

Vancouver's Three-Week Multidisciplinary Arts Festival
Celebrating dance, literature, music, theatre, visual arts.



QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL



Random acts of Queerness

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

JULY 31 — AUGUST 18, 2012

The Roundhouse Community Arts & Recreation Centre
181 Roundhouse Mews, Vancouver, BC

queerartsfestival.com

OPENING NIGHT CELEBRATION OF THE QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL

ART PARTY!

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY HEALTH INITIATIVE FOR MEN (HIM)

TUES | JULY 31 | 7 PM By donation.

Performances by: Al Cannon-trumpet; Frederik Robert-tenor; and Rachel Kiyo Iwaasa-piano. **LOUD Elaine Stef**, guitar; **Eileen Kage**, taiko. **Dianna David**, movement storyteller. **Diadem** and **DJ Tapes**. And more...

MC Barb Snelgrove

As part of their dedication to strengthening the physical, sexual, social and mental health and well-being of gay men, and in keeping with our own conviction that art saves lives, Health Initiative for Men (HIM) is proud to sponsor the opening night Art Party of the 2011 Queer Arts Festival"

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets available at:

Little Sister's & brownpapertickets.com

At the door, 30 minutes before showtime (cash only).

Festival passes available online and at the door for \$69.

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All events at the **ROUNDHOUSE COMMUNITY ARTS & RECREATION CENTRE**

181 Roundhouse Mews (Pacific and Davie) .

Law of Proximity at The Scotiabank Dance Centre, 677 Davie St.

**“I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY / AND I AM SAYING IT /
AND THAT IS POETRY / AS I NEEDED IT” — JOHN CAGE**



WELCOME FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

As QAF heads into our fifth year as a festival, we pay tribute to one of history’s most confounding and revolutionary queer artists, John Cage, whose experiments with Indeterminacy in sound, movement, line, and language blurred all distinctions between artistic disciplines, and indeed between art and life itself. Cage challenged us all to stop trying to force reality into our ideas of what is beautiful or right, and instead to let go and hear music in silence, to find art in the mundane. In so doing, he turned our conceptions of what is inspiring and what is ordinary upside down.

“There is nothing we need to do that isn’t dangerous”—John Cage

This year’s Cage-inspired theme, RaNDoM acTS oF QueeRNeSS, invited artists to explore the ways in which our queerness radically confronts received notions of what is known or knowable. Dana Ayotte investigates transformation of ‘dull’ objects in delightful ways of random acts of aesthetic intervention. The abstract and indeterminate shapes of shadow in nature inspire Charlotte Hewson, while Kimberley French works in dreamscape. Paul Wong juxtaposes the gay rodeo and extreme Albertan machismo to explore the story of the West, and the construction of complex identities. Noel Silver, in true Cageian style, throws the I Ching to create his portraits.

any dame looks at literal acts of queerness, or does she?

Many of our shows this year take the everyday stuff of our queer lives and spin it into art, including Kate Bornstein’s Men, Women, and the Rest of us; Felix Culpa’s and Tiresias’s collaboration, Boulez contra Cage; and Law of Proximity, the collectively created work by queer youth, facilitated by dance company MACHINENOiSY. Our workshop of Canada’s first lesbian opera, When the Sun Comes Out, shines a light on oppression in countries where transgressing hetero-normative codes is still a crime.

“As far as consistency of thought goes, I prefer inconsistency”—John Cage

Also at QAF we are thrilled to welcome new board members, Barbara Bell, Barbara Findlay, Bernard Sauvé, Brandy Trudeau and James Sullivan, while giving heartfelt thanks to our departing members. We embrace our new staff members: Flora Ware, Christopher Gauthier, and Wistaria Burdge. We also became a Registered Charity this year, and are embarking on a whole new world of fundraising. Don’t be surprised if you hear us asking for a donation this year — it’s your chance to make a tax-deductible contribution to changing the world through art.

