



# ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH FESTIVAL 2013

For more information and updates, please go to  
[www.asian-heritage-month.org](http://www.asian-heritage-month.org) or [www.vmacch.ca](http://www.vmacch.ca)

## 1. Chinese Cultural Festival at Toronto Public Library

**FREE ADMISSION** Please register by e-mail: [asianheritagecanadian@yahoo.ca](mailto:asianheritagecanadian@yahoo.ca)

**Date: Saturday May 11, 2013**

**Time: 1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Venue: Riverdale Library, 370 Broadview Ave., Toronto**

**Map:**

<http://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/detail.jsp?Entt=RDMEVT132911&R=EVT132911>

### **Description:**

1:30 pm Topic: Hands-on Chinese Calligraphy and Painting

Artists: Kam Ping Hui and Lien Chao

This special art workshop introduces traditional Chinese art mediums and calligraphy to library patrons with or without previous experience. Participants will get their hands on during the workshop; they will learn how to put down a dot, a straight line, a circle, or a figurative image with Chinese brush and ink on Xuan Paper (rice paper). Kam is a professional artist; Lien is an art critic and writer; both have been teachers.

2:30 pm Photography workshop. Tam Kam Chiu will show the stunning and spectacular photographs that he took in Hunan province, China, including Zhangjiajie City, Wulingyuan, Changsha, and the surrounding mountains where the movie Avatar was filmed. He will describe the inspiration for taking each photo, how the photos were taken and composed, and with which camera settings. Tam Kam Chiu is a renowned photographer who is a Fellow of The Photographic Society of Hong Kong, an Honorary Fellow of the Chinese Canadian Photographic Society of Toronto, and recipient of many awards. He was ranked the second best photographer in North America by the Photographic Society of America in 1997. This workshop will be presented in English and Cantonese.

3:30 pm Chinese Traditional Folk Dance. This introduction to Chinese traditional folk dances, provided by Little Pear Garden Collective, will include performances and workshops of the Wei Wer Dance, Korean Dance, and Mongolian Dance. Learn the basic steps and hand movements.

**Co-Organizers:** Toronto Public Library; Asian Heritage Month—Canadian Foundation for Asian Culture (Central Ontario) Inc.; Chinese Canadian Photography Society of

Toronto; WE Artists' Group; Little Pear Garden Dance Collective; Social Services Network

Project partially funded by the Government of Canada through the Department of Canadian Heritage and the Department of Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

## **2. The Eleventh Annual Asian Heritage Month Lecture and the Ninth Annual Asian Heritage Month Education Roundtable**

**FREE ADMISSION Please register by e-mail: [asianheritagecanadian@yahoo.ca](mailto:asianheritagecanadian@yahoo.ca)**

**Topic: Youth, Identity and Asian Heritage**

**Asian Heritage Month Lecture by Joy Kogawa**

**Plenary Address of Asian Heritage Month Education Roundtable by Donna Quan, Director, Toronto District School Board**

**Date:** Monday, May 13, 2013

**Time:** 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. followed by Reception

**Venue:** Sandra Faire and Ivan Fecan Theatre, York University, 4700 Keele Street

**Map:** Building 92 on the Map at <http://maps.info.yorku.ca/files/2013/02/Colour-Map-pdf.pdf> (**Downsview Subway Station to the 196 Express: York University**)

**Reception, Book Sale and Book Signing of Joy Kogawa books:** 4:30 p.m.

**Description:** The Asian Heritage Month Lecture will be by **Joy Kogawa** on "Youth, Identity and Asian Heritage - A conversation and some Random Thoughts." She will also discuss her newest book "Gently to Nagasaki."

The Plenary Speaker of the Asian Heritage Month Education Roundtable will be **Donna Quan, Director, Toronto District School Board**, followed by presentation by **Roy Fernandes, Principal, St. Henry Catholic School, Toronto Catholic District School Board** on "The experiences of a first generation visible minority Canadian in our Education system". The discussants will be **Rinaldo Walcott**, Chair, Humanities, Social Sciences and Social Justice Education, OISE, University of Toronto and **Professor Ranu Basu** from Department of Geography of York University.

