



Professor takes
classroom outdoors
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The Source

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1999-2014

Vol 15 No 8 | November 4-18, 2014

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Photo by mylon, Flickr

Burnaby candidates seek to connect with all voters

by ALISON CHIANG

In the 2011 Burnaby municipal elections, voter turnout was just 23 per cent, below the provincial average of 29 per cent, according to Civic Info BC. As local elections approach again on Nov. 15, Burnaby mayoral candidates are hoping to find the issues that will engage different cultural communities and counter low voter turnout.

Candidate Daren Hancott speaks to the issues and outreach strategies that he hopes will increase voter turnout while fellow candidate Helen Hee Soon Chang focuses on the need to make our community safer by reporting hate crimes.

Chinese-Canadian voice
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Chinese-Canadian voice

Chinese-Canadians are the largest ethnic group in Burnaby, making up 31 per cent of the total population, according to the 2011 Census. Hancott says they bring forth several concerns.

"There's active confusion. Chinese people don't know

who they can vote for or who's running.

"[Some] don't know how to actually vote or anything about the ballot box," says Hancott.

Hancott says there are some Chinese-Canadians who have been living in Burnaby for 30 or more years and have never voted.

This is an issue that Hancott and his coalition, Burnaby First, hope to address. Hancott and members of Burnaby First invite Chinese community members for tea and explain how the whole

process works. He says there are translators and interpreters available on the Burnaby First team.

There are volunteers that go about the city, giving presentations in offices, church groups and other societies to inform voters of what is available to them.

"It's not so much that I want them to vote for me - sure, I do - but I want them to vote," says Hancott.

Hancott says he wants to see equality and transparency.

See "Election" page 8 >

Verbatim

Rushing through lunch

by YASSINE AMRAOUI

While unpacking after my arrival in Vancouver I swore to myself when I realised that I had forgotten my neckties. What a stupid oversight I said to myself, "I'll need those ties for the office!"

Two years later I more often sport a T-shirt rather than a dress shirt, and what a relief it is to be able to wear sandals to work on hot weather days (a relative concept in Vancouver). To dress this way would be unimaginable in my previous Paris work locations. Even on the "casual Fridays," borrowed from North America, the dress style was more formal than in many Vancouver business meetings.

Not surprisingly, I was a little perturbed on the first day of work when my supervisor called me "buddy." No "sir" here. Everyone up to the director himself is on a first name basis. This flexibility in reporting relationships isn't just a façade; communication is clearly easier and more personal.



Photo by Toby Bradbury

▲ Lunch on the go.

In contrast, lunch is a much less sociable occasion. It is all too common to eat in a hurry, all alone, at your desk! Little importance is attached to the midday meal - the proof being that a measly half hour

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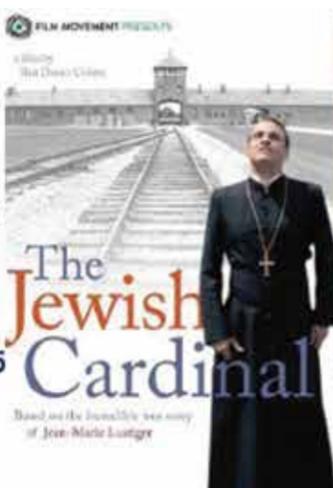
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Community Profile



▲ George Agnes in Altiplano, Bolivia.

SFU professor brings adventure-based learning to the world

by ALEX AGNELLO

SFU chemistry professor, George Agnes, has created a curriculum that give students from 125 schools worldwide the chance to interact with the biodiversity of adventure settings. His longtime interest in exploring demanding and diverse environments is fueling innovations in a youth development project that began with a conversation with physician and Order of Canada inductee, Ewan Affleck.

Agnes and Affleck are now both members of impossible2Possible (i2P), a community of field researchers, environmentalists and young professionals, committed to turning a natural environment into a classroom setting. The locations explored, and themes encountered are ranging, but the overarching goals are preserved.

"We want to make students aware of their imprint on an ever-changing environment, with the hopes that they use this knowledge to form a positive impact on the global community," says Agnes.

Academic and life mentoring

Emma Morley, Youth Ambassador for a recent i2P expedition in Utah, embarked on a journey of hands-on educational discovery that motivated her to stay involved, and help share her inspiring experiences with future Youth Ambassadors.

"Our expedition theme in Utah was paleontology, and the educational opportunity felt like a backstage pass to the world of dinosaurs and ancient geology," explains Morley.

The relationship Agnes shares with students like Morley has the mentorship qualities of a graduate student/senior supervisor relationship, but also differs from this traditional exchange, as expeditions tend to present students and professors with new and unique challenges.

tor, says his trek across the Sahara desert is a testament to the importance of collaboration.

"Ray admits that he wouldn't have survived the Sahara without the support of his team. With the same spirit, our students battle the elements together, convince one another of their own inner strength, and encourage intellectual curiosity," says Agnes.

Upcoming expedition

Agnes and Morley have reconvened with the i2P group for an

“We want to make students aware of their imprint on an ever-changing environment.”

George Agnes, SFU chemistry professor

"The connections between the particular geographic location and the chosen theme are further developed as expeditions progress. This could raise topics that are not in one's area of expertise, but that is in large part what fuels the self-exploration process," explains Agnes.

As the expedition moves forward, students pass on their fieldwork experience to students in nearby communities, and to their peers back home through classroom stories that are broadcast via satellite communication. The classroom stories are meant to serve as a clear example of what can be gained through experiential learning. But what the program organizers feel really differentiates adventure learning on an i2P expedition from other out-of-classroom experiences are the omnipresent physical challenges students must collectively address, sometimes in order to ensure their safety and well-being. Ray Zahab, i2P founder and expeditions direc-

tion to the Lost Coast of Northern California. Morley will take part of the educational team, and will focus on capturing footage of experts and Youth Ambassadors throughout their explorations. Agnes has developed a curriculum that examines the redwood species of trees and marine ecology, with the overall aim of highlighting the connection between terrestrial and aquatic life of the forest at the riparian zones where salmon spawn.

"We will be paying close attention to the stream, particularly the activity of the salmon, in order to better understand those interactions between marine ecology and forest ecology that are crucial to the survival of wildlife in the region," explains Agnes.

To learn more about impossible2Possible's expeditions, classroom stories, and engagement opportunities, please visit www.impossible2possible.com

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Daniel Janke - Five Songs about Being (premiere)
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Lloyd Burritt - We Move Homeward
David Archer - Who has seen the wind? (premiere)
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THE SOURCE NEWSPAPER

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Monique Kroeger (Print)
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Remembering sacrifices and heroism by the Indian Army in the First World War

by SIMON YEE

On Nov. 10, Steven Purewal, director of the Indus Media Foundation, will officially open *Duty, Honour & Izzat: The Call to Flanders Fields at the Surrey Museum*, an exhibit dedicated to the rarely taught and told stories of Indian Army soldiers who fought in the First World War.

To commemorate these soldiers who fought shoulder-to-shoulder with Canadian soldiers under the flag of the British Empire, Purewal and Simon Fraser University will host public gatherings, community lectures and guest speakers at SFU Surrey and the Heritage Hall in Vancouver on Nov. 10 and 11 respectively.

"With the centennial of World War I this year and, more specifically, the engagements made by the Indian Army in October and November 1914, 100 years ago, it was particularly important for me to raise awareness of the subject this Remembrance Day," says Purewal.

