



# QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL

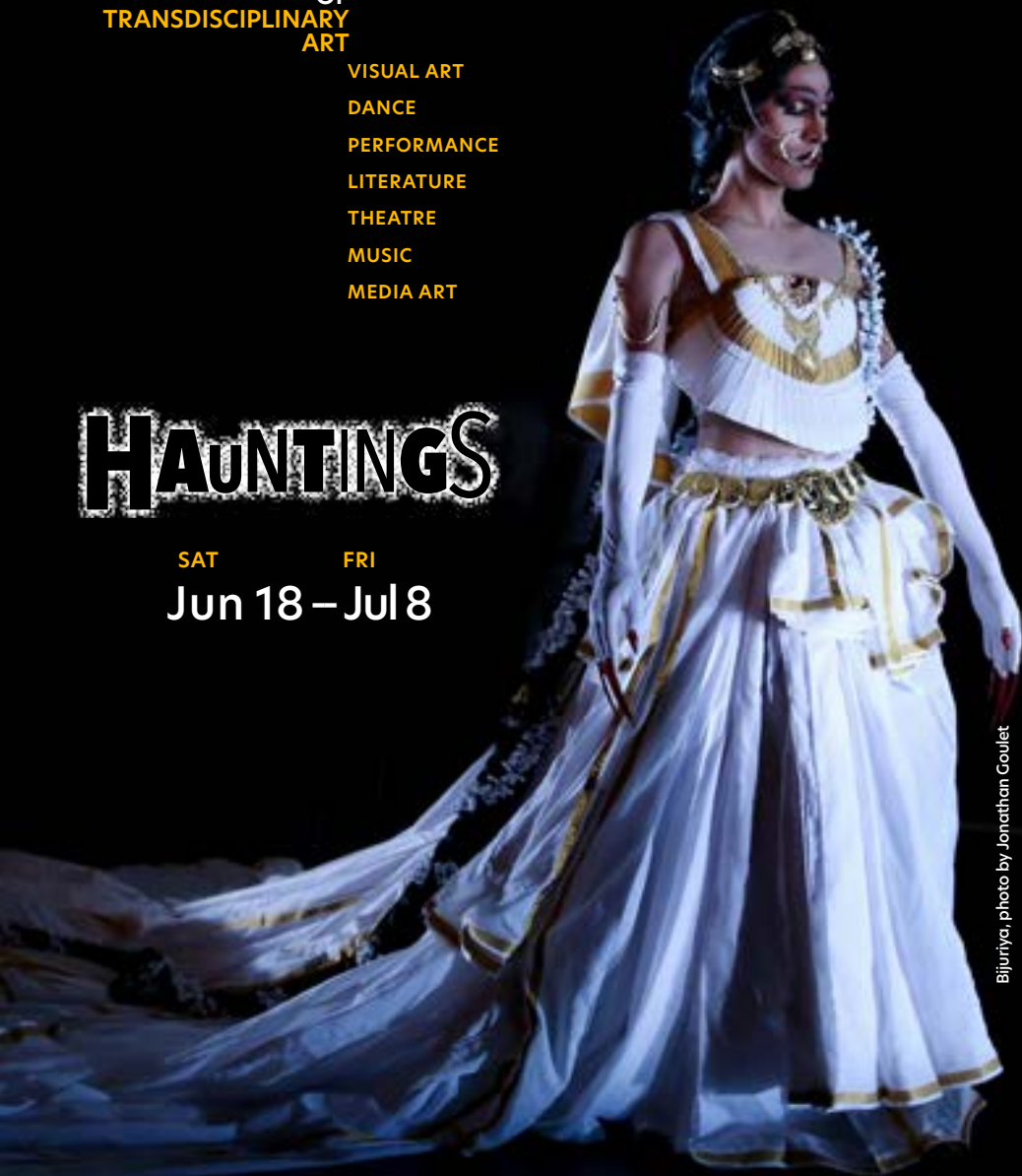
2022

15 YEARS  
OF  
TRANSDISCIPLINARY  
ART

VISUAL ART  
DANCE  
PERFORMANCE  
LITERATURE  
THEATRE  
MUSIC  
MEDIA ART

## HAUNTINGS

SAT FRI  
Jun 18 – Jul 8



Bijuriya, photo by Jonathan Goulet

[queerartsfestival.com](http://queerartsfestival.com)

**DARE** TO BE CHALLENGED.  
**RISK** BEING CHANGED.

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# OFF THE RAIL BREWING CO.



