



QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL

2021

dispersed

*it's not easy being green*

JULY 24 – AUG 13



queerartsfestival.com

## 2021 Queer Arts Festival (QAF): Dispersed — Vancouver's QAF announces its first hybrid format festival in *it's not easy being green*, opening Jul 24, 2021.

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Vancouver BC, Jun 8, 2021 | Vancouver's premiere artist-run, multidisciplinary roister of art and culture, QAF is back for its lucky 13th year in **QAF 2021 Dispersed: *it's not easy being green***, running Jul 24 - Aug 13, 2021.

Join QAF for a three-week eco-apocalyptic exploration of queer experience and artistic expression in the face of an ongoing pandemic and marginalization. *For the first time, QAF's suite of visual art, performance, music, literary and workshop events will be presented in a dispersed format across the Lower Mainland*—from the depths of the Sun Wah Centre and rooftop overlooking historic Chinatown, to Mountain View Cemetery, False Creek and QAF's usual stomping grounds, the Roundhouse Community Arts Centre. Following the success of last year's online festival, QAF will also have a streaming component on [queerartsfestival.com](http://queerartsfestival.com).

Event highlights include: Jeffrey McNeil-Seymour and SD Holman's visual art curation; a fabulously punk Japanese folk music and dance performance from Onibana Taiko and Alvin Erasga Tolentino; and a reimaging of Annea Lockwood's 20th-century classic, Piano Burning, where fire becomes a vehicle for reclamation and decolonization (yes, we *are* burning a piano).

A limited quantity of early bird passes are available on [queerartsfestival.com](http://queerartsfestival.com) for \$69 only until Jul 1—that's over 50% off!

### FULL FESTIVAL LINE UP:

- **ArtParty! | Sat Jul 24, 7 - 10pm | Festival Opening**  
QAF's Gala opening at Sun Wah Centre in Chinatown: we're launching the Dispersed QAF in champagne style with DJ O Show!
- **it's not easy being green: Curated Visual Art Exhibition | Sat Jul 24 - Fri Aug 13 | Visual Art**  
Co-curators Jeffrey McNeil-Seymour and SD Holman explore how Queer Art unfurls and blooms in stubbornly vibrant survival.
- **Language as a Virus: Queer Isolation Stories | Sat Jul 24 - Fri Aug 13 | Sonic Installation**  
An interactive audio/radio/networked soundwork from Bobbi Kozinuk.
- **Language as a Virus: The Tour | Mon Jul 26, 5pm | Audio Art Tour**  
Join artist Bobbi Kozinuk in an exploration of her work, Language as a Virus: Queer Isolation Stories.
- **Studio (ob)Sessions | Online throughout the festival | Digital Discourse**  
QAF takes you on a few house calls as we interview artists in their creation spaces.
- **Curator with Guest Artists | Tues Jul 27, 5pm | Visual Art Tour**  
Come together for our Visual Art Tour with the curators Jeffrey McNeil-Seymour and SD Holman + guest artists.
- **Screen Greenery | Sat Jul 31, 9pm | Media Art Screening**  
Rooftop screening of very queer and rather green short films.

- **Queerotica | Mon Aug 2, 8pm | Literary Readings**  
Rooftop readings curated by Josie Boyce, slip into a little green something and enjoy readings by Vancouver writers.
- **Onibana Taiko and Alvin Erasga Tolentino | Sat Aug 7, 8pm | Dance and Music**  
When Japanese folk tradition meets punk, audience members are invited to commune with the ancestors via obon dance, song, sensu (fan) cheerleading, fue, shamisen and kick-ass taiko.
- **Piano Burning | Sun Aug 8, 8pm | Performance Art**  
QAF and Full Circle First Nations Performance present new commissions by Russell Wallace and Evan Ducharme reimagining Annea Lockwood's classic work, performed by Rachel Kiyo Iwaasa.
- **Glitter is Forever | Fri Aug 13, 7 - 10pm | Closing**  
Join us with DJ O Show for the festival closing on the Sun Wah rooftop and your last chance to see all the art @ QAF 2021.

**SATELLITE ACADEMY: Workshops, Community, Discourse +**

- **Kindred Spirits | Sat Jul 24 - Fri Aug 13 | Community Art Showcase**  
The digital culmination of the Kindred Spirits digital artist residency run by and for 2Spirit and Indigiqueer artists. Guided by Faculty members Dayna Danger, DJ O Show, Raven Davis and Art Auntie Shane Sable.
- **Pride in Art Community Show | Sat Jul 24 - Fri Aug 13 | Visual Art**  
This show honours PiA founder, activist, and Two-Spirit artist Robbie Hong's legacy with an open community show.
- **Pillows for the Pandemic | Wed Jul 28, 7:30pm | Workshop**  
Falak Vasa leads us in a pillow-making workshop, based on their own series of pillows created during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Gathering of Wishes and 1000 Paper Butterflies | Wed Aug 4, 6pm | Workshop**  
Naoko Fukumaru and Eva Wong's Phase 1 of Mass Reincarnation of Wish Fragments 願片大量転生 (Ganhen Tairyō Tensei).
- **Queerer than Queer: Lessons from Nonduality for Deep Planetary Healing | Thu Aug 5, 7pm | Workshop**  
Is the universe queerer than we can suppose? From the foot of the Himalayas in Himachal Pradesh, Tejal Shah will guide us through this interactive workshop.

**About the Queer Arts Festival [queerartsfestival.com](http://queerartsfestival.com)**

The Queer Arts Festival is an annual, artist-run, professional, transdisciplinary arts festival. Recognized among the top 3 festivals of its kind worldwide, QAF produces, presents and exhibits challenging, thought-provoking work that pushes boundaries and initiates dialogue. Each year, the festival theme ties together a curated visual art exhibition, performing art series, workshops, artist talks, panels, and media art screenings. QAF has garnered wide acclaim as “concise, brilliant and moving” (*Georgia Straight*), “easily one of the best exhibitions of the year in Vancouver” (*Vancouver Sun*), and “on the forefront of aesthetic and cultural dialogue today” (*Xtra*).

*Queer Arts Festival is closely monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic and acting accordingly by implementing precautions aligned with public health advisories. We acknowledge that event details may change at any time to reflect provincial health recommendations. Please refer to our website [queerartsfestival.com](http://queerartsfestival.com) for the most up to date information on the festival.*