

Portaly Fri Jun 6 -Sat Jun 28

18 years of transdisciplinary art

Visual Art

Spoken Word

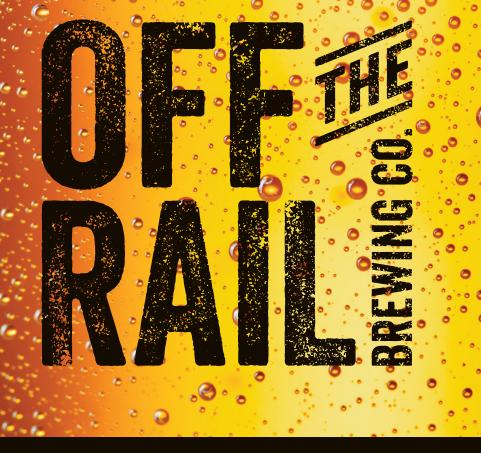
Music

Media Art

Drag

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#### Tickets available @ 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 <u>queerartsfestival.com/accessibility</u>



We're proud to reaffirm our commitment to making arts events more accessible and inclusive, thanks to support from

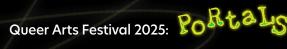
Accessibility Projects. This year, all of our visual art exhibitions feature in-gallery ASL videos. In-person ASL will be provided at our June 21 ArtParty!

If you would like ASL for another QAF event, please contact us at info@queerartsfestival.com

**Please note:** We do our best to accommodate all requests for ASL. Whenever possible, please make ASL requests at least two weeks before the event date. The Queer Arts Festival (QAF) is based on the sovereign, unceded land of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and səlílwəta?4 (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.



Please help us maintain a scent-reduced space by using unscented products when you visit the festival. Queer Arts Festival
QQAFVancouver
QQueerArts



#### Message from the Artistic Director

Each year, we choose a theme to anchor the Queer Arts Festival: a lens through which our artists can dream, challenge, and reveal. For 2024: *The Ties That Bind*, we explored queer family and chosen kinship—essentially, those people and places that are most familiar to us. But this year, we're stepping into the unknown. We invite you to join us in **Portals:** those liminal spaces that beckon us toward transformation, reinvention, and resistance.

A portal is never just a door. It's a threshold. A possibility. A dare. It asks: What if we go further? What if we cross over? What might we become? For queer and trans communities, we've always lived in and through portals—shifting identities, creating chosen futures, forging belonging in a world that often denies us access. This year's programming brings that spirit of possibility to the fore.

This year many of our activities take place in and around Chinatown, particularly at our home at Sun Wah Centre. We are proud to partner with **Centre A** to present our signature curated visual art exhibition. Cocurated by **Diane Hau Yu Wong** and myself, it features six incredible local artists exploring identity, migration, memory, and queer futurosities. Over at **On Main Gallery**, Varied Editions returns with a powerful collection of queer printmakers, co-curated by **Edward Fu-Chen Juan** and **Cheryl Hamilton**. At **SUM gallery**, our longest-running tradition, the QAF Community Art Show, uplifts the work of 2SLGBTQIA+ artists from our local communities.

Besides the Community Show, SUM gallery is also home to a one-nightonly performance by the Dutch accordionist **Erica Roozendaal**, and a special screening of **Romi Kim**'s *Long Live Kings*, a new web series celebrating Vancouver's vibrant Drag King scene.

Over on Granville Island, we continue our partnership with the Vancouver International Jazz Festival, presenting an eclectic trio of concerts featuring Bruno Hubert & Brad Turner, Raagaverse with Cassius Khan, and Allie Lynn King with Nate McBride and Kenton Loewen.

And yes—**DJ OShow** is back! Join us June 21 at Centre A for our beloved **ArtParty**, where we launch Portals with art, music, and plenty of queer joy.

This festival is more than a program. It's a map of where we've been, and a doorway to where we might go. We offer this month of art as a collective portal may it open space for transformation, for connection, for magic.

Mark Takeshi McGregor
QAF Artistic Director



Valérie d. Walker, Board President, Pride in Art Society

#### President's Welcome

#### Welcome, beloved queerdos, glitter witches, and radical dreamers of all stripes, to **Queer Arts Festival 2025: PORTALS!**

This year, we're not just opening doors—we're tearing down the walls and stepping through. Portals is our collective invitation to cross thresholds, to travel across time, memory, and imagination, and to enter new realms of queer and trans possibility. And what better moment than Pride Month—a time when rainbow capitalism tries to sell us T-shirts, but we show up with art, protest, and love in our hearts.

