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The Source

forum of diversity

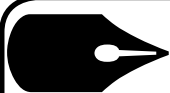
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Capoeira

From Secret Martial Art to Cultural Showcase

Photo - Courtesy of Professor Nego



VERBATIM

Longing for Vancouver

By Kiran Sandhu

► I'm a Vancouverite, attending a university in Eastern Canada. My peers hailing from Ontario and Quebec often ask me, "Why did you leave Vancouver to come here?" At first, my answer was automatic. I stated various reasons, from seeking independence to changing the landscape. However, as this topic started to become a staple in conversation, I found myself reflecting more on why I did leave such a beautiful city as Vancouver. The issue especially encompassed my thoughts on returning home to British Columbia for the first time. Experiencing the contrast between the harsh, brazen winters of the east and the tranquility of the West Coast only added prevalence to the question.

To any person from Eastern Canada, the most salient aspect

of Vancouver is its immersion in nature. For a Vancouverite on Dunbar Street, the mountains are in crisp view to the north, with a brisk walk to the expansive Pacific Spirit Park, and a short drive to the soothing waters of Jericho Beach. While permanent residents sometimes take this bounty of nature for granted, satellite Vancouverites often realise this great quality after leaving the area. Such a feeling sparked the creation of the Facebook group "Take Me Back to Beautiful British Columbia", which currently has over 4,500 members worldwide.

The group's page is cluttered with memories of home and photos encapsulating Vancouver's picturesque scenery. Drawing attention to the aesthetic qualities of Vancouver is important, but it is also necessary to focus on the city's diverse population.

"Verbatim" see page 2

By Leah Raquel Ranada

► It would be hard to think of a martial art livelier than Capoeira.

In this Brazilian sport, participation is not limited to two people in combat. The capoeiristas form a circle called *roda* (pronounced as ho-da). They play music using *atabaque* (drum), *pandeiro* (tambourine) and *berimbau*, a stringed instrument that looks like a tall archery bow. The vibrant music, accompanied by the capoeiristas' chanting, fuels the fighting, which is an exciting series of handstands and cartwheels fashioned into combative kicking and dodging.

Interestingly, such an upbeat sport as Capoeira had clandestine origins. The Portuguese who colonized Brazil during the 16th century didn't allow their slaves, the captives from Africa, to practice any form of fighting. They had no idea that the slaves cultivated martial arts right under their masters' noses. During their free time, the slaves would gather in a circle and play music

for two dancers performing in the centre. The music was accompanied by chanting, while the dances were composed of graceful steps and deft acrobatics. It looked like they were partaking in a festivity, when in fact they were perfecting combat techniques.

Even when the Portuguese colonization of Brazil had ended, Capoeira continued to stay in the shadows. In 1890, Marechal Deodoro da Fonseca banned practicing Capoeira; those who were caught doing so were persecuted. Despite the prohibition, it continued to flourish among the lower class. In 1930, an ardent capoeirista Manuel dos Reis Machado, or Mestre Bimba, was able to persuade the authorities to legalise Capoeira. Mestre Bimba is also credited for developing *capoeira regional* – one of the Capoeira styles that enriched the sport's martial art aspect. Capoeira became a national sport in Brazil in 1974.

By now, it had become known worldwide, being taught in academies and universities in over

50 countries. The first Capoeira *mestres* (masters) in Vancouver came from Brazil during the early 1990s. Since then, academies headed by *mestres* have sprouted all over the city, attracting many students. Marcio Silva Andrade, better known as Professor Nego, is one of those long-time capoeiristas who had observed Capoeira's growing popularity in our multicultural city.

"My class is really mixed," said Professor Nego, who leads the Grupo Capoeira Males in Vancouver. He noted that his classes are not dominantly Brazilian; they are attended by people from different ethnic backgrounds.

"Capoeira" see page 2



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Kira Miranda Lawrence
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My Turn Looking for inspiration

People just don't know. I mean, they just don't know what to do if general elections should be called. Poll after poll tells us of the volatility of the electorate. One day, Stephen Harper shows a slight edge; next day, Stéphane Dion seems to have the advantage. Who can blame the voters?

