

Interdisciplinary
exhibit aims
to transcend
boundaries
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The Source

forum of diversity

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Photo by Noheed Nenshi

Verbatim

Belonging to a greater community

by NICOLE ALIVOJVODIC

When we think about Vancouver as one of the most multicultural and diverse cities in the country it's important to consider how this diversity is represented in the social and geographical makeup of the city and what kind of diversity this suggests.

Growing up in Vancouver, I learned to distinguish between neighbourhoods based on their dominant ethnicity, and I found I could explain my cultural background simply by listing a few activities I participated in. There is an understanding among residents of Metro Vancouver, much like the well-known attitude of New Yorkers, that the neighbourhood in which you live says something about who you are.

In 2011 the Vancouver Sun created an online interactive map, which outlined ethnic enclaves in the Lower Mainland, notably Chinese Richmond, South Asian Surrey and Filipino Burnaby. Within Vancouver proper there are also similar neighbourhoods defined by their ethnic makeup such as Little Italy on Commercial Drive and Greek West Broadway.

The idea of diversity in Vancouver has always seemed paradoxical to me for this reason: Vancouver is home to many different ethnicities and cultures; however, these seem to be largely segregated into separate enclaves and neighbourhoods.

This then leads me to consider the follow-up question of whether this "mosaic" of cultural diversity, as it is often referred to in the Canadian context, offers more than a cultural assimilation or "melting pot" approach.

Although I was born and raised in Vancouver, my paternal family immigrated from Croatia and my mater-
See "Verbatim" page 6

Immigration and diversity: Inclusion drives Canadian values

by ELIANO ROSSI

"Canada is like a beautiful painting made up of different colours," says Farid Rohani, a life member of the Laurier Institution in Vancouver.

Tolerance, inclusiveness and openness are just a few examples of the values that always distinguished Canadian society in the world. But with immigration policy changes under the last government, giving more importance to economic growth, some citizens feel there may be negative consequences for the local society.

The image of a painting, as described by Rohani, symbolizes the harmony of a country that has increased its ethnic and cultural diversity over the years. Rohani explains that it is a blend of the values that old and new Canadians follow that creates such a "great picture."

Threat to Canadian values?

A series of experts were interviewed to see if they feel the cultural challenges that accompany multiculturalism are changing traditional Canadian values.

According to Richard Johnston, Canada research chair in Public Opinion, Elections, and Representa-

tion at UBC, Canada is still a great model of integration in the world.

"While many countries, especially in Europe, are struggling to drive the changes brought by multiculturalism into their societies, we managed it better than others," says Johnston.

All the experts interviewed agreed on the fact that this result was possible because of one of the most important values that has always distinguished Canada in the world: inclusion.

"In Europe when you are an immigrant and you become a citizen, you will always feel and be treated as an immigrant. Here,

when you become a Canadian citizen, you are just like the others," says Rohani.

Johnston, however, feels that some recent immigration policies may undermine this "framework of inclusion." When asked whether immigration has shifted from a nation-building goal to one of economic growth, Johnston had this to say:

"In the case of temporary workers who emigrate for a limited time and don't get to participate in the political and social life of the country, it would be harder to accept and follow the Canadian values."

See "Values" page 11

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Women cinematographers
honoured at VTFF
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Zen inspires
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Community Profile

Keeping Welsh traditions alive

by CURTIS SEUFERT

True to its traditions of song and poetry, in association with the Vancouver Welsh Society, the Welsh community will once again be presenting the Vancouver Men's Welsh Choir performing "Sounds of Christmas." The performance will include traditional carols and other holiday songs. This event is being held on Dec. 8 at the Surrey Arts Centre as part of Surrey Civic Theatres' "Surrey Spectacular Series."

While the Vancouver Welsh Society has strong ties to the men's choir, they do more than just collaborate with the choir, having a long history on their own. The Society was established more than a century ago in 1907 and has since been promoting and encouraging those who are from or who have family from Wales, to celebrate and learn more about their Welsh culture and heritage.

Welsh history in Vancouver

The Society claims guardianship of the history of Welsh migration to British Columbia. Eifion Williams, the Society's historian, recounts that Welsh immigration was tied heavily to British Columbia's economic growth in the mid-19th century.

"The earliest Welsh immigrants came to Western Canada to participate in the fur trade and there was a large influx during the Cariboo gold rush... Vancouver



▲ The Vancouver Men's Welsh Choir will perform Dec. 9.

economic pursuit, gave back to their community and made keeping Welsh culture alive in Vancouver a priority:

"Several of [the Welsh businessmen] contributed to the building of the Cambrian Hall," says Williams.

While the Cambrian Hall is currently under repair and renovation, it has been the location of the Society since 1929.

Wondering about Wales

Though Wales shares an island with England and most of Scotland, Nerys Haqq, leader of a Welsh choral group named the

deal with language such as The Dylan Thomas Circle which centers around works of Welsh poet Dylan Thomas. The Vancouver Orpheus Male Choir sings a variety of genres of songs, from show tunes to sea shanties (work songs originally sung on merchant sailing ships). Some other established Welsh groups are the Vancouver Men's Welsh Choir and the Cambrian Circle Singers.

Haqq notes that until as recently 1948, there were still many in Wales that only spoke Welsh, a Brythonic branch of the Celtic language. Welsh is the oldest living European language.

"We are the Celtic group who have actually held on to our language," Haqq says.

In a move to help keep Welsh language alive and well in Vancouver, Antoine Minard, vice president of the Society, teaches free weekly classes for the Society.

Indeed, while many in the club are either Welsh or have family that are Welsh, Minard emphasizes that the club welcomes those who are interested in Welsh culture even if they don't have a Welsh background.

"In the past, we have held *eisteddfodau* (poetry festivals), fielded rugby teams, and had trips around the Lower Mainland. We invite anyone with an interest in the Welsh community to come along and join," says Minard.

For more information on "Sounds of Christmas," visit www.vwmc.ca. For more on the Vancouver Welsh Society and their events, visit www.welshsociety.com.



▲ Antone Minard sharing knowledge of the Welsh Language.

Cambrian Circle Singers, notes that many are unaware that Wales is even its own country with its own language and culture.

"I find that many people have absolutely no idea who or what the Welsh are. They seem to know the Irish and Scots are different, they make more noise than us."

An important part of Welsh culture, in particular, is the language. The Society is associated with other Welsh groups that



▲ Cambrian Hall, location of the Vancouver Welsh Society.

ver blossomed later, following its selection as the terminus of the transcontinental railroad, following which there were several building booms," says Williams.

Williams notes that many Welsh immigrants prospered through various economic avenues on the West Coast of opportunity, from property owners to merchants-turned-entrepreneurs.

Some of the Welsh immigrants of the era, while intent in their

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Photo courtesy of the Province of BC

Minister Teresa Wat on Multiculturalism

by JALLEH KERMANSHAHI

In an interview for *The Source*, Teresa Wat, Minister for International Trade and the Minister Responsible for the Asia Pacific Strategy and Multiculturalism, talks about multiculturalism in Canada based on her personal experience.

Punjabi, Korean, Japanese and Filipino communities in order to promote Canadian exporting to Asia.

“This is how I see multiculturalism: it is not that we are not continuing to celebrate multiculturalism through festivals or programs to eliminate racism... but we want to leverage the multicultural community to promote the economy,” says Wat.

Wat believes that communication between groups is essential in promoting multiculturalism.