Courage and honour while holding the line

Purewal considers the efforts of the Indian Expeditionary Force A soldiers at Flanders during the autumn of 1914 their most important contribution to the war effort, since they helped hold the

line until Allied reinforcements could arrive in early 1915. Nearly 24,000 Indian and British troops were deployed, preventing the German Sixth Army from breaking through the Arras-La Bassée-Armentières frontline. For his bravery during that battle, Sepoy Khudadad Khan was the first South Asian recipient of the Victoria Cross, the British Empire's highest decoration for valour.

"Winning the First Battle of Ypres was absolutely pivotal, for Canada's war story as well, because if Calais' ports and coastline had been taken, it would have been very difficult for the Canadian Expeditionary Force to land and we wouldn't have John McCrae's *Flanders Fields*," Purewal says.

Over the decades, Purewal has collected primary sources such as government citations, medals, artwork, personal letters, newspaper clippings and other documents that make up the informational bulk of the exhibit. The exhibit's centrepiece consists of a two-sided wall: one side recounts the origins, make-up, and early efforts of the Indian Army under the British Raj; the other side recounts the major battles and engagements of the First World War, detailing the Indian Army's contributions alongside British, Canadian, French and other Allied troops. Each side includes artwork, both from that



▲ Steven Purewal shows Canadian Minister for Multiculturalism, Jason Kenney, and members of the Royal Canadian Legion period documents at Surrey Central Library.

time period, and newly commissioned artwork illustrating some of the battles.

Restoring the Indian Army's place in the annals of history

The exhibit hopes to rectify many popular accounts of the First World War that omit or downplay the contributions of the Indian Army. According to Surrey history teacher, Christopher Trevelyan, there are several reasons the stories are rarely told. Many of the soldiers who fought were not literary-minded, so it was hard to record their sto-

ries. In addition, the British government and media played down their contributions after the war. And perhaps most notably, the people of India also tended to ignore those contributions.

"Oftentimes, those soldiers who fought were considered to be part of the British Empire: 'it's not our heritage, it's their heritage'. So there wasn't really anyone in India to follow up those stories," says Trevelyan.

With Trevelyan's help, Purewal plans to convert this exhibit into educational material, develop lesson plans, create graphic novels

and interactive websites to restore the Indian Army's contributions into the First World War narrative and help future generations of Indo-Canadians remember their extraordinary military heritage.

"Our own community has lost its history because after [Indian independence in] 1947, India has not been interested in its imperial past. So who celebrates or remembers their history?" says Purewal.

According to Purewal, Punjabis living in the Lower Mainland have no allegiance to the nation-state of India – they're Canadians.

"So it's up to Canadians to take it upon themselves to remember because we don't have a nation-state that does," he adds.

Over one million Indian Army soldiers served during the war, including deployments in France, Mesopotamia and Egypt, and received over 2,000 citations for gallantry.

"It's about remembering these soldiers, not for recognition," Purewal says. "They didn't do it for the medals; they did it because it was the right thing to do."

The exhibit will be on display at the Surrey Museum from Nov. 4–15 and will officially launch on Nov. 10 with associated discussions hosted by SFU in Vancouver and Surrey on Nov. 10–11. For more information, please visit www.imfc.org.

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Left Bank



Vancouver election: Growing movement challenges developer control of City Hall

It's sometimes hard not to be despondent about electoral politics.

In Toronto, the years-long surreal TV show known as the Ford brothers was finally defeated, only to be replaced by John Tory, an old school conservative who previously backed the Fords to the hilt. Rather than progressive ex-city councillor and Member of Parliament Olivia Chow defeating Doug Ford, the politics of lesser evilism won the day, with Tory getting the anybody but Ford vote. Toronto will now likely get some variation of "Fordism without Ford," the neoliberal, austerity politics will remain, minus the thuggish populism.

Everything looks good by comparison to Toronto, but here in Vancouver the municipal election seems unlikely to produce much meaningful change. Developers run the show in Vancouver politics. This gets noticed and denounced from time to time, like earlier this year when Mayor Gregor Robertson's \$25,000 lunch hosted by Condo King Bob Rennie was the subject of much satire, but it seems like big money will continue to run City Hall for the next four years.

At least this time, however, it won't be without a fight.

Meena Wong and COPE's campaign for mayor has fundamentally changed the terms of debate around this election. Even the harshest critics of COPE have to concede this point. By running a mayoral candidate who has advanced concrete policy proposals, Meena Wong and COPE have made this a more interesting and relevant election. From proposing to charge a surtax on empty properties, to calling for a \$15/hour minimum wage, to making an ambitious push for affordable transit for all, Wong and COPE have pried open space for a wider political discussion.



▲ Meena Wong, COPE's candidate for mayor, has provided concrete policy proposals.

Meena Wong deserves support from everyone who wants a Vancouver with more fairness and equality. COPE has also fielded a diverse slate of candidates for Council, School and Park Board, including Indigenous activists Cease Wyss, Audrey Siegl and Diana Day. RJ Aquino, the sole candidate for One City, has added another important voice advo-

ating for concrete measures to solve the housing crisis in Vancouver. The Green Party has also had a good showing, and stand a chance of adding at least one more councillor to join Adrienne Carr.

Kirk LaPointe and the NPA, in contrast, would only make things worse. Although his face is plastered on Skytrain and bus ads all over the city, LaPointe's campaign has been a non-factor, never going beyond platitudes. And Vision Vancouver has been right to call LaPointe out for his position on Kinder Morgan's pipeline and tanker expansion. The idea that Kinder Morgan should not be an issue here because formal approval of the pipeline doesn't fall within Vancouver's jurisdiction is a reactionary canard. This city has a long and proud tradition of standing up on issues of national and global importance, from the peace marches and anti-nuclear stance of the 1980s, to the COPE council's unanimous opposition to the Iraq War in 2003. Municipalities across Canada spoke out against that immoral war, contributing to pressuring the Liberal federal government to stay out of the US-led "coalition of the willing."

The NPA is the developers' back-up plan, the political expression of some of the city's old money. Frankly the NPA doesn't just not deserve your vote, they deserve political oblivion.

Against despondency, we must remember that the odds are always stacked against the political left. And, despite suffering defeat after defeat, we still win some important victories. That's because the goal of the left is not to win office for the sake of being in office; the goal is to make necessary social change, by any means necessary. Engaging in the unfair terrain of electoral politics is just one of many imperfect ways for moving things forward.

The rich are class conscious enough to get out and vote for their candidates; that's why the NPA is guaranteed a certain percentage of the vote no matter how dismal their campaign. Low voter turnouts, especially in a city like Vancouver, tend to favour right-wing politicians. That's reason enough to take the time to vote on Nov. 15.

There are a number of very worthy candidates, people who will follow through on their commitments and people who understand that social change comes from the streets as much or more than it comes through the ballot box. Vision will likely win again, but this time they're going to feel the heat from a growing electoral movement for a more affordable city.

Speaking of activists running for office, a quick note for readers in Richmond. Harold Steves is one of the best and longest serving city councillors anywhere on the planet. First elected in 1968, he's now 77 and seeking another term. He says there are just too many issues he's involved in to retire now. Here's hoping voters give Steves the right to fight on for another four years. ✍



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Comfort & Joy: Sunday, December 14, 2014. 3pm at the Evergreen Cultural Centre, 1205 Pinetree Way, Coquitlam. Choral music to soothe, uplift and inspire during the bustling holiday season. Singers of all ages - Con Brio, Con Bella, Children's Choir and DeCoro - share the stage for this family friendly concert.