**Presented by: Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies**

**Co-presented with:**

York Centre for Asian Research, York University

Centre for Feminist Research, York University

Canadian Studies Program, University College, University of Toronto

Humanities, Social Sciences and Social Justice Education, OISE, University of Toronto

Asian Heritage Month—Canadian Foundation for Asian Culture (Central Ontario) Inc.

Social Services Network

Project partially funded by the Government of Canada through the Department of Canadian Heritage and the Department of Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

## **3. Asian Heritage Month Art and Photo Exhibitions at City Hall Rotunda**

**FREE ADMISSION**

**Date:** Monday May 13 to Friday May 17, 2013 (noon)

**Venue:** City Hall Rotunda

**Description:** This event will explore the fusion of two types of visual art: painting as an imaginative reproduction of reality, and photography as a realistic representation of life. In juxtaposing these two visual art forms, the innovative ways Asian artists manipulate the multicultural setting of Canada can be seen, such as applying oil painting techniques on Chinese themes, or using Chinese brush painting to show Canadian themes. How photography aspires to be a verisimilitude of life and an imaginative interpretation informed by Asian philosophy will also be shown. Dr. Lien Chao will work with the Artists Association, and the Chinese Canadian Photographic Society of Toronto will feature their members' works. During the festival weekend, the artists and photographers will be present to talk about Asian art media and demonstrate their techniques; these educational activities aim at helping the public to develop necessary knowledge and critical skills to appreciate Asian art.

**Co-Organizers:** Asian Heritage Month—Canadian Foundation for Asian Culture (Central Ontario) Inc.; Chinese Canadian Photography Society of Toronto; WE Artists' Group; Social Services Network

Project partially funded by the Government of Canada through the Department of Canadian Heritage and the Department of Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

**4. Book Launch: *Passage to Promise Land: Voices of Chinese Immigrant Women to Canada* by The Honourable Dr. Vivienne Poy**

**FREE ADMISSION Please register by e-mail: [asianheritagecanadian@yahoo.ca](mailto:asianheritagecanadian@yahoo.ca)**

**Date:** Thursday May 16

**Time:** 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

**Venue:** Schulich Private Dining Room, Seymour Schulich Building, York University, 4700 Keele Street

**Map:** Building 42 on the Map at <http://maps.info.yorku.ca/files/2013/02/Colour-Map-pdf.pdf> (**Downsview Subway Station to the 196 Express: York University**)

**Reception and book signing after the book launch**

**Description:** Dr. Poy will give the keynote talk about her new book, tracing more than six decades of Chinese immigration to Canada from the end of the Second World War to the present day. It shows the evolution of immigration policy through the stories of Chinese immigrant women, relating them to the social, political, and ethnic tensions of the period. Although the narratives included here represent women of all ages and educational backgrounds, they share a common sense of determination and spirited resilience in the face of hardship. Through their stories we learn about Chinese settlement experience, how the Chinese community developed alongside changes in immigration regulations, and why the immigration of Chinese families to Canada became commonplace in the 1970s. The women address experiences of patriarchy and discrimination in both China and Canada, revive memories of the turbulent years in China at the end of the Pacific War, and speak of their uncertainties about the return of Hong Kong's sovereignty from the United Kingdom to China in 1997. From the very first mention of Chinese women's immigration in Canada's Parliament in 1879, to the end of the twentieth century - when a Chinese woman was appointed Governor General - the road to equality has been long and arduous. *Passage to Promise Land* details the

important events along the way through the voices of the women themselves. Dr. Poy's keynote talk will be followed two discussions: Professor Bernard Luk talking from a historical perspective, and Professor Guida Man reviewing from the immigrant perspectives.

**Presented by: Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies**

**Co-presented with:**

York Centre for Asian Research, York University

Centre for Feminist Research, York University

Asian Heritage Month—Canadian Foundation for Asian Culture (Central Ontario) Inc.

