



QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL

SAT JUNE 16 – THU JUNE 28 2018

10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

DECADEnce

Visual Art Exhibition

CURATED BY Valérie d. Walker June 16-27



ArtParty!

June 16 | 7PM

TRANSDISCIPLINARY

visual art dance performance literature theatre music media art workshops

queerartsfestival.com



PROGRAM GUIDE

Dare to be challenged. Risk being changed.

Image: Lee Su-Feh, Everything Photo: Yvonne Chew



QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL

ALL EVENTS

(unless otherwise noted)



Community Arts & Recreation Centre

The Queer Arts Festival takes place on the traditional, unceded territory of the Coast Salish people, in particular the *xʷməθkʷəyʻəm* (Musqueam), *skwx wú7mesh* (Squamish) and *səl'ílwəta?* (Tsleil-Waututh) peoples. We recognize their sovereignty, as there are no treaties on these lands, and we are dedicated to building a new relationship in solidarity based on respect and consent.

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TICKETS AVAILABLE

Online at queerartsfestival.com

In person at the QAF Box Office at the Roundhouse

June 16-27 on ticketed show nights.

Prices vary—please see individual shows for details.

FREE AND QUEER TICKETS

Want to see a show but short on cash? With our Free and Queer Tickets program, QAF offers free tickets through our community partners, including Urban Native Youth Association, Catherine White Holman Wellness Centre, Queer ASL, Rainbow Refugee, Broadway Youth Resource Centre, and Out on Campus.

MEMBERSHIPS

Our licensing requires all attendees at our licensed events to carry Pride in Art membership cards. Memberships are \$2 online and \$5 / \$2 concession at the QAF Box Office at the Roundhouse.

ACCESSIBILITY

Most QAF events take place at the Roundhouse Community Arts & Recreation Centre, which is fully wheelchair accessible. Underground pay parking is available with access on Drake Street. The entrance is accessible via a street level ramp, and accessible washrooms are on the main floor. Gender-neutral washrooms with appropriate signage are next to the Exhibition Hall.



ASL INTERPRETATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR:

- June 16** Art Party!
- June 17** Curator Tour
- June 18** Transfixed
- June 19** Lay of the Land
- June 20** Camera Obscura
- June 23** Camera Obscura 2pm



Please help us maintain a scent-reduced space and refrain from using scented products when you plan to visit the festival.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Welcome to DECADence

The Tenth Anniversary 2018 Queer Arts Festival!

Presenting a national festival of queer work is no small feat and ten years is a long time in this fast changing city. We are very proud to have not only survived but to be thriving as we mark our first decade of serving this community.

2018 has already been a big year for the Queer Arts Festival. In March we moved into our very own space and opened the only art gallery in Canada dedicated to work by queer artists.

Our new gallery, SUM, shares the fourth floor of the BC Artscape, Sun Wah building on Keefer Street with a host of other arts organizations including VIMAF, Full Circle First Nations Performance Society, the frank theatre and Paul Wong Projects. It feels good to share this historic space with artists who have also fought long and hard for representation. Our inaugural exhibition, which opened in May, is by Vancouver artist, Karin Lee. Please drop by #425 – 268 Keefer St and see the exhibition and the new space.

On behalf of the board, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the contribution of Rachel Iwaasa who has left the Queer Arts Festival to pursue her music career. As Director of Development from 2008 to 2018, Rachel

built many vital relationships with supporters of the festival. Thank you Rachel for your years of service to QAF. It is wonderful to see you manifesting your expansive musical talent.

I would like to welcome new and returning festival staff to the QAF as well as our many wonderful volunteers. Welcome to the Queer Arts Family! I would also like to thank our hard working permanent staff for their dedication and vision. Finally, a shout out to our fabulous Board of Directors and our many generous sponsors and donors.

And of course, we couldn't make this festival happen if we weren't continually moved, awed and inspired by the artists who contribute their gifts to our festival so that we might share them with you.

Thank you all and welcome.

In solidarity and liberation,
Nicola Harwood, *President*,
PRIDE IN ART SOCIETY

From Artistic Director SD Holman

"Art is said to mirror society—but if you look in the mirror and see no reflection, the implicit message is that you don't exist."