QAF has always been more than a festival. It's a sanctuary, a spell, a communal act of resistance. In this moment of rising anti-trans and anti-queer hate, the spaces we carve for ourselves are sacred. Most of our events this year are Pay-What-You-Wish or entirely free, ensuring no one gets left behind at the gate. Because queer art, like queer joy, is for everyone.

Our thanks are infinite and glittersoaked. To our brilliant Artistic and Executive Director **Mark Takeshi McGregor**, whose vision has opened countless portals for our communities; to our General Manager **Tabitha McIntyre**, whose wizardry keeps the spell humming; to **Benjamin Siegl**, whose curatorial care brings so much heart to the visual arts program; and to our QAF newbies, **Samantha Walters** and **Bucky Yaqub**: Welcome to the Jungle! And to every staff member, volunteer, artist, technician thank you. You are the portal.

And of course, I'm honoured to serve alongside our fierce, fabulous Board of Directors: Alan Woo, Bobbi Kozinuk, Ladan Sahraei, Orene Askew, Peggy Hua, Rodney Sharman, Sandy Forbes, and our Past President Bruce Munro Wright.

Thank you for stepping into this queer dimension with us. Whether you're here to be moved, be loud, or simply be together—we're so glad you've come through.

With love and gratitude,

Valérie d. Walker President, *Pride in Art Society* 





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	Varied Editions
	Jun 6 - 28   Tues - Sat 12pm - 6pm   On Main Gallery   Free   In-Gallery ASL video provided
	For the third year running, Varied Editions presents the astonishing diversity and queerness of the printmaking community. Curated by Cheryl Hamilton and Edward Fu-Chen Juan.
	Night Owl, featuring Erica Roozendaal
	Jun 8   7pm   Music + Spoken Word   SUM gallery   PWYW
	Accordion virtuoso Erica Roozendaal presents an evening of music by Pauline Oliveros as well as her own deeply personal <i>Night Owl</i> . Presented in partnership with VICO.
9	QAF Community Art Show
	Jun 14 - 28   Tues - Sat 12 - 6pm   Visual Art   SUM gallery   Free   In-Gallery ASL video provided
	Our celebrated QAF Community Art Show comes home to SUM with an opening reception on June 14 from 5 - 8pm.
9	ArtParty!
	Jun 21   5pm - 8pm   Gala Opening Reception   Centre A   PWYW   ASL provided
	We're celebrating the opening of our <i>Portals</i> exhibition at Centre A with a party! Art, bevvies, nibbles and the fabulous DJ O Show all come together for a fantastic evening.
9	Portals Art Exhibition at Centre A
	Jun 21 - Aug 23   Wed - Sat 12 - 6pm   Curated Visual Art Exhibition   Centre A   Free
	Our signature <i>Visual Art Exhibition</i> comes to Centre A, exploring queer identity and migration through the work of six incredible local artists. Curated by Diane Hau Yu Wong and Mark Takeshi McGregor.
	Long Live Kings
	Jun 22   1pm   SUM gallery   Film Screening   Free
	An exclusive in-gallery screening of Romi Kim's web series, Long Live Kings: a celebration of local Drag King artistry!
	Queer Clothing Swap
	Jun 22   2 - 4pm   Community Event   Sun Wah Centre, 4th Floor   Free

Bring some clothes, take some clothes - and spice up that summer wardrobe!

**QAF + Vancouver International Jazz Festival** 

Presenting a Trio of Events at Granville Island, Centering Queer Excellence in Music

#### Bruno Hubert Trio & Brad Turner

Jun 25 | 2pm | Music | Performance Works | PWYW

One of Vancouver's most loved jazz pianists teams up with André Lachance and Joe Poole, with special guest trumpeter Brad Turner!



#### Raagaverse feat. Cassius Khan

Jun 26 | 8:30pm | Music | Ocean Artworks | \$15 at the Door

Shruti Ramani leads Raagaverse, which effortlessly blends Hindustani music and jazz. They are joined by vocal and tabla virtuoso Cassius Khan.

