



Vancouver Fringe Festival
Box 203-1398 Cartwright St.
Vancouver, BC, V6H 3R8
vancouverfringe.com

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For Immediate Release / Photos & Interviews
Available Upon Request

Play the Game of Fringe!

September 6-16, 2018

Required Membership: \$7

Mainstage/BYOV Tickets: \$15; Frequent Fringer Cards: \$40/\$90/\$270

Phillips Fringe Bar: FREE

Public Market Pick of the Fringe & Pick Plus: September 19-23; \$25

Tickets and Info: vancouverfringe.com

For Immediate Release: August 14, 2018 — Get out your daubers! It's time to fill your Bingo card with as much theatre as you can! There are **99 shows** at the 2018 Vancouver Fringe Festival and genres range from funny and dramatic to weird and risqué and everything in between. Whether you daub out all four corners, a vertical line, or get a blackout, you're your own bingo caller when you "Play" the game of Fringe this **September 6 to 16**.

Theatre doesn't hold a Monopoly at the Fringe though! Guitar Heros will love the live music options at the **Phillips Fringe Bar**! Dance Dance Revolution on Saturday and Sunday afternoons as well as every night of the Festival at Ocean Art Works on Granville Island while you mix and mingle with your fellow Fringers.

Don't want to take a Risk? Need a Clue? See 40 previews at the **Opening Night featuring the Georgia Straight Fringe-For-All!** On Wednesday, September 5—the day before the Festival—the Fringe-For-All helps you decide which shows are Snakes and Ladders before you Tetris your Festival together.

The Fringe is comprised of un-juried, un-censored productions that are literally drawn from a hat or chosen on a first come, first served basis! This means the theatre you see at the Fringe is filled with emerging artists and seasoned veterans in traditional and experimental work alike.

The Festival is centred on Granville Island, but venues extend across the city to The Cultch, the Firehall Arts Centre, Havana, and beyond—and site-specific shows use unusual locations on and off Granville Island too!

Tickets are now on sale and are \$15. Half-Price tickets will be offered to select performances. Frequent Fringer Cards offer a great value and limited quantities are available for four, 10, or 30 performances. Tickets and Frequent Fringer Cards can be purchased at vancouverfringe.com or at the Fringe Box Office, located at 1398 Cartwright Street on Granville Island. The Fringe Box Office is physically open from Sept. 4 through to the end of the Festival on Sept. 16.

Show descriptions can be found at vancouverfringe.com and in our program guide, available at select Blenz Coffee locations and other Fringe friendly businesses.

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Opening Night featuring the *Georgia Straight* Fringe-For-All: September 5

Join fellow Fringers in a celebration to kick off the Festival! Magician Travis Bernhardt returns as host along side the musical Sara Vickruck, leading you through 40 two-minute previews at the *Georgia Straight* Fringe-For-All—a great way to sample shows in this year’s Festival. Plus there’ll be hors d’oeuvres and desserts from the Keg, Dockside Restaurant, and Habibi’s.

Dancing Vulvas, Aliens, Magic Shows, Surveillance, and much, much more!

Drawing shows from a hat makes for a mix of emerging and veteran artists and a wide variety of shows. Play the game of Fringe and have fun while experiencing the variety. Explore, sex, love and lust with **Red Bastard’s** “bacchanal buffet” (*Broadway Baby*) of a show, **Lie With Me**—and if you’ve ever wondered how clowns do it, **Is That How Clowns Have Sex? A One-Woman, Queer Clown Sex-Ed Show** just might have the answer. Looking for something more “nourishing and traditional” (*Winnipeg Free Press*), **Rocko and Nakota: Tales From the Land** is “First Nations storytelling at its finest” (CBC). *Theatre in London* calls **Awkward Hug**, Corey Thibert’s story of growing up as the child of parents with disabilities as “beautifully crafted, with ebbs and flow between humour and heartache.” Diana Bang, known for playing Park Sook-yin in Seth Rogan’s *The Interview*, brings two shows to the Vancouver Fringe: **SELF-ish**, “a story about immigrant parents and their Canadian-raised daughter ... A relationship that is often full of high hopes and equal amounts of disappointment” (*Mooney on Theatre*), as well as being one quarter of the comedy team, **The Lady Show**. The ultimate manly musical, **Die Hard: The Musical-ish**, comes to the Fringe from District 13 Presents, the creators of *Hunger Games: The Musical Trilogy*. All this plus interrogations, boxing shrews, Scientology, vampires, Alzheimer’s, beer history, flamenco dancing, and more. Visit vancouverfringe.com for full listings.

Advance Theatre: New Works by Women

Ruby Slippers Theatre and Playwrights Guild of Canada partnered with the Fringe to showcase dramatic readings of five new plays by diverse Canadian women playwrights in the name of equity. From sperm donors and the pregnancy risks no one talks about, to death threats, dying alone, and what it’s like to call the Gaza Strip home, these new works will be featured as matinees during the Festival.