Cultural understanding – a must

“We should take advantage of the leverage of diverse communi-

ties as essential to promote the economy,” she says. Wat believes cross-cultural understanding is improving. When

“ We should take advantage of the leverage of diverse communities as essential to promote the economy

Teresa Wat, Minister for International Trade and the Minister Responsible for the Asia Pacific Strategy and Multiculturalism

ties as essential to promote the economy,” she says.

Wat left journalism to engage in politics, motivated by what she believes would be the wish of her late husband. The two both studied journalism together in Hong Kong.

she first came to Canada, although she had a MA in Communications from the University of Hawaii and was fully bilingual, she could not get any responses to her job inquiries- even for jobs requiring little to no qualifications or experience.

“My husband would always say, ‘You do not do just one thing in life.’ One has to have a colourful life and give back to the community.”

Wat feels these situations have improved now, with more people from all over the world working for the provincial government. She says that several years ago, it may not have been probable for a politician such as herself to be appointed as a cabinet minister.

Through the geographic lens

Wat says Canada was the first country to adopt multiculturalism as an official policy in 1971.

“The whole country embraces multiculturalism,” says Wat. “Vancouver and Toronto stick out because we both are diverse communities, but we are different in terms of ethnicity. Vancouver is located on the Pacific Rim, so more Asian countries intend to come to Vancouver. I can give you some figures: 17.4 per cent from China, 12.2 from India, and then the Philippines, Korea and Malaysia.”

Promoting international trade

Wat still has professional, political and family ties with Hong Kong where she grew up, and feels she can use them to promote international trade.

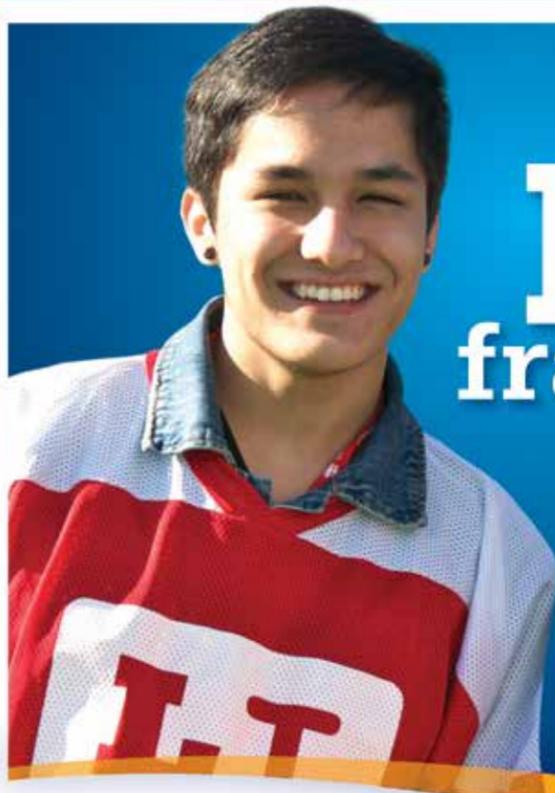
“For a local Canadian, it’s difficult to promote exporting to Asia, because they do not speak the languages; they do not know how the system works; but if a Chinese and local Canadian work together, I can help them because I know how to do business in Asia,” says Wat.

Wat has been organizing various round tables with Chinese,



▲ Minister Teresa Wat.

Wat says it is important for the people of a multicultural society to understand each other’s cultures, the environments they grew up in and those accepted cultural norms. She believes that discrimination arises from ignorance, so interaction between groups and knowing one another culturally is a must. ☞



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Left Bank



PowerBC: NDP plan calls for more clean energy, green jobs

Despite all the excitement about the defeat of the Harper government, in B.C. the political status quo still seems unmovable. Riddled with scandals, and having weathered many dips in popularity over nearly 15 years in office, the B.C. Liberals and Christy Clark nevertheless seem relatively secure in power.

With a year and a half until the next provincial election, the battle lines are already starting to take shape. For opponents of the B.C. government and supporters of the B.C. NDP, after a decade and a half out of power and still reeling from a shocking loss in 2013, there are reasons to be cautiously optimistic.

PowerBC early in order to soften potential attacks against their opposition to the Site C mega-project, which the B.C. Liberals are proceeding to build despite court challenges by First Nations and anger from local residents in the Peace region.

The alternatives outlined in PowerBC are encouraging steps in the right direction. The NDP calls for a province-wide expansion of retrofit programs, which would create jobs while boosting energy efficiency. And it calls for new investments in developing the province's vast potential for new renewable sources of energy.

The NDP made the PowerBC announcement at the B.C. Institute



Photo by Chuckta MC

▲ Clean energy can provide green jobs while protecting our environment.

The first encouraging sign from the NDP is their renewed willingness to take the gloves off with the B.C. Liberals. Under new leader John Horgan, the party no longer hedges or softens their criticism as much. Back when Carole James was in charge, the NDP always seemed to be "concerned" about government measures, rather than actually opposed to them. Under Adrian Dix, the party overdid the collegiality in an effort to avoid a war of personal attacks. Politeness didn't pay, as the Liberals took low and cheap shots at Dix before and during the 2013 campaign.

Horgan looks more like he's enjoying himself than any recent NDP leader, and he is not above taking a gratuitous snarky shot at the premier on social media or in the legislature. This change in tone is welcome, but what does the NDP offer in terms of new content?

There was a promising signal last week, as the NDP wrapped up the fall session of the legislature by rolling out an alternative energy and jobs plan for the province called "PowerBC."

Understandably concerned about being framed by the mainstream media as "anti everything," the NDP has clearly brought out

Technology campus, highlighting the fact that energy efficiency and wise environmental policy don't have to come at the expense of good jobs. In fact, addressing the global climate crisis requires a vast buildout of infrastructure for new kinds of energy, requiring a skilled workforce to make the transition off of fossil fuels.

Jennie Moore, an associate dean for Building Design and Construction Technology at BCIT, praised the NDP's plan: "By far the most efficient way to meet B.C.'s future energy needs is to save energy now. Here at BCIT we showed that it is possible to achieve a 75 per cent reduction in energy demand with deep building retrofits."

The Sierra Club of B.C. also welcomed PowerBC, although they raised one important concern: "We commend the opposition for recognizing that clean energy can provide jobs for B.C. families while protecting our environment. In fact clean energy can support many more jobs than those in the oil and gas sector. A future with 100 per cent renewable energy is 100 per cent possible. However what goes unmentioned in this plan is also notable, specifically fracking and LNG. It is not possible to be a climate leader and promote fracking and LNG export."

Indeed. Premier Clark often gives the impression her only plan is LNG, spending much of her time and energy boosting the potential for new fossil fuel exports from B.C. PowerBC is an encouraging first step in a different direction for the province, toward a more diversified economic vision and a more rational approach in a world threatened by climate catastrophe.

Over the next year and a half, it is essential that labour, environmental groups and all of civil society work on clarifying and implementing this vision of a province working on green jobs and powered by clean energy. ⚡



Photo courtesy of BC NDP

▲ B.C. NDP leader John Horgan.



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Finding the recipe: spit, roe and pigments in traditional First Nations paint

by SIMON YEE

The spit was the key. That part of the puzzle was what two University of British Columbia graduate students needed to solve their project: recreating and documenting pre-European painting techniques used by First Nations to make traditional wood finishing.

Doctoral candidate, Jun Lee, and master's student, Vinicius Lube, used saliva chewed with fresh salmon roe as the paint binder to recreate the texture and appearance of paint found on some centuries-old First Nations artifacts, carved in western red cedar wood. They hope their research fills a technical gap in a literature predominantly occupied with the cultural and spiritual aspects of traditional First Nations painting.