– Barry Truax

2018 marks one decade of the Queer Arts Festival and two decades of Pride in Art providing platforms for the voices and visions of fearless queer artists to challenge hegemonic misconceptions in art spaces and in the greater society. To celebrate these milestone anniversaries, I bring you *DECADence*: a festival contemplating time, memory, decay, revisioning, disremembrance, erasure, re-reading, and the future of gender and sexuality. *DECADence* explores embodied vs. selective memory, intergenerational trauma, race, and lost histories—where we are, where we've been, where we are going.

Anniversaries allow us to revisit the collective herstories / theirstories / ourstories by honouring our trailblazing queer ancestors, the stories untold, the unmeasurable progress, visceral pleasures, tragic losses, the almosts, the push back, the unnamed, the unmarked, the dead, the blood-sweat-and tears. We repeatedly perform a kind of palimpsest un-layering, because our histories are erased over and over, but nevertheless, they persist. We must continue to uncover, expose, write new, as it keeps getting erased—resistance is important, not because it changes anything but because it keeps us human.



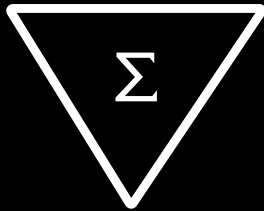
DECADence sees Valérie d. Walker's interrogation of our rich history and visions of possible futures in our signature curated visual art exhibition; Jeremy Dutcher's duets with the voices of his ancestors in *Wolastoqiyik Lintuwakonawa*; Lesley Ewen's fantastic revisioning of the early years of multi-media provocateur Paul Wong in *Camera Obscura*; Erato Ensemble's *Skin & Metal* tribute to seminal electro-acoustic composer Barry Truax; Lee Su Feh's negotiation between the history in her dancer's body and the history of the land she dances upon in *Everything*; and your opportunity to meet the future with MACHiNENoiSY's *PROX:IMITY RE:MIX*.

Sharing names written along our timeline, those lost to the past, always missed, whose shoulders lifted us up to make these marks. We thank PiA founders Robbie Hong and Jeff Gibson, and QAF co-founder Rachel Iwaasa. We hold in our hearts Queer Arts Family members taken by death since we began—Denis Simpson, Aiyyana Maracle, Laura Aguilar, Jim Deva, Catherine White Holman. And we welcome those recently arrived, happy to find, Yes indeed, the party is still going on.

I invite you to revel in decades of Queer *DECADence* – *Shaira SD Holman*

Get your Queer Arts Festival fix year-round.

INTRODUCING



SUM GALLERY



INAUGURAL EXHIBITION

KARIN LEE

QueerSUM 心

UNTIL AUGUST 18

#425 - 268 Keefer Street,
Vancouver, BC V6A 1X5

GALLERY HOURS: Tue-Sat, 12-6pm
queerartsfestival.com

Artist Karin Lee Photo: Winston Xin

SAT |

Pay what you can

June 16 | 7 - 10 PM

Roundhouse
Exhibition Hall 

Art Party!

JOIN US FOR THE QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL'S OPENING ART PARTY!, where art and conviviality converge at the grand opening celebrating 10 years of the Queer Arts Festival and 20 years of Pride in Art!

Art Party! marks the opening night of QAF's curated exhibition, *DECADEnce*, curated by Valérie d. Walker; the Pride in Art Community Exhibition; and is the kick off for the incredible exhibitions, performances, and Satellite Academy outreach initiatives that make up the Queer Arts Festival.

Our opening night galas are one of Vancouver's best attended visual arts events, making this a party you don't want to miss!



Photo: Belle Ancell

UNSETTLED

Community Partner:
Douglas College

SAT | WED |
June 16 – June 27

Pay what you can

Gallery hours 9am–10pm*
Roundhouse Exhibition Hall

CuRaTed ARTiSTs

AA Bronson

Angela Gabereau & Coral Short & Visionaries

April Sumter-Freitag

Berlynn Beam

Carl Pope Jr.

Chandra Melting Tallow

Dana Claxton

Dayna Danger

Eloisa Aquino

General Idea

Guerrilla Girls

Jenny Lin

Katherine Atkins

Mutya Macatumpag

(moo-cha) (maca-toom-pag)

- aka. FIND MUTYA

Paul Wong

Raven Davis

Susan Stewart

Syrus Marcus Ware

Tameka Jenean Norris

*Sun June 17 the gallery closes at 5pm

DECADEnce

Visual art exhibition
curated by Valérie d. Walker

Decadence is often used in a negative context to denote some kind of moral or social decline with lavish or overindulgence in things that bring us pleasure. Queer that up and see the opportunity for: Luxurious self-indulgence full of richness and the celebration of pleasures. That's the idea.

