

# DRAWING LINE

MARK SOO

*Drawing Line*, 2009, with John Korsrud

Crossing through the historic area known as Japantown in the Downtown Eastside, this performance explored metaphorical and geographic division and alignment through musical drawings. Six saxophonists, including Evan Arntzen, Saul Berson, Michael Braverman, Bruce Freedman, Graham Ord, and Bill Runge, performed across several city blocks in a trajectory that split up and bridged space. Musicians passed phrases from one to the next up and down the line. Reflecting shifting ideas of fragmentation, intersection, division, dialogue and exchange, the project explored the juxtaposition of a musical “back-and-forth” with the cultural and historical context of the Powell Street Festival. As a dialogue of sorts, the piece speaks to the physical and social boundaries imposed and absorbed by those existing within and outside this neighbourhood both past and present.

