

MICHAEL ROY'S BUSINESS IS FOLDING AND YOU'LL WANT TO WATCH

It's a bird, it's a plane, it's Superman? Well, actually it is a bird; an origami bird that is. Or it can be a plane, or a frog, a bat, a balloon, buzzard, butterfly, blue whale, and a myriad of other origami sculptures appearing at [event and/or venue]_____. It's Michael Roy's Cirque du Papier. Origami Artist and Visual Artist, Michael Roy Baldrige is one of many artists appearing this year at [event name]_____ on [event date]_____. He will be making classic Japanese origami pieces as well as contemporary origami surprises. He's coming with his "MicRo Gallery" of intricate and amazing origami sculptures. He will also bring his quick wit and extensive knowledge of origami history and technique, unfolding the secrets of origami before your eyes. Using the classic Japanese style (only folding) Michael Roy's nimble fingers will show how to transform the single sheet of paper into 3D forms of many different animals, flowers, sea life, birds, and decorative objects; each folded from a simple square of paper! No cuts. No tears. No glue. He will guide you in the discovery of the endless ingenuity of origami artists.

Origami designers are both engineers and artists, using technologies, both ancient and state of the art. The craft of origami is based on the technology of geometry. The artform is very old (a little younger than paper, but not much). Hundreds of years ago the Moors studied the stars and invented abstract origami technique to develop the geometry needed to help them understand and navigate with the stars. At approximately the same spot on the historical timeline, in another part of the world, the Japanese were taking origami, developed independently in China, and making it into an artform, passing it down from generation to generation. Through the years they developed approximately 30 to 40 models of birds, sea creatures, and animals. But until the industrial age and the mass production of paper it was an activity of the elite. In the last 50 years or so, the rise of a number of technologies has caused the exponential increase of origami as an artform of great invention. One is the jet plane, making travel between enthusiast more efficient. Another is media, e.g. books, television, etc. Most recently the personal computer which, in combination with the internet, has allowed the proliferation of ideas, models, and techniques to explode. And the production of all kinds of paper, everyday and specialty; and, of course modern mathematics; it has all resulted in this astounding art/engineering with the humble sheet of paper. Even before the internet, people like Robert Lang, a laser physicist and origami master, developed computer programs to assist him in the designing of new origami models. Lang has been commissioned by NASA

to use his origami and engineering technique to design a way of folding a giant mirror into a rocket so it could be sent into space and unfolded for use on one of the satellite telescopes. Others with backgrounds in mathematics, the sciences, engineering, architecture and, visual art also use their knowledge and disciplines to develop what has become a rather impressive collective body of work of hundreds of origami models; not only in quantity, but in complexity and beauty.

Michael Roy has memorized and crafts many of the models designed by Lang and others, focusing on designs which have a strong representational and aesthetic quality to them. He will be folding and giving away as keepsakes, many of the designs at [Venue specifics]_____. His close-up presentations to passersby, will share the technology and art that is origami.

Michael Roy Baldrige will transform squares of paper and stimulate the imagination from [time]_____ to [time]_____ on [day, date]_____ at [venue]_____
_____.

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