



July 24 – Aug 13 ²⁰²¹

QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL

Dare to be challenged. Risk being changed.

dispersed *it's not easy being green*



Duane Isaac

TRANSDISCIPLINARY

visual art | dance | performance | literature | theatre | music |
media art | workshops

Program Guide queerartsfestival.com

PROUD SPONSOR *of the* 2021 QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL

OFF THE RAIL BREWING CO.



Tickets available @
queerartsfestival.com

Doors and bars open half an hour
before showtimes, so do come early;
your drink will get lonely!

ACCESSIBILITY

For a detailed accessibility audit,
visit our website at
queerartsfestival.com

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ASL will be provided for:



ArtParty! | Sat Jul 24

Pillows for the Pandemic | Wed Jul 28

Queerotica | Mon Aug 2

Glitter is Forever | Fri Aug 13

ASL can be arranged upon request for
any other QAF events, including:

Language as a Virus: The Tour | Mon Jul 26

Studio (ob)Sessions | Mon Jul 26

Curator Tour | Tue Jul 27

Contact ben@queerartsfestival.com to
request interpretation two weeks before
the event.

The Queer Arts Festival (QAF) is based on the
sovereign, unceded land of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm
(Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and
səlilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Peoples. We ask
you to join in acknowledging the Musqueam,
Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh communities, their
Elders both past and present, as well as future
generations. QAF also acknowledges that it was
founded upon exclusions and erasures of many
Indigenous Peoples, including those on whose
land we are located. We are committed to
continued work dismantling the ongoing legacies
of settler colonialism. We ask that you join us
in this commitment to action and take that
commitment with you beyond this time and
space and into your daily lives.



dispersed:

IT'S NOT EASY BEING GREEN

QAF 2021 shows artists as see-ers/oracles/alchemyists who upcycle/rebrand/reclaim/transgress the apocalyptic visionary towards queer utopic landscapes, transmuting fear, dread, and a collective broken heart of forced dislocations into art as transformative praxis towards social and spiritual metamorphoses.

I drafted *it's not easy being green* as a theme back in early 2019 when apocalyptic fear and dread referred to climate catastrophe. A young woman sailed across the world. Indigenous-led anti-pipeline demonstrations #Shut-DownCanada. Recognition that we are interdependent and that our very survival relies upon the earth and the animals seemed to be cresting like a tidal wave.

We found ourselves engulfed instead by a wave of viral interconnection. Ecological concern was submerged in disinfectant and wrapped in plastic, so much plastic. The mainstream learned about space and isolation: what it's like to feel unsafe in public, the danger of standing too close to the wrong person, the fear that stepping outside one's home/family/bubble could mean death—risk factors long familiar to the racialized, the queered, all of us at the margins. The centre slowed and warily looked around.

This pandemic pause has been wildly multivalent. All this illness and death induced fear-based lashing out, but also a growing acknowledgment that for too many, the public sphere never was safe. Sequestration escalated mental illness and overdoses but also attenuated compulsory busyness in a long overdue exhale.

QAF 2020 was among the first festivals to move online, connecting us when we couldn't gather in person, introducing us to audiences on six continents. Now, 18 months into Zoom fatigue, many of us feel viscerally the fundamental human need to meet as bodies in space.

I delayed QAF 2021 until public health orders would allow a hybrid online/in-person festival. QAF's visual art, performance, music, literary, and workshop events will be streamed in part and also dispersed across Vancouver—at our SUM gallery home base, extending from the basement to the rooftop of the Sun Wah Centre; at Mountain View Cemetery; around False Creek; and QAF's usual stomping grounds at the Roundhouse.

Highlights include fabulously punk Japanese drumming and dance by Onibana Taiko and Alvin Erasga Tolentino; *Piano Burning*, where fire becomes a vehicle for reclamation and decolonization; and our signature visual art exhibition, this year curated by Jeffrey McNeil-Seymour and myself.

Keep Loving. Keep Fighting.
SD Holman, Artistic Director

When green is all there is
to be it could make you
wonder why, but why
wonder?—Kermit

Thank you for joining us at Queer Arts Festival 2021—our first dispersed and hybrid festival. With QAF 2021: *it's not easy being green*, we've taken the successes we achieved with increased accessibility and reach during last year's online festival and infused it with QAF's classic emphasis on coming together in art and community. For our lucky 13th year, we'll be on screens and in person!