— Shaira SD Holman

JULY 31 – AUGUST 18, 2012

CURATED VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION

GALLERY HOURS | 11 AM-10 PM WEEKDAYS | 11 AM-4:30 PM WEEKENDS

Curated by Persimmon Blackbridge, Jeffery Austin Gibson, & SD Holman

THE 2012 QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL BRINGS YOU “RANDOM ACTS OF QUEERNESS”, TO COMMEMORATE THE CENTENARY OF THE EXPERIMENTAL MULTIDISCIPLINARY QUEER ARTIST JOHN CAGE. A PIONEER OF EXPERIMENTAL MUSIC, CAGE IS BEST KNOWN FOR CHAMPIONING INDETERMINACY: A PHILOSOPHY THAT OPENS UP ARTISTIC PRACTICE TO INCLUDE THE RANDOM AS A WAY OF RADICALLY BREAKING WITH TRADITION, CONVENTION AND HABIT.

Indeterminacy is an aesthetic endeavour that strives to dissolve fixed properties. Our visual and perceptual systems are accustomed to rapidly identifying objects in the world around us, a process that normally occurs at such a speed (under 150 milliseconds) that we are almost never aware that it takes any time at all. Yet on those occasions when these habitual processes stall or fail we may become acutely aware of the deficit and find our full attention drawn to an object or image that seems to defy recognition.

It could be argued that at such moments our visual awareness of the world is intensified as we struggle to find extra clues that might resolve the discrepancy between what we see and what we understand. Is he or isn't she? Art that confounds expectations provokes passionate attention, positive and negative. And what if you are the 'unrecognizable' object? How does queerness play out here, and intolerance for Others?

Cage said, "Indeterminacy in art is made not as an attempt to bring order out of chaos nor to suggest improvements in creation, but simply a way of waking up to the very life we're living." Cage's multi-disciplinary artistic practice, experimental approach, and openly queer life elegantly exemplify QAF's mandate and values.

For this year's theme, some artists have chosen to explore literal "random acts of queerness": those odd, spontaneous moments when our queerness bursts forth upon the world. Others decided to include random or indeterminate elements in their work, whether it be Indeterminacy of Process, Indeterminacy of Form or Indeterminacy of Identity; perhaps risking the effects of random juxtaposition. Cage used strategies such as the I Ching, playing random radio stations and putting odd objects inside of pianos before performing as methods of creating indeterminate music. What kinds of systems, symbols or strategies will be harnessed?

Random acts of Queerness

CURATED VISUAL ARTISTS

Garth Amundson & Pierre Gour

Mr & Mr. 1, 2, 3

Photography pigment prints

Patricia Atchison

Well Read

Oil Painting

Dana Ayotte

Intervention I

Intervention II

Mixed media installation

E.D. Blackwell

The Other Questions

Photointaglio and chine collé

Therese Buchmiller

Radiant Flux (Revised)

Fabricated and re-purposed objects,

Mixed media, shadows

Angelina L. Cantada

Dress OUT

Digital Photography on Canvas

amy dame

Untitled

Mixed media fiber arts

Adrian Fehr

Within

Hand hammered aluminum panels,
MDF, lights

Curio cabinet

Local driftwood, Shipping palettes, Local
Granite river stone

*During her Diamond Jubilee, her majesty
Queen Elizabeth the Second reflects
back upon her "annus horribilis"*

Acrylic on Canvas

Kimberley French

Lion, Raven, and Walnut Tree

Owl

Heron

Collage

Charlotte Hewson

Heading home (3 pieces)

Textiles

Suzo Hickey

Essays by: Pat Feindel

Queerphrasis Triptych (Breakpoint)

Acrylic paint on board, photocopy
transfer on board

jono

Internal Dialogues

Ink on handmade paper

Emma Kivisild

Essays by: Pat Feindel

Queerphrasis Triptych (At the Lake)

Acrylic paint on board, photocopy
transfer on board

LAIWAN

*Movement For Two Grannies (in five
variations)*

HD Video, 10 second movies

Dzee Louise

Happen Chants

Happen Dance

*Chance would be a fine thing
if I should be so lucky*

Acrylic on canvas

So Happens (2)

