

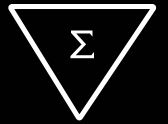


QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL

PRESS RELEASE

HAUNTINGS

Jun 18 – Jul 8 ²⁰²²



SUN GALLERY

queerartsfestival.com

sumgallery.ca

Vancouver's Queer Arts Festival announces lineup for its 15th-annual summer arts programming, kicking off June 18 at Chinatown's Sun Wah Centre

For Immediate Release

Vancouver BC, May 10, 2022 | Queer Arts Festival (QAF) celebrates 15 years with QAF 2022: *Hauntings*, a playful and profound exploration of Queer existence throughout time and place, beginning June 18 with its signature visual art exhibition.

Attend the opening **ArtParty!** for the unveiling of *Vanishing Act* at Sun Wah Centre, curated by New Delhi-based **Adwait Singh** and directed by **SD Holman**. This year, QAF's visual art exhibition presents a survey of queer artistic practices from South Asian, African, Middle Eastern artists and more in *Vanishing Act*. This event is presented in partnership with Centre A, On Main Gallery, and Griffin Art Projects.

From June 18 to July 8, QAF's dynamic suite of visual art, performance, music and literary events explores the theme of hauntings, asking audiences: "*What haunts you?*"

For Queer communities, fear, insecurity and longing have punctuated collective existence for decades. Queers everywhere exist with the haunting reminder of what colonial culture attempted to erase and an ephemeral suggestion of what future lays in wait. As with the generations that came before, this foreboding only places emphasis on the need for more celebrations, more art, and more community — this year, QAF doubles down on all three.

QAF 2022 welcomes visiting artists for the first time since 2019 and reignites its longstanding relationship with Roundhouse Community Centre for exciting performances such as **Bijuriya**, the experimental drag persona of Montreal's **Gabriel Dharmoo**, and **Catalina La O Presenta: Now With Me**, a one-woman show created by performance duo **jk jk** and winner of the **2020 Vancouver Fringe New Play Prize** in its live theatre debut!

A limited quantity of festival passes are available on queerartsfestival.com for only \$69 until May 24 and gives you access to QAF's lineup of events at a super fun & discounted price! Single day event tickets will launch thereafter.

FULL FESTIVAL LINEUP:

• **ArtParty! | Sat Jun 18 | 7 pm | Festival Opening Reception | Sun Wah Centre Rooftop**

What better way to kick off QAF 2022 than from the rooftop of our Chinatown digs! Stunning views, phenomenal performances, delicious food and drink, and three floors of art to explore in Sun Wah Centre.

• ***Vanishing Act*: Curated Visual Art Exhibition | Sat Jun 18 - Fri Jul 8 | Visual Art | Sun Wah Centre**

Curated by Adwait Singh and directed by SD Holman, QAF's signature curated visual art exhibition is what the festival is anchored upon and explores our Hauntings festival theme.

• **Pride in Art Community Show | Mon Jun 20 - Fri Jul 8 | Visual Art | James Black Gallery**

Our first partnership with James Black Gallery, the Community Arts Exhibition features outstanding artists from our local 2SLGBTQIA+ communities at all stages of their careers.

• **Pride in Art Community Show Opening Reception | Mon Jun 20 | 7 pm | Reception | James Black Gallery**

QAF gives their community artists a loving welcome at this opening reception at the James Black Gallery. Come see what haunts the artists amongst us.

• **Catalina La O Presenta: Now With Me | Thu Jun 23 & Sat Jun 25 | 7 pm & 2 pm | Theatre Performance | Roundhouse Community Centre**

Winner of the 2020 Fringe New Play Prize and created by the duo jk jk (khattieQ, musician/performer; Jenny Larson-Quinones, director/writer), Catalina La O is a clown show, protest, and cabaret for the Queer communities, for the colonized body, and for Puerto Rico.

• **Adria Kain + Janette King* | Fri Jun 24 | 7:30 pm | Musical Performance | Performance Works, Granville Island**

QAF partners with the Vancouver International Jazz Festival for the first time to present Toronto-based R&B singer-songwriter Adria Kain, along with Montreal's Janette King.

• **Reel Eerie | Sun Jun 26 | 7 pm | Media Art Screening | Roundhouse Community Centre**

An evening of the queerest of horror shorts, curated by CS Fergusson-Vaux and Ben Siegl. Hold on to your popcorn, there may be jump scares!

• **Bijuriya: Gabriel Dharmoo | Tue Jun 28 | 7 pm | Drag Performance | Roundhouse Community Centre**

Bijuriya, aka Gabriel Dharmoo, is a celebrated experimental drag artist who engages her Desi heritage while confronting larger issues of heritage, decoloniality, and Queer intersectionality.

• **Vanishing Act: Curator Tour | Sat Jul 2 | 3 pm | Visual Art Tour | Sun Wah Centre**

An exploration of *Vanishing Act* led by Founding Artistic Director Emeritus SD Holman, Guest Curator Adwait Singh, and visiting guest artists.

• **Vanishing Act: Centre A Opening Reception | Sat Jul 2 | 5 pm | Reception | Centre A: Vancouver International Centre For Contemporary Asian Art**

Join us as our visual art exhibition *Vanishing Act* multiplies from SUM gallery and On Main Gallery, expanding into Centre A: Vancouver International Centre For Contemporary Asian Art.

• **Queerotica | Wed Jul 6 | 7 pm | Literary Readings | Sun Wah Centre Rooftop**

Vancouver/Edmonton writer and activist Berend McKenzie curates an evening of queer writers whose works will inspire, provoke and titillate while conjuring the theme of *The Masc & Femme We Wear*.

• **Glitter is Forever | Fri Jul 8 | 7 pm | Closing Party | Sun Wah Centre Rooftop**

Our 15th Queer Arts Festival closes as it opened: with the breathtaking views from the rooftop of the Sun Wah Centre. Catch the art one final time and join us for revelry, special guest DJs, and all the bubbles you can handle.

**not included in the QAF festival pass. Tickets must be purchased through coastaljazz.ca.*

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).

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