A huge thank you to our tight-knit staff, who have continued to adapt to changing COVID-19 regulations while staying as dedicated as ever to make this festival happen. Hearty applause to our incredible returning staff team: SD Holman as Artistic Director, Lalia Fraser as General Manager, Mark Carter as Production Manager, Ben Siegl as Programs and Curatorial Coordinator, Shane Sable as 2Spirit Programmer, Mirim Jang as Operations Manager and Tanya Commisso as Communications Coordinator. We've also welcomed new staff, including Vince Bacarac as Event Coordinator, Clara Sismondo as Administrative Assistant and Associate Artistic Director, CS "Fergie" Fergusson-Vaux!

To my fellow 2021 Board of Directors, a special thanks for your guidance: Bobbi Kozinuk, Bruce Munro Wright, Issaku Inami, Ladan Sahraei, Orene Askew, Rodney Sharman, Scott Watson and Valérie d. Walker.

As this pandemic continues, we owe a great debt to our artists, who give us hope with their work. It is easy to see art as an afterthought or a frivolous joy during these times. But this year's Queer Arts Festival artists prove what we've always known deep down—that art is as necessary to survival as any other means of connection, and perhaps more so. Those who join us either in person or virtually keep the dream alive for a time when we may gather largely again. And what a dream that will be.

I cannot possibly imagine a better iteration of this festival for my final year as a board member. It's been seven wonderful years with Pride in Art. This organization, its people, and the art I've encountered through it have profoundly changed me. I am excited to witness many more festivals as an audience member in the years to come. I hope you all join me.

In solidarity and liberation,

Thierry Gudel,
Outgoing President,
Pride in Art Society



SD Holman

SAT
Jul 24 | 7 – 10pm | Doors at 7 ⁶⁹

SUM & Sun Wah | 268 Keefer –
Lower Ground (LG), 4th Floor, Rooftop

ART PARTY!

With DJ O Show spinning —
Gala Opening Reception

QAF's opening: animating the Sun Wah Centre from the basement to the SUM gallery, to the rooftop overlooking historic Chinatown and beyond. With DJ O Show spinning, we're launching the Dispersed QAF in champagne style!

Our ArtParty! marks the opening night of QAF's Signature curated exhibition and kicks off the incredible exhibitions, performances, and Satellite Academy outreach initiatives that make up the Queer Arts Festival.

SD Holman, background party, Belle Anrell, DJ O Show

Tsanzid Still, Beric Manywounds

it's not easy being green

SAT FRI
Jul 24 – Aug 13

Exhibition Hours: 12 – 6pm | Tue – Sat
Sun Wah Centre 268 Keefer – Lower Ground (LG)



dispersed

PROGRAM

it's not easy being green

CURATED VISUAL ART EXHIBITION

ARTISTS: Beric Manywounds
Blake Angeconeb
Chad Baba
Duane Isaac
Falak Vasa
Grace House
Ho Tam
Isaac Murdoch
Jay Pahre
Kali Spitzer
Katherine Atkins
Kathleen Ross
Manuel Axel Strain
Oluseye
pablo muñoz
Preston Buffalo
Tejal Shah
Tsohil Bhatia



Oluseye, Demilade II and I, 2020

green. Ascribed with multiplicities such as spring's cyclical lush green rematriation: growth, hope, vitality, balance – health ... to spectrums of radioactive and toxic neons ... to pestilent dark greens symbolizing mutation, jealousy, greed and wealth. Green inhabits interconnectedness, relationship with the Other, the seen and unseen, as well as the very lands and waters the West–WE–continue to occupy. Green matures deviance, neuro-divergence, epoch and paranormality.

Strange pop-cultural oddities/underdogs/anti-heroes emerge from fantastically unconventional, metaphorical trappings of the colour green: Elphaba the Wicked Witch of the West; Rainbow Connection Kermit the Frog; Joaquín Phoenix's invocation of Arthur Fleck's becomings into The Joker; The Mandalorian's Grogu (Baby Yoda) taking the visual lexicon by storm–It's not easy being Green.

Was there a time of Utopic Queer being and doing? What are the implications of being privy to pre-apocalypso hauntings? Post-apocalyptic expectations with an evidence base indicating we already have arrived in the end-time—we all have diverse ancestries of forced migration and forced dislocation/relocations along linear entry points. We remain, but WE could still be vanished at any given moment.

Green is linked to power. The currency of Green has the power to legally mark action and activism(s) as terrorism. Settler environmental ally/accomplices are marked deviant not only for their vote but akin to Canadian news media's necropolitical castings of Indigenous land and water protectors as violent.

