



### **Denise Atchley, US**

Denise Atchley is the Co-Founder and Director of *Digital Storytelling Festival*, an annual event that showcases the innovative work being created throughout the diverse areas of the digital storytelling community, founded in 1995 by Dana and Denise Atchley. With a background in entertainment and event production, Denise also consults and produces digital storytelling projects for businesses or personal use. Her objective is to help people learn the tools of Digital Storytelling, enabling them to identify and create stories that are important to their lives or business.

### **Mary-Alice Arthur, New Zealand**

Mary-Alice Arthur is based in Wellington, New Zealand. She is a facilitator for Inspired Change, coach, and storyteller in her own consultancy, SOAR (Significant Orientations, Amazing Results). Her main focus is working with individuals and groups to help them recognize and manifest their true potential. She often uses stories to weave themes, reinforce messages and guide participants to insight, observation and discovery.

Mar-Alice has presented storytelling workshops in Malaysia, Australia and Taiwan. She has appeared at the National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, Tennessee and twice at the Glistening Waters Storytelling Festival in New Zealand.

### **Tom Banaszewski, China**

Tom Banaszewski has spent the last 12 years researching effective implementation of digital storytelling practices in classrooms. While a member of the Information Design and Technology program at Georgia Tech, Tom conducted one of the earliest qualitative studies of digital storytelling practices, and also looked at how teachers can use video games and comics to teach story elements.

### **Tanya Batt, New Zealand**

Tanya Batt is a storyteller with a frock fetish. She was born in New Zealand, grew up in Australia and has been roaming the world since. A self confessed story-o-phile and frock-o-holic, with the curious claim of being 'one of the world's few professional fairies', her storytelling is characterized by a theatrical flare and a glittering array of costumes. Her love of stories and storytelling is expressed through both performance and writing. She regularly tours both nationally and internationally, having told tales in Australia, New Zealand, the USA, UK and Europe. She is also a published children's author. Stories are her habit!

### **James Bonnet, US**

For the last two decades, James Bonnet has been the director of Astoria Filmwrights – a research project studying story models and theories from around the world and their connection to the creative process, storymaking, psychology, myth and film. The culmination of the work is the breakthrough "unified" theory of the origin and nature of story, and a revolutionary new story model that can be used to create successful stories. James has been giving *Storymaking: The Master Class* to screenwriters, producers, directors, psychologists and mythologists. The radical new ideas about story revealed in his books and seminars are having a major impact on writers across all media. He has written or acted in more than 40 television shows and features. James was also elected twice to the Board of Directors of the Writer's Guild of America (10,000 members), serving for four years in that capacity.

### **Arif Choudhury, US**

Arif recently enthralled hundreds of high school students with real-life stories of his parents' journeys and his growing up as a boy of complexion distinct in suburban Chicago. Arif is a featured storyteller for Just Stories and Racebridges, an organization dedicated to developing and creating stories that deal with ethnic identity, race relations, and that all differences are to be valued. He is also an Educational consultant on Muslim identity – especially Muslim American identity – and interfaith relations.

**Alton Chung, US**

Alton grew up with superstition and magic of the Hawaiian Islands. His Japanese and Korean roots gave him a unique perspective and helped him narrate cultural tales and personal stories with deep sense of reverence and authenticity. Although Alton enjoys recounting true Japanese-American stories of the WWII period, his real passion has been the telling of ghost stories. In 2005, he was awarded the first JJ Reneaux Emerging Artist Award by the National Storytelling Network.

**Evelyn Clark, US**

Author of *Around the Corporate Campfire: How Great Leaders Use Stories to Inspire Success*, Evelyn Clark has developed results-oriented workshops, facilitated retreats, created communication plans, and developed values-centered core stories for premier organizations such as Microsoft, Western Wireless and World Vision. She has also published numerous articles on communication management and public relations; was a contributing writer/corporate storyteller for *TechnoBrands*, which focused on developing brand identity and building brand equity; and is a contributor to *Wake Me Up When the Data Is Over: How Organizations Use Stories to Drive Results*. Evelyn has worked in the Association for Quality and Participation, the American Marketing Association, the International Association of Business Communicators, and the Washington Society of Certified Public Accountants.

**Kevin Cordi, US**

A Fulbright scholar, Kevin is, as aptly cited for by the National Storytelling Network, "the first full time storytelling teacher in the country." He has coached an award-winning youth storytelling group entitled Voices of Illusion. Kevin, who is writing his dissertation in "dramatic inquiry and storytelling" – at the Ohio State University – is the founder of Y.E.S. (Youth, Educators, and Storytelling SIG). He was also an Executive Director of the National Youth Storytelling Showcase.