#### Allie Lynn King with Kenton Loewen & Nate McBride

Jun 28 | 5pm | Revue Stage | PWYW

Allie Lyn King and friends blend the roots of blues and jazz with the heaviness of doom metal and the abrasion of noise!

#### WORKSHOPS

.....15

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Printmaking & Zine Workshops | Jun 7, 8, 14 | 10am | Malaspina Printmakers, Granville Island | \$20 |

Artists from our *Varied Editions* exhibition lead a series of creative, community-rooted workshops at Malaspina Granville Island.



## Varied Editions

Jun 6 - 28 | Tues - Sat 12pm - 6pm | On Main Gallery | Free | In-Gallery ASL video provided 🕞







malaspina printmakers

Now in its third year, Varied Editions celebrates the diversity of printmaking practices within queer communities. Borrowing its name from the printmaking technique where artists alter individual prints within an edition, the exhibition reflects on queerness as a shared yet uniquely expressed experience, as well as printmaking's long-standing connection to queer activism at pride marches and protests. Varied Editions features works by Paul Wong, Tajliya Jamal, Zoë Grace-Ann Laycock, Juneau MacPhee, and exhibition curators Cheryl Hamilton and Edward Fu-Chen Juan. The exhibit is expanded by a series of printmaking and zine workshops, emphasizing the medium's longstanding ties to activism, protest, and collective expression, presented in partnership with Malaspina Printmakers Society.

Varied Editions runs **June 6<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>** at **On Main Gallery**, launching with an opening reception on June 6<sup>th</sup>, as well as workshops on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 14<sup>th</sup> at Malaspina Printmakers Society.

#### OPENING RECEPTION TICKETS

This exhibit includes in-gallery ASL video.

#### **Curator Bios**

**Cheryl Hamilton** is a visual artist living on the Coast Salish Territories. Her artwork includes sculpture, painting, printmaking and illustration. She graduated from Emily Carr College of Art and Design in 1990. Her work has been influenced by her queer identity, satire, humour, surrealism, craft and pop culture. Cheryl has a deep commitment to sharing her artwork in the public realm, and has artwork in public and private collections across North America.

Edward Fu-Chen Juan is a queer Taiwanese-Canadian artist working in printmaking and papermaking. His practice blends techniques like copper etching, aquatint, and silkscreen with research into Taiwanese-Canadian human rights movements. Since 2023, he has gathered oral histories, sketches, and photographs from Canada and Taiwan to explore democratic discourse. Based in Vancouver on the unceded lands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, Edward is of Hakka and Plain Indigenous ancestry from Taiwan.

### **Night Owl,** featuring Erica Roozendaal

**Jun 8** | 7pm | Music + Spoken Word | SUM gallery | PWYW

#### TICKETS

VICO VANCOUVER INTER-CULTURAL ORCHESTRA We're thrilled to present the QAF debut of Dutch accordionist **Erica Roozendaal**. Visiting us from the Hague, Roozendaal shares an intimate program at SUM gallery that includes music by the iconic Pauline Olivieros, plus Erica's own autobiographical showpiece, *Night Owl.* This beautiful and moving performance subtly addresses the theme of abuse and growing up in an unsafe environment. Erica Roozendaal–performer, visual artist, and accordionist–created the script and performs the monologue in a restrained, captivating manner while alternating with playing the accordion. Presented in partnership with Vancouver InterCultural Orchestra.

#### **Artist Bio**

Hailing from the Netherlands, **Erica Roozendaal** is a classically trained accordionist and storyteller whose work spans music, theatre, and visual art. She has collaborated with numerous composers around the world, resulting in the creation of dozens of new solo and chamber works, many of which blend classical, folk, and improvised styles. A founding member of Roadrunner ensemble, she curates thematic concerts rooted in narrative. Since 2020, she has taught at the Royal Conservatory in The Hague, focusing on early childhood music education through play, curiosity, and aural learning.





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# QAF Computity Jun 14 - 28 | Tues - Sat 12 - 6pm | Visual Art | SUM gallery | Free | In-Gallery ASI, video, previded

In-Gallery ASL video provided



#### **OPENING RECEPTION** TICKETS





It's no exaggeration to say the QAF Community Art Show is the backbone of our festival. It was the original event, begun in 1998, that would grow into the Queer Arts Festival as we know it today. The QAF Community Art Show showcases and celebrates some of the outstanding artists and artwork from our local 2SLGBTQIA+ communities. Over the years the name and location may have changed, but the spirit remains the same.

