

museums & galleries

The patriots act

Tea Party at the Hatch Shell,
 'Peace?' at the Zeitgeist,
 'Presidents' at the MFA

Putting on costumes and running around causing trouble is a respected tradition in American politics, one that stretches back beyond the yippies at the 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago to the Boston Tea Party staged by our own rowdy colonials in 1773. This summer, two Pittsburgh-based artists residing in Boston as Artists in Research at the lively Berwick Research Institute in Dudley Square and inspired by our history of political unruliness have donned powdered wigs, three-cornered hats, and black flip-flops and taken to Boston

Common to spread their grassroots message. Carolyn Lambert and Fereshteh Toosi are the founders, as well as the entire staff and campaign crew, of the newly established Tea Party, a political



Carolyn Lambert and Fereshteh Toosi

party with a snappy sense of style and four platforms: "Tea, MobiliTea, SecuriTea, and CommuniTea." As their party's two candidates for this year's presidential election, they've been busy campaigning over the past months; you may have spotted them at Park Street Station distributing sachets of SecuriTea in protest of the MBTA's baggage and ID checks, or at Bunker Hill Monument running workshops on designing environmentally friendly vehicles.

Next Friday, Lambert and Toosi invite the public to an experimental **Tea Party** at the Hatch Shell from 5:30 to 7 p.m. The event is free, though they do ask you to bring "your finest tea cup, if possible." The invitation evokes Alice and the Mad Hatter as well as Samuel Adams and his Sons of Liberty, but the event is meant as a serious challenge to Politics As Usual and an opportunity to air and explore fresh ideas.