

**FESTIVAL ACCÈS ASIE**  
**Wind of Asia at**  
**Quartier des Spectacles**  
**Outdoor event**

**Saturday, May 17th 2014**  
**Starting at 5:30 pm**

**Place des Festivals / Le Gesù**  
**1200 Bleury street**  
**Place-des-Arts**  
**subway station**

**Free**



© Alain Gagnon

Montreal, March 19th, 2014 - After having enchanted the place des Festivals with Bollywood and Filipino dances during the last two editions, Festival Accès Asie, in collaboration with the **Gesù**, returns for a third year with its outdoor event, Wind of Asia, at Quartier des spectacles. On **Saturday, May 17th**, starting at 5:30 pm, Lebanese folklore dance troupe **Layalina**, *taiko* group **Arashi Daiko** and the **Huu Bac String Trio** will share the stage for a unique event.

With the goal of making Asian Canadian artistic projects more accessible to the general public, the Festival will go play outside! The Layalina troupe will have the pleasure to start the ball for this festive event with its Lebanese dabkeh dance performance on the place des Festivals. The troupe will also offer an introduction to the basic steps of this dance. Next, they will guide the audience to the Gesù church for the second show. On the side of this majestic monument, the *taiko* (Japanese drums) group Arashi Daiko will make its drums resound to entrance the audience with its infectious energy. To conclude, *Wind of Asia* at the *Quartier des Spectacles* will invite you to enter the Gesù church to attend a performance by Vietnamese musician Huu Bac Quach. Accompanied on the double bass by Jean-Félix Mailoux and on the violin by Marie-Neige Lavigne, the multi-instrumentalist will present his compositions that skilfully ally his Vietnamese and Chinese heritages to North American jazz music.

Everyone is invited to join the Festival's team and its talented artists to celebrate all the beauty and the richness of Asian Canadian art. This will certainly be one of the major events of this 19th edition of Festival Accès Asie.

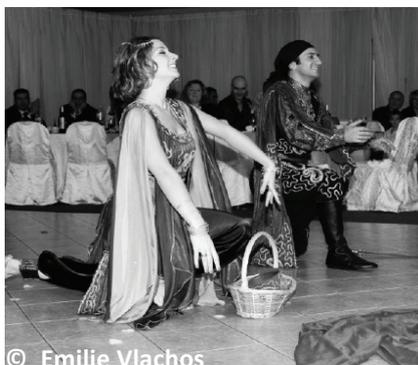
Note that starting at 4 pm, the Festival's team and some of the artists presented during this year's edition will be on site, accompanied by spokesperson **Kim Thúy**, for a spontaneous multidisciplinary performance.

*Gesù*: Located at the heart of the Quartier des spectacles in downtown Montreal, the *Gesù* is an artistic organization that distinguishes itself with its unique spaces and activities. Dedicated to welcoming artists and presenting arts, the *Gesù* has a mission: to offer audiences and artists experiences that question, provoke meetings and foster dialogue. It is by favouring dialogue between artists and audiences that it intends to continue the tradition that founded it, making this historical and cultural heritage site a lively space for meeting and creativity.



**Festival Accès Asie**  
**May 1st to 18th 2014**  
**19<sup>th</sup> edition**  
[www.accesasie.com](http://www.accesasie.com)





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### Troupe Layalina - Lebanese dabkeh dance

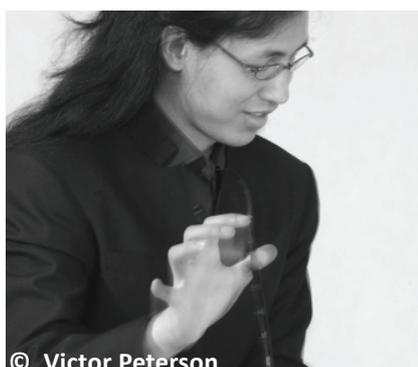
Founded by Abdo Mazloum and Ioanna Guikas, Layalina troupe in Montreal ([www.facebook.com/troupelayalina](http://www.facebook.com/troupelayalina)) brings together dancers who are passionate about the Levantine folk dance called *dabkeh*, which in Arabic means 'to stomp the feet'. It is originally a group line dance that is danced at weddings, banquets and parties in the Middle-East. This dance is typical of villages in Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, Jordan and Iraq and celebrates solidarity, union and strength. Layalina troupe performs both in festivals and in private events.



© Khosro Berahmandi

### Arashi Daiko - taiko group

Arashi Daiko ([www.arashidaiko.org](http://www.arashidaiko.org)), means 'storm drums'. It was created in 1983 by members of the Japanese community of Montreal. Over all these years, the group has evolved with the different origins of its members while maintaining the initial mission of its founders: to be a dynamic group that shares this exciting form of Japanese expression that is *taiko* with as many people as possible. Indeed, all those who have met Arashi Daiko have been touched by the family atmosphere that its founders and present members continue to cultivate. The group celebrated its 30 years in 2013 by creating its acclaimed show, *Wa*.



© Victor Peterson

### Huu Bac Quach - musician

Of Vietnamese origins, Huu Bac Quach ([www.huubac.com](http://www.huubac.com)) masters a wide array of musical instruments, including the *dan bau* (single chord Vietnamese instrument), the *erhu* (Chinese vielle), the *quena* (Peruvian flute) and the guitar. A disciple of Pham Duc Thanh, master of *dan bau*, Huu Bac also studied jazz guitar at McGill University and *erhu* at the Shanghai Conservatory. He has notably participated in *Totem* by Cirque du Soleil and in *Canotgraphie* by Robert Lepage. His first album, *On the Steps of St-Paul's* was released in January 2014 and it was an original composition and performance. His compositions skilfully combine his Vietnamese and Chinese heritages to North-American jazz music.



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