"I personally hadn't tried salmon roe, before that occasion, it was a totally new experience," says Lube on chewing the delicacy. "But for science, we had to do it!"

Recovering and documenting indigenous knowledge

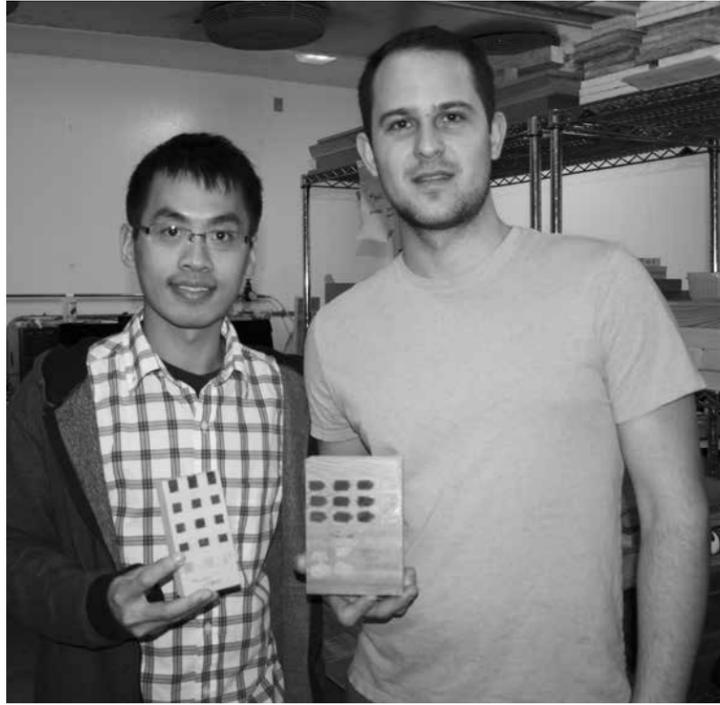
According to Lee and Lube's research, prior to European contact First Nations people used wood finishing to enhance the quality of various wooden objects. Wood finishing was also used to signify owner status and to make symbolic references. The western red cedar, which the First Nations refer to as the "Tree

of Life," was the most commonly used wood and was used to craft many items such as totem poles, canoes, bowls and masks. The various pigments they used included red ochre, bone black and green earth. However, in the late 19th century, First Nations incorporated European paints, pigments and methods into their painting tradition.

"First Nations would choose what was the easiest method, because the main goal was to finish the objects, not to maintain the techniques," says Lee. "They would go for what was most convenient."

So, as part of their class project on "wood finishing of the past" suggested by their course professor, Philip Evans, Lee and Lube sought to rediscover this indigenous knowledge. From their research, they knew the ingredients First Nations would have used, but it did not explain the method and technique of how to mix and create paint from those ingredients.

After a few failed attempts with other approaches, such as alcohol and water, the Museum of Anthropology's Bill McLennan suggested they try chewing salmon eggs. This tip provided the lynchpin: the finishes produced from the salmon-roe/saliva mixture, especially the red and black colours, showed the greatest resemblance to artifacts on display at MOA. Lee and Lube surmised that one of the saliva enzymes, like amylase, plays



▲ Graduate students Jun Lee (left) and Vinicius Lube hold up the yellow and western red cedar wood blocks with traditional wood finishing that were used in their project.

an important role in breaking down or softening the salmon roe membrane.

"Hopefully our research, such as determining ratio of saliva and roe and pigment mixture, among other data, can prove helpful," says Lube.

To follow up their research, Lee and Lube are going to examine how the paint will fade over time by exposing the painted wood to the weather outdoors for several months.

"The paint [on the cedar wood] is currently very rough and

grainy, but maybe after being exposed outdoors, bigger particles will come off, leaving a smoother texture and perhaps will provide a visual appearance similar to those artifacts at the museum," says Lube.

Pros and cons

Because the finishes were made using natural pigments, Lee and Lube think one of the most important aspects of their project is the paint's sustainability.

"A good thing about this technique is it involves sustainable

actions, if you see salmon eggs as a renewable resource, unlike petroleum-based finishes," says Lube. "From an environmental standpoint, it's a more positive way of painting things."

However, they did note several major drawbacks: large amounts of saliva were needed to act as a solvent, the paint is less consistent than modern finishes, the procedure required fresh as opposed to frozen salmon roe and the roe itself may not be accessible year-round.

"Once you have prepared the paint, you have to use it, you cannot store it; it'll go bad. If you produce a lot, you have to use a lot. With oil-based paint, you can use it, close the can and store it," says Lube.

All of these factors inhibit this technique from staging a modern comeback or being used in mass production. Nevertheless, Lee and Lube think that on an individual basis, it can be used as an educational tool to create unique art and to help the younger First Nations generation learn the ways of their forebears.

"We're hoping the younger generation of First Nations are curious to know how their ancestors did art in the past. Perhaps they will try this technique out and see how it works on their artistic creations," says Lee.

Lee and Lube's research article will be made available to the public on the MOA and/or the UBC Library Archives. ✍

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Work in progress: Ph.D. candidate studies Chinese integration

by FLORENCE HWANG

A doctoral student is challenging the way Canadians perceive how Chinese immigrants in the Lower Mainland adjust to life in English-speaking countries, particularly in terms of psychological and behavioural changes.

Yidan Zhu, a Ph.D student in the Department of Leadership, Higher and Adult Education at Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) at University of Toronto, participated in a recent conference for the Association for Canadian Studies (ACS) and the Canadian Ethnic Studies Association.

"The purpose of Canadian immigration policy has been shifted from long-term nation-building to short-term economic development," says Zhu.

Working on an ethnography, in an immigration settlement organization in Vancouver, Zhu's goal is to raise questions about the integration or adjustment process of Chinese immigrants in Canada; and highlight the unequal social and power relations in their daily lives in Canada.

Cultural adjustments

Zhu is critical of the four-stage process of cultural adjustment for international students in English-speaking countries.

"[Cultural adjustment should be understood as a] complex

psychological and social activity that significantly impacts students' identity construction, career choice and language learning practice," says Zhu.

Her research also looks into how Chinese immigrants, as adult learners, reconstruct their identities; reorient to adopt Western values, knowledge and skills; and learn English as a second language through their practices with the local and global society.

Zhu's research also looks into how they relocate to pursue knowledge, adapt the cultural gaps and produce their own knowledge in the multicultural and multilingual society of Canada.

"By examining Chinese immigrants' embodied experiences with Canadian local society, such as walking, cycling, traveling activities, etc, I will try to understand the interaction among new immigrants' identity construction, language learning and embodied practices in a global and transnational context," says Zhu.

She notes the patterns have changed in terms of the Chinese adaptation in Canada and varies from temporal-spatial to economic patterns.

"In the temporal-spatial pattern, the changing Chinese communities or neighbourhoods in Greater Vancouver that offer spaces for newcomers' settle-



▲ Yidan Zhu.

ment practice become the major issue," says Zhu.

She focuses on the South Vancouver Neighborhood House, which provides settlement and learning short-term programs for Chinese newcomers. After several weeks, Zhu says, they move on.

"Therefore, the temporariness makes settlement even more difficult and inconsistent," says Zhu. "In the economic pattern, the Chinese adaptation to the Canadian life becomes much faster due to the globalized and neoliberal restructuring."

One example of how Chinese adapt to Canadian life is in the change of diet. Most Chinese immigrants don't really like western-style food, so during the

identity reconstruction process they start to learn western-style eating habits.

They not only change their eating style, but also their lifestyle in order to integrate to the local neighborhood. During her fieldwork, she found many Chinese newcomers changed their living style in order to become a "good neighbor" in the community, such as cleaning their backyard and recycling the garbage.