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. An apocalyptic green glows lasciviously as it courts both eschatological time (Philosopher Byung-Chul Han's naming of an apocalyptic/temporal endpoint) and the status quo's romantic despair at the end of the world in which the existing exalted beings are not free subjects of apocalypticism.

Green is the complex terrain of extended kinship ties between Indigiqueer/Two-Spirit and queer settlers. Green spectrals haunt the hyphenated margins of the subaltern, enduring perpetually frequent gaslighting of post-traumatic settler-colonial and concurrent disorders. Together/apart WE endure our own private apocalypses, cataclysmic, temporal end-points that exist as seemingly fixed and an unavoidable global terminus, from which Indigiqueer/queer resurgence erupts relentless into the ongoing colonial.

CURATORS: Jeffrey McNeil-Seymour and SD Holman

SAT
Jul 24 – FRI
Aug 13 | 24/7
Around
False Creek &
ONLINE

LANGUAGE AS A VIRUS: Queer Isolation Stories

Broadcasting from 88.9FM WENR, Isolation Radio, *Language as a Virus* asks: who are we, and how can we move towards a better future? Acting as a living receptacle of stories from a wide audience in answer to the many questions asked, layered soundscapes of guerilla radio are broadcast on low power transmitters located around the False Creek Trail to tune in by foot, cycle, or comfy patch of grass.

Bobbi Kozinuk is a Vancouver-based media artist, curator, and technician. Former Media Director at Western Front, she has also worked on a board level with the Independent Media Arts Alliance (Montreal), Co-op Radio, grunt Gallery, Video In and Pride In Art Society (Vancouver), and has travelled extensively producing workshops on low-powered FM transmission at schools, universities and artist-run centres across Canada.

AND
DON'T
MISS:

LANGUAGE AS A VIRUS: The Tour

Mon Jul 26 | 5pm
(meet 4:30 @Roundhouse)

Roundhouse Community Arts & Recreation Centre (at the Breezeway)
181 Roundhouse Mews

Coopers' Park
1020 Marinaside Crescent

Creekside Community Centre
1 Athletes Way

Take a stroll or a bike ride along False Creek and tune in to WENR 88.9FM Isolation Radio with your host Bobbi Kozinuk and explore her multi-layered work, *LANGUAGE AS A VIRUS: Queer Isolation Stories*.

Radio collaborators so far include Sheila Urbanoski, Rea S, Jae Lew, and Rafael Tsuchida.

MON
Jul 26 – FRI
Aug 13
ONLINE throughout
the festival



Jay Pahre Guard Hairs, 2019 (detail)

Studio (ob)Sessions

In the connective void that has been this pandemic pause, QAF takes you on a few house calls. We visit several festival artists in their creation spaces—a digital dialogue to connect the artist in their corner of space to you and where you call your place.

Check our website for updates on who and when:
queerartsfestival.com/studio-obsessions



TUE
Jul 27 | 5pm | Doors at 4:30
Sun Wah 268 Keefer – Lower Ground (LG)

Curator Tour



Come together for our *Visual Art Tour* with curators Jeffrey McNeil-Seymour and SD Holman, guest artists, and a gallery of intimate friends, old and new.

SAT
Jul 31 | 9pm | Doors at 8:30

SUM & Sun Wah
268 Keefer – Rooftop

Screen Greenery

Media Art Screening Curated by
CS Fergusson-Vaux and Benjamin Siegl

Deirdre Keough: IQECO, Diapause

Animation and environmentalism share a more than passing connection for many of us. From ecocentric blockbusters like Studio Ghibli's *Princess Mononoke* and Pixar's *WALL-E* to children's programming such as *Captain Planet* and *The Lorax*, environmental protection is a memorable recurring theme. Environmentalism presents an approachable moral framework for education and entertainment: the earth is beautiful and sacred, and those who wish it harm must be challenged—because hurting the planet hurts us all. These programs told us to hold 'eco-villains' responsible and fight for the planet and the little guy. They taught us that we were 'the little guy.'

Animation and queerness have been dancing a similar dance, repeating motions inherited from their environmentalist predecessors. Brought together by radical movements, queer animation garners the attention of an accepting audience with a timely message rooted in progressivism and compassion. Viewing such lessons through the lens of queerness, our generation identifies queerness as a fight against the same cruel forces that seek to destroy the earth. After all, queers are beautiful and sacred, and those who wish us harm must be challenged—because hurting queers hurts us all.