Perplexity reigns in the country's households. And this is because, I believe, of the parties' leaders. To this day, neither of them has been able to offer to the nation a constructive vision of the future. What we have to keep in mind here is that daily issues aren't the bread and butter of politicians. The big picture is what matters, the stances taken by rulers and opposition. This is what they want us to pay attention to. What voters assume is what really matters.

The problem is that, as it stands, there is no big picture

strong enough to sway the electorate one way or the other. No majority win is in sight. And this is not about to change anytime soon, I'm afraid. Not that the parties involved aren't trying. Each party has brilliant strategists at its disposal, trying the population, analyzing data, testing messages and political applications. All this is scrutinized and evaluated by party leaders.

But the best strategy doesn't warrant a win. Take Prime Minister Harper, for example. He knows for a fact that he has the advantage on the Liberal Party when it comes to criminal matters. His party's legislative agenda has heavily covered all aspects of the subject. But the economic slowdown of our neighbors down south is starting to affect us. And this is throwing a wrench in Stephen Harper's game plan. Topics

By Serge Corbeil



such as criminality are easily shoved to the back burner when voters worry about their economic welfare. Under these circumstances, Stephen Harper must prove that his party is better able to manage the Canadian economy than is Stéphane Dion's.

On the other hand, the Liberal Party's leader is currently juggling with a sort of 'Big Bang' ideology in order to resolutely distinguish himself from the Conservative Party. After having rejected the idea of a carbon tax during the last electoral campaign, he now embraces it. He too, is facing serious risks. Voters are more than concerned over the rising cost of fuel. Is it a good idea, in the midst of electoral tensions, to propose a tax that would yet again raise the price at the pump? That's the issue Mr. Dion will have to ponder. We'll see if he is indeed ready to risk it all.

Translation: Monique Kroeger

"Verbatim" from page 1

Vancouver proudly embraces its rich ethnicity. At the corner of Robson and Burrard, one can hear a multitude of languages and try a vast array of cuisines: from Afghan to Japanese.

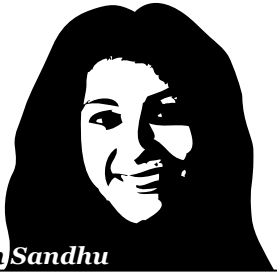
Another feature of our city its former inhabitants so often miss is the warmth of our people. Vancouverites are known across the country as being welcoming; a trait which, I believe, contributes to the city's diversity. Toronto and Montreal, two other largest Canadian cities, also have ethnically varied population. However, that population tends to be more divided than intermixed, as it is in Vancouver. By openly accepting many cultures, our city has flourished in a friendly and hospitable environment.

Lastly, the mild, temperate rainforest climate of the West Coast encourages the city's laid-back, relaxed personality. This may seem insignificant, but only after enduring record snowfalls of winters and thick humidity of smoggy summers, one can fully appreciate the refreshing qualities of the light Vancouver climate. We may experience downpours of rain, but many prefer the rains to the brittle, chilly winds of the East Coast. Those winds feel like they could freeze even the most cheerful soul, while I have noticed that

the rains in Vancouver only help to highlight the year-around smell of evergreens and the sweet scent of cherry blossoms in spring.

While thinking over the question "Why did you leave?" I reflected on all these delightful qualities, and they made me long for Vancouver more than ever. Although I was wistful, I gained a new appreciation for my city. Being born and raised in Vancouver, I took such diversity and landscape to be commonplace throughout Canada. My naïve outlook vanished upon moving east. All Canadian cities have wonderful cultures and people, but Vancouver is unique in offering a cosmopolitan environment surrounded by nature and tranquility.

These aspects that make this city so great simultaneously make leaving it quite difficult. Although I stick by my initial reasons for leaving Vancouver, its wonderful qualities lead me to celebrate my hometown. ■



Kiran Sandhu

"Capoeira" from page 1

Professor Nego himself was born and raised in Brazil. He first encountered Capoeira when he was twelve years old and initially practiced it with a group of friends. In 2000, at the age of twenty, he organized a Capoeira group in Guadalajara, Mexico. He came to Vancouver in 2002 to participate in the International Capoeira Encounter and had stayed here to teach since then.