As The Rain Hides The Stars: Saturday, February 28, 2015. 7 pm at St. Andrew's Wesley, 1012 Nelson St., Vancouver. Featuring the world premiere of Kristopher Fulton's new work, with all of our 200 singers on stage! Be transported in the gorgeous St. Andrew's Wesley while we serenade you with glorious sound.

From Sea to Sea: Sunday, June 7th, 2015. 7pm at the Evergreen Cultural Centre, 1205 Pinetree Way, Coquitlam. Enjoy songs of travel, adventure and risk on high seas, beautiful songs of Canada, and rollicking folk tunes from our Maritimes and East Coast. Join us as we celebrate our vast and inspiring country, through songs of the sea and the waterways that unite us all.

Indiekör: Saturday, June 14th, 2015. 7:30 pm at the Vogue Theatre, 918 Granville Street, Vancouver. Experience what everyone is talking about! Mixing Mumford and Sons with Monteverdi, Coastal Sound Youth Choir and local indie band The Salteens join forces for a fourth year to present their innovative cross pollination of classical choral music and indie rock. Choral music just got cooler than ever.

Ticket pricing and purchase information for all shows at www.coastalsoundmusic.com. VIP Season Pass program for preferred seating and other advantages available until November 1st, 2014.

About the Coastal Sound Music Academy

Coastal Sound Music connects singers and outstanding choral music educators with the community. From the wee 4 to 5 year old "Sources" song play program, to the professional and award winning Youth and Children's Choirs, to DeCoro, a new choral experience for adults, there is a place for singers to share a sense of spirit, artistry, heart and community.





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8:30 pm : *Bad Day to Go Fishing*

The Gilded Cage

A delightful clash of cultures and classes, RubenAlves's directing debut brings a touch of Portugal to Paris, peppering his comedy of errors with endless charm and humour. The script is keenly observed and Alves makes good use of his own background, as son of Portuguese immigrants in Paris. The way the working class characters and the bourgeoisie change positions and attitudes is cleverly handled, while the ensemble cast with its immaculate comic timing, shines on every level.

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Bad Day To Go Fishing is a captivating film. The Characters are quirky yet real and bring out humor and despair in their every activity. The depth of these characters along with director Álvaro Brechner's style is what makes this film stand out. Winner: Jury Award – Best Feature Film 2011, Austin International Film Festival of the Americas

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Moonlight masquerade beneath one sky

by MANDEEP WIRK

On Nov. 7, Beneath One Sky Community Support Society is holding a Moonlight Masquerade event in Surrey. The semi-formal event wants to raise awareness and provide funding for people living in poverty in the Lower Mainland and in the Philippines.

The Moonlight Masquerade will be held in the atrium at the new Surrey City Hall (7–11 p.m.). Beneath One Sky is the chief organizing committee for this event, but it is also collaborating with SOS Children's Village BC and Answering the Cry of the Poor (ANCO). Money raised from the Moonlight Masquerade will facilitate the charity work of these three non-profit organizations.

Moonlight Masquerade

Beneath One Sky decided on a masquerade for its wide appeal to people of all ages. People are encouraged to wear a mask and dress in costumes with a masquerade theme. Hand held masks are also allowed so long as they are carried throughout the evening.

“A masquerade is a more elegant version of a Halloween par-

had participated in a mission trip to the Philippines in their final year at Surrey's Holy Cross Regional High School.

The students helped villagers to build their homes, doing everything from mixing cement to laying down the foundation, stacking bricks and building

Beneath One Sky is run by volunteers who believe that a small group of committed individuals can change the world.

“The main thing we do with Beneath One Sky is a monthly backpack run. We meet up at 7 a.m. outside Waterfront Station. Everyone has donations already

“ So we met as a group and asked ourselves what can we do to address the underlying issue of poverty in our community.

Shantelle Medel, vice president of Beneath One Sky

gardens. They chatted with the villagers and played with their children. They couldn't help but notice that although the villagers had very little, they were so cheerful.

“It was so inspiring to see that even in the midst of poverty, they were so happy,” says Shantelle Medel, vice president of Beneath One Sky.

That trip changed their lives forever and inspired them to continue helping the underprivileged here. Upon returning

prepared, such as sandwiches, granola bars, water bottles, gently used clothing, socks and blankets. We walk on the Downtown Eastside and we create a community conversation with the people who are often marginalized by society,” says Rafael.

Poverty in Canada relative to global poverty

According to Caitlin Sousa, secretary for Beneath One Sky, Canada has many social programs



▲ Backpack run in the Downtown Eastside.

ty and when everyone puts on their mask, it creates a mysterious aura that is magical,” says Felicia Rafael, president of Beneath One Sky.

Beneath One Sky

Beneath One Sky was founded in 2010 by a group of students who

home, the students found they could empathize more with the homeless in Surrey and Vancouver.

“So we met as a group and asked ourselves what can we do to address the underlying issue of poverty in our community,” says Medel.

like welfare, shelters, disability and health care that developing countries do not have for their poor. However, she adds that some Canadians still do fall through the social safety net into poverty.

“There is so much hidden poverty that we don't know about. Whether it's on the streets, or whether in homes that are in poor condition or whether someone is isolated, and is not getting the resources they need,” says Medel.

According to both Sousa and Medel, even a developed country like Canada has room for improvement in terms of helping people living in conditions of chronic abject poverty.

“We want people to come out and support a good cause while having a fun time and a fun night,” says Rafael. ✎



▲ Three of the co-founders of Beneath One Sky: Felicia Rafael, Caitlin Sousa, Shantelle Medel (left to right).

Tickets are \$17 and can be purchased online at www.themoonlightmasquerade.com or www.beneathonesky.org



AUDITIONS

Saturday, November 15, 2014

The Vancouver Chamber Choir is holding auditions for professional-level singers.

All voices (SATB) are invited.

The Vancouver Chamber Choir is a fully professional choir of 20 experienced, well-trained singers. The key activities of the Choir include a subscription series that is unique in Vancouver, extensive touring in Canada and abroad, broadcasting live concerts, recording, commissioning and premiering new choral compositions, and presenting four to five educational programs throughout each season. The Choir demands a major commitment of time and needs to be the singers' top priority.

The Vancouver Chamber Choir usually rehearses on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings. A list of substitute singers is maintained; these people may also be used to augment the Choir if a larger group is needed.

An audition lasts approximately one half hour and singers will be required to sing three or four pieces in different styles and languages. There will also be an interview with Jon Washburn. A formal résumé is required. Singers are expected to provide their own accompanist for the audition.

Contact Grant for an appointment at grantwutzke@live.com
Please forward this email to any singers who may be interested

Thank you

Leaping into the Unknown



Tuesday, November 4, at 2:00 p.m.

Britannia Branch Library
1661 Napier Street, Vancouver

Join Florchita "Chit" Bautista in the sharing of stories of her search for meaning and personal redemption. Florchita has worked as a community organizer among nannies and domestic workers in Canada, as a human rights activist in the Philippines, and now focuses her time with justice and rights issues, and with the issues of the elderly, particularly with Filipino seniors in empowerment and capacity building.

Florchita wrote her personal narrative called *Leaping into the Unknown*.

FREE program. For more information, call the Britannia Branch 604.665.2222.