**Emily Cooper, Australia**

As a dancer, Emily draws upon a diverse spectrum of dance styles including Classical Ballet, Bharatanatyam and Kathak Classical Indian Dance, Contemporary Dance and especially Traditional West African Dance. She studied extensively with West African Griot Mohamed Bangoura, and traveled with him to Guinea in West Africa, to study with the highly respected Sekouba Camara and his Ballet Matam. With such diverse training, Emily creates a fluid and unique style of dance that is mesmerizing to watch. Emily later fell in love with storytelling, and became interested in weaving this modality together with her dancing, 'I love story and I love to dance! I think the two are a beautiful combination – it's a wonderful opportunity as a dancer to embody the moods and emotions of characters in a story.'

**Eth-Noh-Tec, US**

Eth-Noh-Tec is an interdisciplinary theatre that is at once precision choreography and lyrical word-weaving, graceful, playful and poetic. By layering ancient Asian mythologies, folktales and Asian urban legends with Asian American sensibilities, Eth-Noh-Tec has created an exciting new blend of storytelling and kinetic theatre.

Eth-Noh-Tec was founded in 1982 and is the combined performance chemistry of Robert Kikuchi-Yngojo and Nancy Wang. Eth-Noh-Tec performs throughout the USA and abroad with several storytelling theatre programs, workshops and residencies. Together they mix an alchemy of music, theatre, dance and the spoken word to challenge the borders between theatre, movement, mime and storytelling.

**Linda Fang, US**

Linda Fang grew up in Shanghai, China but went to the USA to complete her graduate studies at Georgetown University. After doing storytelling part-time for about two years, she left her full-time job to become a storyteller specialising in ancient Chinese stories. She has performed at the Kennedy Center, the National Theatre, the Round House Theatre and many other places around the country. She was a featured teller at the Corn Island International Storytelling Festival, Toronto International Storytelling Festival, the Graz Erzhalt International Storytelling Festival (Austria), and the Gimestory Storytelling Festival (Cayman Islands). Linda's book *The Ch'i-lin Purse*, a collection of ancient Chinese stories, is the winner of the 1996 Storytelling World Tellable Tale Award. Linda won the title of The National Storyteller of the Year in 1998.

**Diane Ferlatte, US**

Internationally renowned storyteller Diane Ferlatte has frequently travelled the globe, storytelling from Europe to Australia and from Alaska to Hawaii. While emphasising African-American stories, she also loves to tell stories that hold truths, touching upon our common humanity, including personal stories, historical stories, myths, fables and legends. Her storytelling is further augmented by her use of the American Sign Language, singing and percussion. Not only has she been awarded the National Storytelling Network's Circle of Excellence Award, but all of her recordings are also award winners.

**Hiroko Fujita, Japan**

Hiroko Fujita grew up in the tiny town of Miharu in mountainous rural Fukushima Prefecture, Japan. She is currently a lecturer at Kindergartner Training School, Kashiwa, Chiba-Ken. Fujita-san has toured schools and libraries throughout Japan, as well as American schools and libraries. She has participated at storytelling festivals every spring from 1995 to 2004 with Fran Stallings, who serves as her interpreter. She has published books on ancient Japanese tales and handbooks for those who wish to become storytellers.

**Corinne Gibbons, Australia**

Corinne Gibbons, who hails from the Bega Valley in NSW Australia, has amassed an incredible amount of achievements over her musical career. The highlights of which include the release of two albums - *Dusk* (debuted at No. 2 on the independent Jazz charts in Australia) and *Sunday Afternoon*, a live album dedicated to her many supporters – along with a world tour that saw her playing at many festivals and jazz clubs. Corinne recently discovered the power of storytelling and song, inspiring her to create special shows which combine these two mediums in a unique and uplifting way. Currently Corinne is the Regional (South East Asia) Manager of Human Rhythms - a teambuilding company which facilitates drum and percussion orchestras.

**Christine Greenough, Australia**

In 1997, Christine Greenough formed a storytelling company called The Talespinners with fellow storyteller Sue Alvarez. The Talespinners have told to children and adults at festivals, schools, libraries, art galleries and museums. Over the last three years Sue and Christine have devised and presented a series of reminiscence programs called "I remember when..." for nursing homes, hostels and retirement villages. They have toured these shows throughout Australia.