Maybe animation has always been queer—evidenced by its unlimited orientations, its hyper-colour cornucopia of pigments, its unmistakable touch of the human hand found in every frame—imbuing the medium with joyous queer futures as an act of radical self-love. When we embrace the cartoonishly queer, we share in queer liberation.

Featuring Films by:

Al MacKay
Carrie Hawks
Daniel Sterlin-Altman
Deirdre Keough/
IQECO
Sara Koppel
Sonya Reynolds &
Lauren Hortie

ArtParty! | Sat Jul 24 | 7-10pm | Festival Opening | SUM & Sun Wah 268 Keefer |
🏳️🌈 | QAF's Gala Grand Opening with DJ O Show!

06

It's not easy being green Curated Visual Art Exhibition |
Sat Jul 24 - Fri Aug 13 | 12-6pm | Visual Art | Sun Wah 268 Keefer - Lower Ground |
Jeffrey McNeil-Seymour and SD Holman curate QAF's signature exhibition.

07

Language as a Virus: Queer Isolation Stories |
Sat Jul 24 - Fri Aug 13 | 24/7 | Sonic Installation | Around False Creek & Online
& 88.9FM WENR Isolation Radio | Listen to an interactive audio/radio/networked soundworks from Bobbi Kozinuk.

10

Language as a Virus: The Tour | Mon Jul 26 | 5pm | Audio Art Tour |
Meet at 4:30pm Roundhouse Community Arts Centre Breezeway | Explore Bobbi Kozinuk's multi-layered work, *Language as a Virus: Queer Isolation Stories*.

10

Studio (ob)Sessions | Mon Jul 26 - Throughout Festival | Digital Discourse |
Online | We visit with several festival artists in their creation spaces for a conversation about their work.

11

Curator Tour with Guest Artists | Tue Jul 27 | 5pm | Visual Art Tour | Sun Wah
268 Keefer (LG) | Come together for our *Visual Art Tour* with the curators Jeffrey McNeil-Seymour, SD Holman and guest artists.

12

Screen Greenery | Sat Jul 31 | 9pm | Media Art Screening | SUM & Sun Wah
268 Keefer - Rooftop | Curated by Fergie and Ben! A rooftop screening of very queer and rather green short films.

13

Queeroteca | Mon Aug 2 | 8pm | Literary Readings | SUM & Sun Wah 268 Keefer
- Rooftop | 🏳️🌈 | Curated by Josie Boyce, slip into something a little more comfortable and enjoy readings by Vancouverite writers.

16

Ceremony for Rebel Spirits - Onibana Taiko and Alvin
Erasga Tolentino | Sat Aug 7 | 8pm | Dance and Musical Performance |
Mountain View Cemetery | Japanese folk tradition meets punk via Obon dance, song, sensu (fan) cheerleading, fue, shamisen and kick-ass taiko.

17

Piano Burning | Sun Aug 8 | 8pm | Performance Art | Mountain View Cemetery |
W/ Full Circle: First Nations Performance Society, a new commission by Lil'wat composer Russell Wallace, a red fireproof ball gown created by Métis designer Evan Ducharme, and a piano on fire played by Rachel Kiyo Iwaasa.

18

Glitter is Forever | Fri Aug 13 | 7-10pm | Closing Binge | SUM & Sun Wah
268 Keefer - Rooftop | 🏳️🌈 | Join us for the festival closing and your last chance to see all the art @ QAF 2021 at the Sun Wah Centre.

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SATELLITE ACADEMY: Workshops, Community, Discourse+

20

Kindred Spirits | Sat Jul 24 - Fri Aug 13 | Community Art Exhibition |
Online | The digital culmination of the *Kindred Spirits Digital Artist Residency* run by and for 2Spirit and Indigiqueer artists.

21

Pride in Art Community Show | Sat Jul 24 - Fri Aug 13 | Visual Art |
12-6pm | SUM & Sun Wah 268 Keefer & Online | The community show honours PiA founder, activist, and Two-Spirit artist Robbie Hong's legacy with an open community exhibition.

22

Pillows for the Pandemic | Wed Jul 28 | 7:30pm | Workshop | SUM 268
Keefer & Online | 🏳️🌈 | Falak Vasa leads us in a pillow-making workshop based on their own series of pillows created during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic offering small controllable comforts.

23

Gathering of Wishes and 1000 Paper Butterflies | Wed Aug 4 |
6pm | Workshop | SUM 268 Keefer & Online | Naoko Fukumaru and Eva Wong guide participants in the origami process of Phase 1 of *Mass Reincarnation of Wish Fragments* 願片大量転生 (*Ganhen Tairyou Tensei*).