A partnership event:



Canada-Philippines Solidarity
for Human Rights



Vancouver Public Library
www.vpl.ca

Here's what's happening in November at Surrey's heritage facilities

SURREY MUSEUM

17710 – 56A Avenue
604-592-6956
www.surrey.ca/heritage
Twitter: @ASurreyMuseum

MUSEUM INFO

Surrey Museum – Unique artifacts, images and interactive displays in a stunning and modern space that highlights Surrey's history. Attractive space for programs, changing feature exhibits, Hooser Textile Centre. Hours: Tuesdays–Fridays, 9:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.; Saturdays: 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Admission sponsored by Friends Society.

EXHIBITIONS

Every River Tells A Story

People from past and present reflect on how Surrey's rivers have shaped our identity. Personal stories explore the winding paths of Surrey's rivers; not just through our physical landscape, but also our social and economic landscapes. On display September 23 to December 20.

PROGRAMS

Make Believe Birthday Parties

Invite your friends then choose one of our fun themes: Trains, Pirates, Ancient Egypt, Greek Mythology, or Medieval Europe. Must pre-book at 604-592-6956. Saturdays: 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. \$13.75 per child, birthday child is free.

Surrey Remembers

Take part in the Remembrance Day ceremony at the Cenotaph, then come in from the cold for refreshments, films and "peaceful" crafts for kids. Tuesday, November 11: 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. All ages, by donation.

BC's Home Front

Explore how World War I and II affected life in small town British Columbia with this visual presentation by local author Sylvia Crooks. Please pre-register at 604-592-6956. Tuesday, November 11: 12 noon–1:00 p.m. 1 session, by donation (16+yrs).

Sewing Level 2

Build on your sewing skills as you make a top or vest in this beginner to intermediate class. Must pre-register at 604-592-6956. Thursday, November 13: 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m. 4 sessions \$50 (16+yrs)

Brave River Explorers

Navigate the Museum's feature exhibit, Every River Tells a Story, and learn about the importance and dangers of river exploration in Surrey and the West Coast. Must pre-register at 604-592-6956. Saturday, November 15: 10:30 a.m.–12 noon. 1 session \$10.75 (6–9 yrs).

Discovery Saturday: Norse Winter Festival

Join costumed Viking re-enactors from the Reik Felag group as they invite you into a colourful recreated Midwinter feast hall. Join in the merriment, enjoy the sound of a Santa Lucia choir and do take-home crafts. Saturday, November 15: 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. All ages, by donation.

Felted Christmas Ornaments

Learn the art of wet felting using colourful merino wool, soap and water. Kids make heirloom Christmas ornaments to decorate their home or give to someone special. Must pre-register at 604-592-6956. Thursday, November 20: 4:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m. 3 sessions \$43 (8–12 yrs).

Felt Wreath

Use commercial felt, yarn and beads to make a one-of-a-kind seasonal wreath to decorate your home. Learn the technique, then change your style to make unique wreaths all year round. Supply fee \$30. Must pre-register at 604-592-6956. Saturday, November 22: 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. 1 session \$15.75 (16+ yrs).

Kids Can Sew: Holiday Sewing

Create the perfect gift! Continue classic Christmas traditions by learning to sew your own stocking, or make a one of a kind gift for someone special. Supply fee \$10. Must pre-register at 604-592-6956. Wednesday, November 26: 4:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m. 3 sessions \$32.50 (8–12 yrs).

HISTORIC STEWART FARM

13723 Crescent Road, Surrey
604-592-6956
www.surrey.ca/heritage
Twitter: @StewartFarm1

HISTORIC STEWART FARM INFO

Tour the charming restored 1894 farmhouse, pole barn and heritage gardens, try old-fashioned crafts, take part in a program or special event, and imagine pioneer life at the turn of the 19th century. 13723 Crescent Road, Surrey. 604-592-6956. Hours: Tuesday–Friday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.; Saturday, 12 noon–4 p.m. Entrance by donation.

PROGRAMS

Scottish Afternoon Tea

Enjoy an old-fashioned Scottish tea with baked treats then explore the charming 1890s farmhouse and grounds with a costumed guide. Must pre-book at 604-592-6956. Fridays, September–November, 1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m. 1 session \$10.75 (16 yrs+).

Birthday Parties

Party like a pioneer! Celebrate your child's special day the way kids might have done 100 years ago. A costumed guide will lead partiers in traditional games and a craft to take home. You supply the cake, and let the kids make the ice-cream! Choose from several themes. Must pre-book at 604-592-6956. Saturdays, 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. \$13.75/child (birthday child is free).

Joy of Wreaths

Learn about the history and symbolism of wreaths, then create your own from a variety of local and natural materials. Cost includes supplies. Must pre-register at 604-592-6956. Saturday, November 22: 10:00 a.m.–12 noon OR 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. 1 session \$20 (16+ yrs).

VOLUNTEERS

Christmas Program Volunteers Needed

Get into the Christmas spirit early by introducing school children to Canadian pioneer and wartime Christmas traditions in Surrey Museum and Historic Stewart Farm school programs. Programs run from late November to mid December. Flexible commitment, full training provided. Info at 604-502-6461 or heritagevolunteers@surrey.ca.

SURREY ARCHIVES

17671 – 56 Avenue
Info 604-502-6459
www.surrey.ca/heritage

Surrey 1914–1918

What was Surrey like during WWI? Archival photos, maps and wartime documents provide a unique glimpse of Surrey during the First World War. Must pre-register at 604-502-6459. 1 session \$10 (16yrs+). Saturday, November 15: 11:00 a.m.–12 noon.

Black Strathcona places history in the palm of your hand

by ANASTASIA SCHERDERS

Welcome to Strathcona's East Side, which – for six decades – was Vancouver's first and only black neighbourhood. It is a vital part of Vancouver's history that many are unfamiliar with; but the Black Strathcona Interactive Media Project is changing this by providing a glimpse of what this once thriving community was like from the 1900s to the 1960s. Created by filmmaker Gordon McLennan and Eastside Culture Crawl director Esther Rausenberg, the interactive project invites you to walk through the neighbourhood and follow a 1956 map to locate the 10 sites where QR codes enable you to download video stories to your smartphone.

"It brings history to life in your hand," says McLennan.

A self-guided tour might bring you to the corner of Main and Union where Vie's Chicken and Steaks used to stand, attracting entertainers like Sammy Davis Jr. and Billie Holiday for late-night refreshments. Or you might stroll down Gore Avenue to Strathcona elementary school where Barbara Howard, one of the world's fastest women, taught physical education.

Prior to the Black Strathcona project, both McLennan and Rausenberg had individually done research on the history of Strathcona's black community, but were unsure what to do with it.

"We had all this research, and it wasn't going anywhere," says Rausenberg. "Gordon suggested interactive media, and we decided to build around that."

Ten years ago, McLennan planned to make a film on Hogan's Alley (an alley that ran

through Strathcona's southwest corner) along with historian and poet Wayde Compton. Then, it would have been a traditional documentary. But today, interactive technology has created new ways of distributing documentary film and McLennan feels there

"It's an immediate connection to the past."

Creating an open museum

Interactivity and the use of QR codes is what put the Black Strathcona project in motion, allowing McLennan and Rausen-

berg to share their research and the vibrant history they had been discovering and uncovering over the course of several years.

"Once we started, we had to do a lot more research. Some of our previous research was ap-

"We wanted to tell these stories, because there are a lot of people who are not aware of the black community that existed here.