Acrylic on wood panel

Mark Takeshi McGregor

More Subtil Than Any Beast
The Hideous Birds
Water colour & ink

Mico Mancuso

The Red Madonna
Acrylic on canvas

Doll #1
Doll #2
Doll #3
Doll #4

Paint & assemblage on wood

Stephen Middleton

Tammy Faye
Acrylic on Canvas

Boy Did I Get a Wrong Number
Ink Jet Print, Acrylic, and Oil Pastel

Rosamond Norbury

Bearded Ladies
8 mounted C prints

Kate Price

Age Play
Horsey
Medical
Nuns
Swing
Santa
Ink & Digital Color

David Sandford

Return of the Gay Aztec God
Maya 3d/Photography/Photoshop

One in a K-Million
Maya/Nuke/Photoshop

The Gay Ray!
Photography/Maya

Rainbow Warriors From the Planet Eros
Photography/Maya/Photoshop

Wendy Sexsmith

Double Your Pleasure
Oil paint on paper and wood panel

Noel Silver

John Cage in the Joyous Lake
The Stranger
Alan Ginsberg in the Joyous Lake
The Child and the Monkey
My Buddha Boyfriend
Gertrude Stein
Oil on canvas

Shelley Stefan

Primary Cock - Finale
Primary Cock: Permutation #1
Primary Cock: Permutation #2
Primary Cock: Permutation #3
Oil

Ties
Charcoal & Conte
B is for Butch
Conte & Pencil Crayon

Suzy Stroet

Animals - Donkeys 1
Animals - Donkeys 2
Graphite on paper

Animals - Donkeys 1, Digital Collage 1
Animals - Donkeys 1, Digital Collage 2
Animals - Donkeys 2, Digital Collage 1
Digital collage

Hats - 1970-1974
Charcoal on paper

Hats - 1970-1974, Digital Collage 1
Digital collage

Automobiles - History - 1958-1960 1
Automobiles - History - 1958-1960 2
Graphite on paper

Automobiles - History - 1958-1960 1,
Digital Collage 1

Automobiles - History - 1958-1960 1,
Digital Collage 2

Automobiles - History - 1958-1960 2,
Digital Collage 1
Digital collage

Synthesis: Afuwa & Aerlyn

QID: Questions of Identity
Plexiglass, acrylic, metal

Paul Wong

2 Hot 2 Handle
2 channel video installation w/ 2 cowboy
bronzes in the style of Remington

JULY 31 - AUGUST 18, 2012

PRIDE IN ART

COMMUNITY VISUAL ARTS SHOW

The Queer Arts Festival 2012 is happy to again present the Pride in Art Community Show! In the Great Hall of the Roundhouse, outside the main Exhibition Hall, the PiA Community Show is an open call.

Kate Braun

night moment
graffiti motion
print on canvas

Kelly Haydon

Garbage Well
acrylic on canvas

SD Holman

Forever
from Dead Serious
photo-based print

James Lauder

Body Body - Untitled
screen print on archival paper

Bart Maloan

Ready
At Rest
acrylic on canvas

robin

Ladies on Location
In the Grotto
The Grove
digital print / archival pigment inks on BFK rag paper

Marcel Willaert (Spanky's Gallery)

Canadian Palm Tree
Devil Boy
Funky Fertilizer Tree
3 Copper Stemmed Pink Flower with Ivy

Pussy Willow

Claw Foot
Chani
Palm Tree Shiney
Ant

Dull Pink Flower, Lime Green Leaves
Norton

Found objects, rock, various wire, beads, washers, leather, Orange Flower, Copper, Stem, copper tube

CampOUT Youth Artists

Joanne Ursino, Artistic Director
Titles - TBA

Persimmon Blackbridge

Acrobat
Mixed Media

Kenneth Brock

Gee's Bend Inspired Quilt #1
Made from used clothing, muslin backing

Jeffery Austin Gibson

Title - TBA

Joel Levine

Title - TBA

James Sullivan

Title - TBA

Brandy Trudeau

Transformation
Mixed Media



CLEAN SHEETS 2012

SCREAMING WEENIE PRODUCTIONS

CLEAN SHEETS IS SCREAMING WEENIE'S ANNUAL READINGS SERIES OF ORIGINAL QUEER-THEMED PLAYS BY BOTH EMERGING AND ESTABLISHED CANADIAN PLAYWRIGHTS. PLAYS ARE SELECTED FROM AN OPEN, NATION-WIDE CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS.

