



QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL

2021

dispersed

it's not easy being green

JULY 24 – AUG 13



Tsantid Still, Beric Manywounds

queerartsfestival.com

2021 Queer Arts Festival (QAF): Dispersed —*it's not easy being green* kicks off Jul 24, 2021 with ArtParty!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Vancouver BC, Jul 13, 2021 | With QAF's Early Bird Passes *already sold out*, come see what all the hype is about when we open on Sat, Jul 24. Our opening night gala, *ArtParty!* returns in-person for the first time since 2019. Regarded as one of Vancouver's best-attended visual art events, this is a party you won't want to miss! Be among the first to view the unveiling of our signature Curated Visual Art Exhibition: *it's not easy being green*.

"We witness the world grappling with end-time realities, seemingly surreal and relentlessly coming into view, as we fight for a world yet to be realized, waiting to be seen—and by one that consistently rejects WE. Green, in its final transformation, exists as representing the supernatural, the great mystery—time and power intertwined." - Curators Jeffrey McNeil-Seymour and SD Holman

This year's Curated Visual Art Exhibition shows artists upcycling and recycling apocalyptic fear and dread into art and social change. Featured artists include: Beric Manywounds, Blake Angeconeb, Chad Baba, Duane Isaac, Falak Vasa, Grace House, Ho Tam, Isaac Murdoc, Jay Pahre, Kali Spitzer, Katherine Atkins, Kathleen Ross, Manuel Axel Strain, Oluseye, pablo muño, Preston Buffalo, Tejal Shah and Tsohil Bhatia.

Our opening kicks off three weeks of world-class visual art, performance, music, literary and workshop events, presented in a dispersed format across the Lower Mainland and on your personal screens from Jul 24 to Aug 13. Early bird passes may be sold out, but single event tickets and \$99 festival passes are now available at queerartsfestival.com. Claim them before they're gone, too!

FULL FESTIVAL LINE UP:

- **ArtParty! | Sat Jul 24, 7 - 10pm | Festival Opening**
QAF's gala opening party: With music, dazzling views, and art on multiple levels of the Sun Wah Centre to explore, 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**
Jeffrey McNeil-Seymour and SD Holman curate artists who transmute our collective broken heart of forced dislocations with departures and arrivals, using art as transformative praxis and practice towards social and spiritual metamorphoses.
- **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 in Phase 1 of Mass Reincarnation of Wish Fragments 願片大量転生 (Ganhen Tairyuu Tensei), where participants create origami and utilize the ink bleeding process to create a butterfly with their own unique patterns and colours.
- **Queerer than Queer: Lessons from Nonduality for Deep Planetary Healing | Thu Aug 5 & Fri Aug 6, 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 two-part interactive workshop that explores the fine line between illusions and reality.

About the Queer Arts Festival 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 for the most up to date information on the festival.