Esther Rausenberg, director of Eastside Culture Crawl.

is an opportunity to share history in a new way as well.

"You can download [a video] in the exact same place where it was filmed, and in the exact same place where these stories happened," says McLennan.

critical; she and McLennan were able to gather the stories and memories of an aging population, personal recollections of the past that were at risk of being left un-

recorded.

"We wanted to tell these stories, because there are a lot of people who are not aware of the black community that existed here," says Rausenberg. "And we wanted the history to come to life in a way that is different from how history is usually presented."

McLennan and Rausenberg have not only documented a history that is unknown to many Vancouverites, they have also created a kind of "open museum" – words they both use to describe the project.

It's important to the project's creators that Black Strathcona's online archive serves as a learning tool that anyone can access. The videos are accessible through the website, which allows those who are not local to watch the videos. They have also developed a study guide for schools, with the hope that some of this information and history is incorporated into the curriculum.

Check out Celebrating Black Strathcona on Saturday, Nov. 8 at Carnegie Theatre, where all 10 video stories will be screened as part of The Heart of the City Festival.

www.blackstrathcona.com



▲ The Brown Bombers baseball team at Powell Street Grounds (now Oppenheimer Park).



▲ Singer and actress Thelma Gibson at the Harlem Nocturne on East Hastings.

Photos courtesy of Black Strathcona



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A look inside the Forbidden City at VAG

by DONG YUE SU

A glimpse of a city that was forbidden to the public for 500 years can now be seen in Vancouver for the first time.

On Oct. 18, 1000 visitors flocked to the Vancouver Art Gallery (VAG) for the opening of *The Forbidden City: Inside the Court of China's Emperors*, an exhibition that will run until Jan. 11, 2015. The exhibit showcases 200 objects and works of art on loan from Beijing's Palace Museum.

These treasures include many personal items that still bear the aura of the once all-powerful emperors and their families. Ranging from scroll paintings and



Photo courtesy of The Palace Museum

▲ Manchu woman's socks – Qing dynasty, Kangxi period. Silk.



Photo courtesy of The Palace Museum

▲ Chicken Cup – Ming dynasty, Chenghua mark and period, 1465-87. Porcelain.

clothes to furniture and weapons, the items convey a sense of the grandeur and power of the imperial city.

"The robe is so big. I guess the Chinese emperor must be an oversized person," said one visitor at the exhibition.

The display of wealth and power

The exhibits are arranged loosely from the outer court of the Forbidden City, where the emperor carried out his everyday business, to the inner court, where he lived with thousands of women. These objects are mostly related to the three Manchu emperors of the Qing dynasty (1644-1912) whose reigns were the zenith of the empire.

"It is all about the display of wealth and power," explains Timothy Brook, a UBC history professor and the curator of the exhibition, in a tour given to the VAG's public educators.

Most objects symbolize imperial power. The emperor's dragon must have five claws. The bright yellow was the imperial colour that nobody else could use. The Forbidden City itself was like a stage to showcase the supreme power of the emperor

who viewed himself as "the Son of Heaven," ruler of the entire world.

While the emperor had absolute political power in the empire, some of his personal domain was actually dictated by the symbolic system that had been created over many generations.

"Even items as personal as clothing and jewelry were not necessarily selected by individual choice. He and his family had no choice but to wear robes embroidered with dragons. These objects are not marked with anyone's personality," writes Brook in the exhibition guidebook.

The emperor had to sit on a sedan when he traveled in the outer court of the Forbidden City, never walk. Some of his movements were carefully choreographed and even some conversations between the emperor and the people around him were scripted.

"Some emperors got tired of this system but they just had to do it," says Brook in the tour.

The imperial taste attracts many

The Qing Empire collapsed in 1911. The Forbidden City was turned into the Beijing Palace Museum in 1925, and many objects were preserved. Even though the palace is open to the public, the stories behind these objects are still a mystery for many.

Many of these treasures are so precious that they remain enclosed in glass cases. Even Brook was not allowed to touch them; the Palace Museum sent a special team for the installation.

The painted portraits of the Qianlong emperor, the emperor's ceremonial robe and the imperial seal are among the most popular exhibits that captivate the visitors.

"Many people show up in my guided tour and they are very fascinated by the exhibits," says Jessa Alston-O'Connor, the public and family educator of the VAG.

Ho Yuan Lau, a Vancouver resident originally from Hong Kong,



Photo courtesy of The Palace Museum

▲ Portrait of Emperor Qianlong in ceremonial robe – Qing dynasty, Qianlong period. Ink and colour on silk.

had the opportunity to visit the Beijing Palace Museum and the Palace Museum in Taipei. However, at the Beijing Palace Museum he saw only architecture and no artifacts on display, and he found the museum in Taipei too crowded and noisy to enjoy the treasures on display. In contrast, Lau was impressed with VAG exhibition.

"This is the best viewing experience of the Chinese treasures," says Lau. ☞

The Forbidden City: Inside the Court of China's Emperors

Oct. 18, 2014-Jan. 11, 2015
Vancouver Art Gallery,
750 Hornby St., Vancouver
www.vanartgallery.bc.ca

► "Election" from page 1

Other issues brought up by the Chinese-Canadian community include more access to schooling, more focus on crime prevention, safety and lowering taxes.

Dealing with crime

Fellow mayoral candidate Chang has also noticed a thing or two about current issues in Burnaby. A school board trustee from 2005 to 2008, Chang says her three-year term was eye-opening.

"You get in the system and really see how people are elected and how the whole system works," says Chang.

Chang says that Chinese-Canadians are the biggest [ethnic] community in Burnaby but that many other languages besides Chinese are spoken in the city.

"The most common theme in ethnic groups is to be heard," says Chang.

Chang says because 50 per cent of Burnaby residents are immigrants, ESL learning is a concern.

During her time as a trustee, Chang pushed for an ESL Parents Advisory Council group, where parents could have meetings in their mother tongue. In addition, Chang also encouraged an evaluation program to assess if ESL students continued to stay with the system and suggested an ESL

student body in schools to promote leadership.

While she still advocates for these issues for new immigrants, Chang, who is a trained criminal and clinical psychologist, says her most important platform now is dealing with criminal matters.

"According to my observation [and research], there is no mandatory requirement to report hate crime to one's jurisdiction and then to the federal government," says Chang, who



▲ Burnaby mayoral candidate Helen Hee Soon Chang.

has been studying hate crimes since 2010.

In 2011, Chang started a petition to get the federal government to report accurate hate crime data, which in her opinion will help to provide a safety net and ensure a much better society.

In her research, Chang has also found recent gang problems popping up in the city that include youth from ethnic groups and new immigrants joining forces with street gangs or organized crime.

All of this creates more problems says Chang, who also adds there is "no proactive message" coming from Burnaby City Council on these matters.

For Chang, a validation that her work is being heard came at the Korean Cultural Festival, held last year in Moody Park. At the event, a woman approached Chang and told her how much she appreciated her work [on hate crime and helping newcomers integrate into a new system].

Having raised two children of her own here in Canada, Chang says she understands the importance of collaboration between a community and its residents. She also wants to help both parents and children.

"It's time to work from inside the system," Chang says. ☞

► "Verbatim" from page 1

is scheduled. However, in my experience, lunch is the best time to break down barriers between departments and to allow for free, easy dialogue with your fellow workers. I therefore routinely exceed the ridiculous half hour allocated for lunch and often entice a few colleagues along to share a joyous and good-humoured lunch. Envious remarks can be overheard from co-workers passing through the lunchroom, "It sounds like a family dinner!" New recruits are regularly added to our table.