Negotiating adjustments

Zhu feels how Chinese make adjustments through psychological cultural practises is not a step-by-step or linear process.

"It could be understood as a 'negotiating' process. In terms of psychological and cultural adjustment, I think one of the most important things is identity (re) construction," says Zhu.

Zhu says Chinese newcomers have to think about their identity, where home is, and what their purpose is in settling in Canada.

"These questions may lead an identity reconstructing process that will largely interact with Chinese newcomers' everyday lives in Canada," says Zhu.

She hopes her studies could provide policy makers or the multi-level governments' references to rethink their multicultural policies by taking a standpoint from Chinese newcomers, international students, migrant workers or Chinese-Canadians. ✍

South of Fraser region finds its artistic voice

by MANU KAPOOR

Artists and writers from across Delta, Langley, Surrey and White Rock will gather later this month to examine and celebrate the diversity of the region as part of a symposium called **Sound Thinking: Voicing the City In/verse**.

Surrey poet and symposium co-convenor Phinder Dulai explains.

"It's about the uttered voice; it's about the spoken voice. It's about tension; it's about a response to the current and living moment," he says.

Jordan Strom, curator of the Surrey Art Gallery and symposium co-convenor, adds that the project is presented in conjunction with a series of art exhibitions called Views from the Southbank.

"Producers are using the written word and the spoken word to articulate their experience here," he says.

Inverting the city

"The idea of inversion and the idea of inverse is a play on the verse in poetry," says Strom, explaining the symposium's title.

"In Vancouver, there's been a process of inversion where the downtown has transformed. What used to represent the downtown such as ethnic enclaves, industries and things

we associate with the downtown have migrated to the periphery, to places like Surrey," he says.

It is this theme of inversion that is central to the symposium. According to Strom, the old traditional downtown is more akin to a modern suburb. Because of migration, diversity has flourished and the idea of the white middle-class suburb has changed in the late 20th century and early 21st century.

"Writers and artists are very

to live in the city, they moved into the suburbs," explains Dulai.

Strom adds that the super suburbs have a whole set of characteristics and he wanted to showcase how the writers address this in different ways.

Diverse artists

Dulai hopes to capture these minutiae tensions by bringing the writers and artists together and animating the conversation.

"The act of performance is

“When migrants couldn't afford to live in the city, they moved into the suburbs.

Phinder Dulai, poet

interested in capturing this dynamic of inversion," says Strom.

A related theme of the symposium is the concept of the super suburb, which is a suburb with a population that exceeds 250,000.

"The one thing that is really important about the super suburb is the demographic profile and the profile of new communities that settle in the place. When one says inverse, it's almost claiming a peripheral space within a post-colonial context. When migrants couldn't afford

about emancipation. And that is a part of celebration," explains Dulai. "What their specific subject matter is and how they speak to it is totally different."

One of the writers in the symposium is Sadhu Binning, who moved to Canada from India in 1967. His latest work, *Fauji Banta Singh*, is a collection of short stories that relate the experience of Vancouver's Sikh community.

"One of his stories spans the Downtown Eastside and Surrey, and there's this relationship between the two places," says Strom.

Veeno Dawan, who moved to Surrey from the UK 10 years ago, talks about everyday realities, about a big-box store clerk and other labourers in a post-industrial world. In a similar vein, John Armstrong details his experiences working at chicken processing plants and industrial farms in his collection, *Wages*.

"A whole other group of writers who are featured in this symposium really look at this space of adolescence and memories of their experiences," adds Strom.

Judy McInnes is one such author. Strom points out that her book, *Snatch*, is largely based on her experiences growing up in Surrey. ✍

For more information, visit www.surrey.ca/culture-recreation/12284.aspx.



▲ Sound Thinking celebrates the diversity of a region.

► "Verbatim" from page 1

nal family from Germany and Poland. When I consider the experiences of my family and of other similar European families, I am always convinced that the "mosaic" is preferable.

Leaving one's home in search of a better life someplace foreign is understandably one of the most difficult, and admirable, things a person can do. To arrive in a place like Vancouver, which is home to a multitude of cultural communities, makes this transition that much easier; you are instantly welcomed into something familiar by people who understand your way of life and are empathetic to what you are going through.

When my dad first came to Canada with his sister and parents, they struggled with the change. However, another

Croatian family took them in – literally offering them a place in their home – something that would not have happened had there not been a cultural identification. Being part of a Croatian community established around the church, cultural centre and soccer team, among other things, eased their transition into life in Canada.

I see this as a major benefit of the cultural "mosaic" we have in Vancouver as it allows immigrants to retain their own cultural identity as part of a community as well as allowing their Canadian-born children to feel a part of it too. Though I dreaded Friday nights as a kid because it meant going to Croatian school, I now see what a privilege it was to have this opportunity and to be a part of the larger community. ✍

Some might argue that assimilating immigrants into the larger Canadian cultural identity is preferable to having distinct ethnic groups defined by geography as well as by churches, community centres, schools or athletic clubs. However, this inspires the complicated question of what is the Canadian cultural identity.

More than the fact that it is near impossible to define what it means to be Canadian – save for the stereotypes that we are hockey-loving and plaid-wearing people – every immigrant and child of immigrants that I know would resent being labelled as simply Canadian. The cultural "mosaic" of Vancouver allows immigrant families to maintain their ethnic and cultural identities and furthermore, to take pride in their heritage. ✍



Join us for FREE Family Fun and Live Entertainment at Surrey's 6th Annual Tree Lighting Festival



Presented by Coast Capital Savings
Saturday, November 21 | 12-7pm | City Hall Plaza

Enjoy a jam-packed Performance Line-up, plus a sleigh full of family activities including a 'letters to Santa' station, Ferris wheel, igloo, life-sized snow globe, plus an Arts and Crafts Show, road hockey, ice-carving, food trucks and photos with Santa inside Central City Mall!



Surrey's FREE Kids Conference Starts Friday!

Kids in grades 1 through 7 are invited to participate in Surrey's FREE Kids Conference taking place Nov 20 and 21 at Guildford Recreation Centre. Offering workshops designed to support healthy lifestyles, social responsibility and personal development, this event is all about celebrating kids! Register online or call 604-501-5100.

Find One-of-a-Kind Gifts at SAGA Holiday Art & Craft Show

Now is the chance to get ahead on your Christmas shopping! The Surrey Art Gallery Association's (SAGA) gift shop will host their annual show and sale featuring original work by local artists on Nov 27 and 28 at the Surrey Arts Centre. Unique gift ideas start at \$5!



Breakfast with Santa Coming soon to a neighbourhood near you!

Santa and Mrs. Claus are making their way around Surrey to have a fun-filled breakfast and photo op with you and your family. Cost: \$4 (adult), \$8 (child). Event takes place from 9:30am-11am.

Dec 5: Fraser Heights
Dec 5: Newton
Dec 12: Fleetwood, Cloverdale, South Surrey
Dec 19: Bridgeview

Truck it on Down to the Big Rig for Kids Lighted Truck Parade

This fan-favourite is coming back to Downtown Surrey on Dec 6 for the sixth year in a row. Children and adults alike will delight in the spectacular night-time display of Christmas lights, as seemingly ordinary semi-trucks are transformed into dazzling representations of the holiday season. Attendees are encouraged to bring donations for the Surrey Christmas Bureau and Surrey Food Bank.