24

Queerer Than Queer: Lessons from Nonduality for Deep
Planetary Healing | Thu Aug 5 & Fri Aug 6 | 7pm | Workshop | SUM 268
Keefer & Online | Tejal Shah will guide us through this interactive workshop that explores the fine line between illusions and reality.

25

MON

Aug 2 | 8pm | Doors at 7:30

SUM & Sun Wah
268 Keefer | Rooftop 69

Enjoy in person or at home @qafonline.ca

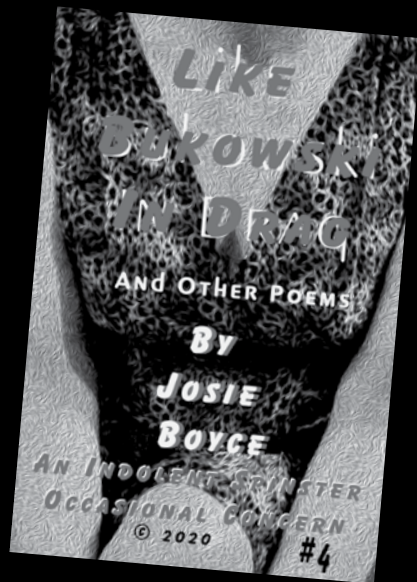
Queerotica of the *it's not easy being green variety*

Queerotica is Apocalypterotica in all the best possible ways. Survival through living your truth amidst the world wishing you wouldn't. That's us, singing, dancing and freeing our spirits in the ways we can, given the apocalyptic death urge of humanity. Poetry, Performance, and Spoken Word at the end of the world, or is it the end of the world? It's not easy being green, is it? Green in the punk sense, being as respectful to the stolen land (aka unceded) beneath you and around you, the hierarchies of people here at the end of the world. But we can, and we do scream queerotica at the structures around us, creating our own language of performance. Queerotica need not be sexual or romantic to be erotic and vice versa. Blowing minds since forever, and into never, our desires stoke hopeful fires lighting the Apocalypse of now. —Josie Boyce

BYOB (bring your own blanket)

ARTISTS:

Anjalica Solomon
Lili Robinson
Sajia Sultana Kabir
Soo Jeong
Tin Lorica



SAT

Aug 7 | 8pm | Doors at 7:30 | Near the Chinese Pavilion
Mountain View Cemetery

Ceremony for Rebel Spirits —Onibana Taiko and Alvin Erasga Tolentino

Join Onibana Taiko and Alvin Erasga Tolentino for a Cemetery Performance Ritual Ceremony. Through kick-ass taiko, haunting vocals, dance, sensu (fan) cheerleading, fue and shamisen, audience members are invited to enter the realm of our ancestors and finish with the participatory Obon dance. This ceremony will inspire laughter and tears in honour of those who have passed on.

Many of our lives and the privileges we enjoy today are built on our ancestors' blood, sweat and tears, including those of Black, Indigenous, Trans, Queer, POC, and Two-Spirit folks who have fought and nurtured our communities through the years. Whether we lost them through systemic racism, AIDS, COVID-19 or poverty, their rebel spirits continue to inspire us.

Through the melding of Japanese folk traditions, feminist punk aesthetics and the magical artistry of Alvin Erasga Tolentino, we invite you to celebrate and honour the rebel spirits of our unsung ancestors who continue to guide us in our present struggles.

Onibana Taiko 鬼束太鼓 are E. Kage, Noriko and Leslie Komori, three Nikkei veterans of Vancouver's taiko community, whose performances draw from Japanese traditional arts, festival drumming, music and dance.

Alvin Erasga Tolentino is a Filipino Canadian choreographer and dance artist and the founding Artistic Director of Vancouver's Co.ERASGA.

*Due to the use of incense, this outdoor event cannot be considered fragrance-free

MOUNTAIN VIEW CEMETERY
Where Vancouver Remembers



SUN

Aug 8 | 8pm | Doors at 7:30 | Mountain View Cemetery
Enjoy in person or at home @qafonline.ca

Piano BURNING

08.08 8:00

Orene Askew
Russell Wallace
Sempúlyan Gonzales
Rachel Kiyo Iwaasa
Ralph Escamillan



Annea Lockwood's
Piano Burning instructions
(1968 London):

Set upright piano (not a grand) in an open space with the lid closed.

Spill a little lighter fluid on a twist of paper and place inside, near the pedals.

