



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

The Fringe: It's Theatrically Delicious!

September 5-15, 2019

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 18-22; \$25

Tickets and Info: vancouverfringe.com

For Immediate Release: July 31, 2019 — Love variety? Comedy, drama, musicals, clowns, political satire—mix all those tasty theatre flavours together and you get the Vancouver Fringe Festival! With **101 shows** to choose from, you're bound to find some "Theatrically Delicious" performances this **September 5 to 15**.

The music at the **Phillips Fringe Bar** will be snap, crackle, and popping every night of the Fringe. Located at Ocean Art Works on Granville Island, families will be cheerio-ing 'cause the Bar is all ages and open Saturday and Sunday afternoons too.

Check out the variety fun pack with 40 previews at the **Opening Night featuring the Georgia Straight Fringe-For-All!** On Wednesday, September 4—the day before the Festival, these tasters will make sure you're not thrown for a fruit loop—it'll be gr-r-reat!

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 go on sale August 7 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 September 3 through to the end of the Festival on September 15.

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 4

Join fellow Fringers in a celebration to kick off the Festival! Hosted by Fringe Alumni Abdul Aziz (*Fake Ghost Tours*) and Davey Calderon (*Big Queer Filipino Karaoke Night*), you'll be led through 40 two-minute previews at the *Georgia Straight* Fringe-For-All—a great way to snack on shows in this year's Festival. Plus, there'll be hors d'oeuvres and desserts from The Keg and Docksider Restaurant, as well as a tasting of new products from Georgian Bay Spirit Company.

Internet Trolls, Pop Culture Heroes, Rock Operas, Artificial Intelligence, Dad Jokes, and much, much more!

Drawing shows from a hat makes for a mix of emerging and veteran artists and a wide variety of shows. Multiple Best of Fest winning *Josephine* tells the story of Josephine Baker, the first African American superstar. *Tomatoes Tried to Kill Me But Banjos Saved My Life* returns to Vancouver after winning the Most Inspirational Show Award at the New York City Frigid Fringe Festival. *Winnipeg Free Press* calls Sam Kruger "reminiscent of Robin Williams ... a compelling, dynamic presence onstage," in his alien guise in *Fool Muun Komming!* Relive Pamela Bethel's high school days via her answering machine messages and "her affable penchant for storytelling" (*Mooney on Theatre*) in *After the Beep*. Following her Best of Fest win at the 2019 Crazy Woke Asians Solo Performance Festival in Los Angeles, Kazu Kasano brings her dark comedy to the Fringe in *Pretty Beast*. Immerse yourself in a "choose your own adventure" exploration of the WISE Hall in *Alice in Glitterland*. SNAFU Dance Theatre's Rod Peter Jr. "is an up-and-coming comedic powerhouse" (*Winnipeg Free Press*) in the James Bond inspired *Chase Breyer: Part-Time Substitute Teacher, Full-Time Canadian Super Spy*. All this plus bedwetters, the housing crisis, buddy cops, old farts, human organs, ghosts, Beethoven, the Taj Mahal, panic attacks, assisted dying, 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. From first language reconnection and siblings dealing with parental loss, to working in a country bar, walking 1,600km, and being a Vietnamese oceanic refugee, these new works will be featured as matinees during the Festival.

Dramatic Works Series

With support from the Lochmaddy Foundation, the Fringe boosts dramatic content at the Festival. This year's Dramatic Works Series artists have been mentored by Hardline Productions' Co-Artistic Director Raes Calvert, a Métis theatre artist who's toured internationally. Showcased at The Cultch's Vancity Culture Lab, this year's series includes work by Jacob Richmond, Yukio Mishima, Sarah Kane, Madeleine George, Rajiv Joseph, and John Logan.

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The Phillips Fringe Bar

There's no cover at the Phillips Fringe Bar! **Buckman Coe**, who has *the Georgia Straight* wondering "why [he] isn't cashing Clapton-sized royalty cheques," kicks off 11 days of live music on September 5. **Rae Spoon**, "one of the most important musicians working in Canada today," (*Now Magazine*) returns to the Fringe to promote their brand new album, *Mental Health* on September 12. **Andrew Judah**, "the best songwriter you haven't heard yet" (*New Noise Magazine*), showcases his pop melodies and complex arrangements on September 13. And **DJ Shanique**, who also runs Intersessions, which offers DJ workshops for women and LGBTQ+ folks, closes out the Fringe with an all-night dance party on September 15. 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

Radical Collaborative Inclusive Theatre: Theatre Terrific's Artistic Director, **Susanna Uchatius**, will focus on how to play, work, and create theatre with all people, regardless of perceived assumptions of difference. *Tuesday, Sept. 10. \$20.*

Powwow 101: Join Fringe artist **Nyla Carpentier** of the Tahltan and Kaska First Nation as she teaches the history behind the dance steps, styles, and protocols in this interactive workshop. Open to Indigenous and Non-Indigenous participants. *Wednesday, Sept. 11. \$13.*

Are We There Yet? Next Steps in Arts; Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: The Fringe's new Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Director, **Siobhan Barker** will facilitate this chat with Davey Calderon, Co-Founder of New(to)Town Collective; **Jillian Christmas**, former Artistic Director of Verses Festival of Words; **Marion Landers**, actor, dancer, and choreographer; **Renae Morriveau**, singer and lead writer for *Weaving Reconciliation: Our Way*; and **Tom Pickett**, actor, singer, and mentor. *Thursday, Sept. 12. \$0-20 sliding scale.*

How to Tell a Story: with Jon Bennett: Acclaimed comedian-storyteller **Jon Bennett** covers the whole process of modern storytelling from ideation to structure and what it takes to tell an entertaining story. *Friday, Sept. 13. \$20.*

To register for any of these workshops, visit tickets.vancouverfringe.com/categories/workshop. At door registration is available on a sliding scale basis for all workshops (cash only at the door).

Fringe Awards and Closing Night Party: September 15

The Public Market Pick of the Fringe Awards will be announced as well as 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 TD Fringe Forward Award is also being launched! In partnership with Newworld Theatre and sponsored by TD Bank Group, this award recognizes a production that centres the work of artists from historically marginalized communities.

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Public Market Pick of the Fringe and Pick Plus: September 18-22

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 September 15, 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. ***Rocko and Nakota: Tales from the Land*** features Josh Languedoc's "warm and unpretentious storytelling" (*the Georgia Straight*) about a boy and his grandfather on September 18. Lauded by *Mooney on Theatre* as "an incredible show" with an artist that "deserves to be seen by as many people as possible," ***Flute Loops'*** mix of music and physics hits the stage on September 19. ***The Ballad of Frank Allen***, which *the Georgia Straight* called "Hilarious. Insanely original," returns on September 19. 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 2019 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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