Tickets available @  
[queerartsfestival.com](http://queerartsfestival.com)

Doors and bars open half  
an hour before showtimes,  
so come a little early and  
grab a bevvie with us!

## ACCESSIBILITY

For details regarding  
accessibility, please visit  
[queerartsfestival.com/  
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ASL will be provided



**ArtParty!** | Sat Jun 18

**Pride in Art Community  
Show**  
| Jun 20

**Catalina La O Presenta:  
Now With Me** | Thu Jun 23 &  
Sat Jun 25

**Reel Eerie** | Sun Jun 26

**Curator Tour** | Sat Jul 2

For ASL service inquiries, contact  
[ben@queerartsfestival.com](mailto:ben@queerartsfestival.com)

The Queer Arts Festival (QAF) is based on the sovereign, unceded land of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and səliłwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Peoples. We ask you to join us 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.

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Queer Arts Festival  
 @QAFVancouver  
 @QueerArts

## MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL

# HAUNTINGS

SAT JUN 18 – FRI JUL 8

What haunts you?

We don't need to look very far for scary things; our news feeds present a revolving carousel of choice these days. But this summer, we confront the Babadook under the bed: QAF 2022: *Hauntings* explores what frightens us, with liberal doses of profundity, humour and camp. Our Visual Art Exhibition, *Vanishing Act*, curated by Adwait Singh of New Delhi and directed by our Founding Artistic Director Emeritus, SD Holman, spans no less than three floors of our Chinatown digs, thanks to our enduring friendships with On Main Gallery, Griffin Art Projects, and Centre A. And speaking of old friendships, we rekindle our partnership with the Roundhouse Community Centre (after a two-year covid-induced hiatus!) with performances by experimental drag artist Bijuriya and jk jk's award-winning play, *Catalina La O Presenta: Now With Me*. There are new friends too: we've teamed up with Coastal Jazz and Blues Society for the first time to present R&B sensations Adria Kain + Janette King; and this year, The James Black Gallery graciously hosts our Community Art Show. So yes, the world may be haunted, but if Scooby Doo has taught us anything, it's that sticking with your friends is the best way to solve any mystery.

— Mark Takeshi McGregor,  
Artistic Director



Photo: Ben Siegl

## PRESIDENT'S WELCOME 2022



Thank you for joining us at Queer Arts Festival 2022. It's so exciting to have everyone back in person, and, for the first time since 2019 — to welcome visiting artists to our fabulous festival! This year, we proudly host artists from across the country, as well as overseas. As we emerge from this pandemic, we begin to see, on the horizon, a return to the festival we know and love. Queer Arts has always been about coming together in art and community—this year, we are able to do so with a lot of cautious optimism, and more than a little hope.

I must recognize our small but mighty staff, who have continued to adapt and stay motivated in bringing you all the best possible festival amidst uncertainty and changing COVID-19 regulations. Please join me in thanking our incredible returning team: Lalia Fraser as General Manager, CS Fergusson-Vaux as Associate Artistic Director, Mark Carter as Production Manager, Benjamin Siegl as Assistant Curator, Maxim Greer as Director of Development, Mirim Jang as Operations Manager, and Tanya Commisso as Director

of Communications. We've also welcomed new, seasonal staff, including our festival intern, Tamara Lee.

I'd also like to single out Mark Takeshi McGregor, our new fearless leader, who hopped on the train after last year's festival to proudly carry the torch passed down by SD Holman, our Founding Artistic Director Emeritus and director of this year's curated visual art show, *Vanishing Act*. Mark hit the ground running and has worked to bring you one of our most ambitious festivals yet—not to mention his first. On behalf of the board, we applaud you.