Christine's repertoire of stories is long varied. She tells myths, legends, folktales and fairytales, tall tales and personal stories. Christine is also an actor, director and producer who runs her own theatre company NewAct Productions.

**Hasniah Hussian, Malaysia**

Hasniah Hussain is an educator, writer and storyteller. She currently lectures at the Malay Language Institute of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur in the areas of Theatre in Malay Language Education, and Utilization of Storytelling Techniques in Teaching and Learning of the Malay Language. Hasniah is a trainer for storytelling projects under Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka (DBP). She is also a frequent speaker and conductor of various storytelling workshops in libraries, schools and other programs under DBP and the State Education Department throughout Malaysia. Hasniah delights her audiences with her unique style, stories and personal homely touch.

**John Hockney, Australia**

John Hockney lives in the Blue Mountains of Australia and is Vice President of the Australian Storytelling Guild (NSW) Inc. He is a professional storyteller and performs at schools, libraries, festivals and children's Book Council literacy functions. He is currently writing a story workshop for community colleges to encourage a wider community interest in the art of story.

John's passion is sharing reminiscing stories for seniors and the aged – often working with fellow tellers Christine Greenough and Sue Alvarez. Their story programme helps dementia patients recall those special times in life which are so precious to those in their twilight years.

**Bernice Hune, Canada**

Bernice Hune, a third-generation Chinese Canadian, has worked as a professional storyteller in Canada for the last 15 years. She tells her family's stories as well as folktales that celebrates Asian traditions such as The Magic Paintbrush to

children and adults. She is the recipient of a Canada Council grant for storytelling. Bernice also tells at museums, festivals, libraries and schools. As a leading arts educator, she has conducted numerous professional development programmes for teachers in both art and storytelling.

### **Dianne de Las Casas, US**

Award-winning storyteller Dianne de Las Casas was born in the Philippines and is half Filipina. She keeps the Filipino culture alive through her stories. Dianne lived worldwide as a child, but has now settled in Louisiana. Dianne's exposure to many cultures has contributed to her wide repertoire of tales. She performs 200 arts-in-education programs and residencies a year at schools, libraries, family and community venues throughout Louisiana and beyond. Dianne is co-founder of the Louisiana Storytelling Association and South-East Louisiana Storytelling Guild. She is also author of *The Professional Storyteller's Business Handbook* (a business guide for storytellers) and *Wild about Marketing: A Performer's Guide to the Jungle*. Her debut storytelling CD, *Jambalaya – Stories with Louisiana Flavour* won a 2004 iParenting Media Award.

### **Doug Lipman, US**

Doug Lipman, the foremost storytelling coach in USA, is popular in the States as well as abroad as a performer, coach, author, and teacher. Doug's storytelling grew out of his work as a pre-school and music teacher in the 1970's. He has been teaching and coaching storytellers since 1979 and, in the last 10years, worked extensively in the corporate sector. In addition to his workshops and classes on all aspects of storytelling, Doug has published numerous books and released instructional videos, audiocassettes, and multi-media courses such as the *Storytelling Workshop in a Box*.

### **Dr Margaret Read MacDonald, US**

Dr Margaret Read MacDonald holds a PhD in Folklore from Indiana University and teaches Storytelling for the University of Washington and Lesley University. She is author of over thirty books on folklore and storytelling. Her picture books are well loved for their energetic read-aloud tales, their bright illustrations and the wonderful marriage of story and text.

Dr MacDonald is no stranger to Singapore. She is a regular at ACS, and has contributed immensely to its growth. She is back again this year by popular demand.

### **Christine McMahon, UK**

Christine McMahon is a qualified dramatherapist, storyteller and a lecturer in drama and psychology. She is a member of Shaggy Dog Storytelling Club, which is recognised as one of the most successful and long running clubs in England. A storyteller with a growing international reputation, Christine has appeared at the *Beyond the Border*, the *Welsh International Storytelling Festival*, the *Cape Clear Island International Festival* and in Australia and New Zealand.

Currently the Restorative Justice Coordinator at the Calderdale Youth Offending Team, Christine is involved in parenting projects and performance workshops at Prisons (male and female) and Young Offenders Institutions. She also does performances and workshops in schools for all age groups including nursery projects for those children who have not developed language. Christine's particular interests are in Lancashire and Yorkshire stories, therapeutic uses of stories, developing international links to support storytelling development and stories for use with Restorative Justice.