On June 13 to 15 of this year, he will be hosting the Third Capoeira Festival, a weekend of Capoeira conferences and demonstrations, which will be held at Carson Graham Secondary School at 2145 Jones Ave in North Vancouver.

Capoeira's appeal lies in its

mix of different disciplines. "It incorporates a lot that other martial arts don't," said Kathryn Taylor, an anthropologist and a member of Grupo Capoeira Males. She appreciates the sport as it exposes her to the Brazilian culture. She also found the dance and the energy it gives off to participants and audience to be a good stress reliever.

Professor Nego believes that most professional capoeiristas try to pass on the traditions that came with Capoeira. The members of his class are given Capoeira nicknames – a practice that dates back to the times when the sport was illegal. The subtleness of the fighting method is preserved too: to this day, Capoeira continues to be played out in the *roda* as a form of dance-like fighting.

As Capoeira originated as a combat practice hidden in musical merry-making, learning it requires the knowledge of its music as much as its moves. That is why Professor Nego also heads a music class, where the students learn the Portuguese songs and the instruments. "The songs relate stories about the capoeiristas' lives, the old mestres and Capoeira's history in general," he explained.

Eventually, for many practitioners, a deeper sense of appreciation kicks in, and Capoeira becomes more than a musical or fitness activity. "People come to Capoeira for different reasons," Professor Nego said. "Some come for the music, others for the acrobatics or the martial arts." After some time, according to Nego, "they decide to make it a part of their lives." ■

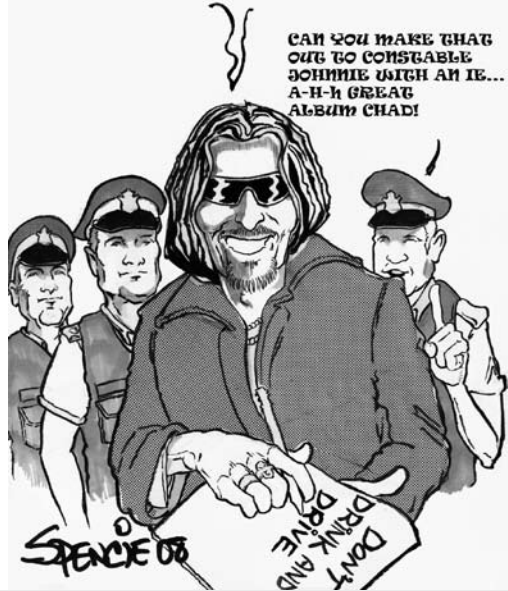


Photo - Courtesy of Professor Nego

Music, dance and the art of combat.

SPENCIE'S VIEW

SO, I MADE A MISTAKE...



SELECT NETWORK

Songs Your Mother Should Never Have Taught You... ? Erotic Symbolism in Ukrainian Folk Songs

Ever wonder if there's more to those innocent-sounding folk songs than meets the ear? You know, the ones you learned from your mother, grandmother, maybe even teachers...

They probably didn't tell you that the love song lyrics, for all their subtlety, are steeped in ancient symbolism of a most arousing kind – provided you know what it means!

Orysia Tracz, a specialist in Ukrainian ethnology and folklore, has revealed all (about this topic, that is) to audiences in Toronto, Kyiv, New Jersey, Houston, Washington, DC and Winnipeg.

And on Friday, May 30th, she'll be in Vancouver to lay bare the facts so we too can uncover the mystery.

This titillating exposé will be enhanced with a guest performance by Zeellia, Vancouver's "Slavic Soul" ensemble. Fresh from their 2008 British Columbia tour, they'll showcase a rich repertoire drawn from diverse East European cultures.

Everyone is welcome – presentation in English. While the focus is Ukrainian folk songs, the theme is relevant to all ethnic traditions.

Come for an evening of traditional Ukrainian hospitality and music – and step back in time for a glimpse of how we all got here!

Showtime is 7:30 p.m. on Friday, May 30th at the Ukrainian Hall, 805 East Pender St. in Vancouver. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. To purchase call 604-873-1738 or 604-942-4317. Advance tickets available at Solaway Travel (3819 Sunset St., Burnaby) and Prairie Cottage Perogies (20771 Langley Bypass, Langley).