Light it. Balloons may be stapled to the piano.

Play whatever pleases you for as long as you can.

QAF and Full Circle: First Nations Performance Society present Piano Burning, building on Annea Lockwood's classic conceptual music composition. In the history of performance art, piano burnings have served a variety of purposes; this particular presentation reframes the fire that engulfs the piano (the peak achievement of European industrialist culture) as a metaphor for the crucible of our striving toward decolonization.

SD Holman and Margo Kane, Talking Stick Festival Artistic Director, curate a newly commissioned piece by Lil'wat composer Russell Wallace and a red, fire-resistant ballgown created by Métis designer Evan Ducharme, reclaiming the transformative power of banned spirit fire from Indigenous cultures. Pianist 岩浅清 Rachel Kiyo Iwaasa will perform on the piano (while it burns). The conflagration is amplified to allow listeners to hear a variety of pitched and unpitched sounds as the piano strings heat and break.

Full Circle co-presents and acts as curatorial consultant. PiA and Full Circle enjoy a long partnership that includes co-working space, advocacy and co-presentations.



**The McGrane-Pearson
Endowment
Fund**

**MOUNTAIN VIEW
CEMETERY**
Where Vancouver Remembers

**MASCALL
DANCE**



McLaren Housing Society is grateful to be part of this amazing event as the opening act of our "McLaren at the Festivals" summer gala online series. Find them at @mclarenhousing.com

McLaren-Positive Housing for Positive People.



QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL

SD Holman

PROGRAM

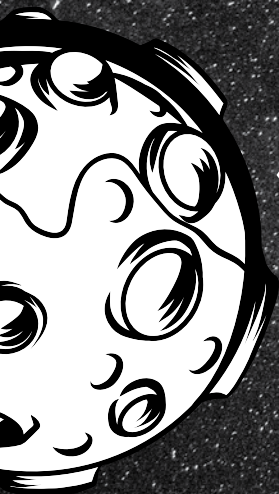
19

18

WORKSHOPS, COMMUNITY, DISCOURSE +

SATELLITE Academy

Multidisciplinary outreach and community programming rooted in the premise that 2SLGBTQ+ lives are relevant and universal as artistic inspirations. Title inspired by writer Sarah Schulman's *Satellite Academy*.



SAT

FRI

Jul 24 - Aug 13 | ONLINE



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, this digital exhibition focuses on re-storying 2Spirit identities and futures through community connection and self-portraiture beyond colonial constructs.

Artists:

Aaron Rice
Adrian Rain
Ames Val
Babe Waters
Edzi'u
Jaz Whitford
Jules Bussey
K'alii Luuyaltkw
Rain Cabana-Boucher
Raven John, Two-Spirit Trickster
Sheri Osden Nault
Terry Hachey-Collins
Zachery C. Longboy
Ziibiwan Mahgagahbow



BE SURE TO VISIT THE ONLINE GALLERY! qafonline.ca/kindred-spirits

SAT FRI
Jul 24 - Aug 13

| 12 - 6pm | Tue - Sat SUM & Sun Wah 268 Keefer - 4th floor



Pride in Art Community Art Show

Artists:
Alex Murphy
Brian Ball
David Camisa
Edward Bader
El Chenier
Holly Steele
Ilena Lee
James Lauder
Jason Russell Young
Josie Boyce
Joyelle Goldbard
Leshia Koop
Olivier Salvas
Romain Berger
Rose Anza-Burgess
Vladimir Kolosov

Paris, 1863: A group of artists whose works had been rejected by the selection committee of the official Salon protested so vigorously that Emperor Napoleon III, 'wishing to let the public judge the legitimacy of these complaints,' ordered a special exhibition. The resulting exhibition, Le Salon des Refusés, revolutionized how European art was viewed and consumed.

Vancouver, 1998: The Pride In Art Society formed as a collective of Queer visual artists mounting an annual community art exhibition. PiA works to celebrate the rich heritage of Queer artists and art. In 2018, PiA opened the SUM gallery, Canada's only Queer-mandated visual art gallery and one of only a few worldwide.

At this year's *Pride in Art Community Art Show*, we celebrate our continued and stubbornly vibrant survival. What was once refused is up on our walls at SUM gallery and overflowing into our 4th-floor hallways. A Salon des Refusés: works that would be censored in the public area of the community centre—too loud, too queer, too much, too explicit. All those works we were told weren't allowed, we're reclaiming as gold.