### **John May, Australia**

John May has traveled, lived and worked in several countries - gathering rhythms, stories, dances and experiences. John draws upon the richness and diversity of his journeys, to create lively and unique experiences of Story. John has worked as a storyteller in a variety of different communities, including festivals, corporate conferences, schools, ex prisoners, differently-abled adults, and more. 'I use the Story as a way to open the imagination and creativity inside everyone. The Story is being born each time it is told - it is new and alive,' says John.

John is well known and loved in his local Blue Mountains community in Australia, where he has worked as a storyteller, musician, and drum-maker for over ten years. John has a Bachelor of Education, and has also taught and performed in Singapore, Bali and Malaysia.

### **Richard Martin, Germany**

Richard Martin is a Briton who has been telling stories in theatres, universities and schools throughout Germany and beyond since 1990. He also works in Germany as a teacher and teacher-trainer. The two strands of his professional life have led to several recordings, publications and many workshops for universities and teacher-training organisations within Germany and Italy. Richard has also performed in various European countries, averaging around 35 performances a year.

### **Randel McGee, US**

A gifted and imaginative storyteller, writer, musician and performer, Randel McGee enthusiastically performs with his puppet pal, Groark the Dragon. As a seasoned performer, Randel McGee's fast-paced, high-energy blend of stand-up comedy, witty banter, original songs, and hilarious storytelling appeals to young and old alike around the world. He is also known for his portrayal of Hans Christian Andersen, the beloved storyteller.

### **Daniel Morden, UK**

Daniel Morden is one of the top storytellers in the UK. He was born in Wales and currently resides there. He has told traditional stories for a living since 1989, and has travelled the world telling and hearing folktales. His first anthology of stories, *Weird Tales from the Storyteller*, was nominated for the Tir Na N'Og Welsh Children's Book Prize.

### **Bobby Norfolk, US**

Bobby is a three-time Emmy Award winner and a recipient of a Parents' Choice honour as one of the most popular and dynamic story-educators in the U.S. Bobby, once a standup comedian, worked for 10 years thereafter as a National Park Service Ranger, presenting historical and interpretive programs for school-groups and the community at large. From his positions as Park ranger to TV host, recording artist to author, Bobby has told stories that promote character, education, cultural diversity and self-esteem.

### **Sherry Norfolk, US**

With a B.S. in Elementary Education, and a Masters in Library Science, Sherry offers inspiring and energizing staff development workshops which demonstrate storytelling as a tool that empowers educators. Several National awards have recognized Sherry's dedication to children and family literacy. She is the co-author of some commendable teaching resources such as *The Moral of the Story: Folktales for Character Development*, and *The Storytelling Classroom: Applications Across the Curriculum*.

### **Cherry Pua-Africa, Philippines**

Cherry Pua-Africa is a teacher, trainer and a storyteller. She has produced storytelling CDs for children and she is also the founder and former principal of Kinder Minds. She has conducted seminars for storytellers, parents, teachers and school administrators in Singapore, USA, Thailand and the Philippines.

### **Jeeva Raghunath, India**

A storyteller by profession, Jeeva Raghunath teaches language skills through stories, drama and songs. While she specialises in training very small children, she also trains adults in storytelling, role-play, creative writing and communication skills.

Jeeva has represented India twice at the Asian Children's Festival. She has also conducted various storytelling and language workshops for teacher trainees at the National Institute of Education, Singapore. She does storytelling on Vasantham Central, in their children's programme Chutti Ulagam and Mazhalai Vanam. She told stories on the MRT as part of ACF 2002. She was last seen performing in Panchatantra for Dramaplus' 3.4 Company at the Esplanade.

### **Dr A.P.J. Ram, India**

With more than 40 years' experience in multidisciplinary scientific research and popular science communication, Dr. A.P.J. Ram interacts extensively with students and science teachers in India. He is the Vice chairman of National Centre for Science Communicators, India. . He is also the Principal Scientific advisor to Labour India Educational Research Centre, Kerala India.

### **Antonio Rocha, US**

Antonio Rocha, a native of Brazil, began his career in the performing arts in 1985. In 1988 he received a Partners of the Americas grant to come to the USA to further his mime skills with Master Tony Montanaro. Antonio's unique solo shows of stories and mime have been performed from Singapore to the Yukon, including the Kennedy Center (Washington DC, USA), Tales of Graz (Austria), Dunya Festival (Holland), Kenya Connect (Kenya) and The National Storytelling Festival (Tennessee, USA). Antonio holds a Bachelor's degree in Theatre Arts and has also studied with Master Marcel Marceau.

