

Press Release
For immediate release

GO - PROJET TAÏKO

Montreal, March 23, 2006 — **Montreal's premiere**, Théâtre La Chapelle with the collaboration of Festival Accès Asie will make Montreal's heart beat from May 11 to 13 with the vertiginous sounds of the Japanese drums of the group **On Ensemble** from Los Angeles and the percussions of **Patrick Graham** from Montreal in the show **Go - Projet Taïko**.

Go corresponds to the number five. Its Kanji also relates to language and communication. **Go - Projet Taïko** is a unique, vibrant and audacious show originating from the mixture of the musical and dance talents of the four members of On Ensemble (pronounced "ohn") and their encounter with percussionist Patrick Graham, an exploratory occasion and a musical exchange between five exceptional artists. For the Montreal public's enjoyment, they will present for 3 nights only, pieces from their respective repertory as well as the fruit of their encounter.

In their 50 years of combined taiko experience, the **On Ensemble's** four young musicians have studied and performed with renowned masters of traditional and contemporary music and dance in the United States and Japan. Current works feature these drums in conjunction with dance, bamboo flute, koto (Japanese zither), and Tuvan overtone singing. With musical experience ranging from centuries-old Noh and Kabuki, to contemporary, experimental composition, the On Ensemble has crafted a repertoire of ground-breaking taiko music. A Los Angeles newspaper specified that "**On Ensemble ... has made its mark in both the U.S. and Japan with its one-of-a-kind blend of taiko with non-traditional styles including jazz, rock, and electronic.**" After a successful debut concert in northern Japan and its first western-US tour in the spring of 2002, the group received the *Duane Ebata Memorial Fund Award* at Los Angeles' Japan America Theater, "in support and recognition of emerging artists of promise who are furthering the development of Asian Pacific American performing arts."

Patrick Graham, was born in Montreal, and his highly personal approach to percussion is a fusion of his training in Western classical music, a variety of frame drumming disciplines, and his explorations of Japanese, South-Indian, Mediterranean and Irish rhythms. Patrick has studied with **Glen Velez** (New York), **Pierre Béluse** (Montreal), **D'Arcy P. Gray** (Montreal), **Trichy Sankaran** (Toronto), and **Taichi Ozaki** (Tokyo). An extremely versatile player, Patrick can be found performing, touring and recording regularly with a variety of artists and ensembles, including **La Nef**, **Ganesh Anandan** (as **GaPa**), **FingerWorks**, **Catherine Lambert**, **Norouet**, **Ramasutra**, **Duo Frank**, and the **Nishikawa Ensemble**. In 2001 and 2002, Patrick co-created and toured new works for dance and percussion with movement artist **Hideo Arai** (Tokyo).

Don't miss the opportunity to discover Montreal's premiere of this innovative taiko group from Los Angeles combining their flamboyant rhythms with our own outstanding multi-talented local Patrick Graham in an inspired show. Exceptional musicians in a rare encounter!

At Théâtre La Chapelle from May 11 to 13 at 8pm
3700, St. Dominique Street, Montreal, www.lachapelle.org www.accesasie.com
Regular: \$20 / Pre-sale: \$17 (until May 6, 8pm) / Season-ticket: \$12
Box office / Information : 514-843-7738

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