The 2025 QAF Community Art Show is supported by the Parachute Fund.

Join us at SUM gallery on June 14, 5 - 8pm, for a free opening reception!

This exhibit includes in-gallery ASL video.

#### Artists:

- Jasper Berehulke Kaila Bhullar Ash Boan **Brandon Cotter** JC Fung Danya Gorodetsky
- Marina Levit
- Rowen Lobo

Nicole Mandryk & Margaret August

- Liz Oakley
- Jai Sallay-Carrington
- Niloufar Samadi
- Suze Shore
- Malina Sintnicolaas
- Taryn Walker
- Valerie d. Walker





Photo: Chris Randle

## **ArtParty!**

Jun 21 | 5pm - 8pm | Gala Opening Reception | Centre A | PWYW | ASL provided 🔄



#### TICKETS

CENTRE A

Step through the portal and into the party! Join us on June 21 from 5-8pm at Centre A for the 2025 QAF ArtParty, launching our signature exhibition Portals—a powerful exploration of migration, identity, and transformation, curated by Diane Hau Yu Wong and Mark Takeshi McGregor. Celebrate with art, community, and irresistible beats by guest **DJ OShow**, as we celebrate QTBIPOC resilience and creativity. Come early, stay late, pay-what-you-wish. All are welcome in this gateway to new possibilities!

This event includes in-person ASL and in-gallery ASL video.



## Jun 21 - Aug 23 | Wed - Sat 12 - 6pm | Centre A

Jun 21 - Aug 23 | Wed - Sat 12 - 6pm | Curated Visual Art Exhibition | Centre A | Free *Eg* 



#### OPENING RECEPTION TICKETS



Our QAF 2025 theme is fully realized in this special exhibition partnership with Centre A: Vancouver International Centre for Contemporary Asian Art. Curated by Diane Hau Yu Wong and Mark Takeshi McGregor, this group exhibition explores "portals" as catalysts for change-points of departure that invite reflection on identity, migration, and the possibilities of reimagined worlds via the works of six Vancouver artists: Arkah, Evan Matchett-Wong, Sena Cleave, Miles Saraswat, Christian Yves Jones, and Naomi Leung 梁珮恩. As antitrans, anti-queer and anti-immigrant rhetoric intensifies across the world, Portals responds to our increasingly dangerous political landscape while asking us to envision futures grounded in resilience, memory, and hope.

Portals are gateways to transformation—liminal spaces of transition, possibility, and change. Throughout the 2025 Queer Arts Festival, we explore queer and trans experiences of crossing thresholds, stepping into new identities, and imagining futures beyond imposed boundaries. The six artists of our Portals exhibition additionally examine diasporic journeys, highlighting the intersections of queerness, migration, and belonging. Co-curator Diane Hau Yu Wong and I envision this exhibition as a call to reimagine the world, celebrating art's power to forge new paths, challenge oppression, and open doors to liberation. Step through the portal—what's on the other side?

Mark Takeshi McGregor, Exhibition Co-Curator



## TRUTH OR BAD DRAG

nage Still: Romi Kim

## Long Live Kings

**Jun 21** | 1pm | SUM gallery | Film Screening | Free

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credit: Dayna Finkelstein @3berrysmash

Long Live Kings is a multi-episode series that puts a much needed spotlight on the vibrant Drag King scene on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples (aka Vancouver). Created by director Romi Kim as a response to the isolation Drag Kings often experience within drag spaces, this series uplifts the artistry and resilience of this art form with humour. heart, and fierce performance. Situated in the comfort of SUM gallery, this special screening of Long Live Kings offers a glimpse into a powerful community that has always existed-challenging norms, redefining drag, and making space on their own terms. Made by Drag Kings, Trans people, and Queers–FOR Drag Kings, Trans people, and Queers!

#### Artist Bio

김새로미, **Romi Kim**, or SKIM in drag, is a nonbinary, trans masc, second-generation Korean interdisciplinary artist, drag king, filmmaker, and founder of *King Sized*, Vancouver's only Drag King-focused show.