Playwrights are teamed up with a local team of actors and a dramaturge behind closed doors for a couple of days before they take to the stage to share these original new Canadian works.

The Singularity of Desire by Judy M. Miles (Vancouver, BC)

Memorial by Steven Gallagher (Toronto, ON)

WED | AUG 1 | 630 PM | THE SINGULARITY OF DESIRE

WED | AUG 1 | 8 PM | MEMORIAL

By donation

Roundhouse Performance Centre

OPERA WORKSHOP PERFORMANCE

WHEN THE SUN COMES OUT

A Queer Arts Festival Production

QAF HAS COMMISSIONED CANADA'S FIRST LESBIAN OPERA, FROM COMPOSER LESLIE UYEDA AND POET RACHEL ROSE, TITLED WHEN THE SUN COMES OUT.

Directed by Robert McQueen and starring soprano Teiya Kasahara, mezzo-soprano Shirin Eskandani, and baritone Joel Klein, with Rachel Kiyo Iwaasa at the piano, the new opera will be given a workshop performance this year in preparation for the fully staged premiere at QAF 2013.

A brief synopsis of the storyline: Solana Louise, a young, tomboyish woman from Montreal, is teaching overseas in the imaginary country of Fundamentalia, where gender roles are rigidly enforced, women are veiled and kept inside, men are held to harsh codes of manhood, and violators of either sex are punished by death. Lilah, one of Solana's students, is a bored, beautiful and lonely housewife, married to a wealthy older man, Javan, who is absent much of the time. Over time Solana and Lilah become close friends, and ultimately more, even though the truth of their relationship threatens Lilah's marriage, family and the strict societal codes of their country.

Join us after the show for a Q&A with actors, director, and writers.

THURSDAY AUG 2 | 730 PM

Tickets \$20 in advance, \$12-30 sliding scale at the door.
Roundhouse Performance Centre
queerartsfestival.com

Community Partner



powell street festival society

パウエル祭協会

Commissioned with the generous assistance of the Canada Council and the BC Arts Council.

NOAM GAGNON

THANK YOU, YOU'RE NOT WELCOME

Compagnie Vision Selective

AFTER HIS STUNNING APPEARANCE IN QAF'S INTERDISCIPLINARY 2011 SHOWCASE SHORT SHORTS, DANCER AND CHOREOGRAPHER NOAM GAGNON RETURNS IN 2012 WITH A FULL-LENGTH WORK, THANK YOU, YOU'RE NOT WELCOME.

In a series of frenzied vignettes excised from his life, or maybe stolen from another, Gagnon brings to life a madcap tale that walks the tissue-thin line between art and life, ushering audiences deep into a wild storybook world in the tradition of the Brothers Grimm.

Smearing any distinctions between lived experience and theatrical extrapolation, Thank You, You're Not Welcome reinvents personal narrative and plumbs the autobiographical impulse with a vivisectionist's care. Based on a list of things that can shape, haunt and cripple a life, this piece seeks to go into the proposition that growing up can be a fabulous but painful ride.

With James Fagan Tait as director and playwright, and Stefan Smulovitz as composer and sound designer, the work employs Gagnon's signature choreographic language of fierce, hyper-speed movement that combines humour, pathos and absurdity to move the audiences by the recognition of a life lived.

A compelling and cutting-edge dance piece you won't want to miss. One night only!

FRI | AUG 3 | 730 PM

Tickets \$20 in advance, \$12-30 sliding scale at the door.
Roundhouse Performance Centre

queerartsfestival.com

THE VANCOUVER MEN'S CHORUS

BIG GAY SING

A festive audience sing-along with the Vancouver Men's Chorus,
Willie Zwozdesky, conductor

THE VANCOUVER MEN'S CHORUS MARCHES BACK INTO PRIDE WITH THE THIRD EDITION OF THE BIG GAY SING! THIS INTERACTIVE AUDIENCE SING-A-LONG IS THE PERFECT WAY TO CELEBRATE PRIDE. IT'S KARAOKE WITH GLITTER!

