

GRAPHIC EVIDENCE

Jason Kao Hwang – violin
Tatsu Aoki – string bass
Francis Wong – soprano saxophone

Graphic Evidence is a collective ensemble of three leading Asian American jazz musicians - Francis Wong of San Francisco, Jason Kao Hwang of New Jersey and Tatsu Aoki of Chicago. Music is their **Graphic Evidence** of history, culture and identity. **Graphic Evidence** is the language of their music. AsianImprov Records recently released their first CD.

Jason Kao Hwang's seminal ensemble (1990-2004), *The Far East Side Band*, released two CDs, *Urban Archaeology* and *Caverns*, and has performed at the World Music Institute, Jazzgalerie Nickelsdorf Konfrontationen, and many other stages. New World Records recently released his chamber opera, *The Floating Box, A Story in Chinatown*. He has received support from Meet the Composer and the National Endowment for the Arts. He has recorded with Anthony Braxton, Henry Threadgill, and performed with numerous artists including Borah Bergman and William Parker. Currently, Mr. Hwang is performs with Ravish Momin's *Trio Tarana*, Taylor Ho Bynum's *SpiderMonkey Strings*, and Pheeroan Aklafl's *Malcheck Muzikum*. His new quartet, EDGE, recently completed production of their first CD.

Over the past fifteen years, **Tatsu Aoki** has ranged through a rich spectrum of music, from traditional Asian to the avant-garde of jazz. Mr. Aoki has recorded six CDs for solo bass, five for duets, and six for ensembles. He has performed with many musicians, including Fred Anderson, Von Freeman and Malachi Favors; and has recorded as sideman on over thirty CDs. Mr. Aoki has recently released two more CDs, *First Look*, *Chicago Duos*, with saxophonist Roscoe Mitchell, and *Basser Live II*, which features his bass with a trio of taiko drummers. He is the founder and artistic director of the Chicago Asian American Jazz Festival, which has been celebrated in the Windy City since 1996.

Francis Wong, a recording artist for Asian Improv Records, leads the ensemble *Gathering of Ancestors*. He has worked with the late Glenn Horiuchi, Jon Jang, John Tchicai, James Newton, Cecil Taylor and others. He has composed scores for choreographers Sachiko Nakamura and Pearl Ubungen as well as theater companies, including the San Francisco Mime Troupe. Mr. Wong has received grants from the California Arts Council, Rockefeller Foundation/Next Generation Leadership Fellow and Meet the Composer/New Residencies. Mr. Wong has lectured at both San Francisco State University and the University of California/ Santa Cruz. He is Creative Director of Asian Improv aRts, Executive Producer of Asian American Jazz Festival/SF and President of the Justice Matters Institute.