This engaging exposition is co-sponsored by Zeellia, Vancouver's "Slavic Soul" ensemble, and Nash Holos, BC's longest-running and only bilingual Ukrainian radio program.

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Write to the appropriate editor, care of the mailing address below:

Second Annual Bilingual Job Fair

By Olena Morozova

► Educacentre College in collaboration with the Royal Bank of Canada is hosting the second annual Bilingual Job Fair on May 21, at the Vancouver Public Library downtown. The Job Fair will feature 38 companies in diverse sectors, including Education, Public Services, Tourism, Customer Service and more. The event organizers expect it to be attended by at least 350 job seekers.

Educacentre College, a non-profit organization since 1992, is the only French language college in British Columbia. The college has an average annual student enrollment of 1,500 over its four campuses in Vancouver, Victoria, Prince George and Nanaimo.

"Our mission is to integrate francophones in the community," explains Amélie St-Pierre, Special Project Coordinator at Educacentre. "We do that by offering different subsidized programs and helping with resumes."

"In fact, we are the only place in Vancouver where one can receive help with resume in French," adds Julien Capraro, Development and Marketing Agent at the College.

Started as an organization to provide employment counseling services to francophone job seekers, the college now offers a variety of educational programs in foreign languages, business, health care, tourism and others.

Last year, the College started its annual Bilingual Job Fair initiative to increase the exposure and to reach out to more francophones in British Columbia. Unlike other job fairs, the Bilingual Job Fair features specifically selected employers that offer bilingual employment opportunities. At this year's event, as many as 90% of the participating companies will offer bilingual jobs.

The inaugural Job Fair of 2007 turned out to be a great success. Julien Capraro was amazed at how easy it was to recruit the 28 companies that took part in the event. This year, 38 companies will participate in the unique employment gathering. "The demand for French language is growing in the employment market [on the West Coast]. The knowledge of French is an asset and very often a job requirement," notes Capraro.

While federal government organizations, such as Canada Revenue Agency or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), have traditionally employed bilingual individuals, many private companies in BC have recently opened bilingual positions as well. The trend can be explained by the economic growth on the West Coast, fostering the expansion of many private companies into the East Coast market, a large part of which is the francophone province of Québec.

Another incentive for hiring French speakers is the arrival of the 2010 Winter Olympic Games to Vancouver. The Vancouver Organizing Committee (VANOC), in accordance with the Official Languages Act of the Government of Canada, will provide all its services in both official languages: English and French. Therefore, bilingual speakers are needed for the Olympic Games season at VANOC and other similar organizations.

VANOC will be one of the participants of this year's Bilingual Job Fair. Other attending companies include the Royal Bank of Canada, CanPages, Angus One, Intrawest, Canada Revenue Agency, Aeroguard, Parks Canada, Red Cross, Mountain Equipment Coop, Francophone Education Authority, COVAN, RCMP, Adecco and many others.

There will be some on-site interviews and a wealth of information about application procedures, industry facts, and employment opportunities for bilingual job seekers.

The second annual Bilingual Job Fair will take place on



Wednesday, May 21, from 1:00 to 5:00 pm, at the Vancouver Public Library, 350 West Georgia Street (Lower Level). Admission is free and no pre-registration is required. All attendees will have a chance to win a gift sponsored by Apple.

For more information about Educacentre College, the second annual Bilingual Job Fair, and the full list of participating companies, visit <http://www.educacentre.com/> ◀



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Festival Reminiscence

By Olga Livshin

► Vancouver International Children's Festival was born in 1978. Let's take a look at the first few years of the Festival, its childhood, following the newspaper trail along its path to maturity.

1978. Sixteen companies from Canada, Peru, Japan, England, and Russia, ranging from classical music to puppetry, brought their children shows to Vanier Park. The newspapers reported the first Festival a huge success.

1979. The Demon Drummers of Japan came to play in Vancouver. Against the skeptics' rumblings, the Japanese drummers mesmerized the young audience. Toronto Ballet with Karen Kain also successfully performed at the Festival, along with Raffi (before his superstar days). Max Wyman called Vancouver "kid-

theatre capital of Canada".