It stands to reason that the sometimes contradictory mix of laid-back attitude and reserve of the Vancouver lifestyle is also found in the business world. To casually approach your boss in the office is not shocking, but making a vaguely crude remark will have your co-workers staring at you in amazement. All the same, they won't deny themselves the pleasure of hearing you upset the politically correct office culture. "You Europeans are so risqué," they'll say, after recovering from their hysterical laughter.

It is certainly interesting to live with these cultural dif-

ferences whose existence I hadn't even suspected. While my culture is obviously not representative of all others, I am certain it is not an outlier, for I know of other European or Latin American immigrants making the same sort of workplace observations. All agree that one of the more positive aspects of the Canadian job market and corporate culture is the possibility of advancement. Following my lead, many have had the opportunity of being promoted in their Vancouver workplace within a year, while they might have spent several years in the same position at the same salary in their native lands.

So we adapt by making the most of these differences. We rid ourselves of the tension that we had grown used to shouldering when arriving at the office. We're more direct with our managers – how good that feels! In return we bring a little of our zest for protracted lunch breaks and occasional off-colour remarks, while we play our part in the cultural diversity of Vancouver. ☞

Translation Barry Brisebois

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The F. G. Bressani Awards foster Italian Canadian literature

by NAOMI TSE

Once again, literature with an Italian focus will be recognized at the 15th F. G. Bressani Awards ceremony. In the spirit of literary expression, the biennial literary prize was established to recognize Italian Canadian writers and other authors who have taken an interest in Italian culture.

Anna Ciampolini Foschi helped establish the prize in 1986 after the Italian Cultural Centre organized the first national conference of Italian writers. Thereafter, Foschi felt the need to create an association of Italian Canadian writers and do more to promote such writing and awareness of the culture.

Only published works are considered for the prize. Short-listed works for the four categories – fiction, short fiction, poetry and Italian theme – are judged by an author who excels in that category.

Foschi says that in the early years of the prize, many of the works told the tale of the Italian immigrant experience and adapting to life in Canada. Now that the prize is in its 15th year, she feels that there is a definite shift in the themes of the works submitted.

"Now young people writing are third or fourth generation Italian and the themes they are exploring are very diverse," says Foschi, who is a first generation Italian Canadian. "The writings all have common roots in Italy but now they write about more current matters like social issues and feminism."

The F. G. Bressani Awards ceremony is free and winning authors will be reading excerpts from their work.

Exploring life through food

Eufemia Fantetti's collection of short stories *A Recipe for Disaster & Other Unlikely Tales of Love*

"Food feeds us physically or spiritually," says Fantetti. "It's fundamental to how we live and communicate with each other; we spend so much time doing it but we take it for granted."

Although not fully conscious of the impact of food in her life, it has heavily influenced Fantetti's writing.

Sharing a love for Italy

David MacFarlane's book *The Figures of Beauty* will be awarded the Bressani prize in the Italian theme category, which is open to writers of all ethnicities who are interested in Italy and Italian culture.

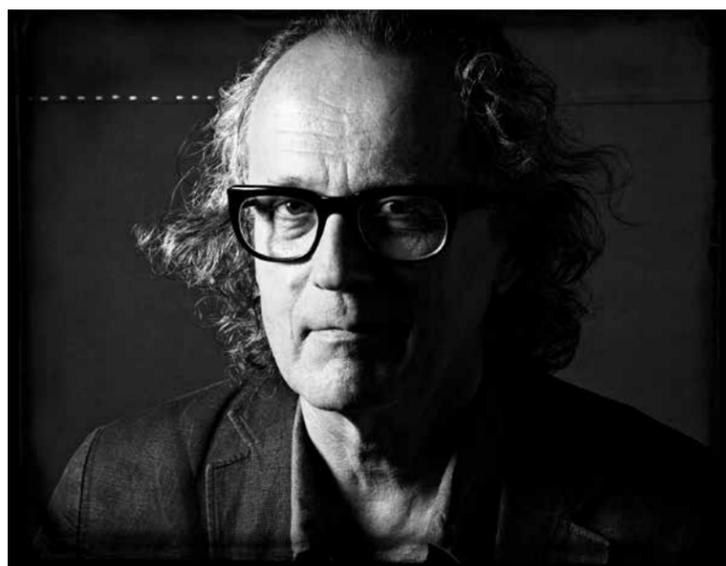
After spending six months living in Italy in his mid 20s, MacFarlane fell in love with the country. He lived near the marble quarries in Tuscany and became friends with sculptors in the area.

"I've always wanted to write about that part of the world and about sculptures," says MacFarlane, who is also a journalist.

MacFarlane explained that he had passed through Italy a few times before but had never had the chance to settle down and live there.



▲ Eufemia Fantetti, winner of the short fiction category with her collection of short stories *A Recipe for Disaster & Other Unlikely Tales of Love*.



▲ MacFarlane's novel, *The Figures of Beauty*, is born of his lifelong love for Italy.

will be awarded the Bressani prize this year in the short fiction category.

Born in an environment where sharing a meal was an important part of family life, Fantetti realized that this was not always the case outside her home. As an Italian born Canadian, Fantetti enjoys working with themes of food and family as well as exploring the desire for human connection.

Fantetti says that the stories are all thematically linked; they speak of people who are trying to deal with the complexities of relationships and life, with food as the underlying theme.

"I particularly like it when people of Italian heritage or people who have a love of Italy enjoy the book. A good deal of what I was trying to do was evoke what it was like to be in Italy at that time," says MacFarlane.

His book, "It wouldn't take a lot to convince me to write about Italy again," MacFarlane adds.

In addition to Fantetti and MacFarlane, the winners of the fiction and poetry categories are Darlene Maddott and Michael Mirolla respectively.

The F. G. Bressani Awards will take place at the Italian Cultural Centre on Nov. 6 at 7 p.m.



Image by Bonni Reid

A stark tale at the VAFF

by FLORENCE HWANG

Vancouver-based filmmaker Karen Lam's works are often rooted in non-fiction, specifically criminal court cases. Her latest film, *Evangeline*, is no exception. Lam's main inspiration for this revenge fantasy film was *Vancouver: Pickton and the Highway of Tears* served as part of the backdrop. *Evangeline* will be shown as part of the Vancouver Asian Film Festival's Scare Affair program (Nov. 7).

"*Evangeline* is based on my short film *Doll Parts*, which was inspired by the Highway of Tears," says Lam, who describes herself as a news junkie.

"I took the initial idea of *Doll Parts*, and wondered if I could turn her (*Evangeline*) into a vigilante/supernatural superhero of sorts."

The Natalee Holloway court case was also an inspiration for *Evangeline*. Holloway, an American teen, went missing during a high school graduation trip to Aruba in 2005. Her body was nev-

Lam's film. Raised with a lot of Christian beliefs, she still grapples with the idea of "turning the other cheek."

"The current climate of female inequality and rape culture makes me less able to accept that justice can be done by forgiveness alone. That said, an escalation of violence makes monsters of us all," says Lam.

Journey into cinema

Lam has always had an interest in film and cinema. In her undergraduate degree, she minored in History with an emphasis on Cinema History. She was an entertainment lawyer before she made the switch to making films.