Romi's artistic approach is characterized by a playful, DIY-inspired methodology that invites audiences to ponder the intricacies of identities and their construction. With a keen focus on complicating the notion of a singular queer racialized identity, Romi challenges the mainstream narrative while giving space and visibility to trans and racialized identities.

## **Queer Clothing Swap**

Jun 22 | 2 - 4pm | Community Event | Sun Wah Centre, 4th Floor | Free



Looking to spice up your summer wardrobe? Look no further: We're bringing back our super popular Queer Clothing Swap! Bring your clean, gently worn, unscented clothes over to the Sun Wah Centre on June 22nd and leave with some free, fab looks. Clothes can be dropped off starting at 12:30pm, with the clothing swap taking place from 2 - 4pm. (Pro tip: dropping your clothes off early gives us a chance to sort them-and gives you a chance to pop into SUM gallery for a free community viewing of Long Live Kings, a new web series about the local drag king scene!) Don't have clothes to bring? No problem, you're still welcome to join in the swap! Clothing will be sorted by size, and all-gender change spaces will be provided. All remaining clothes will be donated to PACE Society.



QAF + Vancouver International Jazz Festival



Presenting a TRIO OF EVENTS

at Granville Island, Centering Queer Excellence in Music

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## 1

## Bruno Hubert Trio & Brad Turner



#### **Jun 25** | 2pm | Music | Performance Works | PWYW

Bruno Hubert is one of Canada's most expressive jazz pianists, with a deep sense of swing and melody that evokes Erroll Garner, Herbie Hancock, and Bill Evans—while always remaining unmistakably Bruno! A key fixture on the Vancouver jazz scene for over twenty years, Hubert's trio with bassist André Lachance and drummer Joe Poole is joined by one of Canada's most esteemed and in-demand jazz musicians, multiple JUNO Award-winning trumpeter Brad Turner (Metalwood, Reneé Rosnes, John Scofield). This PWYW event is presented in association with Coastal Jazz.



## Raagaverse feat. Cassius Khan

Jun 26 | 8:30pm | Music | Ocean Artworks | \$15 at the Door

2025 JUNO nominees for Jazz Album of the Year (Group), creative Indo-Jazz fusion band Raagaverse pays homage to two historical and culturally-significant genres: classical Hindustani music and jazz. Led by vocalist Shruti Ramani, Photo credit: with Jodi Proznick bass, Noah Franche-Nolan piano, and Nicholas Bracewell drums, Raagaverse retains the authenticity of both traditions, melding them into a cohesive sound filled with immense respect, depth, and beauty. For this special performance, they'll collaborate courtesv Cassius Khar with award-winning musician Cassius Khan. Khan earned the title Ustad for his contributions to Indian music, and is renowned for his simultaneous mastery of tabla playing and classical Ghazal and Thumri singing. Presented in association with Coastal Jazz, with support from the Dr. Hari Sharma Foundation.

## 3 Allie Lynn King with Kenton Loewen & Nate McBride

#### Jun 28 | 5pm | Revue Stage | PWYW



Anchored in improvisation, Vancouver guitarist Allie Lynn King blends the roots of blues and jazz with the heaviness of doom metal and the abrasion of noise. Bassist Nate McBride (MESTIZX) calls Chicago home, but his collaborations with the likes of Dennis Gonzalez, Jeb Bishop, and Ken Vandermark span the globe. Drummer Kenton Loewen brings fire and full ambition to everything he does, from ad hoc improv ensembles to bands like Peregrine Falls, Tony Wilson's Longhand Trio, and Haram. This PWYW event is presented in association with Coastal Jazz.



## Workshops

#### Silkscreening & Zine Workshops

Artists from our Varied Editions exhibition lead a series of creative, community-rooted workshops at Malaspina Granville Island.

## Silkscreen Workshop #1



**Jun 7** | 10am - 2pm | Workshop Malaspina Printmakers | \$20

ТІСКЕТЅ

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Learn the fundamentals in this hands-on Silkscreen Workshop led by Varied Editions exhibiting artists Cheryl Hamilton and Tajliya Jamal. Hosted at Malaspina Printmakers Society, this in-person session will guide you through designing, creating a stencil, and printing your very own design on paper. Whether you're new to printmaking or looking to sharpen your skills, this workshop offers a welcoming space to explore the art of silkscreen. All materials provided.