1980. This year marked the first attempt to computerize ticket sales. The Festival sales centre installed six interconnected computer terminals. Chuck Davis wrote for the Province: "... it's quite an experience to hear someone ask if there are still tickets left for such-and-such a show and to have the operator punch a few buttons and discover – instantaneously – that there are exactly 241 seats left." Now, it reads like a joke. In the era before Internet, it was an outstanding achievement.

The Festival opened Activity tent. Dolly Hopkins, a roving clown Gumboot Lollipop, brought face painting to Vanier Park for the first time in North America.

1981. The civil strike of the museum and park employees had made it impossible for the Festival to stay in Vanier Park. It had to relocate to Jericho Beach. The sensation of the Festival,

the Australian Flying Fruit Fly Circus, comprised entirely of children-performers, worked their aerial acts under the top.

Continuous rain had made the ground so soggy the technicians had to lay wooden pathways between the tents. At the end of the last show, the hailstorm outside was too violent for children's safety. Everyone stayed inside the tent. Raffi came on stage and sang for as long as it took the weather to settle down.

1982. To ensure fair tickets distribution, a limit was established – no more than 15 tickets for one person for one show. Every ticket cost \$3.50. Instructions in manipulating Cubic Rubik were extremely popular. For the first time, the Festival went on the road, traveling from Vancouver to Victoria, Edmonton, and Toronto.

1983. The Festival had become a tradition. The 'Best Festivals of North America Guide' declared the Vancouver Festival #1 of its kind. Food tent went up for the first time.

1984. Flying Fruit Fly Circus had returned to Vancouver. The 6-episode TV series "Fabulous Festival" was shot and aired on CBC television.

1985. KazeNoKo theatre from Japan had returned to Vancouver for the third time. KazeNoKo's game-based imagery made a huge impact on the local children theatre, especially Kaleidoscope from Victoria.

1986. The year of Expo 86. To avoid time clash, the Festival started three weeks earlier in April. French high wire artist Philippe Petit roved the Festival grounds as a juggler, enchanting the children. None of them knew that the artist was very famous, invited to perform at the Expo. A few years earlier, Petit walked a tight rope between the Twin



Photo By Tim Matheson



Photo By Tim Matheson

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1 800 0-Canada ou consulter le site preventiondesdrogues.gc.ca pour plus de renseignements.

Great Divides

Dirt for Sale...

By Mary Chinni



Usually Home Depot smells like industrial cleaner, but today it smells like a bog. It is the first sunny clear-blue sky weekend in what seems like decades, and there is a sale on 25 pound bags of topsoil.

Everywhere in the store people were pushing carts packed with dirty leaking plastic bags. There was mud in every aisle and department – electrical, plumbing, the checkout area looked like a gravel pit. Horses would feel at home standing there; cattle would wander in search of grass. There was a five bag limit per person, so people brought their entire families – five year olds were pushing carts that were 10 times their body weight. Bags were loaded on the backs of strollers, which alarmed me – I envisioned babies being either catapulted through the air or crushed beneath mounds of mud. People were wild-eyed and breathless, “excuse me, where did you find this?” I think the only thing that kept fistfights and tug-of-wars from breaking out was that the bags were so damn heavy. You can’t exactly throw them at each other in defeat. Once you start tugging at opposite ends of those cheap plastic bags, all you can possibly end up with is a broken back and a face full of manure – absolutely nothing to gain there.

By the time we broke through the crowd, there was limited supply left, so we promptly stocked our cart. This was a big drag as we were then unable to leave it unattended for fear someone would grab it and take off with our dirt. We witnessed these attempts at theft twice already, once in lighting, a second time in home appliances. To snake your way around storage displays pushing what amounts to a small car in front of you was a challenge. It was eerie – I felt a vague sensation of what it would be like to be a bee in a hive; bad lighting, corridors, shelves up to the ceiling, people doing the same task over and over again, pushing carts filled with identical heavy undistinguishable objects. Really, all I had to do was wander through the store and when no one was looking bam! I got my load. I am sure there are

some bees that do this, figure out a way to get the other bees to do the heavy lifting. How else would the queen become the Queen?