And to my fellow 2022 Board of Directors, a special shout out for your support and camaraderie: Bobbi Kozinuk, Issaku Inami, Ladan Sahraei, Orene Askew, Rodney Sharman, Valérie d. Walker, Peggy Hua, and Alan Woo.

Without further ado, I welcome you to explore all that QAF 2022: *Hauntings* has to offer.

— Bruce Munro Wright,  
President,  
Pride in Art Society



**ArtParty!** | Sat Jun 18 | 7 pm | Festival Opening Reception | Sun Wah Centre Rooftop | ASL **10**

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 **11**

Curated by Adwait Singh and directed by SD Holman, *Vanishing Act* is a survey of queer artistic practices from South Asia and beyond. A partnership with Centre A, On Main Gallery, and Griffin Art Projects.

**Pride in Art Community Show** | Mon Jun 20 - Fri Jul 8 | Visual Art | The James Black Gallery | ASL **13**

In our first partnership with The James Black Gallery, come see what haunts artists from our local 2SLGBTQIA+ communities. Opening Reception: Mon, Jun 20 at 7 pm.

**Catalina La O Presenta: Now With Me** | Thu Jun 23 & Sat Jun 25 | 7 pm & 2 pm | Performance | Roundhouse Community Centre | ASL **14**

Winner of the 2020 Vancouver Fringe New Play Prize and created by the duo jk jk, Catalina La O is a clown show, protest, and cabaret for Queer communities, for colonized bodies, and for Puerto Rico.

**Adria Kain + Janette King** | Fri Jun 24 | 7:30 pm | Music | Performance Works, Granville Island **15**

QAF partners with the Vancouver International Jazz Festival for the first time to present R&B sensations Adria Kain and Janette King.

**Reel Eerie** | Sun Jun 26 | 7 pm | Media Art Screening | Roundhouse Community Centre | ASL & CC **16**

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 | Performance | Roundhouse Community Centre **17**

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

**Vanishing Act: Curator Tour + Reception** | Sat Jul 2 | 3 pm (Tour) 5 pm (Reception) | Visual Art Tour | Sun Wah Centre | ASL **18**

*Vanishing Act* multiplies, expanding into Centre A: Vancouver International Centre For Contemporary Asian Art; with a guided tour led by Adwait Singh, SD Holman, and visiting guest artists. Then join us for a post-tour reception at Centre A!

**Queerotica** | Wed Jul 6 | 7 pm | Literary Readings | Sun Wah Centre Rooftop **19**

Berend McKenzie curates an evening of queer writers whose works will inspire, provoke, and titillate while conjuring *The Masc & Femme We Wear*.

**Glitter is Forever** | Fri Jul 8 | 7 pm | Closing Revels | Sun Wah Centre Rooftop **20**

Catch the art one final time and join us again on the Sun Wah Centre rooftop for revelry, special guest performers and DJ, and all the bubbles you can handle.

# QAF's 15 / 15 CAMPAIGN

OUR 15TH ANNIVERSARY MATCHING CAMPAIGN



Photo: Tallulah

Queer Arts Festival is turning 15 and we're asking you to help us shake and shimmy our way to a \$30,000 Fundraising goal! We reached out to some of our loyal, long-time supporters to commit the first \$15,000 as the foundation of our first-ever festival matching campaign. Leading up to and during QAF 2022, all audience and crowd donations up to \$15,000 will be matched.

To help us realize this goal, we are calling out to our incredible community members, asking you to contribute to the campaign. With this matching campaign, a donation will double your impact, and double our joy ;)

A massive thank you to the foundation matching group, made up of longtime QAF supporters:

- ▶ Ken Gracie & Phillip Waddell:  
The McGrane — Pearson  
Endowment Fund, held at  
Vancouver Foundation
- ▶ James Goodman and  
Garry Wolfater
- ▶ Bruce Munro Wright

This \$30,000 fundraising goal will ensure we can continue to be one of the world's leading platforms for Queer art and artists. Throughout the disruptions of the pandemic, QAF never shut its doors, instead pivoting to online and hybrid options. Within all these efforts and challenges, QAF's audience reached new levels, with some international viewers overriding online censors where Queer identity is suppressed. This year our festival returns to in-person programming—and after two years of Covid, these in-person connections are needed more than ever. Our 15 / 15 campaign reflects on how far we've come over the last 15 years and excitedly looks forward to our next 15 years. Help us keep the future Queer!