"I saw a lot of action and creature features growing up, but my love for the horror genre stems from my love of Edgar Allan Poe, Daphne du Maurier, Mary Shelley and Stephen King. I love suspense and the macabre, which explains why I gravitate towards horror and dark fantasy," says Lam, who often takes on the role of writing - along with producing and directing her projects.



Photo courtesy of Opiate Pictures

▲ A journey through darkness.



Photo by Tallulah Photography

▲ Filmmaker Karen Lam.

er found. Lam was intrigued by Holloway's case, particularly the conviction of Holloway's "psycho-pathic" killer Joran van der Sloot.

The film focuses on university student *Evangeline* who falls prey to a gang of thrill-seeking killers. They leave her in a forest to die, but she is 'saved' by an ancient demon spirit that empowers her with "blood-lust for vengeance."

"She [becomes] an avenging angel - and basically "reborn", which is the root of "evangelize," says Lam.

Female revenge and forgiveness are the main themes of

When she began her foray into film, she produced works she describes as a mix between comedy and horror. She took the jobs to get experience as a producer.

"Later, I started developing ideas and scripts with writers and directors. But the writing and directing has made the work much more personal," Lam says.

So far, Lam has had tremendous responses from film festivals, both genre and non-genre focused.

"I think people are surprised that this film is considered horror. There's a mistaken notion out there that horror is limited to slasher films, when it's a much broader range. I hope that audiences at VAFF will feel the same!" Lam is continually challenging herself.

Her next project is developing *Evangeline* into a web series. Instead of continuing with the story from the film, she says she will be exploring the mythology that underlies the film.

"The series will be a dark fantasy/fairy tale series rather than a revenge horror," she says. ✍

For more info: www.vaff.org/2014/films/evangeline/



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Thursday November 13, 2014: Doors open at 18:30, Dinner starts 19:00.
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THE BARTERED BRIDE

(PRODANÁ NEVĚSTA)

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UBC OPERA

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October 15, 2014
 Media Contact: Miles Linklater
 604-999-8960 | miles@24pt-helvetica.com

UBC Opera Joined by Conductor Norbert Baxa, and Members of the celebrated Vancouver Opera Orchestra for a delightful production of Smetana's *The Bartered Bride*

Vancouver, BC - The **UBC Opera Ensemble** is thrilled to announce that Norbert Baxa, Founder and General Director of the European Music Academy, will conduct members of the **Vancouver Opera Orchestra** in its presentation of Smetana's Czech masterpiece *The Bartered Bride* for four performances, November 13-16, 2013, on stage at the UBC Old Auditorium.

THE STORY: It is spring in a Bohemian village and holiday time. The villagers have gathered to celebrate the festive occasion. Two lovebirds, Mařenka and Jenik do not join in the gaiety as Mařenka's parents have arranged a rich marriage for her to the son of Tobias, causing the young lovers much distress. It is against this background that the story of love, arranged and unarranged, is played with a great deal of bargaining on all sides. Relationships and assignments are put to the test against the carnival atmosphere in the village with the inevitable happy ending, although not quite as expected.

THE MUSIC: Smetana is best known for his symphonic poem *Ma Vlast* (My Country). His music for *The Bartered Bride* abounds with freshness and vitality, its energy generated by bold contrasts of mood and atmosphere, the exuberance of its folk-like rhythms and the catchiness of its tunes. Although much of the music is folk-like, the only actual use of authentic folk material is in the Act II furiant, with a few other occasional glimpses of basic Czech folk melodies. The "Czechness" of the music is further illustrated by the closeness to Czech dance rhythms of many individual numbers.

The Bartered Bride by Bedřich Smetana | UBC Opera Ensemble with members of the Vancouver Opera Orchestra
 In Czech with English surtitles™. Libretto by Karel Sabina.

UBC Old Auditorium, 6344 Memorial Road | November 13, 14, 15, at 7:30 pm | November 16 at 2:00 pm

Tickets are available at <http://ubcopera.universitytickets.com>, by telephone at 604.822.6725

Or in person at the Old Auditorium Box Office.

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Cultural Calendar

November 4–18, 2014



▲ Polly's Paper Dolls Project by Monique Motut-Firth is one of the many artworks in the Domestic Interventions exhibit that explores domesticity, roles and identity.

by SALENA TRAN

Take away your rainy day blues by attending these fantastic events happening this November! Satisfy your knowledge and your sweet tooth at the Chocolate Festival! Enjoy the wonderful concerts happening this month at Folk Fabulous or Bridge Musicians in Richmond. Need a cure for the dreary weather? Laugh it off at *Stand Up! The Original Tandoori Kings of Comedy*. With many fun events, there's no need to stay at home this autumn.

Festival of Chocolate

Oct. 15–Nov. 10
Various Locations, Vancouver
www.festivalofchocolate.ca
604-628-9547

These chocolate seminars are sure to be a sweet treat for chocolate lovers! Learn more about the fantastic world of chocolate, and learn from professionals about the fine art of chocolate. With various locations around the Lower Mainland, find a location near you, and start indulging your senses. Visit the website for more information on scheduling and classes.

Domestic Interventions

Oct. 17–Nov. 15
CityScape Community Art Space
335 Lonsdale Ave.,
North Vancouver
www.nvartscouncil.ca/exhibitions/cityscape-community-art-space

Monique Motut Firth, Janet Wang and Carlyn Yandle have an exhibit titled Domestic Interventions, which includes paintings, paper dolls and more. In their exhibition, they tell a story of the changing Canadian ideal through a stream of paper dolls and paintings. This art exhibition takes paper dolls to a whole new level, with intricate drawings of immigrant women strewn around the walls. For more information on the exhibit, please visit the website.

Ouxi Taiwanese Puppetry Festival

Nov. 4–9

Museum of Anthropology
6393 NW Marine Dr., Vancouver
www.moa.ubc.ca

The Ouxi Taiwanese Puppetry Festival is an exciting exhibition of traditional Taiwanese puppets. Kids will have a blast at this cultural twist of puppetry! After the show, go behind the scenes with the puppeteers, and learn all about the twists and turns it takes to create a spectacular performance. The shows will be performed by the Taiyuan Puppet Theatre and the Chin Fei Feng Marionette Theatre Troupe from Taiwan. For more information on scheduling, please visit the website.

Bridge Musicians in Richmond

Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m.
South Arm United Church
11051 No. 3 Rd., Richmond
www.bridgemusicians.com

This event celebrates culture through music, and the goal is to build better communication beyond the barriers of language. Bridge Musicians International has brought professionals and new, talented musicians to celebrate a night of culture and music. Enjoy classical music and all that the violin, cello and piano have to offer. For more information on ticket pricing, please visit the website.



▲ Bridge Musicians use their instruments to break the barriers of language.

Folk Fabulous

Nov. 7, 8–10 p.m.
Shadbolt Centre for the Arts
6450 Deer Lake Ave., Burnaby
www.shadboltcentre.com
604-205-3000

This musical folk event is for all the folk lovers that can't get enough of vibrant performers. Enjoy the lively night with seven talented performances. This night is full of mash-ups of musical styles that will surely get you dancing. Promising an "ideal musical party", this event will be fun and musical for everyone! To purchase tickets for Folk Fabulous, please visit the website.