I normally know exactly what I want when I go into a store. I don’t browse and if I can’t be in and out of a store within fifteen minutes, I burst into tears. But when everyone is glued to their four-ton carts and trying to shop like normal people, you cannot shop efficiently. I was forced to slow down and actually see the products that people buy. Here I must stress the importance of keeping the cart-per-person ratio reasonably low. If for no other reason then to avoid being trapped by two people earnestly debating the purchase of a six-foot long narrow strip of plastic. “I see a place for this!” chirps a woman to her friend, “in my hallway! Can’t you see it?”

“God – who needs a fly-trap that big?” I whisper to my friend.

“It’s not a fly trap,” she whis-

pers back, “it’s to hold pictures. See how it looks like a movie negative? You put a picture in each frame, then hang it up, I think...like a windmill...”

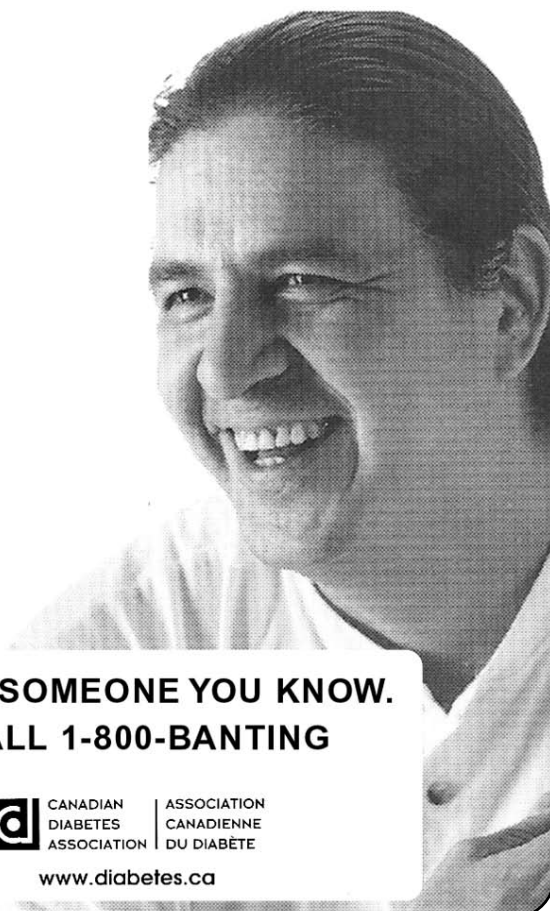
I am impressed that she figured this out. But neither one of us could wrap our mind around the couple buying a countertop dishwasher. This wonderful bit of machinery was about the size of a gym bag and looked able to hold roughly four dishes, three mugs, and a spoon. How hard was it to wash your own dish? And what’s with the computerized toaster? When did making toast become so complicated?

We tried not to imagine how long before these unnecessary household appliances would break down, and how long it would take them to be potentially converted into the bags of dirt now on sale. We also noted that we did pay more for our ten bags of mud then the couple paid for the countertop dishwasher and the flytrap picture frame combined.

Ashes to ashes, dust to dust – will that be Visa or debit? ■

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Bernie, First Nations counsellor



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Strategic Communication & Planning

Filipino youth reclaiming their roots.

By Renee Sarojini Saklikar

Filipino youth in Vancouver are hosting their eleventh annual festival *Roots, Rhymes and Resistance* on May 23rd, 2008 at Sir Charles Tupper secondary school. The event will feature spoken word performances, hip-hop dance, art exhibitions and an art auction. This year’s theme – “Balik sa Komunidad. Balik sa Ugat: Back to The Community. Reclaiming our Roots” – takes on special urgency, given the latest in a five-year string of violent Filipino youth deaths.

The choice of Sir Charles Tupper School is symbolic. A large population of young Filipinos attends the school, and in 2003, Filipino youth Jomar Lamot died outside the school grounds. This year, Dewar Ponte, fifteen, and Charle Dalde, twenty-four, were both murdered at different locations in the Lower Mainland.

Filipino artist and spokeswoman for the Ugnayan ng Kabataang Pilipino sa Canada/the Filipino Canadian Youth Alliance (UKPC/FCYA), Mildred German, offers a pointed socioeconomic analysis of the challenges faced by today’s Filipino youth: “Our youth are often traumatized – separated from their mothers and family, then reunited in an alien culture – they need to reconnect with their roots.”