## TO DONATE

*Pride in Art Society is a registered charity, and every donation of \$20 or more receives a charitable tax receipt. To make your tax-deductible gift, or visit us at [queerartsfestival.com/15Matching](https://queerartsfestival.com/15Matching)*

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### **Or Mail a cheque to:**

Pride in Art Society  
#425- 268 Keefer St.  
Vancouver, BC V6A 1X5



# ArtParty!

GALA OPENING RECEPTION



Photo: Chris Randle

**SAT JUN 18 | 7 – 10PM**  
(DOORS AT 6:30 PM)

Sun Wah  
268 Keefer — Rooftop, 3rd Floor,  
4th Floor

We're baaaaack! 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 the launch of *Vanishing Act*, our signature curated visual art exhibition, curated by Adwait Singh. Rooftop beats will be provided by incredible guest DJs, plus special performances curated by Full Circle: First Nations Performance. It's art. It's conviviality. And it's damned queer.

# Vanishing Act

CURATED VISUAL ART EXHIBITION

I spy with my little eye a lumbering vessel—deemed too large to fail—bleeding foul plumes across the sea. For those consigned to bloom in this slick corruption and perceive the world through its unctuous iridescence, the only hope for a future is a ghostly one, the only inheritance a poisoned gift. The 15th edition of the Queer Arts Festival will scrutinise the patriarchal paradigm of possession as the primary commissioner and distributor of toxicity, uncovering the processes through which it covers its own tracks. We now know this to be true of governments who made out AIDS to be a specifically gay problem with their poorly-concealed intent to further police these bodies, exonerating themselves of any culpability in catalysing the epidemic through their own colonial exploits. Once again with COVID-19 we witness necropolitical manoeuvrings behind expansions in policing, surveillance and extractivist infrastructures that are utterly incognizant of their own ecocidal hand in the current catastrophe. The only difference between then and now is the universalisation of the exposure to systemic toxicity, which brings previously immunised sections into the field of queer vulnerability. This leaves the stage open to a mutational politics that resists neo-colonial technics of exposure and their controlled replication of the status quo. It has become amply

**SAT JUN 18 – FRI JUL 8**

**EXHIBITION HOURS:**  
12 – 6 PM | WED – SAT

Sun Wah Centre  
268 Keefer — 2nd, 3rd, 4th Floor

Adwait Singh, curator ::  
SD Holman, creative director

manifest that any bid to abject the viral through a program of differential immunisation only serves to exacerbate its virulence. Perhaps it is time then for this ghost-making-machine-of-a-world to face its own Franksteins, as queers have long been wont to, haunted as we are by these spectral toxicities.

Through a survey of queer artistic practices from South-Asia and beyond, the exhibition will bring forth apocalyptic-revelations about radical forms of hospitality, sociality and empathy that are fed by the consciousness of a catastrophic co-becoming.

Adwait Singh  
Curator,  
QAF Curated Visual Art Exhibition

## VANISHING ACT ARTISTS:

Andrew McPhail  
Aryakrishnan Ramakrishnan  
Areez Katki  
Bassem Saad  
Charan Singh  
Elektra KB  
Fazal Rizvi  
Hank Yan Agassi  
Hiba Ali  
Imaad Majeed

Omer Wasim  
Renate Lorenz & Pauline Boudry  
Renuka Rajiv  
Shahana Rajani  
Sharlene Bamboat  
Sunil Gupta  
Syma Tariq  
Syrus Marcus Ware  
Vishal Jugedo



Elektra KB, No Smiles Yet

Vanishing Act takes place in partnership with Centre A: Vancouver International Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, On Main Gallery, and Griffin Art Projects.