### **Leslie Rule, US**

Leslie is the Project Supervisor for the Digital Storytelling Initiative at KQED, working in the fields of education, community outreach and adult learning. Leslie has developed a nationally recognised teacher training programme for the American Film Institute, taught multimedia storytelling to adults at the College of San Mateo, and served as an educational technologist in middle and high school. Leslie has addressed numerous conferences, including MacWorld, NECC, CAIS, AMLA SXSW Interactive Festival.

### **Ryoko Sato, Japan**

Ryoko Sato is one of the key people responsible for establishing the Japan Storytelling Festival, and is President of the Japan Storytelling Network. She currently lectures at a university in Japan, but has also worked as a children's librarian and head of a children's centre. Ryoko has been sharing stories with everyone from children to adults, and promoting reading among children at nurseries, schools and libraries. Ryoko tells in an intense yet delightful way.

### **Prasong Sihong, Thailand**

Prasong Saihong graduated from the Northern Illinois University in USA with an M.A. degree in Cultural Anthropology. His thesis on prolonging the lives of traditional storytellers in northeast Thailand enabled him to collect and learn more stories to tell. Prasong developed as a storyteller under the tutelage of Dr Wayuppa Tossa and Dr Margaret Read MacDonald. He is now one of the finest storytellers in Thailand. He is an active member of the Mahasarakham University Storytelling Troupe. Prasong has told stories in several local and international festivals such as the Australian Storytelling Festival, the Story Fest International in Seattle and The Stories by the Sea in Oregon. Prasong's stories appeal to both children and adults.

### **Helen Simondson, Australia**

As Manager of Events at the Australian Centre for Moving Image (ACMI), Helen has been responsible for initiating and developing the award-winning digital storytelling programme which engages the community in meaningful first person narratives. Since the programme's inception, she has worked with hundreds of people throughout Victoria and Australia, edifying their personal stories; and also with individuals & communities to develop storytelling and technical skills to produce their autobiographical audio-visual stories.

### **Susie & Phil Splitter, Australia**

Susie is a music and movement educator, and past president of the Victorian Orff Schulwerk Association. Phil is an award winning composer as well as a talented musician and entertainer. Susie and Phil have spent more than 15 years developing the popular 'Welcome to Music' series of CD's and books, musicals and choral range for all ages. They have conducted professional development workshops in Australia, New Zealand, the USA, Spain, as well as at the Orff Institute in Austria.

### **Dr. Fran Stallings, US**

Fran Stallings has been a professional storyteller since 1978. She is an education consultant, freelance author, recording artist and singer/songwriter. She is the international tour manager for Hiroko Fujita, a Japanese storyteller and author. In 2003, Fran and Hiroko received the International StoryBridge award from the National Storytelling Network (USA) for which organisation Fran is the state liaison for Oklahoma. Fran's repertoire of American and world folktales includes hypnotic tales of transformation, as well as dynamic participation stories for youngsters. A PhD biologist, as an "ecoteller" she continues to teach about our living world through stories.

### **Edward Stokes, Hong Kong**

Edward Stokes, a photographer and writer, has specialized since 1984 in books led by their photographic narratives. He is the author of eleven books and originator of other materials – including calendars, websites and exhibitions. In 1997, recognizing the power of photos to inform and inspire, he established the Hong Kong Conservation Photography Foundation. A not-for-profit publisher, the HKCP Foundation promotes heritage awareness through books and publications. Edward's books are noted for their strong images, evocative photographic narratives and elegant design. They have been supported by grants, awards and commissions. He has lectured widely to heritage, conservation, community and professional groups.

### **Rangimoana Taylor, New Zealand**

Rangimoana Taylor is the kaumatua, the Maori elder, of the New Zealand Drama School, and one of the foremost performers of his generation. Drawing his materials from the cycle of stories which orders Maori understandings of the world and the supernatural, he has become known internationally, not just for telling a good tale, but for expressing universal human values through the unique idiom of his people and for presenting the material of his culture in a manner accessible to those of other cultures. He is also known for his range of voice and his dynamic use of space. Rangimoana has stood out in storytelling festivals in Jonesborough, Seattle, Paris and Dublin, and you will know why once you hear him storytell.