The goal of *Roots, Rhymes and Resistance* is to address this situation by giving Filipino youth an opportunity to learn about themselves, re-connect with others, and celebrate their

culture. “Express, educate, and inspire,” is German’s message, describing Filipino parents’ hopes and desires. “Why would we work so hard, at jobs that are often physically demanding, only to see our youth suffer?” she asks.

According to German, the answer lies in stimulating young people with positive experiences and artistic expression. *Roots, Rhymes and Resistance*, going strong for over a decade, matches youthful energy with a historical perspective and a willingness to confront issues. “We see that the focus on justice brings understanding,” says German. “We can break the cycle of poverty by building community, by celebrating our talents and skills. Creative power can heal.”

Roots, Rhymes and Resistance will include a tribute to the three slain youths but will also offer a program to address the “everyday experiences” of Filipino youth – cultural dislocation and the burden of family separation. All three youths killed were children of women who work in Canada as live-in caregivers.

Twenty-five year old German came to Canada in 1999. She is the leading voice in helping to educate both Filipino youth and the mainstream Vancouver population about the particular challenges facing her community. “A growing number of our youth are dropping out of high school and ending up working in janitorial, factory or food ser-

“Filipino...” see page 6

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CULTURAL CALENDAR



May 13th - May 27th

With the April showers slowly easing off, Asian Heritage Month is blossoming with an eclectic and diverse lineup, celebrating the Asian community in Vancouver and all over Canada during the month of May. The celebration, which kicked off on May 1st, features musical and cinematic performances that include a broad range of cultures.

On May 13, the Vancouver Public Library and the Vancouver Inter-Cultural Orchestra have come together to present Music of the Whole World: Explorations of world Music Cultures by Canadian Composers. The presentation starts at 7 p.m. and features composer and conductor Jin Zhang, who originally hails from Beijing. The free presentation aims to provide access to educational materials dealing with intercultural music-making in the form of a six part series.

For those with children, the Vancouver International Children's Festival presents Halmang, Myth of Jeju Island, a perfect family outing. The interactive play tells the mythical story of the creation of the Korean island, Jeju. The play starts at 10:30 a.m. and the two hour long story includes performers from the Korean Children's Cultural and Arts Centre. The performers interact with members of the audience and use everyday items for unique and creative props, scenery and sound effects. The play runs on May 13, 15 and 16.

Asian Cinema is showcased over the course of three Sundays, beginning on May 11 and ending on May 25. The First Annual Filmmaker Showcase, presented by Shaw Multicultural Channel and explorASIAN, will feature Asian-Canadian themed collection of short and feature-length films, created by local Canadian filmmakers. The May 18th feature film "The Ties That Bind", filled with humor, comfort and fear, chronicles family relationships. On May 25, the theme "Roots and Passages" includes a group of films that depict both fictional and factual episodes in history. For those unable to make it to the showcase, SMC will be airing it on Cable 109 in Metro Vancouver.

Near the end of the month-long celebration, The Kay Meek Centre presents Hidden Rivers: Exhibition by local Ismaili Muslim Artists on May 29. Through a variety of media and interaction with their surroundings, the group of artists find "moments of convergence between the spiritual and the mundane".

For more information on events happening in the community during Asian Heritage Month, visit www.explorasian.org.

By Sarah Massah

Bilingual Job Fair
May 21, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Vancouver Public Library
www.educacentre.com
604-708-5100

This bilingual job fair presents a wide range of bilingual job opportunities in different industries, which include restaurants, hotels and communication.

An Evening Commemorating 60 Year of Palestinian People's Resilience and Demand for the Right of Return

May 16, 6:30 p.m.
Capilano College Performing Arts Theatre
www.refugeesupport.org
1-800-856-8147

Presented by the An-Nakba Commemoration Committee, the evening includes Palestinian and Arabic cultural performances, music, an art exhibit and short films. The night is also focusing on relief efforts for Palestinian refugees.

Teen Village at the VICF
May 13-14, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Vanier Park
www.childrensfestival.ca
604-708-5655

One part of the Vancouver International Children's Festival dedicated to teenagers. It features music, comedy, dance shows, theatre and includes activities such as hip-hop workshop.

