

# MEETING AT SAM

## THURSDAY AFTER HOURS

Thursday After Hours at SAM continues to build a fresh place for friends to mix, mingle and enjoy live music while relaxing with Taste Café's featured cocktail. Each Thursday's unique theme offers a variety of music and mingling opportunities.

First Thursdays: Art for All, presented by Target, are a chance for the entire family to experience art, music and culture from around the globe. Second Thursdays: Art of Jazz, presented by Earshot Jazz, are the nights to catch the best local and national jazz musicians. Third Thursdays: Art Out Loud, are the perfect place to check out the best in Northwest rock music. Fourth Thursdays: Art and Soul, are nights to mellow out and enjoy the ambiance created by talented local DJs and singer-songwriters.

Last year's highlights included a fashion show featuring looks inspired by the exhibition *Between Past and Future: New Photography and Video from China* with fashions created by local designers. Visitors gathered for the vibrant show on the grand staircase and to check out the DJ spinning beats. The Art of Jazz series featured outstanding national performances, including the famed Tipton Sax Quartet led by Amy Denio; Jessica Williams; and Peter Malinverni, the renowned New York-based pianist.

Thursday After Hours celebrated many exciting exhibitions last year. The public opening of *Spain in the Age of Exploration* was a great success, thanks to the generosity of Starbucks Coffee Company for giving free admission to the first five hundred visitors, and for donating coffee and pastries. Brotman Hall brimmed with fun family activities and the Spanish guitar ballads of Andre Feriante. *Chinese Photography* in February was right on cue with the Chinese New Year festivities that included live music in the lobby, special SAM fortune cookies and the rhythmic drums of the Mak Fai Dragon dancers. The elegant Martha Graham-inspired dance performance of the Lehua Dance Theatre troupe kicked off the opening of the *Isamu Noguchi: Sculptural Design* exhibition with great style.

*Art for All* presented by Target. *Art Out Loud* and *Art and Soul* sponsored by *The Stranger* and KEXP. *Art for All* and *Art of Jazz* sponsored by Earshot Jazz, KPLU, *Seattle Weekly* and *Fandrich & Sons Pianos*.



Thursday After Hours Spring Fashion Show

## MORE PLACE THAN SPACE

Free Days at SAM downtown and at the Seattle Asian Art Museum in Volunteer Park attract many visitors, guaranteeing that our community has access to active programming on a regular basis. Free First Thursday evenings downtown have been a scene of After Hours music in Brotman Hall, with audiences lining the Grand Stairway, while Free First Saturdays\* at the Seattle Asian Art Museum engage families with artist-led activities. Building on these successes, SAM's vision for the downtown expansion is to create a large, public, free zone on the first and second floors, along the lengths of First Avenue and University Street. During 2005, plans have developed for a large Forum and adjacent gallery filled with permanent collection treasures in addition to an expanded store and restaurant. The existing museum lobbies and Grand Stairway are being re-designed to involve the region's families and communities in a block-long length of "artful experiences." With a new mezzanine-level Art Studio, and linked spaces for exploration and participation in artist-designed experiences, this free zone will be a regional gathering place, dedicated to public engagement with the arts every day of the week!

\* Free First Saturdays are made possible by The Boeing Company and The Wallace Foundation. Media support provided by Classical KING FM.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership reached an all-time high in 2004 with a total of 41,500 members, due to the great responses from our *Van Gogh to Mondrian* and *Spain in the Age of Exploration* exhibitions. Nearly 12,000 new members joined during these two exhibitions alone.

Premier membership also marked a record with almost 4,000 members. Members enjoyed the most highly attended opening celebration of our *Van Gogh to Mondrian* exhibition, tours, private home viewings and more throughout the year. Contributors Circles is SAM's highest level of membership, combining unparalleled membership privileges and museum access with support for the Annual Fund. This year 422 Contributors Circles members provided more than \$1.6 million in operating support for SAM. They were among the first to view *Spain in the Age of Exploration*, and they enjoyed trips to New York for Christo's "Gates" and to Miami Beach for Art Basel, dined with the museum director and trustees and toured renowned private collections.

Thanks to all our members for their dedication and support of SAM!

## FILMS

The museum's award-winning film program celebrated Cary Grant's one-hundredth birthday, presented its twenty-seventh annual film noir series, honored the centennial of British director Michael Powell, surveyed sixty years of French cinema and hosted Thelma Schoonmaker, Martin Scorsese's Oscar-winning film editor. We showcased films from Italy, Spain, India, Vietnam, Ireland and Poland; and screened Chinese, Japanese and Korean anime for children.

The film series is generously supported by the Bagley Wright Endowment.