## Hauntings

PRIDE IN ART COMMUNITY ART SHOW

JUN 20 - JUL 8

EXHIBITION HOURS:

12 - 6 PM | WED - SAT

Sun Wah  
268 Keefer — Rooftop, 3rd Floor,  
4th Floor

### The James Black Gallery

Our first partnership with The James Black Gallery, the Community Art Show is the bedrock of our festival, honouring the legacy of PiA founder, activist, and Two-Spirit artist Robbie Hong. This open community exhibition features outstanding artists from our local 2SLGBTQIA+ communities. Opening Reception Mon, Jun 20 @ 7 pm! Come see what haunts the artists amongst us ...

### COMMUNITY ARTISTS:

Avery Chace  
B. Malinsky  
Braden Scheck  
Darius Kian  
Dezi Raider  
Holly Steele  
Israel Aguayo  
Juno  
Kali Fish  
Katharine Hoehn  
Katy Slany  
Kimit Sekhon  
Kwiigay x Paperwave  
lisa g  
Nicolas Frenette  
Nicole Melnick  
RW Warwick  
Sazliyc  
Steven Broome



Image, Nicolas Frenette

# Catalina La O presenta: **NOW WITH ME** 🏳️‍🌈

THU JUN 23 | 7 PM  
(DOORS AT 6:30 PM)

SAT JUN 25 | 2 PM  
(DOORS AT 1:30 PM)

Roundhouse Community Centre –  
Performance

Winner of the 2020 Vancouver Fringe New Play Prize, Catalina La O explores the life of khattieQ and of female Puerto Rican singing legends Myrta Silva and Ruth Fernández. Created by the duo jk jk (khattieQ, musician/performer; Jenny Larson-Quíñones, director/writer), Catalina La O is a piece for queer communities, for the colonized bodies, and for Puerto Rico.

Photo credit: Kimberly Ho

# Adria Kain + Janette King

FRI JUN 24 | 7:30 PM  
(DOORS AT 7 PM)

Performance Works – Granville Island

Queer Arts Festival proudly partners with the TD Vancouver International Jazz Festival to bring you a night of stunning R&B vocal artistry from Queer musicians Adria Kain and Janette King. This special event is part of the TD Vancouver International Jazz Festival and tickets must be purchased at [coastaljazz.ca](http://coastaljazz.ca)

## ADRIA KAIN

Sharing stories of ardour, resilience, and self-actualization, Adria Kain's voice, at once powerful and restrained, is a balm for times of tumult and noise. Chronicling a range of experiences, from the palliative effects of the natural world to embracing her identity as a Queer Black woman, Adria's new album *When Flowers Bloom* reminds us what it's like to fall in love for the first time—or to discover an artist whose music can pierce your soul.



## JANETTE KING

Through the prism of alternative R&B, house, and pop, Caribbean-Canadian vocalist/producer/multi-instrumentalist Janette King's *What We Lost* unpacks the complexities of grief with a wisdom you wouldn't wish on someone so young. It's a statement that—like contemporaries Victoria Monét and Snoh Aalegra—fuses deeply personal assessments of life with glass-half-full soundscapes that "ought to place her right near the top of the list of this country's up-and-coming R&B artists" — Exclaim!





# Reel Eerie

FILM SCREENINGS CURATED BY  
CS FERGUSON-VAUX AND BENJAMIN SIEGL



Still from Bitten, Monika Estrella Negra

SUN JUN 26 | 7 PM (DOORS AT 6:30 PM)

Roundhouse Community Centre – Performance Centre

Did you hear that sound? What could it be? A monster, a masked assailant, a man-eating shark, a spectral haunting tethered to our plane, neither alive nor dead until suddenly...! The jump scare – a mirror, a blade, a bloodied hand on your shoulder...