Dramatic Works Series

With support from the Lochmaddy Foundation, the Fringe is able to boost dramatic content at the Festival. This year’s Dramatic Works Series artists have been mentored by Genevieve Fleming, the Artistic Producer of Hardline Productions—the 2018-19 inaugural company-in-residence at the Arts Club Theatre Company. Showcased at The Cultch’s Vancity Culture Lab, this year’s series includes work by Rainer Werner Fassbinder, Adam Peck, Sarah Ruhl, Madeleine George, David Lindsay-Abaire, and Neil LaBute.

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The Phillips Fringe Bar

There's no cover at the Phillips Fringe Bar! **Leisure Club**, who have "perfected larger-than-life beach vibes" (*BeatRoute*) kicks off 11 days of live music on Sept. 6. **Frankiie's** "unapologetically feminine folk-pop" (*Exclaim*) takes the stage Sept. 8 while "one of Western Canada's best underground roots acts" (*BeatRoute*), **The Sumner Brothers** is on Sept. 9. "Hometown funk and soul queen" (*the Georgia Straight*) **Dawn Pemberton** will get you moving on Sept. 13. And **Kitty and the Rooster** will be promoting their brand new album with their "retro-spectacular sound" (*the Georgia Straight*) on Sept. 14. And yes, **the Phillips Fringe Bar is all ages!** Visit VancouverFringe.com/fringe-bar for a full lineup of this 11-day free music festival within the Fringe.

Workshops for Artists & Aspiring Artists

Unleashing Your Inner Storyteller with Josh Languedoc: Playwright/storyteller/improviser Josh Languedoc (*Rocko and Nakota: Tales From the Land*) will give special attention to your own stories and culture as he takes you through how to access your inner storyteller on *Tuesday, Sept. 11. \$10.*

Inclusive Hiring and Casting Practices in Theatre: Join Rohit Chokhani (Project SAT {South Asian Theatre}), Marisa Emma Smith (Alley Theatre), Mily Mumford (Nebula Company Theatre), Raes Calvert (Hardline Productions), and Susanna Uchatius (Theatre Terrific) to hear how they've found success, and how they've learned from their mistakes in creating diverse, inclusive, and equitable teams. *Wednesday, Sept. 12. Free.*

New(to)Town Collective Training Jam: Embodied Awareness: This class will focus on "Embodied Awareness," playing with exercises, and utilizing one's awareness in relation to performance and daily life. *Thursday, Sept. 13. \$10-15 sliding scale.*

Musical Improv: Veteran musical improvisers Jennifer Pielak and Peter Abando (*Inside Voices: A Musical In The Key of P*) will lead a series of exercises, musical games, and improvised musical scene work, to introduce you to the world of musical improvisation. *Friday, Sept. 14. \$48.*

To register for the Unleashing Your Inner Storyteller with Josh Languedoc, New(to)Town Collective Training Jam: Embodied Awareness, and/or the Musical Improv workshops, visit tickets.vancouverfringe.com/categories/workshop. To attend the Inclusive Hiring and Casting Practices in Theatre discussion, please RSVP to artist@vancouverfringe.com.

Fringe Awards and Closing Night Party: September 16

The Public Market Pick of the Fringe Awards will be announced as well as the Cultchivating the Fringe Award, the Joanna Maratta Award, the BC Touring Council Award, and the Artistic Risk Award—all of which help emerging artists take their work to the next level. The Awards will be held at Performance Works with an after-party at the Phillips Fringe Bar.

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Public Market Pick of the Fringe and Pick Plus: September 19-23

Presented by the Granville Island Public Market, the Pick is the last chance to see the hottest shows of the Festival. Tickets go on sale following the Fringe Awards Night on Sept. 16, where they'll be announced.

The Fringe will also host the Pick Plus—hits from years past and shows we just can't wait to see. A tribute to CBC's Stuart McLean, 2017's Fringe hit, *50 Shades of Dave*, is reimagined as **50 Shades of Vinyl—A Canadian Parody**, on Sept. 19. Reminiscent of Fellini and Lewis Carroll, *Habitats* is sure to entrance audiences of all ages on Sept. 20. Selected as a *New York Times* Critics' Pick, **Basic Training** tells Kahlil Ashanti's true-life story of joining the Air Force immediately after learning a family secret, on Sept. 21. And make sure to catch perennial Fringe favourite, *The Birdmann*, on what could be his last tour in Canada in **The Birdmann FINALE** on Sept. 21. Visit vancouverfringe.com/pickplus for full details. Pick Plus tickets are on sale now. Partial proceeds from the Pick and Pick Plus shows go to support the Vancouver Fringe Festival and the shows take place at Performance Works on Granville Island.

To see everything the 2018 Vancouver Fringe Festival has to offer, visit vancouverfringe.com or pick up a program guide at select Blenz Coffee locations. See you at the Fringe!

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