

WORKSHOPS A & B

Race as Performance: APIAs in Hip Hop and Jazz

[Genny Lim, Tim Hong, Kelly Tsai & Dennis Kim]

Workshop Slot A: Saturday August 2, 2003, 1:15pm-2:45pm, Rm #8010

Workshop Slot B: Sunday August 3, 2003, 11:30am-1:00pm, Rm #8010

Token. Ghetto. F.O.B. Black. White. Whatever. This panel will pick the brains of folks who've been transcending boxes and labels in the jazz and hip hop movements across the country. Kelly Tsai (Mango Tribe) will moderate this highly interactive much needed dialogue between Bay area poet and jazz musician Genny Lim, poet and mc Dennis Kim (I Was Born with 2Tongues, Typical Cats) and Tim Hong about what it means to be APIA in jazz and hip hop, black-asian dynamics, assimilation, acculturation, appropriation, ethnic identity and expression.

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Backstage: Logistics of Being a Working Artist

[Anida Esguerra, Bao Phi, Jona Mercado, Ryan Suda & Pratap Chatterjee]

Workshop Slot A: Saturday August 2, 2003, 1:15pm-2:45pm, Rm #8009

Workshop Slot B: Sunday August 3, 2003, 11:30am-1:00pm, Rm #8009

Many artists are unquestionably talented...but it takes as much of the left side of the brain as the right side to channel the drive and motivation into the tricky business end of surviving as an artist. This panel discussion and open exchange is meant to address the unique challenges and benefits of being in the world of a working artist. Hear from an artist manager, an entrepreneur, and artists, who all double as community organizers, discuss openly their lessons and triumphs in the business of being an artist. Behind all that talent is a sophisticated level of thinking about art as a business without have to sell your ideals or soul.

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Where is the love? Queer/trans APIA Spoken Word Artists Making Community

[Gein Wong of maewon & Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha]

Workshop Slot A: Saturday August 2, 2003, 1:15pm-2:45pm, Rm #8011

Workshop Slot B: Sunday August 3, 2003, 11:30am-1:00pm, Rm #8011

Join Gein Wong and Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha for a workshop exploring issues for queer and trans APIA spoken word artists. As queer APIA artists, sometimes doing our art can mean going from racist white queer spaces to sometimes homophobic spoken word ones, with pockets of queer of color positivity in between. How do we navigate racism and homo/transphobia to make our art? Where do we find and make our homes? What has worked and what has fallen apart? Come share about the community building we're doing and the struggles we face. The Saturday workshop is open to everyone, while the Sunday workshop is specifically a caucus for people who are queer, trans or questioning.

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Live and Direct: Creating Across Gender Lines

[Daren Mooko & Mango Tribe: Vanessa DeGuia, Jill Aguado & Sarwat Rumi]

Workshop Slot A: Saturday August 2, 2003, 1:15pm-2:45pm, Rm #8012

Workshop Slot B: Sunday August 3, 2003, 11:30am-1:00pm, Rm #8012

This workshop is designed to explore and discuss the role of gender in our community and in our lives. The first half will be highly experiential and participants can expect to be moved, challenged and inspired. We will explore what we learned about gender, how and why we learned it and how it operates in our daily lives today. The second half will be dedicated to working as a collective toward creating work that reflects our discourse around gender.

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Thought Manifest: Voices of Our Body/Mind

[Nobuko Miyamoto]

Workshop Slot A: Saturday August 2, 2003, 1:15pm-2:45pm, Rm #8002

Workshop Slot B: Sunday August 3, 2003, 11:30am-1:00pm, Rm #8002

Our stories are buried in our body/mind. They live in our DNA. Explore new ways to find and physicalize your stories with movement warm-ups and fun theater games. Look forward to experimenting with individual and group exercises that will allow you to express your unique self, as well as creating collectively.

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Carlos Bulosan and Your Revolutionary Asian Amerikan Heritage: You Are The Bullet in the Belly of the Beast

[Freedom Siyam, Chera Amlag & George Quibuyen]

Workshop Slot A: Saturday August 2, 2003, 1:15pm-2:45pm, Rm #8005

Workshop Slot B: Sunday August 3, 2003, 11:30am-1:00pm, Rm #8005

The three objectives of this workshop are to understand that we are not free, to begin to understand the political nature of your identity, and to define our roles as Asians in America and Asian American Writers and Poets.

