

A Market Feast, The TANKS Arts Centre, Cairns

6 September 2009

Where's fusion food happening? Cairns. At Our Table takes you on a market feast experience that will leave you in no doubt about how much Asian cuisine has influenced the foods in the Far North. Five Asian communities - Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, Hmong and Bhutanese - will cook up, demonstrate and sell mouth watering examples of their finest cuisine - as well tell the stories of their food and culture through traditional music and dance as part of Cairns Carnival on Collins at The TANKS.

Sandy Astill, Acting Marketing and Promotions Manager at the Tanks Arts Centre said that it was the first time community food demonstrations had been included in the Carnival. "It's great that At Our Table is part of the Carnival this year," she said. "Our Asian community is a major influence, particularly more recently our Japanese community. We have very strong Chinese history here while Hmong and Bhutanese are relatively newcomers.

The Carnival celebrates community so it is great that it can do so as part of Queensland's birthday through At Our Table, the multicultural component of the Carnival. We will be encouraging people to buy their food and hear what the different communities chefs have to say as they take their food with them to watch the multicultural dancing performances."

The Carnival on Collins, a family favourite for 20 years, is on Father! s Day, 6 September along Collins Avenue, Botanical Gardens and Tanks Arts Centre from 9am-3.30pm, The Carnival is a free event with food such as food from At Our Table, sold on site.

Date and Times: Sun 6 September 2009, 11am-2pm

Cost: Free entry into the Carnival, \$5/dish at A Market Feast

Bookings: No bookings required, first in best dressed

Venue: Cairns Botanical Gardens and The TANKS Arts Centre, 46 Collins Avenue, Edge Hill Tanks Arts Centre and Collins Avenue.

About At Our Table

In 2009, Queensland celebrates its 150th birthday. A number of projects and events are planned throughout the State and the State Library of Queensland is hosting one of these magnificent events - At Our Table.

At Our Table will host 10 special event gatherings throughout Queensland. Each event will bring together a particular community for a culinary delight – perhaps a banquet, a dinner, a campfire or a picnic.

At Our Table will explore the cultural influences on the growing, making and sharing of food showcase the remarkable stories behind the many recipes which have been passed down through the generations and between cultures. Recipes carry the traditions, history and culture of their cooks and can reveal the story of an individual, a family, a community, a culture and/or how people have adapted to new and ever changing surroundings.

Recipes:

- introduce new experiences and taste sensations
- reveal the way cultures evolve
- reflect the place in which they are created
- can act as windows through time

Discover the many wonderful stories contained within the diverse cultures by which we are surrounded by participating in At Our Table.

The State Library is dedicated to ensuring that At Our Table is used to highlight the extensive variety of fresh produce and cuisines available throughout the State of Queensland.