Spirit of the Season Dance Parade A First of its Kind in Surrey

Here to celebrate performing arts in a unique, new way, the Spirit of the Season Dance Parade is the first event of its kind in Surrey. Taking place Nov 28 and Dec 5, the event will focus on cultural diversity, showcasing ethnic dances of many cultures in Surrey. Enjoy diverse performances, activities for all ages, and refreshments that remind you of the winter season. Read more for event times and locations.

Come Celebrate: Christmas Open House at Historic Stewart Farm

Start a family tradition this year with a visit to Historic Stewart Farm on Dec 12 for our annual Christmas open house. Sing along with classic carols played on our piano, indulge in sweet Victorian treats baked in the woodstove, and craft old-time Christmas décor for your tree. Drop in, all ages. Entrance by donation.



John Lee Sanders Gospel and Blues Christmas Concert

Peninsula Productions is delighted to present the fifth annual John Lee Sanders Gospel & Blues Christmas Concert. Join us at 7pm on Nov 29 for an evening of blues, gospel, and Christmas music performed by the world renowned John Lee Sanders and his band. Tickets: \$25 in advance/\$30 at the door.



REVITALIZING JAPANTOWN? A Right to Remain Exhibition

October 24, 2015 – January 31, 2016

Opening Reception - Saturday, October 24, 2-5pm

A creative repossession of the human rights legacies of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside (DTES)

This multi-layered exhibition looks at the contradictions, co-optation, commemoration, heritage, and redress that have shaped the DTES, as unearthed by a three-year Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)-funded research project.

An extensive academic research project led by Drs. Jeff Masuda, Audrey Kobayashi, and Aaron Franks from Queens University pursued a unifying exploration of human rights, branding, and place in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. In all, seven research team members spoke with 51 past and current residents of the DTES and analyzed eight oral histories provided by Japanese Canadian Elders. An early public garden project addressed the Right to Access Food. Community engagement art projects under the Right to Remain, Right to Community initiatives included Gallery Gachet, the Carnegie Centre, the Powell Street Festival, Centre A, and the Nikkei National Museum.

The first Right to Remain exhibit held at Gallery Gachet March 6 – April 12, 2015, enlivened Human Rights stories of ancestors who once dwelled in the DTES and placed them in conversation with current residents. Spoken through people's histories, voices, and artwork, this exhibition wove together stories of the DTES, told through the Right to Remain Community Fair workshops, held between July 2014 and January 2015. These stories presented a visually provocative dialogue about the Right of all people to Remain in the places they call home and form community. <http://gachet.org/2015/02/25/the-right-to-remain/>

This final Right to Remain exhibit is an overview of the entire Revitalizing Japantown? project with outcomes from over three years of research. Artwork from local contemporary artists will animate the scholarly results. Featured is a seminal photograph by Greg Masuda and his newest documentary film titled The Right to Remain. CBC aired the film on August 8 and online at cbc.ca/bc, cbc.ca/Edmonton, cbc.ca/Calgary. <http://www.revitalizingjapantown.ca/right-to-remain-film-premiering-saturday-aug-8-on-cbc/>

PUBLIC PROGRAMS - Free and open to the public

- Saturday, October 24, 2-5pm. Talks by Dr. Jeff Masuda & Dr. Audrey Kobayashi, followed by reception
- Saturday, October 31, 3pm. Film Screening of Right to Remain documentary by Greg Masuda
- Saturday, November 28, 2pm. Right to Remain Artist Team talk and Pie Chats in collaboration with the 'Seeing the Whole Picture' Project

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Ismaili Muslim artists draw on the past and present

by SANDRA ZIMMERMANN

Creating art as a vehicle for communication to help transcend boundaries is the focus of the contemporary art exhibition presented by local Ismaili Muslim artists in Yaletown's Roundhouse Community Arts and Recreation Centre (Nov. 23-Dec. 1). The show, *Odyssey: Past Meets Present*, features 15 artists who explore, in their art works, how their past influences their present. While they are all local artists, they have diverse backgrounds and roots in countries like Uganda, Afghanistan, Pakistan or Switzerland.

"I asked the artists to look into their past and find out what influences them today and how that shows up in their art work," says Taslim Samji, the exhibition's curator.

It resulted in a huge variety of topics, ranging from common themes in history like love, lust and creed to artists reviewing political conditions, such as injustice done to women.

Personal motifs can be found in the art works as well, such as the pieces from an Afghan artist who draws portraits of young children and people from his home country.

Thanks to the diversity of the artists, Samji anticipates the exhibition to connect with all kinds of people. Since the exhibition takes place in Yaletown, the curator expects many Vancouverites living in the downtown area to visit the show, as well as people from within the Ismaili community.

"We also promote it within the community and they will for sure come to support us, too," she says.

Odyssey: Past Meets Present is Samji's second community exhibition as a curator in the Roundhouse Community Centre after *Intersections* in 2013. While some of the artists from back then are the same as in "Odyssey," Samji explains it was her goal to find new artists for the 2015 exhibition, which is why two-thirds of the participants are new.

"I want this community of artists to grow," says Samji, who hopes the artists will connect among each other and possibly collaborate in the future.

Art creates understanding

The pieces of the interdisciplinary exhibition include digital media, short film, painting, sculpture, pottery, and more.

"So many themes that come up in the art of the Ismaili Muslims are also common to other



▲ Taslim Samji (right).

"That's very nostalgic to him. It's what he remembers and what he holds on to as an artist," explains Samji, who came to Canada at the age of three from Tanzania.

Interdisciplinary artworks

The group of artists, a balanced split of male and female, emerging or professional, includes individuals from all age ranges (from 17 to over 70). Samji said some artists created a series of pieces.

"One piece doesn't really reflect the work of an artist," she says, adding each artist has one wall for art works. "Only when you see a series of works, you might start to see the artist's influences."

Samji started her own career with paintings, and moved on to drawings and illustrations. At the moment she is taking a class on animation at Emily Carr University of Art and Design to reduce the limits other art media impose.

"Each medium I worked is limited in the way you can tell a story. In animation, you can mix it all together," says Samji. "An artist needs to have that digital knowledge."



▲ Tabla Lady by Taslim Samji.

communities," she says. "Like gender bias, love, political conditions. All are common around the globe."

She hopes to show that communality can be found even within diversity and to create understanding among different communities.

"When we don't understand people that's when they feel foreign to us and there is fear," she says, adding she wishes to build bridges between communities.

For more information, please visit www.roundhouse.ca.

Vancouver Turkish Film Festival returns

by EVELYNE YOUNG

The Vancouver Turkish Film Festival is returning for the second time this Dec. 4–7. This year's VTFF is dedicated to women filmmakers, with 14 of the 29 films presented directed by women. The Vancity Theatre will be hosting the festival, which will feature twice as many films as last year.

With the support of the Turkish Ministry of Culture of Tourism as principal funder, this year's VTFF has nearly doubled the number of films in its programming compared to last year. The Turkish film industry is so prolific, says Hakan Burcuoglu, founder of VTFF, that the festival requires a large selection of films in order to fairly represent the industry.

"[There are] too many good films to share. We just can't help it," he says.

An homage to women filmmakers

"I haven't yet seen another country that comes quite as close to having such a representation of women filmmakers on the international stage," says Burcuoglu. "This is astonishing for Turkey, let alone any country."

Their gala film *Not So Far Away* was directed by Turkan Soray, a prolific actress, who is also the most recognized face of *Yesilcam*, the golden age of Turkish cinema, says Burcuoglu.

"*MOTHERLAND* by Senem Tuzen and *Until I Lose My Breath* by Emine Emel Balci are the two



▲ The film *Not So Far Away* will open this year's Vancouver Turkish Film Festival.

stand-outs that I think everybody should come out and see," says Burcuoglu.

