

News Release

Oakland Asian Cultural Center

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oakland Asian Cultural Center Presents: **Diaspora Tale #2: 1969** **Local Jazz Artist Francis Wong Commemorates UC Berkeley Third World Strike**

When: Saturday, October 17, 2009
Performance and panel discussion: 8 pm – 10 pm
Doors open: 7:30 pm

Where: Oakland Asian Cultural Center
388 Ninth Street, Suite 290, Oakland, CA 94607

Oakland, CA – October 15, 2009 - Diaspora Tale #2: 1969 is an interdisciplinary jazz composition by saxophonist and composer Francis Wong. It will be performed by the Francis Wong Unit with contributions by spoken word artist A.K. Black and dancer/choreographer Lenora Lee at the Oakland Asian Cultural Center (OACC) on Saturday, October 17, 2009 from 8pm – 10pm. This is a fundraiser benefiting OACC's cultural arts programs and services. For more information visit OACC's [Program page](#).

“1969” commemorates the 40th anniversary of the UC Berkeley Third World Strike for ethnic studies on the UC Berkeley campus. It followed on the heels of a similar strike at San Francisco State University the year before. Both were historic examples of student self-determination that inspired activism on campuses nation-wide. Wong's brother was a participant in the Third World Strike and the composition is dedicated in part to him.

In addition to the performance, there will be a short panel discussion about the history of the Strike and an exhibition of photos documenting the strike and its legacy. The panel discussion will be moderated by Belvin Louie, who participated in the strikes as a field marshal and will feature Oakland City Councilmember (District 4) Jean Quan; UC Berkeley, Asian American Studies Program lecturer Harvey Dong; Eastside Arts Alliance founder Greg Morozumi; and Teresita Bautista co-founder of Filipinos for Affirmative Action. They will discuss their experience during the Strike as well as the impact and legacy of the Strike on the East Bay community.

Co-presented by [Asian Improv aRts](#), tickets are sliding scale \$10 - \$50 for general admission and \$10 for students and seniors. At the \$100 donation level, VIP seating at the event will be provided as well as an invitation to the donor reception. They are available for sale through [Brown Paper Tickets](#), at the door and by contacting Jennifer Chu at (510) 637 - 0455. Visitors can view the accompanying exhibition, “Photography of the Third World Strikes” for free during OACC's public gallery hours, Tuesdays – Saturdays until March 2010.

Mission and History

The Oakland Asian Cultural Center (OACC) builds vibrant communities through Asian and Pacific Islander American (APIA) arts and culture programs that foster intergenerational and cross-cultural dialogue, cultural identity, collaborations, and social justice. OACC was founded in 1984 by a coalition of community activists who recognized the need for a strong artistic and cultural force in the Chinatown area. Since opening its own facility in 1996 in the heart of Oakland's Chinatown district, OACC has presented countless high quality cultural programs.

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