**this workshop was created by AnakBayan, and presented by isangmahal arts kollektive.*

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WORKSHOPS C & D

Theatricality of Poetry, Story & Memory: A Well of Voices and Experiences – Performance Poetry

[Ed Bok Lee and robert karimi]

Workshop Slot C: Sunday August 3, 2003, 2:30pm-4:30pm, Rm #8012

Workshop Slot D: Monday August 4, 2003, 10:30am-12:30pm, Rm #8012

This class begins with the premise that every writer has access to a well of potential voices. The root of this comes through the writers' ability to access memories, both experiential and sensory. Through writing and performative exercises, we will focus attention on developing these voices and identities. In addition to creating and embodying these ideas from the substance of your life and being, we'll address issues relating to the creative process, audience, social and cultural relevance, point of view, and using sense-memory in the oral interpretation of your work, depending on the interests of the participants. Open to all levels.

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Support, Stress, and Life – Wellness & Performance

[Ravi Chandra]

Workshop Slot C: Sunday August 3, 2003, 2:30pm-4:30pm, Rm #8009

Workshop Slot D: Monday August 4, 2003, 10:30am-12:30pm, Rm #8009

This workshop will be an informal chat and information session to bring up any issues that concern you about keeping mind and life whole as you pursue your dreams. How do we as a community come together to extend our vision to be able to support each other through periods of grief, guilt, and anger and still survive through these periods? As artists of color, what kind of sacrifices are we constantly being asked to make intentionally and unintentionally and how do we maintain a holistic sense of self through our creative process? This will also be a space to discuss the emotional impact of people's work on audience members and the responsibilities of artists in dealing with audience response.

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the word, the stage, the superhero – Comedy/Ensemble Work

[zero 3: traci kato-kiriyama, kennedy kasabares & edren sumagaysay]

Workshop Slot C: Sunday August 3, 2003, 2:30pm-4:30pm, Rm #8002

Workshop Slot D: Monday August 4, 2003, 10:30am-12:30pm, Rm #8002

The zero 3 workshop challenges that performer inside the writer by focusing on theatre/writing games and exercises that we can do to stretch the limits of our storytelling through words and performance. We'll share ideas on the exciting process of creation when working as an ensemble. How do you choose to push yourself as a vessel of expression?!? C'mon! Join us.....

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This is a journey into sound... – Songwriting

[Golda Sargento]

Workshop Slot C: Sunday August 3, 2003, 2:30pm-4:30pm, Rm #8010

Workshop Slot D: Monday August 4, 2003, 10:30am-12:30pm, Rm #8010

At the point where song and poem intersect is the moment of spontaneous creation. Knowing full well the impossibility of describing, let alone teaching the mastery of that moment, workshop facilitator Golda Sargento Kim (Full Blown Soul, 8th Wonder) has opted to take those willing on a brief journey through sound—a glimpse at the vast range and options one has as a songwriter, and a chance to try and approach that creative moment together. You may not leave with a finished song, but you will have clearer skin. Or, at least, the knowledge that we were laughing with you. Leave expectations and credentials at the door. In the moment, no one cares.

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FACILITATOR BIOS

Anida Yoeu Esguerra seeks an artistic, spiritual and political exploration of her identity as a non hyphenated Cambodian Muslim American woman. Esguerra has performed all over North America with *I Was Born With Two Tongues*, *The YellowTechnicolor Tour*, and *Mango Tribe*. Other recent roles include co-editor of the new Asian American anthology *Screaming Monkeys* (Coffeehouse Press 2003) and Producer of *Mango Tribe's "Sisters in the Smoke,"* a multimedia theatrical production addressing personal and global violence. One valuable lesson that is at the heart of her work as a visual artist, writer, performer and motivator: *No one else can tell her story. Every one has a story to tell and everyone's story is worth telling.*

Bao Phi has been combining poetry and performance since he was 16. He's 28 now, and you would have thought he'd have improved after all this time, but he makes up for his wackness with a natural 18 Charisma. He has had the fortune of performing all over the country and enjoying the hospitality of strangers. Many people have offered positive feedback on both his wardrobe and hairstyle upon seeing his recent appearance on HBO's *Def Poetry Jam*. He also won some slams and stuff. Buy his products, because times is hard.

Cherakris Oliveria Amlag (isangmahal arts kollektive) was born in Olongopo and is a 1.5 generation Pinay in Amerika. She is currently an API youth educator and an organizer for *Gabriela Network Seattle*, and started writing with isangmahal arts kollektive in 2001.

