

# SPELLOUT SEATTLE

living fast and keeping it under \$25

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## Elliott Bay sets the table for “Communion”



JULIE FAY ASHBORN

Author Kim Fay grew up with a love for food nurtured within a warm family tradition here in Washington. The fresh berry pies of her youth that held a space in her heart were joined by spring rolls and pho when she first discovered Vietnam in the 1990s. Years later, Fay plotted an adventure to sate her appetite and soul and to delve further into the country and its culture by way of its cuisine in her new book, “Communion: A Culinary Journey Through Vietnam.” (Full disclosure: I freelance in various capacities for Fay’s publisher, ThingsAsian Press.) On Sunday, Sept. 19 at 4 p.m., [Elliott Bay Book Company welcomes back Fay](#) (a one-time employee of the shop) to read from her foodie-friendly travel memoir. Journeying with her photographer sister and her cosmopolitan best Vietnamese girlfriend, Fay crosses paths with a lively ensemble of chefs, farmers and other players on Vietnam’s culinary scene—wildly divergent personalities with a common enthusiasm and love for the cuisine of Fay’s second homeland. Her graceful prose engages all the senses, whether she is tasting a pungent battery of fish sauces or battling wee beasties in a rustic hotel room, while Julie Fay Ashborn captures the road trip on film with refreshingly simple yet rich compositions. All this, and a killer recipe for banana flower salad too. — *Sheri Quirt*



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Seattle’s top nightlife, entertainment, dining and arts happenings under \$25. Geoff Carter, proprietor.

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