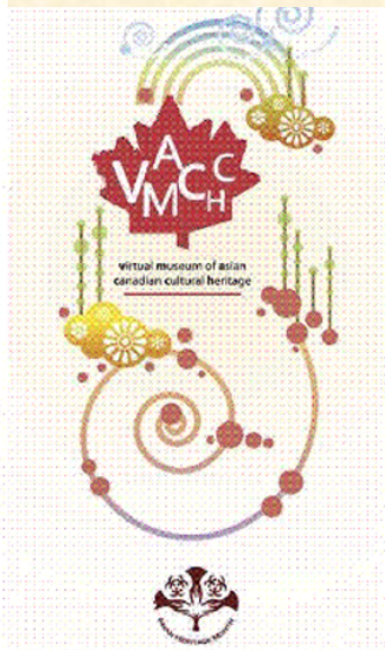


# ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH FESTIVAL 2023

... showcasing cultural expressions and experiences of Asian Canadians

<https://www.vmacch.com>



Please visit

<https://www.vmacch.com/> for details



Canadian Foundation for  
Asian Culture (Central  
Ontario) Inc.



Canada Council  
for the Arts  
Conseil des arts  
du Canada



WE ARTISTS' GROUP



SOCIAL SERVICES NETWORK  
serving diverse communities



## ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH FESTIVAL 2023

PRESENTED BY CANADIAN FOUNDATION FOR ASIAN CULTURE (CENTRAL ONTARIO) INC.

OPENING CEREMONY | ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH FESTIVAL  
CELEBRATING THE 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF  
THE ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH DECLARATION BY THE SENATE OF CANADA

**Land Acknowledgement and Opening Remarks:**

Host: Ms. Bo San Karantjas

**Welcome:**

**The Honourable Dr. Vivienne Poy** (former Senator who tabled the Asian Heritage Month Motion in the Senate of Canada, and Founding Patron, Asian Heritage Month-CFACI)

**Mr. Justin Poy** (Honourary Patron, Asian Heritage Month-CFACI, and Chinese Canadian Legend Award recipient)

**Asian Heritage Month Lecture:**

**“IT WAS ABOUT TIME.”** The story behind Asian Heritage in Canada

A talk between **The Honourable Dr. Vivienne Poy** (former Senator who tabled the Asian Heritage Month Motion in the Senate of Canada, and Founding Patron, Asian Heritage Month-CFACI) and **Mr. Justin Poy** (Honourary Patron, Asian Heritage Month-CFACI, Chinese Canadian Legend Award Winner)

**Presentation of the Walter Carsen Prize for Excellence in the Performing Arts to Asian Canadian Dance Artist Ms. Yvonne Ng by Ms. Caroline Lussier, Director of Arts Promotion, Canada Council for the Arts**

**“Capturing the Moment and Beyond – Haiku Photography”** by **Mr. Stephen Siu** (Chinese Canadian Legend Award Winner; Chair of Chinese Canadian Photographic Soc. of Toronto)

**Slideshow of Photographic Images by Chinese Canadian Photographic Society of Toronto with music by Professor Chan Ka Nin and Alice Ping Yee Ho**

**Dim Sum Lunch Reception sponsored by Mr. Justin Poy (Honorary Patron, AHM-CFACI)**

**SATURDAY MAY 13, 2023 | 11 AM EDT**

**Innis Town Hall, University of Toronto, 2 Sussex Avenue (St. George Subway Station) [Google Maps](#)**

**FREE ADMISSION:** Please register at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/asian-heritage-month-opening-ceremony-2023-tickets-626541862577>

For more information, please visit <https://www.vmacch.com>

## Event Schedule

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### ***Land Acknowledgement & Opening Remarks:***

Host: **Ms. Bo San Karantjas**

Tech support: **Ms. Avianna Chao**

### ***Welcome:***

**The Honourable Dr. Vivienne Poy** (former Senator who tabled the Asian Heritage Month Motion in the Senate of Canada, and Founding Patron, Asian Heritage Month-CFACI)

**Mr. Justin Poy** (Honourary Patron, Asian Heritage Month-CFACI, and Chinese Canadian Legend Award recipient)

### ***Asian Heritage Month Lecture:***

#### ***“IT WAS ABOUT TIME.” The story behind Asian Heritage in Canada***

*A talk between The Honourable Dr. Vivienne Poy (former Senator who tabled the Asian Heritage Month Motion in the Senate of Canada, and Founding Patron, Asian Heritage Month-CFACI) and Mr. Justin Poy (Honourary Patron, Asian Heritage Month-CFACI, Chinese Canadian Legend Award Winner)*