WED
Jul 28 | 7:30pm SUM gallery 268 Keefer & ONLINE

Pillows for the Pandemic

*homes are bodies
and pillows
pimples;
homes are bodies
and fissures
fissures;
suture, stitch, stuff
suture, stitch, stuff
suture, stitch, stuff*

— Falak Vasa

This workshop is about comforts.
What makes you comfortable when
everything feels harsh? What parts
of your body are calling for care?
Which sections of the walls in your
home are softest?

Falak Vasa

"Through the pandemic, I have been making pillows for parts of my home and my body that have required some extra tender love and care. Imagining home as an extension of the body, I have been making pillows the shape of my forehead, pillows for my toe, pillows for walls that are a little too hard, pillows with embroidered affirmations.

In this workshop, we will explore these questions of comfort, softness, and more, through writing prompts and conversation.

You are also welcome to bring any embroidery materials you'd like to make a pillow of your own during the workshop."

Falak Vasa lives in Bhawanipur, Kolkata, India and will join us via live stream to lead this workshop. A limited number of participants can register and participate at SUM gallery.

WED
Aug 4 | 7:30pm | Doors at 6:30 | SUM gallery
 268 Keefer & ONLINE



Gathering of Wishes

and 1000 Paper Butterflies Workshop

An ancient Japanese folktale promises that anyone who folds 1000 paper cranes will have their wish answered by the gods. In this project, these wishes are instead carried by the wings of butterflies, a symbol with many intricate meanings. In chaos theory, the flapping of a butterfly's wings is said to be able to cause storms on the other side of the world, a statement that one individual is capable of bringing about great change. In biology, the butterfly hatching process symbolizes rebirth, a new life, coming out, and the transformation into something beautiful, common themes in 2SLGBTQ+ culture, especially the transgender experience.

During Phase 1 of *Mass Reincarnation of Wish Fragments* 願片大量転生 (Ganhen Tairyō Tensei), Eva Wong and Naoko Fukumaru come together in an original installation that reveals the transformation process as a dynamic, innovative art form, using old roots to bring forth new leaves.

Naoko and Eva will be leading the workshop in person, so a limited number of participants can register and participate with them at SUM. Online participation is available as well.

THU
Aug 5 | 7pm
 Doors at 6:30



FRI
Aug 6 | 7pm
 Doors at 6:30

SUM gallery 268 Keefer & ONLINE

Queerer Than Queer: Lessons from Nonduality for Deep Planetary Healing



In this two-day interactive workshop, we will explore the fine line between what we conventionally considered illusions (such as a mirage) and that which we consider as 'reality.' How real is reality? How real are our feelings and emotions? "Now, my own suspicion is that the universe is not only queerer than we suppose, but queerer than we can suppose."—JBS Haldane in his 1927 essay, *Possible Worlds*

If all existence is illusion-like as expounded by various eastern philosophical systems – something that we can infer through reasoning and have an embodied experience of – what impact might this have on our emotional world, our behaviour, our actions and ethics?

The nondual wisdom of interdependence and the practices available to develop a sense of

unconditional friendliness towards all beings (and things) couldn't be more relevant than now when we are undergoing tectonic shifts in life as we know it. At the heart of these changes, what is at stake are our relationships and our affect. How can we relate, and how would we relate if the boundaries between self and other dissolve? How does this impact our work as artists as we touch 'others' through every sensory and mental means available to us? What innate kinship do Queers share with nonduality as a mode of life?

Tejal Shah lives in Himachal Pradesh, India and will be joining us via livestream to lead this workshop. A limited number of participants can register to participate at SUM gallery.

FRI
Aug 13 | 7 – 10pm | Doors at 7
 SUM & Sun Wah 268 Keefer – Rooftop | 69



Join us for the festival closing, your last chance to see all the art @ QAF 2021 with us at the Sun Wah Centre. From the basement to the SUM gallery and the rooftop, take it all in! The art, the views!

DJ O Show



QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL

HUGE THANKS

TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS!
 We couldn't do it without you!