He says that Muge Turan, Head of Film Programs at the Contemporary Museum of Istanbul, Istanbul MODERN, has also put together a short film showcase entitled *Girls Keep Swinging*.

The allure of Turkish cinema

"There is no denying the universal success of Turkish cinema- it has a certain aesthetic, which people have come to love, and more importantly, expect," says Burcuoglu.

The strength of Turkish films, he says, is to tell "grounded, humble stories that resonate universally," and do so with few ingredients.

"If cinema is indeed considered the art of subtraction, we excel at

it. Vancouver cinephiles are seasoned – they have good taste and high expectations," he says.

Turkish cinema offers a variety of genres. *Remake Remix Ripoff*, a feature length documentary by filmmaker Cem Kaya, chronicles the zeitgeist of the most prolific era of *Yesilcam*, featuring extensive footage from domestic cult classics like *Turkish Star Wars*, *Turkish Superman* and even the *Exorcist*.

Burcuoglu, who went to McGill university and spent nine years in Montreal, admits to having a penchant for one of the films in particular presented at the festival: *There Where Atilla Passes...*

"[The film]" is set in Montreal and in his journey of self-discovery, the protagonist, Atilla, comes

into contact with Turkish people from all walks of life. I felt some deep nostalgia when I watched that film. It's probably the most sentimental film in the line-up for me," he says.

A growing success

From the start, Burcuoglu wanted to bring Turkish cinema to Vancouver's cinephiles.

"As a Turkish-Canadian cineaste who harbours a profound love for Turkish cinema, I always felt it was my responsibility to facilitate a platform that would introduce the best of contemporary Turkish cinema to this beautiful city," he says.

The 'table was set,' says Burcuoglu of last year's first VTFF, which took place in December of 2014.

"Naturally, we were unsure (and quite nervous) as to how it was going to be received. In the end Vancouverites gave us an astounding reception with seventy per cent occupancy and five sell-out shows," he says.

VTFF has now become a part of the Golden Horn Film Festival family- a not-for-profit organization based out of Montreal whose mandate is to showcase Turkish cinema across major Canadian cities. After successful events in Montreal and Toronto, VTFF constitutes the third and final leg of the 2015 Golden Horn event calendar. ✎

For more information or to get tickets, please visit the Vancouver Turkish Film Festival website: www.vtff.org.

EVERY LAST MONDAY OF THE MONTH
OCTOBER 26 NOVEMBER 30 DECEMBER 28

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An homage to horror anthology radio with a contemporary comedy aesthetic enjoys an ongoing run at **THE FOX CABARET**, hitting the stage on the last Monday of each month. Two brand new episodes will be produced every month, written by Jayson McDonald and performed by McDonald, Andrew Bailey, Tara Travis and special guests from the Vancouver arts community. Performed in live-to-air style complete with foley and musical accompaniment, each episode will be recorded for release on various internet media platforms. Our special guest performer for November is **Denise Jones**, Artistic Director of Vancouver TheatreSports!

Tara Travis, Jayson McDonald,
Andrew Bailey

Denise Jones is a busy comedy gal in Vancouver. She divides her time between stage and screen. She was recently nominated for a Leo for her performance alongside James Caan in *Preggoland* (Premiered at TIFF). In her "spare time" she is Artistic Director and a performer at the award-winning **Vancouver TheatreSports League**. She can be seen onstage every week at the Improv Centre down on Granville Island where her company performs eleven shows week, fifty-two weeks a year, to an annual audience of sixty thousand.

TWO BRAND NEW EPISODES NOVEMBER 30th!

"2666"-- Astronauts aboard the Tourist One, en route to investigate a structure of seemingly alien origin in deepest space, must call upon a starfaring exorcist when the ship's on-board artificial intelligence becomes possessed.

"Farm Life" -- A procurement agent for a mining company runs into some unexpected resistance when she offers to buy a farmstead from a family that insists the land belongs to "others."

Tickets for the live show are \$10 at the door. Subsequent media updates will provide information regarding advance ticket sales and promotional activities. Please take a moment to peruse the attached Phantom Signal Press Pack to find out more about us and to get a feel for the show. Contact us for more info, hi-res photos or to arrange an interview!

DECEMBER's special guest will be Vancouver author Aaron Chapman! Stay posted by visiting our fan page at facebook.com/TalesTooTerrifying

CONTACT PHANTOM SIGNAL
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facebook.com/TalesTooTerrifying
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DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

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 – Explore our new interactive Kids Gallery, try your hand at a new craft in the Textile Centre, register your children for programs that blend play with history and science. Hours: Tuesdays-Fridays, 9:30am-5:30pm; Saturdays, 10am-5pm; NEW! Open Sundays, 12noon-5pm starting Oct 11. Admission sponsored by Friends Society.

EXHIBITIONS

Amazing Optical Illusions

Before 3D movies there were optical illusions like thaumatropes and view finders. Explore hands on optical artifacts, then make a 3D handprint and cartoon flip book to take home. Saturday, November 7, 1:00pm-4:00pm. All ages, by donation.

Surrey Remembers

Bring the family for the Remembrance Day ceremony at the Cloverdale Cenotaph, then come in from the cold for refreshments, films and crafts. At 11:30am join former Royal Canadian Navy Wren Gwen Settle as she shares Cold War secrets. Wednesday, November 11, 9:30am-1:30pm. All ages, by donation.

You Can Sew: Level 2

Our stitchery expert helps you take your sewing skills to the next level while guiding you in the creation of a top or vest. Must pre-register at 604-592-6956. 4 sessions \$50 (16yrs+). Thursday, November 12, 7:00pm-9:00pm.

Felt Wreath

Sew and bead a beautiful felt Christmas wreath to decorate your home. Supply fee \$30. Must pre-register at 604-592-6956. 1 session \$15.75 (16yrs+). Saturday, November 14, 1:00pm-4:00pm.

Museum After Dark

Combine local wine and tapas with the secrets of the Museum vault for a unique night out. Get a behind-the-scenes look at the "dark things" in our collections then sip and socialize. Must pre-register at 604-592-6956. 1 session \$15 (19yrs+). Thursday, November 19, 6:30pm-9:00pm.

Felted Christmas Ornaments

Kids watch the magic happen when they combine colourful wool, soap, water and friction to make their own felted Christmas ornaments. Must pre-register at 604-592-6956. 3 sessions \$45 (8-12yrs). Thursday, November 19, 4:00pm-6:00pm.

Let's Travel: Japan

Preschoolers create their own Kokeshi doll, take a "walk" through a Japanese garden and enjoy a sushi-inspired snack. Must pre-register at 604-592-6956. 1 session \$11 (3-5yrs). Friday, November 20, 10:30am-12noon.

Discovery Saturday: Roaring Twenties

This family event is the bee's knees! Jazz babies of all ages will enjoy swing dance performances and 1920s music, and make a feathered head piece or snappy bowtie to look the part. Saturday, November 21, 1:00pm-4:00pm. All ages, by donation.

Very Vintage: Hair Affair

Learn how to pull off fashionable finger waves, buoyant beehives and Rockabilly rolled bangs from an expert stylist, then capture your new look in our vintage photo booth. Must pre-register at 604-592-6956. 1 session \$18 (12-15yrs). Thursday, November 26, 6:00pm-9:00pm.

Curious Tykes: Gold Rush Adventure

Eureka, what a time your child will have in our tent learning about the Gold Rush! Bring your little nugget to pan for gold, trade for supplies and make a shiny craft. Must pre-register at 604-592-6956. 1 session \$11 (3-5yrs). Friday, November 27, 10:30am-12noon.