Daren Rikio Mooko currently serves as the Director of the Asian American Resource Center at Pomona College. Prior to his current position, Daren served as the Assistant Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs at Ball State University. Daren earned his BA from San Diego State University and his Masters degree from the University of Vermont. He served on the Board of Advisors for MAASU for five years and was selected to serve on the APAHE Board of Advisors. Additionally, he serves on the Board of Advisors for *TeAda Productions* and has currently launched a new Asian American speakers/performers agency called "One Of Agency." Mooko also is a columnist for the *Rafu Shimpo* in Los Angeles, one of the oldest Asian American/ Japanese American newspapers. He has delivered hundreds of workshops, speeches, trainings and keynote addresses on college campuses all over the country.

Dennis Kim was born in 1978 in Fairfax, VA to immigrant Korean parents. He plans to die on May Day, 2078, having outlived capitalism, boy bands, and the curious habit of calling both our best friends and domesticated animals "dog." He is currently learning and loving all he can, grieving for the world, and perpetually touring with panAsian spoken word phenomenon *I Was Born With Two Tongues* and the feared and respected hip hop unit *Typical Cats*. Dennis believes that tweaking attitudes are no substitute for structural change, but that material progress without spiritual awakening is a hollow victory. He also believes that kalbi isn't meat, it's culture. When at a loss for words he says, "peace." When high he says, "it's all one, baby!" No one knows what he says when he's lonely.

Ed Bok Lee's poems, prose, plays, and spoken word pieces have been published in numerous magazines and anthologies, most recently in *Take Ten II* (Vintage Books, forthcoming), *Best American Ten-Minute Plays of 2003-2004*, and *Mizna.org*. A two-time national Jerome Writing Fellow and founding member of *Mongrel*, he received an M.F.A. from Brown University and has read, performed, and taught at colleges, high schools, middle schools, conferences, and detention centers across the country. His latest chapbook is *Real Karaoke People*. www.rainteeth.com

Freedom Self-Born Allah Siyam (isangmahal arts kollektive) is the product of a quasi mail-order bride relationship between a college educated health care worker from the Philippines, and a second-generation white proletariat. A product of the South End of Seattle, he is now a Poor Righteous Teacher at an alternative education center for high school dropouts in the West Side. 120 has been his theology and isangmahal his breath since 1997, and a National Democratic Revolutionary since 2000. And he Can't - Won't - Don't stop until the colonies are free.

Gein Wong (maewon) is a spoken wordstress who throws emotion and power through the mic. She focuses on how perspectives skew interpretations; obvious things like gender, class, and race as well as things a little less obvious like gender, class, and race. She's based in Toronto, Canada and has recently performed in festivals in London England, Vancouver BC and the Cayman Islands. She's published in *Fireweed*, *Ricepaper*, the *Coming 2 Voice Anthology* and *Bamboo Girl*. She's also a member of the female pan asian spoken word and music collective, *maewon*. *maewon's* all about asian empowerment, solidarity amongst people of colour and our allies, as well as spreading messages of community, anti-oppression, anti-racism, and love. Join our listserv, maewon@poetic.com.

Genny Lim is a native San Franciscan poet, playwright and educator. Lim has appeared in numerous jazz poetry festivals and concerts with such luminaries as Max Roach, Tootie Heath, Eddie Marshall and Herbie Lewis. A long time collaborator with musician, Jon Jang, she can be heard on Jang's 1997 CD Soulnote release, Immigrant Suite and on AsianImprov's CD, Devotee, with Francis Wong and the late Glenn Horiuchi. Lim is also featured in the documentary, The Voice: Genny Lim, premiered on PBS, The United States of Poetry, and KQED-TV's, San Francisco Chinatown. Lim's award winning play, *Paper Angels*, was broadcast on American Playhouse in 1985. She is co-author, of *Island: Poetry and History of Chinese on Angel Island*.

Geo "Geologic" Quibuyen (isangmahal arts kollektive) reps the Third World - as a second generation Filipino in America whose parents are a U.S. Navy enlistee and a former domestic worker. You can find Geo up in Seattle's Chinatown and South-end either working on exhibits at the Wing Luke Asian Museum, hosting open mics and performing with isangmahal arts kollektive, running educational workshops with the Filipino youth and student activist group Anakbayan, or rocking shows with the hip-hop mc/dj duo the Blue Scholars.