Social Services Network

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### **5. Asian Heritage Month Art and Photo Exhibitions at Metro Hall Rotunda**

**FREE ADMISSION**

**Date:** Saturday, May 18 to Friday, May 24, 2013

**Venue:** Metro Hall Rotunda

**Description:** This event will explore the fusion of two types of visual art: painting as an imaginative reproduction of reality, and photography as a realistic representation of life. In juxtaposing these two visual art forms, the innovative ways Asian artists manipulate the multicultural setting of Canada can be seen, such as applying oil painting techniques on Chinese themes, or using Chinese brush painting to show Canadian themes. How photography aspires to be a verisimilitude of life and an imaginative interpretation informed by Asian philosophy will also be shown. Dr. Lien Chao will work with the Artists Association, and the Chinese Canadian Photographic Society of Toronto will feature their members' works. During the festival weekend, the artists and photographers will be present to talk about Asian art media and demonstrate their techniques; these educational activities aim at helping the public to develop necessary knowledge and critical skills to appreciate Asian art.

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### **6. Chinese Cultural Festival at Toronto Public Library**

**FREE ADMISSION Please register by e-mail: [asianheritagecanadian@yahoo.ca](mailto:asianheritagecanadian@yahoo.ca)**

**Date:** Saturday May 18, 2013

**Time:** 1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Venue:** Sanderson Library, 327 Bathurst Street, Toronto

**Map:**

<http://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/detail.jsp?Entt=RDMEVT132565&R=EVT132565>

**Description:**

1:30 pm Topic: Hands-on Chinese Calligraphy and Painting

Artists: Kam Ping Hui and Lien Chao

This special art workshop introduces traditional Chinese art mediums and calligraphy to library patrons with or without previous experience. Participants will get their hands on during the workshop; they will learn how to put down a dot, a straight line, a circle, or a figurative image with Chinese brush and ink on Xuan Paper (rice paper). Kam is a professional artist; Lien is an art critic and writer; both have been teachers.

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3:30 pm Chinese Traditional Folk Dance. This introduction to Chinese traditional folk dances, provided by Toronto Chinese Dance Company will include performances and workshops of the Peacock Dance, Korean Dance, and Painted Sculpture of Dun Huang Dance. Learn the basic steps and hand movements.

**Co-Organizers:** Toronto Public Library; Asian Heritage Month—Canadian Foundation for Asian Culture (Central Ontario) Inc.; Chinese Canadian Photography Society of Toronto; WE Artists' Group; Little Pear Garden Dance Collective; Social Services Network

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## **7. Asian Heritage Month Film Festival**

**Date:** Sunday, 26 May 2013

**Time:** 2:30 pm to 8:00 pm

**Venue:** Innis Town Hall, University of Toronto, 2 Sussex Avenue, Toronto

Map at <http://www.utoronto.ca/townhall/contact.html>

**FREE ADMISSION** Please register at [asianheritagecanadian@yahoo.ca](mailto:asianheritagecanadian@yahoo.ca)

Programmed by ReelWorld Film Festival Canadian Features Programmer Bobby Del Rio

Presented by:

Asian Heritage Month--Canadian Foundation for Asian Culture (Central Ontario) Inc.,  
Social Services Network in partnership with ReelWorld Film Festival

**HIGHLIGHT: Oscar-winning composer Mychael Danna (Life of Pi) did the score for "Sohni Sapna"**

2:30 pm *Chinese Restaurants*

*Chinese Restaurants* tells the story of the Chinese Diaspora through its most recognizable and enduring icon, the family-run Chinese restaurant. Cheuk Kwan takes us on a tour of restaurants around the world, bringing us into the lives of extraordinary families as they share moving stories of struggle, courage, displacement and belonging, and what it means to be "Chinese" today. (Info. from <http://chineserestaurants.tv>)

4:30 pm Panel on "The Future of Asian Filmmaking"

Panelists: Directors Cheuk Kwan (*Chinese Restaurant*), Dev Khanna, Shaleen Sangha (*Sohni Sapna*)

Moderated by Bobby Del Rio, ReelWorld Film Festival

6:00 pm Festival of Asian Canadian Short Films:

*The Evening News* (Director Dev Khanna): A film about age, time and regret. Unable to sleep, an elderly man, then turns to his wife to confess the very moment he fell in love with her. Unfolding in real time, it is a simple, quiet yet very powerful film on the necessity to speak what we feel.