Concerts at Grace Memorial : A World of Song

Nov. 8, 7:30 p.m.
Grace Memorial United Church
803 East 16th Ave., Vancouver
www.concertsatgrace.com
604-812-9781

A World of Song is a night celebrating different cultures from around the world with traditional folk music. This fun night will appeal to a variety of people who love different cultures and their songs. With sweet melodies and quirky themes, *A World of Song* will be an event that you'll never forget. On stage are Dorothy Hayley and Alejandro Ocha on the piano. For more information on tickets, please visit the website.

Stand Up! The Original Tandoori Kings of Comedy

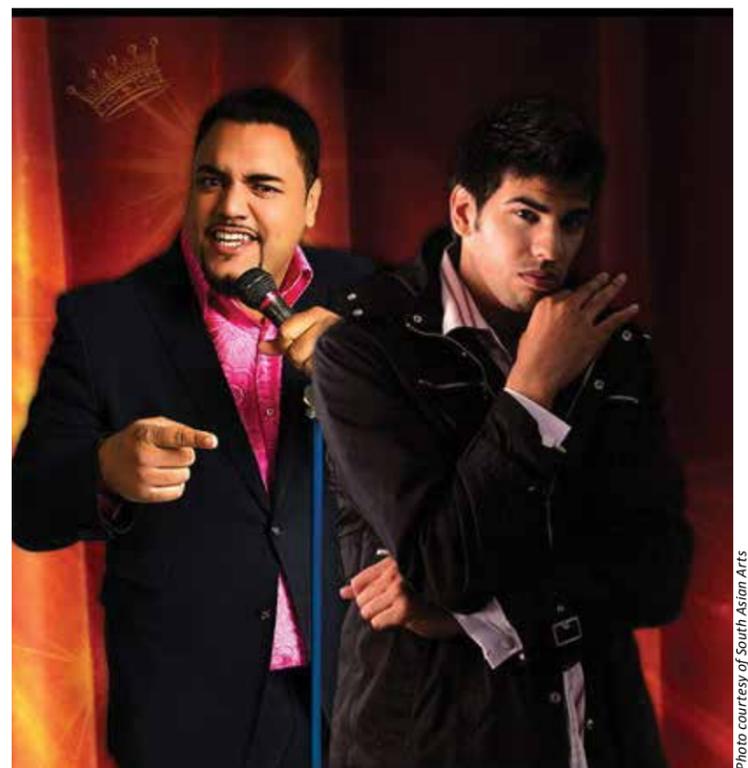
Nov. 8, 7–9:30 p.m.
Bell Performing Arts Centre
6250 144 St., Surrey
www.southasianarts.ca
778-706-6224

With two hilarious performers, Sunee Dhaliwal and Hollywood Harv, this night is guaranteed to be full of laughter and silliness. Both performers have sold out shows in multiple cities around the world; this is an event you won't want to miss! The stand-up comedy will have you clutching your sides with laughter as Dhaliwal and Harv test the limits of their jokes. Buy your tickets in advance, and get five dollars off.

Beyond Pink 2014

Nov. 14, 8:30–10 p.m.
Renaissance Vancouver
Harbourside Hotel
1133 W. Hastings St., Vancouver
www.beyondpinkvancouver.com

Beyond Pink is back again for an-



▲ Harv and Dhaliwal will be on stage in Surrey on Nov. 8.

Afghan Storytelling Event

Nov. 13, 6:30 p.m.
Afghan Chopan Restaurant
12888 80 Ave., Surrey
www.cw4wafghan.ca

The Afghan Storytelling Event has many speakers that will share their stories about their experiences in Afghanistan. This event is being held to inspire and share Af-

other successful inspiring event. With many speakers, including Jillian Harris from Love it or List it Vancouver, the goal is have attendees understand their passions and goals even better. With discussions about experiences from speakers, you won't want to miss out on this networking opportunity. Beyond Pink is an event that hopes to educate and inspire all participants. For more information on tickets, please visit the website.

Freezing Water has melted



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Freezing Water #7 had become a familiar and loved sculpture in Vanier Park, just east of the Maritime Museum. It was an installation for Vancouver's 2009–2011 Biennale, erected in 2009 just prior to the 2010 Winter Olympics. In September 2014, apparently eroded beyond repair, workers cut it into pieces, and loaded it on a flat bed truck headed for the scrap heap.

Created by Chinese artist Ren Jun, it was a fluid stainless

steel sculpture 30 m in length and weighing over 6000 kg. Despite its weight, it seemed to float horizontally above the surface of the park like a bird taking flight. In the form of the sculpture and with its highly polished finish, Ren Jun tried to capture "spilt water as it puddles and morphs into mercury-like shapes."

Ren Jun is part of a movement in China which has been described as "Cultural Imperialism." Traditionally, this term has

many connotations. It can mean one culture being dominated by the culture of another. We have seen recently the overwhelming influence of social media created in the West on cultures in the developing world. This can be both positive and negative. For Ren Jun, especially with his water sculptures, he explores and celebrates China's explosive growth both economically and culturally and examines its value with nature. He has become a pioneer of

contemporary public art in China.

It is a time of great changes in China which include celebrating its cultural past as we can see with the current exhibition, *Forbidden City*, at the Vancouver Art Gallery. It's also a time for artists to try to express these changes and their social impact. *A-mazing Laughter* at the foot of Denman near English Bay expresses some of this social change in the macabre grimaces on the faces of the sculptures.

The demise of *Freezing Water #7* is unfortunate, but it does have a vertical twin: *Water #10* situated on River road in Richmond, BC.

For more related pictures of *Freezing Water has melted*, please visit The Source website at www.thelasource.com and go to the Street Photography section under "Columns."

Don Richardson

Recipe by Selma van Halder

Squash and goat cheese risotto

Stormy autumn weather calls for hearty home made food. Italians know how to put the season on your plate; try this squash risotto with goat cheese on a typical Vancouver rainy day. Making a risotto does not take as much time as you might think, but it does require attention and a lot of love. Almost constant stirring encourages the rice to release the starch this dish needs to be creamy and delicious without adding any cream.

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp butter
- 1/2 white onion, cut into small dice
- 1/3 cup white wine
- 1/2 cup arborio rice
- 7 cup vegetable stock (home-made or from a cube)
- 1 small butternut squash, peeled and diced
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- 2 rosemary sprigs
- 200 g soft goat cheese
- pumpkin seeds

Method

1. Set up a pot of your stock on the back of your stove. Make sure the stock is hot (nearly boiling). You don't want to

cool down the rice when you add it to the pot.

2. Preheat oven to 400F. Toss the squash, crushed garlic and rosemary with olive oil in a large bowl. Season with salt and black pepper and spread out on a baking sheet. Roast until soft inside and nicely coloured on the outside. This should take about as long as cooking the risotto.
3. Take a heavy bottomed pot on medium high heat and melt the butter. Add the onion and cook until translucent. Add rice and stir until warmed up and coated. Deglaze with the wine, stir until the wine has evaporated. Add your first ladle of vegetable stock (if you are using home made vegetable stock, add a good amount of salt to the rice at this stage).
4. Gently, but almost constantly, stir the rice. When almost all the stock is absorbed add another ladle of stock, etc. Taste the rice regularly. Cooking risotto is not an exact science. It takes between 20 and 25 minutes. When the rice is cooked but has a little bite left (al dente), remove from heat.



▲ A dreamy home made risotto.

5. Stir in half of the cheese, season with salt and black pepper. Add the roasted squash (remove garlic and rosemary)

and plate. Sprinkle the rest of the cheese and the pumpkin seeds on top, and serve hot.

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