What is a mark? What do we count and how? Programmed and conditioned by colonial imperial society we literally count success, attaching dates to significant momentous occasions, times in hisStory when someone is said to have *accomplished something* that should be written down to imprint its worth into the collective memory, year after year. That story has erased *Others* with its willful drive towards destruction, asserting stolen authority with congenital superiority.

Curating this exhibition meant time-travel across millennia, wandering rainbow-strewn paths into sensual redemption. Remembering times waaay before Stonewall when we had to fight to exist in the shadows. Guided by a young queer black hottie from an Indiana of the 20th century, Princessa Keisha Pope, we visit notorious & glorious places in NYC and Cuba, feeling those vibes even though it no longer exists outside of these hand-printed photos and memories. General Idea, futuristic Poodle Love Power, a 3-headed 6-armed entity which came to life in Toronto (of all places!) is here, asking if we can bear to remember when there were no AIDS meds, while Raygun's neo-con band played on. Felix Partz is tHere in that moment, Jorge Zontal lights the path while AA Bronson waits at the crossroads.



Moving thru time, come see how Nice-Grrls became Gorilla-headed Art Guerrillas, writing the art-shytstem's wrongs on the walls of the city. Look into the eyes of Danger's *Big'Uns*, joyful, fierce, laughing into the future, shining with Queer power. Paul Wong tunes in transmissions from another century showing how the hang-ups & past fears of difference are almost the same now. HunkPupa Women in Black sing prairie songs so we can remember through the darkness into light.

QAF marks its 10th anniversary this year. Celebrate that decade and the next 100 with applause & please raise a glass with me this festival to cheer & toast SD Holman and Rachel Iwaasa and the past, current and future teams of QAF whose dedication and Queer as F*CK Joy brings change to the world via art making marks in us and the world.

DECADEnce, remembers the Other marks, interrogating what we collectively choose to commemorate. Time now to revisit, represent and release our marks from the archives while sharing *futurisms*. This is a celebration on our timeline, shining a mirror-disco ball on the future.

SUN |

Pay what you can

June 17 | 2PM

Roundhouse
Exhibition Hall 

CURATOR TOUR

Curator Valérie d. Walker discusses *DECADEnce* with curated artists Berlynn Beam, Eloisa Aquino, Jenny Lin, and Mutya Macatumpag (moo-cha) (maca-toom-pag) - a.k.a. FIND MUTYA the stirring moments of queer time, the inherited legacies of queer ancestors and why public queer art is essential and timely.

Community Partner:
Contemporary Art Gallery

Also check out the Youth Curator Tour on the Satellite Academy page 22.




Photo: Belle Ancell

MON |

Tickets: \$12 / \$10 concession

June 18 | 7PM

Roundhouse
Performance Centre 

TRANSFIXED

Media art curated by Fallon Simard

Transfixed is a curatorial collection of films that highlights the strategies utilized by Trans, non-binary, and gender non-conforming artists to mitigate violence. Each artist within the collective examines the fractals of state violence that is perpetuated onto their bodies. The collective's works discuss white supremacy, transphobia, violence against femmes, colonialism internationally, and colonialism on the land we are presently on. *Transfixed* is intensity, urgency, and power.



- Alli Logout**
- Dayna Danger**
- Jack Saddleback**
- Alec Butler**
- Thirza Cuthand**
- Jes Sachse**
- Joshua Vettivelu**
- Kim Ninkuru**
- Monica Forrester**



Panel discussion to follow.

Photo: Belle Ancell

Co-Produced with 

TUE |
June 19 | 7PM

Pay what you can

Roundhouse
Exhibition Hall 

LAY OF THE LAND

Writer readings
curated by
Daniel Heath Justice

An annual soirée of erotic literary readings, curated this year by Daniel Heath Justice (Cherokee Nation), UBC Indigenous Professor and co-editor of *Sovereign Erotics*, the first and only published collection of Two-Spirit literary erotic writing. Named *Lay of the Land* in 2017 by Samantha Nock.