*Reel Eerie* showcases filmmakers who have bravely picked-up a shovel and started to dig. Sifting through everything the genre has to offer – from the delightfully campy to the existentially terrifying – the films illustrate that our “real” journey from danger is always made in the hopes of heading towards liberation. Not all of us arrive, but we all do try.

## FEATURING FILMS BY:

Adam Tyree  
Jonathan Wysocki  
Joshua Lam  
Kaye Adelaide  
Mary Galloway  
Monika Estrella Negra  
TJ Cuthand  
Tyler Barnes

# Bijuriya: Gabriel Dharmoo

TUE JUN 28 | 7 PM  
(DOORS AT 6:30 PM)

Roundhouse Community Centre –  
Performance Centre



Bijuriya, aka Gabriel Dharmoo, is one of Montreal's most celebrated experimental drag artists, engaging her Desi heritage through singing, dancing, and comedy, while confronting larger issues of heritage, racism, and Queer intersectionality. Drag performance, original songs, experimental sound design, singing, and lip-syncing all converge for a single, spectacular evening.

Bijuriya, photo by Jonathan Coulet

# Vanishing Act at Centre A: CURATOR TOUR + RECEPTION



Photo: Lipika Bhargava

**SAT JUL 2 |  
TOUR 3 PM  
(DOORS AT 2:30 PM)  
+ RECEPTION 5 PM  
(DOORS AT 4:30 PM)**

Centre A: Vancouver International  
Centre for Contemporary Asian Art —  
Sun Wah Centre 2nd Floor

Our *Vanishing Act* curated visual art exhibition becomes fully realized, fully materialized on Jul 2, when Centre A opens its doors as our festival partner. We're celebrating our complete complement of curated artists with a building-wide tour of the entire exhibition led by Curator, Adwait Singh, Visual Art Exhibition Creative Director, SD Holman, and visiting guest artists. Join us as we tour the multiple rooms that make up our most ambitious curated visual art show yet and then return to Centre A for a special 5 pm reception. In partnership with Centre A: Vancouver International Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, On Main Gallery, and Griffin Art Projects.

# Queerotica

A NIGHT OF LITERARY READINGS  
CURATED BY BEREND MCKENZIE

**WED JUL 6 | 7 PM  
(DOORS AT 6:30 PM)**

Sun Wah 268 Keefer — Rooftop

One of our most beloved festival events returns to the rooftop of Sun Wah Centre. Writer and activist Berend McKenzie curates this evening of readings, asking local writers to explore how the racialized queer body is projected, and what is projected upon it. How is it eroticized and fetishized? What haunts it and who does it haunt in return? How do the expectations of a salacious white gaze fit, chafe, tickle, bind, or even unravel the BIPOC queer body and spirit?