### ***About The Honourable Dr. Vivienne Poy:***



The Honorable Dr. Vivienne Poy, PhD University of Toronto, is an author, entrepreneur, historian, fashion designer, and community champion. In 1998, she was the first Canadian of Asian heritage to be appointed to the Senate of Canada where she focused on gender issues, multiculturalism, immigration, and human rights, and was instrumental in having May recognized as Asian Heritage Month across Canada. Vivienne is Chancellor Emerita of the University of Toronto. She is the author/co-editor of numerous publications. After her retirement from the Senate of Canada in September 2012, she continues to write and remains actively involved with academia and communities across Canada.

Vivienne has received numerous honorary degrees and professorship from universities in Canada, USA, China, Hong Kong, and South Korea, as well as many honors and awards.

***About Justin Poy:***

Justin Poy is an award-winning advertising executive that has built his career and personal life around the understanding and promotion of multiculturalism. He is a frequent keynote speaker on the subject of multicultural marketing and communications and was a National Chair of the Association of Fundraising Professionals Diversity and Inclusion Series. He is the recipient of the Queen's Golden and Diamond Jubilee Medals, and the Chinese Canadian Legend Award. Justin is the Founding Chair of the annual signature fundraising event, "Glitter" raising funds for the SickKids Foundation and received "Alumni of Distinction" status at both The Toronto Metropolitan University and The Toronto French School. He is proud to be the Honorary Patron of Asian Heritage Month (CFACI).



***Presentation of the Walter Carsen Prize for Excellence in the Performing Arts to Asian Canadian Dance Artist Ms. Yvonne Ng by Ms. Caroline Lussier, Director of Arts Promotion, Canada Council for the Arts***

**Dance by Yvonne Ng**

Miniature Solo and Music, an excerpt. (2021)

Choreography by Yvonne Ng, in collaboration with

Performer: Kurumi Yoshimoto

Composer: Nick Storrington

Outside Eye: Bonnie Kim

Yvonne Ng's introduction of the work: "In 2020, I was preparing for the premier of my full length work, Wéi 成为 which of course had to be postponed, three times. Finally premiering in summer 2022. By the time we got into 2021, there was an absence of dance in my life, I was missing the desire to engage in a personal and collective creation. While I was bound to the limits of my physical container, I found it liberating to be able to still create dance through my imagination. This sparked a curiosity around how I could transmit and transfer my imagination to the physical body of another person. So with inspiration from Nick Storrington's stunning composition from Wéi 成为, which still at that time, was waiting for its presentation premier, and in collaboration with 5 exquisite artists, we created a series of solo variations. For the 2023 Asian Heritage Month celebrations, I'm going to be showing one of the 5 solos, that Kurumi will perform."

### **About Yvonne Ng:**



“Born and raised in Singapore, Yvonne Ng is a choreographer, presenter, arts educator, and founder and artistic director of princess productions. princess productions supports the work of two divisions - tiger princess dance projects (1995) for Yvonne's activities as a performer, choreographer, arts educator and producer; and dance: made in canada / fait au canada (2001) a presenting division that produces a biennial festival of contemporary Canadian dance works. Her works have toured internationally for the past 15 years. Her company's arts education programs, Swallowing Clouds (youth) and Moving Stories (cross-generational) are active in 18 library branches and retirement residences.

Yvonne completed her Masters in Intergenerational Practice at York University in 2018. She has taught at and created work for Toronto Metropolitan University, York University, and for 6 years at Juniata College, Pennsylvania and the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts and La Salle College of the Arts, Singapore. She is currently adjunct at University of Waterloo.

Yvonne Ng received the Ontario Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts for New Talent in 2007 and, since then, her choreography and performances have earned her 15 Dora Mavor Moore nominations and one win. She has received numerous other accolades, including the Muriel Sherrin Award, the Jacqueline Lemieux Prize, the Soulepper Community Artist Award, the K.M. Hunter Artist Award, a New Pioneers Award and a Chalmers Arts Fellowship.” (Photo by Sean Howard)

<https://canadacouncil.ca/funding/prizes/walter-carsen-prize-for-excellence-in-the-performing-arts>

### **About Kurumi Yoshimoto – Performer**

Kurumi is a Toronto-based dancer originally from Osaka, Japan. She trained at private dance studios and earned her B.A in Psychology in 2015 from Kwansai Gakuin University. In 2017, she came to Canada to study modern dance at The School of Toronto Dance Theatre's Professional Training Program from 2018 to 2021. During the summer of 2019, she trained at the Alvin Ailey School in New York and also participated in ProArteDanza's summer intensive, which earned her an invitation as an apprentice with the company for their 2019 Fall season. In 2021 Kurumi created a short dance film called “縁-En-” for SummerWorks Performance Festival and also had the opportunity to perform in the dance:made in canada Festival. Recently, since graduating from STDT, she has been working with tiger princess dance projects.



