

NUIT BLANCHE
Live Performance Through the Night

REUNION
2 OCTOBER 2010

Ryerson Theatre
43 Gerrard Street East, Toronto

Wine Chess & Canapé Chess
Takako Saito

Captured pieces are eaten and drunk

Fluxus artist, Takako Saito, best known for her chess games forcing players to hone their non-visual perception-smell, touch and sound-to play.



Dove Bradshaw & William Anastasi, 1983, by Virginia Dwan

Raw Canapé Chess Players

William Anastasi: artist, played chess with John Cage daily from 1977-1992

Dove Bradshaw: artist, played chess with John Cage occasionally from 1977-1992

The empty board becomes populated with black and white raw canapés only when each piece is moved. A waiter or waitress places them on squares the players request. As each piece is captured it is eaten by the winner.

Wine Chess Players

Jennifer Shahade: Two time American Women's Chess Champion, 2002, 2004

**Pascal Charbonneau, Canadian Grandmaster, Canadian Chess Champion, 2002, 2004;
Chess Olympiads, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006**

Same size glasses of red and white wine are set in the traditional opening squares and are only distinguished by the odor of the various wines. As each piece is captured it is drunk by the winner.

In 1965 Cage visited Anastasi as he was readying *Sound Objects* for his imminent exhibition at the Dwan Gallery, New York. In 1977 recalling this and her own early immersion in Cage, Dove Bradshaw suggested Cage as composer for William Anastasi's *You Are*, in which the performer describes the audience at the Clock Tower in New York. Cage opted to describe the audience's sounds, and his participation began the friendship amongst the three. Cage invited Anastasi to play chess which began a daily practice that continued for 15 years until Cage's death in 1992. Bradshaw would join in round-robin whenever a fourth came for dinner—sometimes the surrealist painter and sculptor Dorothea Tanning, the pianist who often premiered Cage's works, Grete Sultan or Teeny Duchamp. Dove Bradshaw was born in New York and continues to reside there. In 1975 she was awarded a National Endowment for the Arts Grant and in 1985 the Pollock Krasner Award. Her work is represented in numerous permanent collections including those of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Modern Art, the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, the Art Institute of Chicago, the San Francisco Museum of Art, The British Museum, The Beaubourg, and The Russian State Museum, Marble Palace, St Petersburg. William Anastasi was born in Philadelphia and has lived in New York since 1962. He is the 2010 recipient of the John Cage Award. His work is represented in numerous permanent collections including those of the Museum of Modern Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the National Gallery, the Art Institute in Chicago, the Guggenheim Museum, New York, The British Museum, The Ludwig Museum, Cologne and the Moderna Museum, Stockholm. In 1984 Anastasi and Bradshaw were jointly appointed Artistic Advisors to the Merce Cunningham Dance Company. Bradshaw and Anastasi continue to play chess. The two were selected to begin the concert tonight because of their personal ties to John Cage and for the way in which chess still remains a presence.