



**Canada's Cultural Program
A "duel" with cartoonist Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas**

Starting May 8, Expo visitors will have the chance to witness the incredible talent of **Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas**, in a special cultural event as part of Canada's participation in Expo 2005.

Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas from British Columbia, has a unique cartooning style that fuses Native Totem art with Japanese Manga. Born in Haida Gwaii (better known as the Queen Charlotte Islands and home to the Haida people), Michael's cartooning style is rooted in the ancient tales, parables and legends of the region.

In a series of six hour-long performances on the Global Common 2 stage at 2:30pm on May 8-9-10 and 13-14-15, he will "duel" with five different Japanese Manga artists to produce a giant cartoon strip on *Nature's Wisdom*, the overall theme of Expo 2005. The Japanese Manga artists dueling with Yahgulanaas will be: Hiraku Suzuki on May 8 (2:30 pm), kami on May 9 (2:30 pm), yamao of DOPPEL on May 10 (2:30 pm), monmon of DOPPEL on May 13 (2:30 pm) and MUSTONE on May 14 and 15 (2:30 pm).

Each performance will last approximately one hour and will feature Yahgulanaas and one of six Japanese cartoonists who will work on 183 cm X 183 cm canvases. The canvases will be set up in a v-shape, allowing audience members to see both artists' work but not allowing the artists to see each other's. When the duel is over, both works will be revealed and the winner will be determined by audience applause. Free Canadian Manga will also be given out.

For more information on Canada's Cultural Program at Expo 2005 visit the www.expo2005canada.gc.ca Web site.