## Silkscreen Workshop #2



**Jun 8** | 10am - 2pm | Workshop Malaspina Printmakers | \$20

TICKETS

Can't make the first silkscreen session? We got you! Join exhibiting artist **Cheryl Hamilton** for another hands-on **Silkscreen Workshop**. You'll be guided through the full printmaking process and create your design on paper for a fun and creative day learning the art of silkscreen printing. Get ready to unleash your inner artist! No experience necessary; just bring a curiosity for ink and paper, we'll provide the materials!

## Zine Photocopy Workshop



Jun 14 | 10am - 1pm | Workshop Malaspina Printmakers | \$20

Join us for a fun and creative session with artist **Cheryl Hamilton** and her partner-inqueer-crime, **lisa g**, for a cozy workshop on the book art tradition of zine-making. Bring your poetry, photos, doodles, stickers, or feelings; this **Zine Photocopy Workshop** is your space to play.



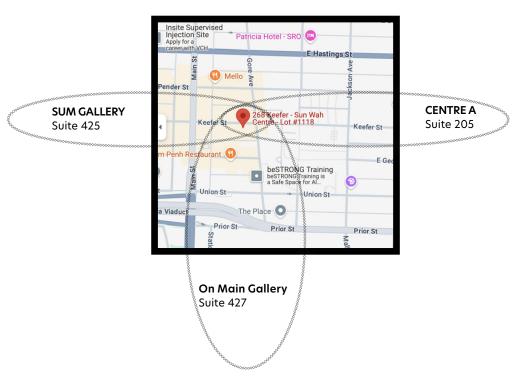
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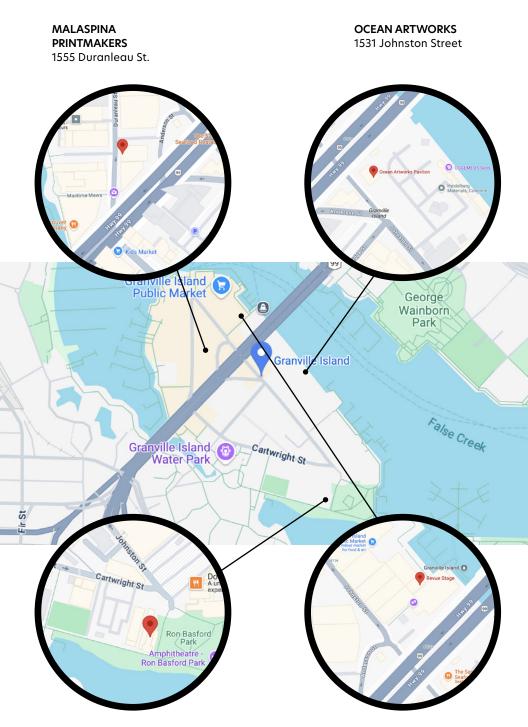
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#### SUN WAH CENTRE - Click map for directions.

268 Keefer St.



#### **GRANVILLE ISLAND** - Click each map for directions.



#### PERFORMANCE WORKS 1218 Cartwright St

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Queer Arts Festival: Portals

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

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To make your tax-deductible gift, visit us at <u>queerartsfestival.com/donate</u> Charitable Registration #83998 8326 RR0001 Mail a cheque to: Pride in Art Society,

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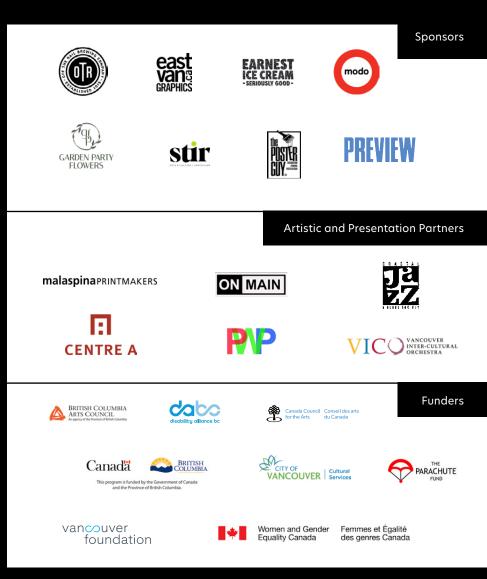
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We would like to thank all of our funders, partners, and sponsors that have helped make the festival a success.



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

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