

Wesley



MARCO LUCIDI

Kung Fu masters Xu Gong Wei and Lorne Bernard.

If you can match this pebble from my hand...

Not since the Forum riots are so many flying sticks and kicks going to be seen in Montreal.

This is the promise of Kung Fu master Lorne Bernard, an organizer of the Chinese Martial Arts Gala 1996 to be held this Saturday at École primaire Le Plateau on Calixa-Lavalée. "Authentic Kung Fu is rarely seen anymore – the good stuff is disappearing," says Bernard. "Here is a chance of a lifetime to see the real thing."

The gala – the biggest of its kind in Eastern Canada – will feature renowned Kung Fu masters from across Canada. On display will be rare styles like Fut Gar, lion dancing and weapons-forms demonstrations using whip chains and three-section staffs.

If you thought Bruce Lee could move, wait until you see master Xu Gong Wei, one of the more remarkable participants in the gala. At the age of 81, master Xu has the agility of a mountain goat, the sureness of a wolf, and could probably take on a bar full of 300-pound bikers on crack. His own teacher lived to be 116 years old. Originally from Shanghai, Xu moved to Vancouver eight years ago and will do a demonstration of Ti Chi spear and broadsword forms – rarely seen in Canada.

For info, call Admissions outlets or Lorne Bernard at 843-5177.

Alex Roslin