*Sohni Sapna* (Beautiful Dream)(Director Shaleen Sangha): Sohni is in love with a dream. Her dreams are the sequel to the old Indian folk tale she heard all her life, 'Sohni Mahiwal'. In this tragic love story, the lovers meet every night, despite opposition. Sohni comes to believe she is the reincarnation of the heroine in 'Sohni Mahiwal' and she drifts further away from reality. When her husband discovers her secret romance with her dreams, she is forced to make a choice between her dreams and reality. Oscar-winning composer Mychael Danna (*Life of Pi*) did the score for "Sohni Sapna" (info. from [imdb.com](http://imdb.com))

*Unlocked* (Director Mio Adilman): A twenty-something guy named B (played by Bobby Del Rio), who lives at home with his mom (Jean Yoon) in downtown Toronto. He relies on his bike to get around the city, but finds it double-locked several times by careless cyclists. Consequently, he blows up: he writes a hateful note to one of the offending parties, and another time just walks away with someone else's bike.

*Audition Day* (Director Spencer Spencer Idenouye): What happens when two actor friends compete for the role of a lifetime?

*The Change*: To follow the crowd, To be safe or Take the biggest risk of your life. Watch Ashi decide.

ReelWorld Film Festival showcases and promotes work by emerging and established racially diverse artists including those from Aboriginal, Asian, Black, Latino, Middle Eastern, South Asian and other visibly diverse backgrounds.

**Co-Organizers:** Asian Heritage Month—Canadian Foundation for Asian Culture (Central Ontario) Inc.; ReelWorld Film Festival; Canadian Studies, University College, University of Toronto; Richard Charles Lee Canada Hong Kong Library, University of Toronto; Faculty of Fine Arts, York University; Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies, York University; Social Services Network; Bata Shoe Museum  
Project partially funded by the Government of Canada through the Department of

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## **8. Asian Heritage Month Gala Performance of Asian Canadian Artists**

**FREE ADMISSION** Please register by e-mail: [asianheritagecanadian@yahoo.ca](mailto:asianheritagecanadian@yahoo.ca)

**Keynote Addresses:**

**Professor Chan Ka Nin, composer of IRON ROAD**

**Alice Ho, pianist and composer, on her new work with Toronto Masque Theatre**

**Date: Friday May 31, 2013**

**Time: 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**

**Venue: Bata Shoe Museum, 327 Bloor Street West, Toronto (St. George Subway Station)**

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

**Description:** There will be formal performances by professional Asian-Canadian artists, as well as informal occasions for the community to talk to the artists. The marketplace festival atmosphere will facilitate cultural exchanges between the artists and the audience. The artists will also perform across ethnic background and traditional genres. Artists will mingle with the audience when they are not performing, so that they have an opportunity to be in dialogue with the audience including educators, professors, members of the school board, community partners and the public on the topic: "Inclusive Community Building Through the Asian Arts."

## **Programme**

### **1. 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

### **2. Cuisine Delights** by Professor Chan Ka Nin

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

### **3. Aria from Da Ji** by Alice Ho

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

### **4. Cantonese Opera**

presented by Chi Ping Lau & Lisa Lee; dancers: Karen Wong & Elven Koo with dancers of Chinese Collective Arts Association

**5. 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

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

with Yangqin: Anna Guo and Gu Zheng: Ting Hong

**7. Chinese Dancing-Classical & Ethnic Folk Dances** by Chinese Collective Arts Association

**Co-organizers:**

Bata Shoe Museum; Asian Heritage Month—Canadian Foundation for Asian Culture (Central Ontario) Inc.; Canadian Studies Program, University College, University of Toronto; Social Services Network; Chinese Collective Arts Association

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