for its excellent choreography and performances at National and North American dance competitions. Municipal and provincial authorities have recognized members for their outstanding volunteering achievements and participation in various charitable events. The Chi-Ping Dance Group has also hosted numerous successful gala shows and was cited as the only Cultural Group of the Year in 2000 by the City of Toronto.

Ms. Chi-Ping Lau, a choreographer, dancer and dance educator, is the founder and Artistic Director of Chi-Ping Dance Group. She is a graduate of the Laban Centre, University of London, and is a member of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing, the Canadian Alliance of Dance Artists, the Canadian Dance Teachers' Association and a former director of Community Folk Art Council of Metro Toronto. Chi-Ping studied Chinese dance under the renowned dance artist, Sai-Fun Ng, and ballet and national folk dances under Stephen Kwok and Pearl Chan. While in Hong Kong, Chi-Ping taught dance instructors and instructed in dance programmes at universities. She has also been invited to participate in special training workshops and conferences for overseas Chinese dance professionals offered by the Ministry of Cultural of China since 1993. www.chipingdance.com

THE CHINESE COLLECTIVE ARTS ASSOCIATION (CCAA)

After years of being trained in Chinese Dance together, a group of dancers from Chi-Ping Dance Group gathered to share their passion for the Chinese cultural arts and promote it to the community. Lead by their enthusiasm for dance, music, theatre and hosting functions and events, the Chinese Collective Arts Association (CCAA) plays a prominent role in providing the public with a taste of Chinese culture in their own unique and modernized ways.

DANCE ITEMS

1. YOUTHFUL WINDS

A Chinese Classical Fan Dance that depicts the grace and elegance of youthful energy represented in the tranquil yet complex expression of nature - wind.

2. PLUM FAIRIES

Received the Amethyst Award and Overall 2nd Place at the Northern Stars Dance Competition this year (2013).

The Plum Blossom is one of the most beloved flowers in China because they bloom most vibrantly amidst the winter snow, symbolizing perseverance and hope.

3. BOWL DANCE OF THE MONGOLIAN BEAUTIES

Received High Gold Award, 1st Place in Category, Overall 3rd Place, and Special Judges' Award - "Balance Award" at Dance Canada competition this year (2013).

Received the Amethyst Award, Overall 5th Place, and Special Judges' Award - "Concentration & Commitment" at the Northern Stars Dance Competition 2013.

These Mongolian girls dance with common household objects such as bowls to the beat of festive Mongolian music. The style of Mongolian dance bear clear traces of the nomadic life of their ancestors while exert a strong and proud ambiance with elegant yet lively and light dance movements. The basic steps of Mongolian dancing including movement of the shoulder, arms, and wrist.

4. DRUNKEN DRUMS OF SPRING

Received 1st Place in Ontario Dance Challenge (2007)

The Drum Dance is a Festival Dance of the Han ethnic group in China. Chinese ethnic minority dances are part of Chinese history and a cultural trademark, exhibiting a moving picture of the Chinese people's lifestyle.