Not all volunteer names were available at time of printing, but they include:

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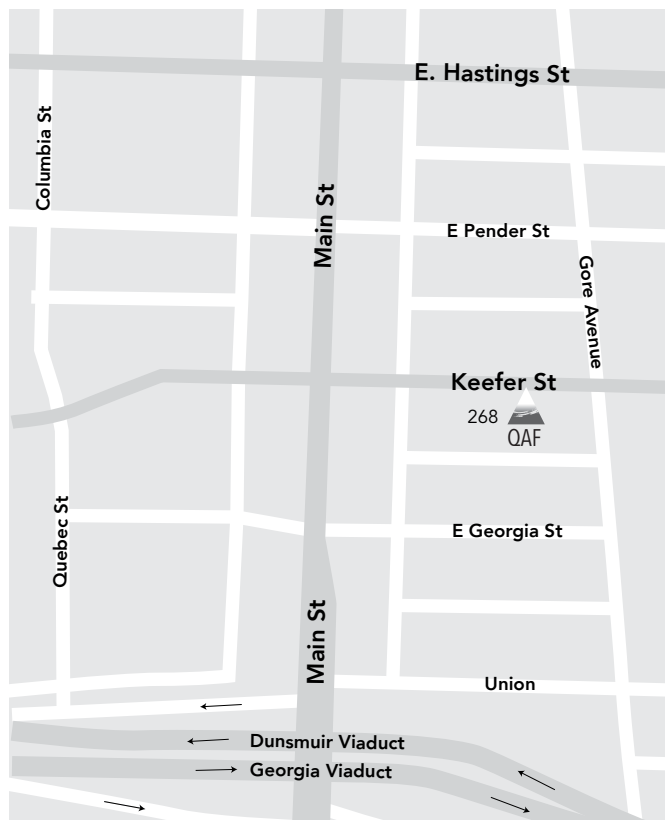
Ken Gracie and Phillip Waddell
 Margo Kane
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 Matilda Berry Moo Braveheart
 Swinton, Wonderdog of Little Dog Nation

Locations:

SUM GALLERY

Sun Wah Centre
268 Keefer St
Lower Ground (LG)
4th Floor
Rooftop

Mountain View Cemetery
5455 Fraser St

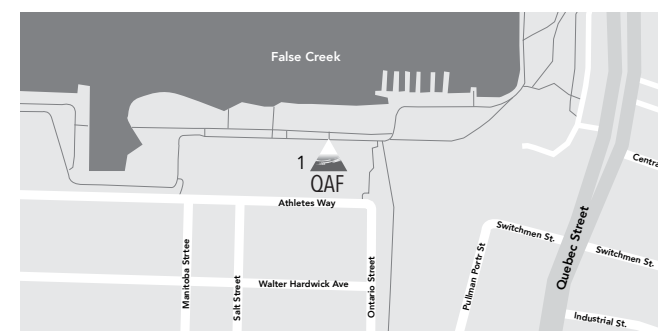
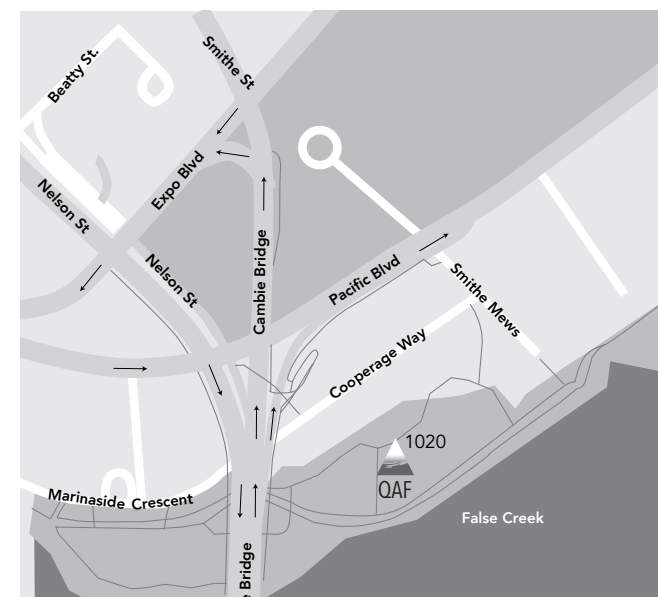


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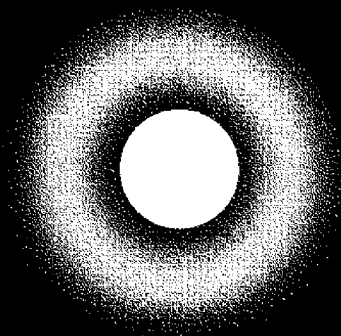
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We acknowledge the support of the Canada Council of the Arts. Nous remercions le Conseil des arts du Canada de son soutien.

This project has been made possible in part by the Government of Canada. Ce projet a été rendu possible en partie grâce au gouvernement du Canada.

We acknowledge the financial assistance of the Province of British Columbia.

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