Golda Sargento is a singer, songwriter, poet, and grown-ass woman. Full Blown Soul recording artist, member of Bay Area spoken word collective 8th Wonder, and recent addition to the Go Ill, Golda sings from the bottom of her soul. Her work has been described as "mesmerizing," "beautiful chaos," and "that ill shit." She has released an EP, *Liquidnova*, and a son, Micah Kane.

Jill Aguado (Mango Tribe) is a Filipina American, with bright eyes and a hopeful spirit. She is currently at a transitional crux in her life, hoping to continue creating community here in Chicago. As she enters "the real world," Jill is blessed to be surrounded by the fierce tribe of Mango femme Wu-Tang Clan members. She is a recent graduate from the University of Illinois at Chicago, where she was active with many political orgs- but she attributes her higher learning to the post-suburban Chicago community she has come into since joining the Asian American Artists Collective. In between daydreams of going back to the Philippines this fall, she aspires to remain involved in the social justice field. She can be found itching to travel with her best friends, swapping dirty jokes with her grandparents, and goofing off with students as a Teaching Assistant for the Young Asians With Power (YAWP!) program. She is grateful to her fam and friends for all their support.

Jona Mercado was born on the southside of Chicago twenty-eight years ago, raised in "da sticks," and higher-learned on the northside at Loyola University of Chicago. After selling-out to the corporate game for the mere bribe of a promotion, she actually finds self and smiles in her work as manager/mama to Chicago-based groups I Was Born With Two Tongues, the PACIFICS, Typical Cats and Mango Tribe. She has spent a good amount of time frolicking about the country for gigs and with the YellowTechnicolor and Urban Architecture 606 Tours. During the week, she can be found at her dayjob, subT, in the stands at dodgeball or runnin shit at her Tambayan monthly set.

Kelly Tsai (Mango Tribe) is the daughter of Chinese and Taiwanese immigrants. Born and raised in the Chicago area, she has been lucky enough to be woman warrior with Sirenz (a multi-ethnic women's spoken word group), Mango Tribe (an APIA women's performance group), and Women Outloud (Chicago's longest running all-female open mic). A poet, dancer, and activist, she is a board member for the Asian American Artists Collective Chicago, co-organizer for the Nat'l APIA Spoken Word Summit 2003, and slammaster for the Asian American Slam at the Nat'l Poetry Slam 2003. She has been featured at cultural, political, and slam venues all across Chicago and the U.S. Currently, she works with youth to develop cross-cultural communication and leadership. Contact her at: kelly@mangotribe.com.

Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha is a Toronto based queer mixed Sri Lankan high femme spoken word artist, writer and community organizer. Her incendiary work that rips apart colonialism, abuse, survival, queerness and the Sri Lankan diaspora has been performed widely, including appearances at Oberlin College, Yale University, Diasporadics, Artwallah, the Color of Violence 2 Conference and Buddies In Bad Times Theatre. Her writing has been published in the anthologies *A Girl's Guide To Taking Over the World*, *Femme*, *Colonize This! Dangerous Families*, the Lambda Award nominated *Brazen Femme*, *Bent on Writing*, *Without A Net* and the periodicals *Bitch*, *Trade*, *big boots*, *Fireweed* and *Bamboo Girl*. She runs the *browngirlworld* spoken word series for queer girls of color, teaches writing to queer and trans youth and publishes the POC anti-war zine letters from the war years. Her first book, *consensual genocide*, is out soon.

Nobuko Miyamoto (Artistic Director of Great Leap) is an artist whose songs, theaterworks and dances aim to create community wherever she is. Originally a dancer in films and Broadway, she found her own voice during her involvement with the Asian American movement during the '70's, creating the seminal album, "A Grain of Sand." with Chris Iijima and Charlie Chin. In 1978 she founded Great Leap, now a multi-cultural arts organization that tours nationally with works such as "A Slice of Rice, Frijoles and Greens" and Nobuko's one-person show "A Grain of Sand", a fusion of music, monologue and video that shares her personal journey. Nobuko's latest album, "To All Relations," inspired by the sacred Lakota salutation, has become the "To All Relations Project," a series of arts residencies that brings together diverse communities in a creative process to share their stories. Learn more about Great Leap and Nobuko at www.greatleap.org and www.bindurecords.com.