Vancouver Chinatown Night Market
May 16, 6:30 p.m.
100 Block of Keefer Street
604-682-8998

Everyone's favorite summertime market is back, every Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Indulge in shopping and pick up some unique items that you wouldn't be able to find otherwise. Bring your bartering skills and prepare to spend. Don't forget to bring an appetite for shopping and food.

World Poetry: City Poets Series
May 26, 7:30 p.m.
Vancouver Public Library
604-331-4044

Another part of Asian Heritage Month featuring poets from the city of Vancouver, including Fiona Tinwei Lam, Aly Sunderji, Anita Aguirre Nieveras, Todd Wong, the St. Jude's Choir and Sonom Rinchen.

"Filipino..." from page 5

vice related jobs", says German. She sees the problem in the context of the greater Filipino Diaspora, with the Philippines now the number one source of migrant labour in the world.

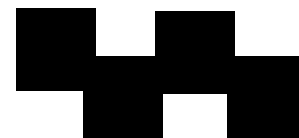
"When families are separated, when women and their children face lower-end jobs, when Filipino youth experience the second-highest rate of high school drop-outs," says German, "you know you have a problem."

She stresses that the solution is not superficial "racial profiling" but a genuine understanding of the impact of globalization. German cites the 2003 study by UBC geography professor Geraldine Pratt, which

documents the lives of Filipino youth and targets the flaws in Canadian Live-in Caregiver Program. Under the program, workers from poorer developing countries are encouraged to emigrate on the basis of long-term contractual employment in domestic arrangements. Inevitably, women of colour are often the primary recruits. German patiently explains the "trickle down" effect on immigrant families: a lack of time for children and child-rearing are significant factors.

Roots, Rhymes and Resistance 2008 will present over twenty Filipino artists, including local hip hop bands Toxic Slime and Taong Gago, poet Sol Diana, as well as the Sinag Bayan (Light of the Nation) Cul-

tural Arts Collective. Mildred German, Carlie Sayo, Mary Castellanes and Christian Clamonte will exhibit their work. Doors open at 6:30pm at 419 East 24th Avenue at Sir Charles Tupper School. For more information, contact UKPC/FCYA at 604-215-1103, or email ukpc_fcya@kalayaancentre.net or logon their website: <http://kalayaancentre.net>



"Vaincre le diabète et le traiter reposent sur la recherche. Le financement de l'ACD fait d'un rêve, une réalité."

Docteur Daniel Drucker, scientifique

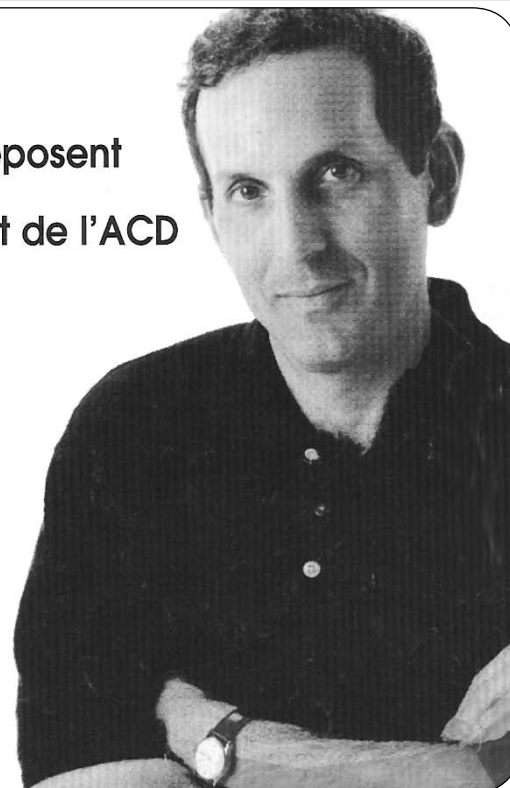
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CANADIAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION

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www.diabetes.ca



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SPENCIE'S VIEW

YOU ARE INTOXICATED IN PUBLIC-- LET'S GO!

OHIO!... QUICK TO ANGER.

...I THOUGHT THIS WAS A LIFESTYLE CELEBRATION?!



SPENCIE'S