April Sumter-Freitag
Johnny Trinh
Lydia Kwa
Smokii Sumac
Samantha Maire Nock

Community Partners:
Dagger Editions & Massy Books




Image: "Kwe becomes the moon, touches herself so she can feel full again" by Quill Christie-Peters

TUE | PREVIEW
June 19 | 7PM

WED | SAT |
June 20 – June 23 | 7PM

SAT |
June 23 | 2PM Roundhouse Performance Centre

 ASL interpretation on Wed June 20 | 7pm
and Sat June 23 | 2pm

TICKETS:
\$30 / \$20 concession
JUNE 19 (Preview)
\$25 / \$15 concession
JUNE 23 (Matinée)
Pay what you can

CAMERA OBSCURA (hungry ghosts)

Multimedia
performance
written and
directed
by Lesley Ewen

World premiere
Produced by

frank
THEATRE COMPANY

with
Queer Arts Festival

An artist, during a career retrospective, is visited by hungry ghosts from his past: the subject of his most celebrated piece and his former creative partner. These spectres force him to review his past actions, in light of the intersecting and sometimes contradictory pressures on racialized minorities within Canadian colonialism, generating new understandings in the present, the release of old grief, and a little bit of revenge. A fantastic imaging of trailblazing multimedia provocateur Paul Wong's early years, haunted by the project that launched his career, *Murder Research*, and its dark, unexpected consequences.

Cast

Jeff Ho
Julian Galipeau
Braiden Houle

Khan Lee | Set Designer
Sammy Chien | Video Designer
James Proudfoot | Lighting Designer
Stefan Smulovitz | Sound Designer
Hannah Case | Costume Designer
Fay Nass | Dramaturg
Jennifer Swan | Stage Manager
Heather Barr | Assistant Stage Manager
Jeff Harrison | Technical director
Kanon Hewitt | Assistant to projection designer/operator

Community Partners:



SUN |
June 24 | 7PM

Tickets: \$30 / \$20 concession
Roundhouse
Performance Centre



SKIN & METAL:

Homoerotic Music Theatre Works by Barry Truax

Performed by Erato Ensemble with special guest artist Jerry Pergolesi, percussion, this concert honours seminal electro-acoustic Vancouver composer Barry Truax in a 30-year retrospective concert of his trailblazing work, breaking down barriers of gender, sexuality and technology through music.

Featured works are *Skin & Metal*, for leather percussionist, *Androgyne*, *Mon Amour*, based on the poetry of Tennessee Williams, and vocal theatre works, *Thou & I*, *The Sibyl*, and *Enigma*, based on the life and death of Alan Turing, all with digital soundtracks.

Featuring

Barry Truax
Jerry Pergolesi
Will George
Hilary Ison
Melanie Adams
Steve Maddock

Community Partners:
Music on Main
Canadian Music Centre

MON | TUE | Pay what you can
June 25 – June 26 | 7PM

Roundhouse
Performance Centre

PROX:IMITY RE:MIX

MACHiNENOiSY
DANCE SOCIETY

PROX:IMITY RE:MIX is the culmination of a 2 week performance process in Dance, Theatre and New Media with MACHiNENOiSY and LGBTQ+ youth. *RE:MIX* is an interdisciplinary dance performance which celebrates diversity of experience and individuality in order to challenge conforming representations of identity. *PROX:IMITY RE:MIX* reminds us of what our bodies are capable of when freed from traditional expectations.