## **“Capturing the Moment and Beyond – Haiku Photography” by Mr. Stephen Siu (Chinese Canadian Legend Award Winner; Chair of Chinese Canadian Photographic Society of Toronto)**



A slideshow to explore the intersection and interaction between photography and Haiku, a Japanese poetic form, in a multicultural context. An image and a Haiku-style short poem are both a moment in time, but they can lead us to see far beyond. Both art forms have the ability to convert complex emotions and ideas into simple expressions, which help create striking and expressive work.

### ***About Stephen Siu:***

Mr. Stephen Siu, former Executive Director of the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto, is currently the President of Yee Hong Community Wellness Foundation. Yee Hong is largest Chinese Canadian charity in Canada. He has served as advisor to several non-profit cultural groups including the Ontario Cross-Cultural Music Society and the Canada-Hong Kong Library. He was presented with the Chinese Canadian Legend Award in 2009, the Arbor Award in 2010, the Canadian Senate 150

medal and the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Award in recent years.

## **Slideshow of Photographs by Chinese Canadian Photographic Society of Toronto with music by Professor Chan Ka Nin and Alice Ho**

### ***About the Chinese Canadian Photographic Society of Toronto:***



The Chinese Canadian Photographic Society of Toronto (CCPST加中攝影學會) was founded in Canada’s largest city – Toronto – in 1976 as a non-profit organization.

Over the last 46 cherished years, it has made itself one of the best and contributive photographic organizations in Canada. Among its 150 members, six are Grandmasters (GMPSA) of the Photographic Society of America (PSA), the highest honour awarded by the world-wide organization, which has 5,000 members and 460 camera clubs across the United States. In Canada, there are only nine GMPSA recipients. Also, over 30 CCPST members are “Fellows” of different photographic organizations worldwide.

(Photo by Tam Kam Chiu, GMPSA)

### ***About Professor 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 nineteenth century construction of the Canadian National Railway by Chinese migrant labourers.

Characteristically luminous in texture and exotic in instrumental colours, 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.

### ***About Alice Ping Yee Ho:***



One of the most acclaimed composers writing in Canada today, Hong Kong-born Alice Ping Yee Ho has written in many musical genres and received numerous national and international awards, including the 2022 Symphony Nova Scotia's Maria Anna Mozart Award, 2022 Barlow Endowment General Commission, 2019 Johanna Metcalf Performing Arts Prize, 2016 Louis Applebaum Composers Award, K.M. Hunter Artist Award, 2014 Prince Edward Island Symphony Composers Competition, and 2013 Dora Mavor Moore Award for her opera "Lesson of Da Ji".

Critics have called her music dramatic and graceful, while praising its "organic flow of imagination," "distinctly individual" style, "colourful orchestration", and "emotive qualities".

Her works have been performed by the Toronto, Vancouver, Winnipeg, Victoria, and Hamilton Symphonies; the Finnish Lapland Chamber Orchestra, China National Symphony, Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra, Florida Orchestra, Polish Radio Choir, Estonia's Ellerhein Girls Choir, Luxembourg Sinfonietta, and Amsterdam's Nieuw Ensemble.

A twice JUNO Award Nominee, she has an impressive discography released on the Centrediscs, Naxos, ATMA, PARMA, Marquis Classics, Blue Griffin, Electra, Leaf Music, and Phoenix labels. Her recent releases including "A Woman Voices" (Leaf Music) featuring her music for female voice(s) and piano, "Blaze" (Centrediscs), a solo piano album featuring acclaimed Canadian pianist Christina Petrowska Quilico, and the full length recording of her new opera CHINATOWN commissioned by City Opera Vancouver with librettist Madeleine Thien, will be released in September, 2023. Alice Ho's website: <https://www.alicepyho.com/>

## **Dim Sum Lunch Reception**

**Sponsored by Mr. Justin Poy, Honourary Patron, Asian Heritage Month-CFACI**

Please arrive early to collect a lunch-reception coupon at the entrance to Innis Town Hall to join the dim-sum lunch reception. One coupon per person.