



FESTIVAL ACCÈS-ASIE

May 5th to 29th 2016

PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

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May 5th to 29th 2016
21th edition



Montreal, March 1st, 2016

After a well celebrated 20th anniversary, this year's 21th Festival Accès Asie is in high gear, and promises a colorful and festive program **from May 5th to 29th**. The Festival takes place every May, which has been officially designated as Asian Heritage Month in Canada since 2002. We are honored to be represented this time by our spokesperson, host and producer **Chan Tep** of MATv's *Mosaïque en lumière*.

In the first week, an **Opening Cocktail** will provide a taste of events to come, and offer a toast to the Festival's 21st edition. The following evening, we pay tribute to the Japanese composer Toru Takemitsu with a recital offered by **Yuki Isami** and **Jérôme Ducharme**. On the weekend, festivalgoers are invited to an opening cocktail as well as a meeting with the artists event for the exhibition, **Found**. Curated by **Kakim Goh** with the assistance of **Catherine LaMendola** and **Elodie Lavergne**, this project features visual artists **Aanchal Malhotra** and **Margret Nielsen**.

The second week opens with **Spiritual Counsel**, a unique Asian silent film event, projecting a series of films from the early 20th century to the present, accompanied by live music. The golden touch in this week will be **QuébéAsia**, an ad-hoc collective of artists who will perform classical and contemporary dances. **Manijeh Ali**, *QuébéAsia's* artistic director, has invited talented dancers **Tanveer Alam**, **Julio Hong**, **Nassim Lootij**, **Sarah Dell'Ava** and **Sachiko Sumi** for this occasion, as well as Indian dance troupes **Création danse Atmana** and **Taala & Ishwari**. On Saturday, May 14th and in collaboration with **Vidéographe** and **MAI**, the Festival will present **Serendipity**, an **encounter between tradition and modernity**, a video and music show that will spotlight the diverse talent of sound artists and videographers. Pianist **Guillaume Martineau** and musician **Huu Bac Quach** will also perform together.

Dance continues to be an integral part of the Festival's third week. In the 3rd edition of our **Middle-East Dance Competition**, the most outstanding performances will be awarded by judges **Denise Enan, Khadija Jabiry** and **Pierre Khoury**. Hosted by **Diane Labelle** and VJ artist **Pink Rubber Lady**, this event will make everyone shimmy their hips. The week will round off with **Wind of Asia**, a display of music, dance and workshops presented by Festival Accès Asie in **collaboration with Quartier des spectacles**. Dance troupes **PAMANA ng LuzVi-Minda, Simork, KOMACHI MONTREAL**, among others, will take us to the Philippines, Iran and Japan.

Last but not least, the closing week will celebrate Central Asian culture through the international arts component of the Festival, **Perles d'ailleurs**. Hosted by **Sarah Hubert de Margerie, Golestan Night** will showcase percussionist Ziya Tabassian, international dancer Miriam Peretz and musicians **Efrén López** and **Bashir Faramarzi**. The week wraps up with a **series of dance workshops** conducted by **Miriam Peretz**, where attendees will learn about classic Persian, Sufi, Afghan and Turkish Romani dances.

We are proud to present four weeks of gatherings and cultural exchange to celebrate Asian culture!

SPOKESPERSON



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Chan Tep - Host and Producer

Raised in Varennes, a suburb of Montreal, Chan Tep was born in a Cambodian family that fled from Pol Pot's regime in 1978. As a child, she began to question immigration issues and challenge the lack of visible minorities' presence in the media. After pursuing a career in graphic design, she became involved in the audiovisual world where she believes there is a potential to promote change. During the last five years she has been a journalist and a producer for different broadcasting programs, such as *Mise à jour Montréal* on MATv, and currently for Isabelle Maréchal's program at Cogeco Diffusion radio station. In fall 2015, Chan Tep decided to build on her experience in hosting a wide variety of events, and created ***Mosaïque en Lumière***, an intercultural magazine program she produces and hosts for MATv.



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