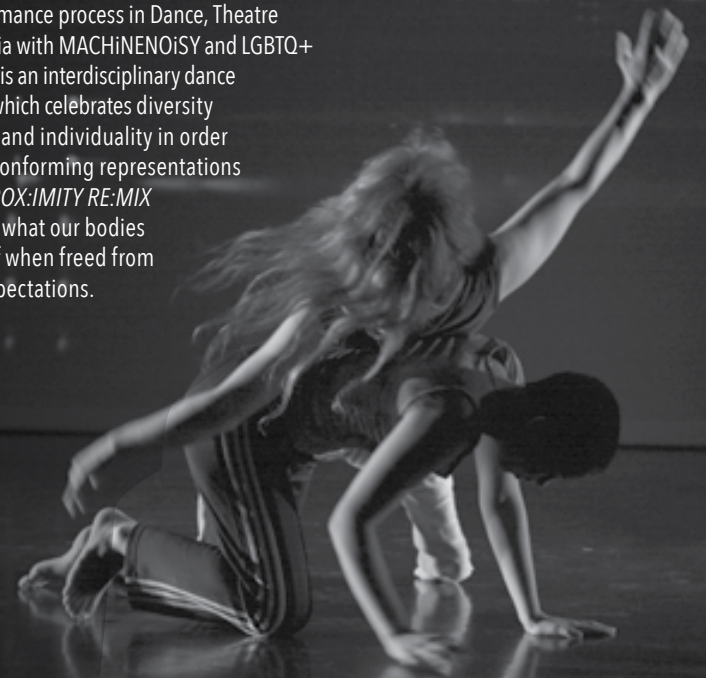


Photo: Belle Ansell

TUE |
June 26 | 8:30PM

Pay what you can
Roundhouse
Turntable Plaza

EVERYTHING

Everything is Lee Su-Feh's way of acknowledging the Indigenous territory on which she dances.

In this solo work, the dance comes out of a negotiation between what the dancer carries and the surface on which she dances. Using Daoist ritual objects such as I-ching sticks, incense and spirit paper, the dancer creates a chance-operated environment that offers obstacles and openings around which she moves. Surrendering to the inherent nature of each object—the weight, the energy and the tasks attached to each of the objects—the body is called into a dance that connects the human body to the elements.

Community Partner:

Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden

Image: Lee Su-Feh, Everything Photo: Yvonne Chew

WED |
June 27 | 7PM

Tickets: \$30 / \$20 concession
Roundhouse
Performance Centre

Jeremy Dutcher WOLASTOQIYIK LINTUWAKONAWA

Operatic tenor Jeremy Dutcher performs traditional songs of his Wolastoqiyik ancestors, in duet with recordings that he rediscovered, transcribed from century-old archival wax cylinder recordings, and arranged for voice, electronics and piano.

"Many of the songs were lost because our musical tradition was suppressed by the Canadian government. I'm doing this work as there's only about a hundred Wolastoqey speakers left. It's crucial that we're using our language because, if you lose the language, you're losing an entire distinct way of experiencing the world."

—Jeremy Dutcher



Jeremy Dutcher Photo: Matt Barnes

Community Partner:




DECADEnce

Sponsors



PROGRAM

Art Party! Gala Opening Reception | **June 16** | 7pm  07
Art and conviviality converge at the grand opening of the Queer Arts Festival.

DECADEnce | **June 16-27** | 9am-10pm 09
Visual art exhibition curated by Valérie d. Walker.


Pride In Art Exhibition | **June 16-27** | 9am-10pm 21
Open visual art exhibition honouring our founder, Two-Spirit artist Robbie Hong.

Curator Tour | **June 17** | 2pm  10
Walker and curated artists lead audiences through the visual art exhibition.

Transfixed | **June 18** | 7pm  11
Works by Trans, non-binary, and gender non-conforming media artists curated by Fallon Simard with VIMAF.

Youth Curator Tour | **June 19** | 4pm  22
Tour of the visual art exhibition with curator Valérie d. Walker for youth.

Lay of the Land | **June 19** | 7pm  12
A curation of writer readings by Daniel Heath Justice.

Camera Obscura (hungry ghosts) | | Preview **June 19** | **June 20-23** | 7pm | **June 23** | 2pm  13
The premiere of Lesley Ewen's fantastic imaging of media artist Paul Wong's early years. ASL interpretation on select dates.

Skin & Metal: Homoerotic Music Theatre Works by Barry Truax | **June 24** | 7pm 14
A 30-year retrospective concert of Barry Truax's trailblazing work.

PROX:IMITY RE:MIX | **June 25-26** | 7pm 15
Showcasing the work of queer and allied youth with MACHiNENOiSY and Sammy Chien.

How many ways can you sing a song? | **June 26** | 4pm | 24
Full Circle First Nations Performance
Jeremy Dutcher leads an interactive sounds workshop that explores contemporary Indigenous sonic practice for youth.

Everything | **June 26** | 8:30pm 16
A personal as well as a public ritual of acknowledgement of place and land by Lee Su-Feh.

Wolastoqiyik Lintuwakonawa | **June 27** | 7pm 17
Operatic tenor Jeremy Dutcher performs in duet with recordings of his Wolastoqiyik ancestors.