HISTORIC STEWART FARM

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

HISTORIC STEWART FARM INFO

Tour the 1894 farmhouse with a costumed guide and imagine pioneer life at the turn of the 19th century. Bring your easel or camera to capture the scenery, and enjoy a walk on the scenic grounds. Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10am-4pm, Saturday, 12noon-4pm. Closed Sundays, Mondays and stat holidays. Entrance by donation.

PROGRAMS

Pro-D Day Camp: Toys & Games

Young toymakers create their own vintage toys and play Victorian parlour games just like pioneers did 100 years ago. Must pre-register at 604-592-6956. 1 session \$28 (6-11yrs). Friday, November 13, 9:00am-3:00pm.

Farm Tykes: Gentlemen's Social

Young gentlemen (and ladies) celebrate November kid-style with moustaches and manners, parlour games and rhymes. Must pre-register at 604-592-6956. 1 session \$5 (3-5yrs). Saturday, November 14, 11:00am-12noon.

SURREY ARCHIVES

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

War Veterans' Stories

Local World War I and II experiences are reignited as we sift through our veterans' papers, photos, and audio clips. Must pre-register at 604-502-6459. 1 session \$10 (all ages). Saturday, November 14, 11:00am-12noon.



Photo courtesy of Satinder Kassoana

Film undermines preconceived notions of race and religion

by HAKIM FERRIA

"Is your opinion of other races or religions really yours?" That is the question the short film *Bonjour Ji* poses. The film shows how people's interactions are influenced by their own perceptions, which are in turn based on assumptions. The movie is being presented at the fifth annual Vancouver International South Asian Film Festival (VISAFF) from Nov. 27-29.

"This is a story about the communication gap between different communities who live and work close to each other every day" says the writer, director, editor Satinder Kassoana.

He adds that *Bonjour Ji* is the story of two characters who feel sidelined by other communities. But when the two characters meet, they realize how a change in perspective can inspire different behaviour from the same people.

Kassoana was born in a tiny village of Punjab called Kassoana. He explains that he still bears this name as his surname to remind him where he is from. He grew up in a common middle class Indian Sikh family and then lived in different cities across Asia, Europe and North America.

"I soaked (up) pieces of all those wonderful cultures and today I am very liberal and consider myself belonging to the global culture," says Kassoana.

"Bonjour" means "hello" in French, and the word "ji" is used in Hindi and Urdu to show respect to the individual whose name it is appended to. "Bonjour Ji" could be translated as "Hello Mr./Sir."

Kassoana chose this title to illustrate how French and Indian people show respect and harmony. "In a way, it symbolizes unity in diversity," says Kassoana.

Diversity always remains the key word

Movies are a medium used to express yourself and to spread your



▲ Satinder Kassoana.

words to millions of people. This is one of the common points of view shared by the team of *Bonjour Ji*.

"Today the world is shrinking. We are watching movies from other cultures in different languages and that's great. Diversity is a reality. It inspires us, ignites

perceives them. The film is about the assumptions we hold about people from other religions, races and communities, and how this pre-judging impacts our interactions with other people.

"Diversity helps you to be awake, aware and alive. I am

"Diversity is a reality. It inspires us, ignites a curiosity to know more and to explore more.

Satinder Kassoana, writer, director and editor

a curiosity to know more and to explore more," says Kassoana.

Diversity is shown through a Sikh character speaking French

impressed with how stories from the whole world are similar in their differences," says the French actor Ben Meneghini who

▲ Stills from *Bonjour Ji*.

Photos courtesy of Satinder Kassoana

who is immersed in Quebec culture and at the same time still connected to his roots. Inspired by the world that surrounds him, Kassoana explains that making assumptions about people we don't know is not a good thing to do. Many times we feel aversion for other races or religions because someone else has had a bad experience with them and we have inherited this aversion.

The Sikh character is played by Rup Magon who is also the co-writer. Despite being born in Montreal, his character struggles not only with how he is perceived by others, but also with how he

plays Victor Arnaud, one of the main characters.

Surjit Singh Pahwa, the executive producer, says that "Bonjour" is the connecting word. Pahwa is a man of many countries in India and in Africa. His family was attracted by Canada's diversity when they immigrated to Canada in 1992.

"This film is about the importance of how simple conversations between people from different communities can solve so many issues," says Kassoana. ✎

For further information, visit www.bonjourthemovie.com and www.visaff.ca.

Seeing the beauty in the mundane

by SOPHIA DELAFONTAINE

An established photographer who focuses on the concept of Zen, David Young is a contributing artist in the current District Foyer Gallery exhibition, alongside artist Frances Solar.

Young's love of nature was enforced by a childhood spent in Sierra Leone, West Africa, where he was influenced by his surroundings. Since obtaining

areas may be no more than several inches in diameter, but when framed by a camera, they can have abstract painterly qualities that are quite beautiful."

To make an impact on people and the way they view the world through his work is an important goal for the artist. People frequently ask Young what he is doing when taking a close-up photo of a tree or rock.

"After I explain, they say that

world around us blossoms to reveal the beauty of nature, enhanced by the artistic eye," adds Young.

The North Shore is the best place you could choose to exhibit artwork with a Zen theme. Young sees this venue as appropriate for his work's purpose.

"My photographs will be seen by ordinary people going about the business of everyday life rather than by those who go to galleries to see professional art," explains Young.



▲ Protection.

his first camera at the age of 12, Young has been expanding his artistic eye for colours within natural elements, compositions and textures.

The allure of the everyday

Looking for beauty and meaning in everyday life, Young focuses on the concept of Zen in his photography. The artist has been a Zen Buddhist for many years.

"Zen is a religion of everyday life, based upon the belief that meaning and beauty can be found in ordinary events and surroundings," he says.

While the majority of photographers tend to look for dramatic and piercing shots (such as action shots), Young focuses on everyday subjects that may be overlooked: reflections, driftwood, rock faces and arbutus bark.

"I like these subjects because every time I take a walk near our home, new photographic opportunities present themselves," says Young.

The photographer draws much of his inspiration from aspects of everyday life. He gives the example of rocks, boulders, caves and driftwood washed up on the beach. Young explains how these things can look different depending upon the amount of light, whether something is wet or dry, or the various types of reflections that occur as a result of wind or light on the water's surface.

"If one looks closely enough, an uprooted tree can be a natural gallery with a variety of interesting areas. Often these



▲ Determination.

they would never have noticed such a small area of beauty and that henceforth they will look more closely at their surroundings," says Young.

"In this way, the 'unnoticed'



▲ David Young, photographer.

Young believes that beauty and meaning can be found in mundane activities and surroundings, which fits with his Zen philosophy.

The takeaway

Young has a positive expectation and outlook on the potential audience response to his work.

"It will give me encouragement to find new ways to exhibit my photographs and to make my philosophy known to a wider audience," says Young.

Ultimately, Young hopes to inspire others through his photographs to see the ordinary in an extraordinary way. And he hopes his audience will be stimulated to look more closely at ordinary objects in their environments.

This year's District Foyer Gallery exhibition takes place from Nov. 4, 2015 to Jan. 5, 2016 at the North Vancouver District Hall.

For more information, please visit www.nvartscouncil.ca.

