## DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

Presented by the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations and the Japanese American National Museum



Saturday February 20, 1999 2 p.m.



Resistance and Redress: Standing for Justice



NCRR Fighting Spirit Award to the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee



Special Performance created and performed by hereandnow theatre co. & Visiting Violette

Japanese American National Museum - Central Hall 369 East First Street - Little Tokyo, Los Angeles

# NCRR Fightists it Award

Each year, the Fighting Spirit Award is given to those individuals who have demonstrated the courage to stand up and fight for their rights and the rights of others. The Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee (FPC) and other draft resisters of conscience exemplified this Fighting Spirit during World War II as they declared their opposition to the U.S. government's draft of Japanese American men into military service.

#### Past Recipients

1987 Frank Emí

Reverend Paul Nakamura

1988

Amy Ishii & the uno Family

1991

Tom Shiroishi

1992

Bert Nakano

Bernadette Nishimura

Lily Okamoto

1993 Jím Matsuoka 1994

James Omura

1995

Iim Saito

David Monkawa

1996

Bill & Yuri Kochiyama

1997

Linda Kawabe Consolo

Bruce Iwasakí

Gerald Sato

1998

Michi Weglyn

he Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee (FPC) and other draft resisters of conscience exemplified the Fighting Spirit during World War II as they declared their opposition to the

U.S. government's American men into

For these men, stab in the wound, as lost much of their incarcerated in camps desolate parts of the FPC argued that the draft Japanese American in light of the fact that taken away by being

The FPC organized resistance to camps. After public constitutionality of the of 85 men from Heart until their rights as their parents released were tried and convicted were sentenced to three Federal Penitentiary.

Seven men resisters were arrested,

### Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee



draft of Japanese military service.

the draft was just another they and their families possessions and were in the some of the most country. Members of the government's actions to men was unconstitutional their civil liberties were placed in camp.

demonstrated the most the draft throughout all the meetings were held and the draft was discussed, a total Mountain resisted the draft citizens were restored and from camp. The resisters of resisting the draft and years in the Leavenworth

identified as leaders of the tried in court, and

convicted of conspiracy to violate and counsel others to resist the draft. They were sentenced to four years at Leavenworth. These resisters appealed their case, which was reversed by the appellate court. Theirs was one of only two successful appeals of cases involving Japanese Americans and their constitutional rights during World War II.

In 1947, the 85 resisters received a presidential pardon from Harry S. Truman, who expressed that he "understood why the Nisei resisted [the draft]."

The FPC members and other resisters also endured much criticism from the Japanese American community for their stance against the draft. They were seen as traitors for not signing up for the draft, and their pleas for restoration of citizenship rights went unheeded.

## 1999 Day of Remembrance

Sponsors

Japanese American National Museum National Coalition for Redress/Reparations

**Endorsers** Asian American Drug Abuse Program Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance Asian Pacific American Legal Center Campaign for Justice Great Leap Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California Korean Immigrant Workers Advocates Leadership Education for Asian **Pacifics** Little Tokyo Art Workshop Manzanar Committee San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center Human Services Search to Involve Pilpino Americans
Thai Community Development Center UCLA Asian American Studies Center UCLA Nikkei Student Union USC Nikkei Student Association

Visual Communications

## Resistance & Redress:

## Standing for Justice

Welcome Glen Kitayama

JANM Curator

Jenni Emiko Kuida

Mistress of Ceremonies

NCRR Statement Glen Kitayama

Dramatic reading Frank Emi, Janice Harumi Yen, Aki Maehara,

Mark Masaoka, Steve Nagano, Tony Osumi

Fighting Spirit Award Richard Katsuda

NCRR President

Presented to the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee

In attendance:

Frank Emi, Toru Ino, James Kado, Mits Koshiyama, Yosh Kuromiya, Akira Matsumoto, Teizo Matsumoto, Ray Motonaga, Tad Oki, and Tom Oki

Redress Updates Ayako Hagihara

Co-Chair, Campaign for Justice

Special Performance hereandnow, Visiting Violette, Seigi/NCRR

Closing Glen Kitayama

Reception and a partial showing of the 1981 Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians follows, courtesy of Visual Communications and NCRR Education Committee

#### **Breezeby**

Music by Glenn Suravech & Lee Takasugi Lyrics by Lee Takasugi

Another breezeby, a pleasantry Another quip, wave, smile Are you really what I see? Oh, I long to get inside Your hide Is it as thick as it seems?

Will you trust me for while?
Will you stay and praise the night with me?
You know, I'm feeling a bit lonely
Of these things which always seem so brief

You wear your armor well
Believe me, I oil my own each day
I'd like to see you melt it down for once
And then I'll step inside
Do you think we'll die tonight?

I know these days are long
And my ignorance - it keeps on labeling you
And I know you're feeling lonely
Of these things, and of me

Chorus Would you feel any better
If I yield and throw my sword away?
Could it be that you need me
As I need you
But would you let yourself need me, too?

These days
They keep us hanging by remote control
I think I feel, I think I want, I think I need, I think I am
But somedays, you know it goes unheard

Anywhere Anyday Sometimes there's nothing But my voice and my fears My prayers to see you

#### Chorus

#### On Mars

Music & Lyrics by Lee Takasugi

Sometimes I look And where you see sky I can't help it But I see Mars

And I lie
And I say how blue your sky is
And how beautiful this world is
And I'm ashamed
'Cuz sometimes I wish
I were a wind-blown seed

On Mars
On Jupiter
Or anywhere else but here

And so I lie
'Cuz I know what they do to Martians
How they stalk them
And poke them
And give them bird seed
And tumbleweeds
And send them to live
In camps with armed guards
And Monsoon lighting

But not on Mars Not on Jupiter No, not anywhere else but here No, not anywhere else But here

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Visiting Violette was formed in the fall of 1992 in the Silver Lake community of Los Angeles. Visiting Violette's music is a mix of solid melodies backed with driving guitar, drum and bass lines, and lends itself to a bit of Latin jazz, funk and R&B influences. The band is currently working on a new full-length album to follow up its five-song debut, which sold over 6,000 copies just from yenue sales.

Visiting Violette is composed of Lee Takasugi as lead vocals, guitar and keyboard, Daniel Groisman on bass,

Glenn Suravech on guitar, and Rich Lambert on drums and percussion. Their music is all original and composed by its members. In a recent interview that appeared in Campus Circle, the author wrote in part, "Visting Violette is a talented band. With the myriad of bands performing around town, it's easy to pass up a small, unsigned one in favor of a more publicized show; however, it would be a shame to miss this one because you'd be missing some good stuff.

hereandnow, founded in 1989 by director John Miyasaki, is a nationally-touring Asian American theatre company based in Los Angeles. Currently the resident artist company of East Los Angeles College in Monterey Park, hereandnow completed a successful run of its original production. Romeo and Juliet Pinoy/Pinay Style last summer and went on to create a new show with the Silver Lake-based rock band. Visiting Violette. This winter. here-andnow succefully produced "fentor," written by veteran

company member, Jason Fong. hereandnow continues its journey in the process of creating exciting, original productions and furthering the art of theatre.



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NCRR would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their help in putting this DOR together:

John Esaki
Abe Ferrer
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Scott Ito
Traci Kato Kiriyama
Jeff Liu
Rick Noguchi
Tony Osumi

hereandnow theatre co.
Visiting Violette
Union Center Cafe

and most of all, thank you to the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee and other resisters of conscience, for their courage and conviction that moves us today

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