Glitter is Forever: Queeraoke Closing Party | **June 28** | 7pm 25
QAF's final blowout—revel in community, effervescent refreshments, and karaoke with glitter at The Junction.

All events at the Roundhouse unless otherwise noted.

DIALOGUES DISCOURSE OUTREACH

SATELLITE ACADEMY

THE SATELLITE ACADEMY
IS INSPIRED BY SARAH SCHULMAN:

In June 2008, I started a project I call "The Satellite Academy." This is composed of two monthly (writing) workshops I run out of my apartment ... In my class, they don't have to defend queerness, aesthetic invention, or racial or cultural points of view. And they don't have to take out loans. Once the burden of defending is reduced, we can concentrate on craft. They get the same experience as the dominant culture worker (writer in an MFA program): their lives are assumed to be important ... My dream is that other queer and non dominant culture workers (writers), regardless of what they do for a living, will join the Satellite Academy and start their own groups.

—Sarah Schulman

SAT | WED |
June 16–June 27

Gallery hours 9am–10pm*
Roundhouse Great Hall

PRIDE IN ART EXHIBITION

Artists:

Alecska Divisadero
Art Sun-Face
Chris Watson
David Camisa
Edward Bader
Holly Steele
Jeannette Sirois
Julia Wong
Kenneth Freeman
Sakino Sepulveda
Samsa
Tyler Homan



Image: Stephen Bader

FROM THE ROOTS of the Queer Arts Festival, this open visual art exhibition honours our founder, Two-Spirit artist Robbie Hong and 20 years of Pride in Art.

*Sun June 17 the gallery closes at 5pm

YOUTH PROGRAMS

QAF YOUTH
EVENTS ARE
RESERVED
FOR YOUTH
AGES 15–24.

In partnership with Directions Youth Services, Broadway Youth Resource Centre (BYRC), and Full Circle First Nations Performance. Need help getting to the venue? Contact Emily Bailey at ebailey@queerartsfestival.com for transit tickets.



Photo: Belle Ansell

TUE |
June 19 | 4PM

FREE

Roundhouse
Exhibition Hall

YOUTH CURATOR TOUR

Each year the QAF Visual Art Curator sets aside time to present a tour specifically for queer and allied youth. *DECADEnce* is no exception, and QAF is proud to partner with Directions Youth Services, Broadway Youth Resource Centre, and the Bill Reid Gallery for this tour. Food will be provided on site.

If you are no longer a youth, please respect this space and attend the public Curator Panel with Valérie d. Walker instead. See Page 10.

SAT | TUE | FREE
June 9 – June 26

DANCE/PERFORMANCE PROGRAM:

PROX:IMITY RE:MIX

Contemporary dance company MACHiNENOiSY offers a two week process to LGBTQ2S+ and allied youth ages 15–24 that explores identity, gender and community.

PROX:IMITY RE:MIX provides an opportunity to give a voice to queer and allied youth within a professional arts platform and demonstrate how dance performance can be a catalyst for liberation, self-development and social change. Each day, the participants receive training in dance and theatre improvisation and in Contact Dance as a means to highlight their unique identities and talents. Other skills the participants may wish to use in the workshop, such as music or spoken word, are welcomed. Open to all genders, all nations, all affiliations.

For more information:
machinenoisy.com/wp/workshops/

MACHiNENOiSY
DANCE SOCIETY



Photo: Belle Ansell

TUE |
June 26 | 4PM

FREE
ROUNDHOUSE

Presenting partners



JEREMY DUTCHER



HOW MANY WAYS CAN YOU SING A SONG?

YOUTH WORKSHOP

This session will be led by Jeremy Dutcher, a composer and vocal artist of the Wolastoq nation. His music merges aesthetics and influences from traditional, classical and contemporary sound worlds, and his breakout album *Wolastoqiyik Lintuwakonawa* explores his sonic heritage. Come and engage in an intimate, interactive sounds workshop that explores contemporary Indigenous sonic practice.

Photo: Belle Anceill



THU |
June 28 | Doors open at 7PM
THE JUNCTION | 1138 Davie St

FREE

GLITTER IS FOREVER:

QUEERAOKE CLOSING PARTY

Queer Arts Festival's final blowout—revel in community, effervescent refreshments, and queeraoke.



Photo: Belle Anceill