There will be singing and schmacting galore by various VMC members, artistically led by our very own Willi Zwozdesky and accompanied by our own Liberace - Dr. Stephen Smith.

Keep the Pride celebration going after watching the parade by joining us at the Roundhouse. Win a prize by coming dressed in your most outrageous outfit!

SUN | AUG 5 | 730 PM

Tickets \$20

Roundhouse Performance Centre

queerartsfestival.com



DARCY MICHAEL

THE GAYEST SHOW ON EARTH

...again

A BIG HIT FOR THE PAST TWO FESTIVALS, THE GAYEST SHOW ON EARTH IS A QUEER VARIETY SHOW FEATURING SOME OF VANCOUVER'S TOP PERFORMERS IN MUSIC, DRAG, SKETCH, IMPROV AND OF COURSE DARCY MICHAEL'S PARTICULAR FLAVOUR OF STAND UP.

The Ryan & Amy Show (Ryan Steele and Amy Gee)

David C Jones

Pearce Visser

The Bobbers

Brendan James Boyd and Rear Entry

Darren Elmore

SYMONE!

Peter Breeze

and more...

Always a wild and hilarious ride - and totally gay.

Warning: offensive humour and nudity very, very likely.

TUES | AUG 7 | 730 PM

Tickets \$20 in advance, \$12-30 sliding scale at the door.

Roundhouse Performance Centre

queerartsfestival.com

CHRONOLOGICAL

July 31 - Aug

Art Party! Opening Night

JULY 31 | 7 PM *page 3*

2 Visual Arts Exhibitions

JULY 31 - AUGUST 18

Random Acts of Queerness Visual Arts Exhibition

pages 5-7

Pride in Art Community Visual Arts Show

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Clean Sheets

WED | AUG 1 | 630 PM | THE SINGULARITY OF DESIRE

WED | AUG 1 | 8 PM | MEMORIAL

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Artist Workshop:

Painting Workshops with Jeff Gibson

THUR | AUG 2 | 630 - 930 PM

THUR | AUG 9 | 630 - 930 PM

SUN | AUG 12 | 1 - 4 PM

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When the Sun Comes Out

AUG 2 | 730 PM *page 10*

Thank You, You're Not Welcome

AUG 3 | 730 PM *page 11*

Youth Workshop:

Artist in You with Roxanne

FRI | AUG 3 | 7 - 930 PM

SAT | AUG 4 | 2 - 430 PM

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Big Gay Sing

AUG 5 | 730 PM *page 12*

Youth Workshop:

Hello, Cruel World. An Out

MON | AUG 6 | 3 - 430 PM *page 13*

The Gayest Show on B

AUG 7 | 730 PM *page 13*

Queerotica

AUG 7 | 8 PM *page 16*

On Men, Women, and

AUG 8 | 730 PM *page 17*

Turkey in the Woods

THUR | AUG 9 | 730PM

FRI | AUG 10 | 730PM

SAT | AUG 11 | 3PM

NO SHOW on Sunday Aug 12

MON | AUG 13 | 730PM

EVENTS LISTING

August 18, 2012

Gagnon

Turkey in the Woods *(cont.)*

TUES | AUG 14 | 730PM

WED | AUG 15 | 730PM

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Boulez contra Cage

AUG 12 | 3 PM *page 19*

Law's Guide to Survival.

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Earth... Again

Law of Proximity

WEEKEND WORKSHOPS JUNE 16–JULY 8

CLASSES AND REHEARSALS JULY 9–AUG 10

PERFORMANCES WED - SAT | AUG 15-18 | 8PM

*The Scotiabank Dance Centre, 677 Davie St
pages 20-21*

Artist Workshop:

Face your Fears, Act your Aspirations

Acting Workshop with Elaine Carol

SAT | AUG 18 | 1230 - 330PM *page 23*

the Rest of Us

Artist Workshop:

Artists Talk: Fund your Film

SAT | AUG 18 | 2 - 4PM | FREE *page 23*

Queer Arts Festival Closing Party

SAT | AUG 18 | 8 PM *page 24*

Planning for QAF 2013: Forbidden Fruit

FRI | AUG 17 | 6PM *page 26*