### **Folke Tegetthoff, Austria**

Folke Tegetthoff was born in Graz, Austria. His first book of modern fairy tales was published in 1979 at the age of 25. To date, 31 books have been published (over 1.4 million sold copies) and translated into several languages, including Chinese, Japanese and Korean. He had given over 3500 performances (in German and English) in 38 countries around the world. In 1984, the Folke Tegetthoff Collection, the first official archive worldwide about his work was opened at Murray State University in Kentucky, USA. He is also the organiser of the world's biggest storytelling festival GRAZERZAHLT – Tales of Graz, since 1988. Folke lives with his wife and 4 children in an old, former nunnery in the south of the Austrian province of Styria.

### **The Jumping JellyBeans, Malaysia**

Shanthini Venugopal and Cinzia Ciaramicoli first got together in 2000 to bring theatre and cheer into the lives of less fortunate children after visiting the oncology paediatric ward at the University Hospital. A puppet show loosely based on the French book entitled "Le Petit Prince" written by Antoine De Saint-Exupery - "A play for a smile" was born. Since then, they've produced various children's theatre productions with puppetry, dance and music. Their commitment in telling stories and performing theatre plays to children and adults have taken them to rural and urban areas of Malaysia, Singapore and as far off as Denmark and the UK.

### **Dr Wajuppa Tossa, Thailand**

Dr Wajuppa Tossa teaches English and American Literature, Children's Literature and Storytelling at Mahasarakham University, Thailand. In 1995, she founded the Mahasarakham University storytelling project. In this project, she gets people of all ages to be involved in preserving and revitalising the use of local dialects and folktales in their daily lives and to take pride in their own cultural heritage. Dr Tossa has conducted storytelling workshops and performed in the USA, Australia, the Netherlands, Laos, and Singapore. She was a featured storyteller in several storytelling festivals such as the Book Fest in Seattle and Story Fest International in the Pacific West coast. Dr Tossa trained under storytelling guru Dr Margaret Read MacDonald.

### **Karen Tovell, UK**

Karen Tovell has been a professional storymaker and storyteller since 1984. Australian-born, but London-based now, Karen has entertained almost half a million adults and children with her magical performances of traditional tales, as well as her own original stories. She is committed to providing storytelling training and development workshops for adults, so that they can carry forward their own storytelling projects in their local communities. She is also experienced in storytelling to children with special needs. Karen has made and presented many original stories for specific projects at numerous conferences, special events, and festivals. For example, her story Dreamweaving: Sunbeams and Moonshadow was published in 1999 by the Royal Observatory Greenwich on their website, in conjunction with her live storytelling performance to celebrate the solar eclipse. Karen was a featured teller at Crosscurrents: The Australian National Storytelling Conference/Festival 2003.

**Nury Vittachi, Hong Kong**

Nury, Hong Kong's bestselling English language novelist, is also a well-known columnist. One of his best works is the comedy-crime novel series, *The Feng Shui Detective*, which has been translated into French, German, Portuguese, Italian, Indonesian and other languages. Noted for playing a key role in founding the Asia Literary Review, Hong Kong International Literary Festival, Man Asia Literary Prize, Nury's avowed mission is to create a new generation of Asia-based authors and screenwriters.

**Cat Weatherill, UK**

Cat Weatherill is a storyteller and writer. Born and raised in Liverpool, she studied Drama at Hull University and has been a professional performer ever since. She has worked as an actor and a singer, and she incorporates these skills into her storytelling. Cat is a strong physical teller with a distinctive theatrical style. She became a professional storyteller in 1998.

**Cassandra Wye, UK**

Cassandra Wye, a professional storyteller since 1991, has worked in theatres and festivals, around galleries and museums, in and out of schools, by starlight and candlelight, on land and at sea. Trained in circus, theatre and dance, she has created a performance style that is truly her own.

Central to Cassandra's work is listening to people's stories, honouring their knowledge and experience, and celebrating their lives whatever age they might be. She lives and works in a multicultural community and her repertoire of stories is taken from all over the world to celebrate the diversity of human experience.

**Dan Yashinsky, Canada**

Dan Yashinsky is a well-known Canadian storyteller, author, community organiser and UNICEF Canada Storyteller-in-Residence. In 1978, Dan began the longest-running open session of storytelling in North America: 1,001 Friday Nights of Storytelling. He founded the Toronto Festival of Storytelling in 1979 and co-founded the Storytellers School of Toronto. In 1999, Dan created and hosted *Talking Stick*, a CBC Radio One show. He has performed at festivals in Israel, Austria, France, the USA and Ireland, as well as all across Canada.