Pratap Chatterjee is an investigative environmental journalist with Corpwatch and is deeply involved in the San Francisco Bay area's Asian Pacific Islander political and spoken word scene. He helps produce Mango Mic, a monthly Asian API open mic in Berkeley, co-hosts APEX Express, a weekly API radio show on KPFA, and is involved with Locus, an API arts space in Japantown, San Francisco. He is also a board member of the Asian Pacific Environmental Network in Oakland.

Ravi Chandra is a psychiatry resident at UCSF, and has competed in slam events including the 2002 SF Finals. His poetry has been published in the Asian American Renaissance Journal, chapbooks at Brown and Stanford, and in the upcoming South Asian American Poetry anthology, "Writing the Lines". He got turned onto Slam in Minneapolis by Bao Phi, who paid him for his furniture in chapbooks and CD's when Ravi moved back West. Ravi still thinks he got the better deal. Upcoming projects include bringing together indie filmmakers and psychiatrists in discussion about their work, convening panelists on Eastern and Western views of Mind, and writing about his specialty (Asian Americans in Reality TV) for Hyphen and AsianWeek. He can usually be found at Locus 1640 Post on Open Mic night or generally causing a ruckus.

robert karimi, product of the fusion of Iranian and Guatemalan parents, and hiphop, disco and punk cultures became a Newark-Californian-bilingual- writer/multi-disciplinary performance artist and High School poetry teacher. He has performed his work all over the nation in bars, nightclubs and universities and has shared the stage with the likes of poets past and present. A member of the 1999 National Champion Silicon Valley Poetry Slam Team, Karimi travels the US performing, teaching workshops and is currently developing Poetry curriculum for secondary teachers. He tours his one man + DJ show: *self (the remix)* all over the place. (www.kaoticgood.com)

Ryan Suda - Blacklava Clothing, founded 1992, initially started out as a typical surf co. In 1995 he put together a clothing line that asked questions about why things were the way they were. The switch in its primary focus was due to Ryan's growing exposure, awareness, and concern in this area. The new concept was well received and stirred up dialog which in itself was thought to be a huge accomplishment. The new path was quite different from that of its past. Process, criticism, self-criticism, evaluation, and re-evaluation became an integral part of the development for progressive and effective change through the sale of t-shirts. We create designs that raise questions about how Asian Americans and minorities are viewed in today's society. We have become a clothing company with a new state of mind. (www.blacklava.net)

Sarwat Rumi (Mango Tribe) is a bilingual Bengali American Muslim who has been writing since she could read. She has a B.A. in South Asian Languages and Civilizations from the University of Chicago. Sarwat is blessed with a challenging life in which her art, employment, activism, and spirituality merge into a single web-worked path. By day, Sarwat battles domestic violence through Apna Ghar, an agency which services the Asian community; by night, she is a vigilante spoken word artist; and really late night she casts her witchy superpowers to bind oppressive forces. Through Mango Tribe she has found a space in which to nurture sisterhood, community, creativity and healing; as the singer for Serpent Feline, she is figuring out how to collaborate with a talented brother. Sarwat resides in Chicago with her feline familiar, Indigo, and a whole crew of faeries who watch over them both.

Vanessa De Guia (Mango Tribe) rebels against the miseducation of all children of color. As a teaching artist for Young Asians With Power (YAWP), Vanessa is at heart a community server and advocate for women and children in Chicago. She is a certified medical advocate for rape victims and serves on the board of the Asian American Artists Collective-Chicago. Recently she finished her first year of teaching at Hope College Prep in Englewood and is one year closer to obtaining her MEd in Curriculum/Instruction at National-Louis University. She believes that commitment to love and spiritual fulfillment is the key to freedom and peace of mind. She was last seen in Pintig's musical, "Dreamweavers."

zero 3 challenge themselves to explore the planes of social struggles, Art, literature, and the mundane march through everyday life by means of spoken word, written language, song, and the stage. zero 3 emerges out of distant parts of Los Angeles by way of three supporters of the written word: Kennedy Kabasares, Traci Kato-Kiriyama, and Edren T. Sumagaysay. Working together since February of 2000, their original works focus on world, womyn, personal and social issues and extend from poetry, prose, monologues, scenes, stream-of-consciousness meditations to songs about "sitting on things." Their mission is to continue writing, sharing, supporting, and encouraging everyone they meet to pick up their pens and write. (www.zero3.org)