## ARTISTS:

Aly Laube  
Elmer Flores  
Janice Esguerra  
Kyle Shaughnessy  
Laura Fukumoto



Image: Avery Chace



# Glitter is Forever

## CLOSING BINGE

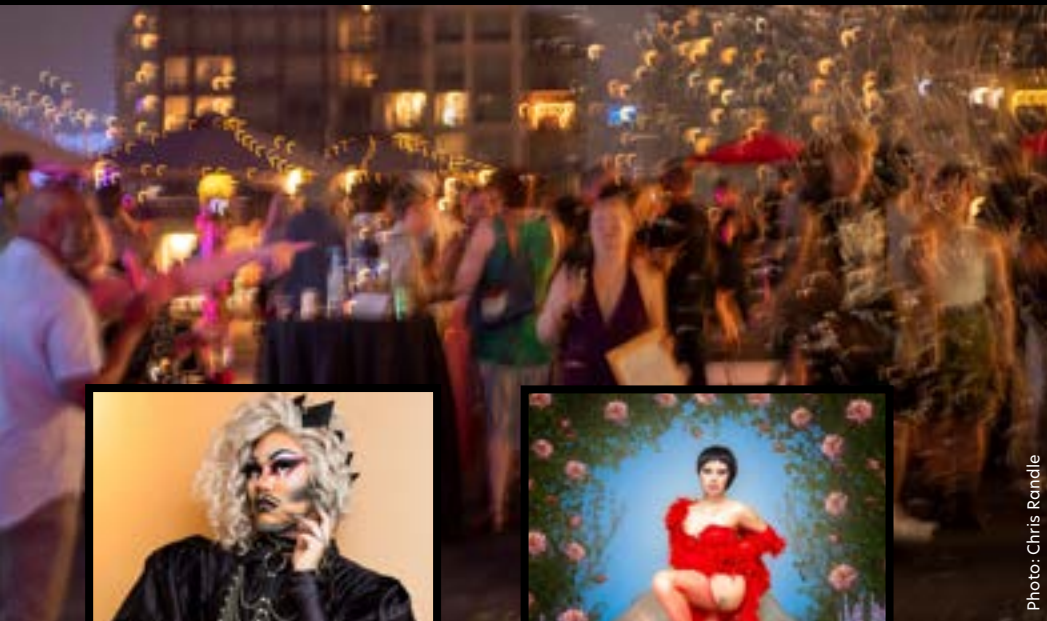


Photo: Chris Randle



Photo credit: John Bello

SHAY DIOR



Photo credit: Haina Wan

HAINA FROM CHINA

FRI JUL 8 | 7 - 10 PM  
(DOORS AT 6:30 PM)

Sun Wah 268 Keefer - Rooftop

Join us for the festival closing party at the Sun Wah Centre: three glorious floors of art, leading you up, up, up to our final rooftop party – featuring music and performances by the Queens, Kings, and Things of the House of Rice!

## Staff



Artistic & Executive Director:  
Mark Takeshi McGregor



General Manager:  
Lalia Fraser



Associate Artistic Director:  
CS Fergusson-Vaux



Assistant Curator:  
Ben Siegl



Operations Manager:  
Mirim Jang



Director of Communications:  
Tanya Comisso



Director of Development:  
Maxim Greer



Festival Intern:  
Tamara Lee



Graphic Designer:  
Odette Hidalgo,  
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### NOT PICTURED:

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Brandon Cotter  
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Miyra Olney  
Marketing Manager:  
Graeme Boyd, Emanation Consulting  
Production Manager:  
Mark Carter  
Photographer:  
Chris Randle

### CONTACT

Queer Arts Festival is a project of the Pride in Art Society  
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info@queerartsfestival.com  
www.queerartsfestival.com

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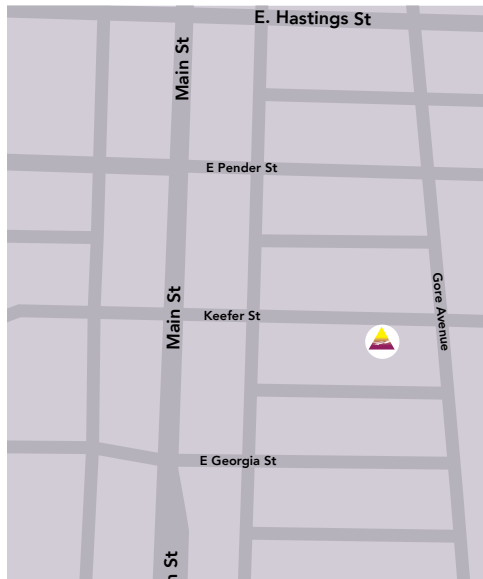
# Locations:

**SUN WAH CENTRE**  
268 KEEFER ST

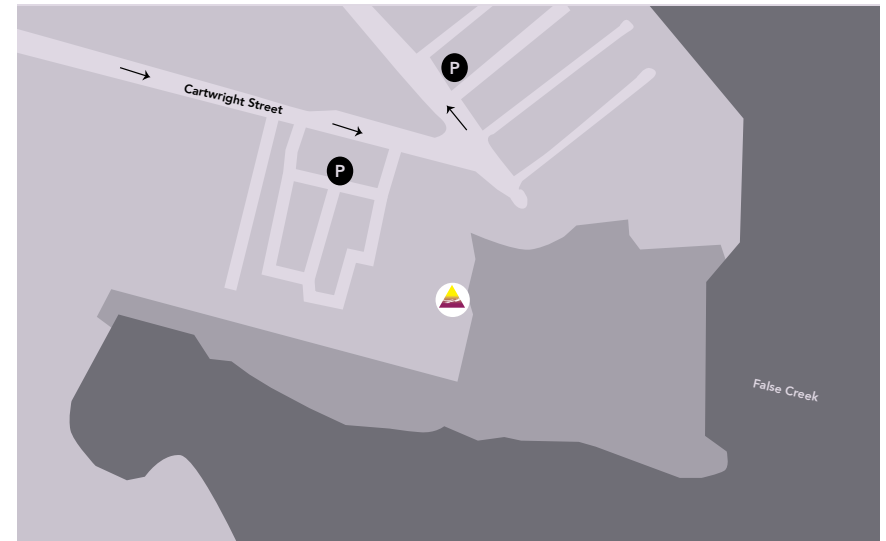
Suite 205  
**Centre A: Vancouver  
International Centre For  
Contemporary Asian Art**

Suite 425  
**SUM gallery**

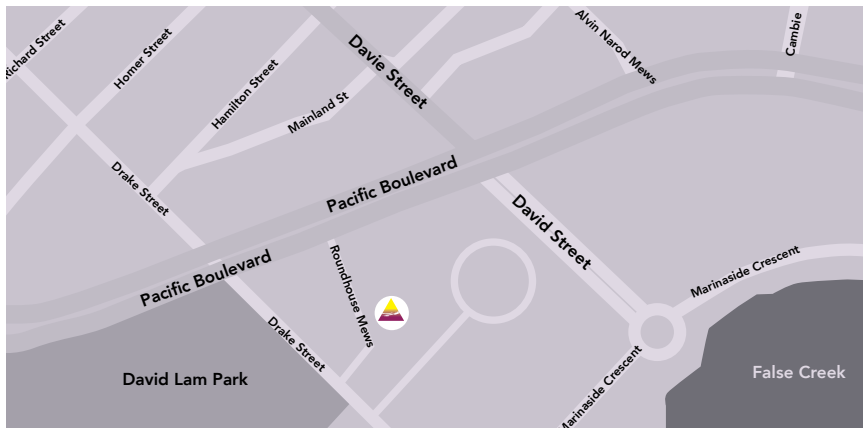
Suite 427  
**On Main Gallery**



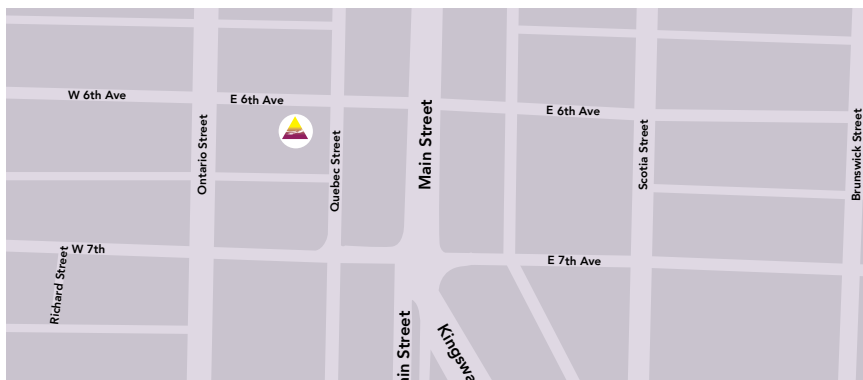
**PERFORMANCE WORKS, GRANVILLE ISLAND** | 1218 Cartwright Street



**ROUNDHOUSE COMMUNITY ARTS & RECREATION CENTRE** | 181 Roundhouse Mews



**JAMES BLACK GALLERY** | 144 E 6th Ave



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# HUGE THANKS

## TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS!

We couldn't do it without you!

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\*Not all names were available at time of printing\*

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 all of our faithful donors!

You help QAF incite, inspire and bring  
 diverse communities together through  
 the visceral power of art.

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