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45TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

2015 - 2016

<div style="background-color: #e67e22; width: 30px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <p>FROM BYRD TO BARD The Glorious English Tradition 8pm Friday, September 25 Ryerson United Church</p> <p><small>Jon Washburn and the Vancouver Chamber Choir explore the magnificent choral music of England, ranging from the rich polyphony of Elizabethan master William Byrd to the jaunty Shakespeare settings of present day composer John Rutter.</small></p>	<div style="background-color: #e67e22; width: 30px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <p>MONTEVERDI VESPERS OF 1610 The Early Baroque Masterpiece 7:30pm Friday, October 23 Chan Centre for the Performing Arts</p> <p><small>Early Music Vancouver and the Vancouver Chamber Choir are collaborating in this spectacular performance of Monteverdi's great masterpiece - the monumental Vespers of 1610. The Choir joins in with eight outstanding vocal soloists and an orchestra of Baroque instrumentalists from Pacific MusicWorks under the direction of guest conductor Stephen Stubbs.</small></p>	<div style="background-color: #e67e22; width: 30px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <p>NEW WAVE The Latest in Choral Music 8pm Friday, November 13 Ryerson United Church</p> <p><small>The 21st century has proved to be a new renaissance for choral composition. There are dozens of outstanding living composers - both young and old - and we will bring you a scintillating selection of recent pieces by composers from Argentina, Estonia, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, USA and Canada.</small></p>
<div style="background-color: #e67e22; width: 30px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <p>CHRISTMAS IN THE ORPHEUM Renaissance, Baroque & Carols 8pm Friday, December 4 Orpheum Theatre</p> <p><small>Nothing says Christmas more than choirs, and this concert brings you the city's finest, singing the glorious voice-and-brass music of Gabriel and Pinkham, intimate Christmas moods of Derek Healey with harp, and a grand carol sing-along of traditional favourites, as the audience joins in with the choirs and brass ensemble. Venite! Venite!</small></p>	<div style="background-color: #e67e22; width: 30px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <p>A DYLAN THOMAS CHRISTMAS A Child's Christmas in Wales 8pm Friday, December 18 Shaughnessy Heights United Church</p> <p><small>Choose the Vancouver Chamber Choir's signature performance of A Child's Christmas in Wales (Dylan Thomas) with our favourite Welshman - Russell Roberts - narrating on Friday evening. The concert starts with English, German and international songs of the season conducted by Carrie Tennant, including a special appearance of her accomplished Vancouver Youth Choir.</small></p>	<div style="background-color: #e67e22; width: 30px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <p>A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS Finding the True Meaning 8pm Saturday, December 19 Shaughnessy Heights United Church</p> <p><small>Enjoy this lively concert performance of A Charlie Brown Christmas with actors, jazz duo and the Vancouver Chamber Choir on Saturday evening. This concert also begins with English, German and international songs of the season conducted by Carrie Tennant, with a second appearance this weekend of her delightful Vancouver Youth Choir.</small></p>
<div style="background-color: #e67e22; width: 30px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <p>THE MAESTRO'S ART The National Conductors' Symposium Concert 8pm Saturday, January 23 Ryerson United Church</p> <p><small>This year the Vancouver Chamber Choir's remarkable National Conductors' Symposium concert focuses on the music of the Masters - Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, Brahms and Wagner. Five talented conductors from around the world lead the outstanding professional choir along with master conductor and teacher Jon Washburn and pianist Stephen Smith. Join us for an exciting evening of music-making and special insight into the art and craft of choral conducting.</small></p>	<div style="background-color: #e67e22; width: 30px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <p>THE SOURCE OF SONG Gregory's Gift of Chant 8pm Friday, February 12 Ryerson United Church</p> <p><small>Gregorian chant is still a seminal force in choral music, even a thousand years after Saint Gregory the Great lent it his name. Jon Washburn and Kevin Zakresky conduct the Vancouver Chamber Choir in an a cappella programme that traces choral repertoire back to the Gregorian chant on which it is based.</small></p>	<div style="background-color: #e67e22; width: 30px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <p>CHORAL TAPESTRY Our Heritage of Song 8pm Friday, March 4 Shaughnessy Heights United Church</p> <p><small>The outstanding repertoire of North American choral music is based substantially on the models of musical immigrants from Europe. Jon Washburn and the Vancouver Chamber Choir illuminate many of these lies in this varied and invigorating concert of music from two continents.</small></p>
<div style="background-color: #e67e22; width: 30px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <p>THE LOVE THAT MOVES THE UNIVERSE Bach, Handel & Schafer 8pm Friday, March 25 Orpheum Theatre</p> <p><small>One of the Vancouver Chamber Choir's most acclaimed performances was the 2010 premiere of R. Murray Schafer's radiant choral/orchestral work <i>The Love that Moves the Universe</i>, based on the final lines of Dante's <i>Paradiso</i>. In answer to popular demand, we repeat that magical experience, and extend it by singing the equally luminous <i>Jesu, meine Freude</i> by Bach and <i>Laudate pueri Dominum</i> by Handel.</small></p>	<div style="background-color: #e67e22; width: 30px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <p>THE CHAMBER CHOIR AND THE ISELER SINGERS Two Great Choirs 8pm Friday, April 22 Ryerson United Church</p> <p><small>Every few years Vancouver's and Toronto's famous professional choirs join forces in one city or the other - this time, it's in Vancouver. You are guaranteed a sumptuous sonic experience as the ensembles sing together and individually. Two great choirs... an evening of wonderful music... don't miss it!</small></p>	<div style="background-color: #e67e22; width: 30px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <p>HEAR THE VANCOUVER CHAMBER CHOIR!</p> <p><i>In addition to 11 wonderful concerts, there are many recordings to enjoy.</i></p> <p><i>All titles are presently on sale to celebrate our 45th anniversary. Treat yourself!</i></p>

Visit www.vancouverchamberchoir.com to subscribe and save up to 35% off single ticket prices. Subscriptions can be for as few as four concerts or up to 11. Tickets to individual concerts available through Ticketmaster or the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts

Cultural Calendar

November 24–December 8, 2015

by JAKE MCGRAIL

Brigitta Kocsis: Universal Gravitation

Oct. 6–Dec. 7
McGill Library
4595 Albert St., Burnaby

Kocsis' recent series of work is filled with mechanics, human forms and wondrous abstract elements. Her pieces reflect technology's interaction with the physical, material world. The exhibition allows the audience to drift between the wonderfully ambiguous shapes and forms.

In Focus 2015

Nov. 26
The Imperial
319 Main St., Vancouver
www.infocusvancouver.com

Celebrate the talented photographers on hand, and enjoy a night of live music, food, beer and wine. Purchase beautiful photos and apparel with all the proceeds going to charities. For more information, please visit their website.

Vetta Chamber Music Presents Introducing the Next Generation

Nov. 26–27
West Point Grey United Church
4595 West 8th Ave.,
Vancouver
www.vettamusic.com

One of Vetta's missions is to provide opportunities for emerging professional musicians. Twenty-six year old Talisa Blackman will be on stage at this performance, which will showcase the pianist's great skill and talent.

Raven Spirit Dance and The Dance Centre Present Earth Song

Nov. 26–28
Scotiabank Dance Centre
677 Davie St.,
Vancouver
www.ravenspiritdance.com

This double bill of contemporary Aboriginal dance features Michelle Olson's *Northern Journey* and Starr Muranko's *Spine of the Mother*. Boths works are inspired by and express the land and art we carry within us.



▲ *Earth Song* works by Raven Spirit Dance.

Arts Club Theatre Company Presents Peter and the Starcatcher

Nov. 26–Dec. 27
Goldcorp Stage at the BMO
Theatre Centre
162 West 1st Ave., Vancouver
www.artsclub.com

Follow the journey of the beloved Peter Pan from a lonely orphan to a hero. Watch as Peter finds Neverland and fights greedy pirates while he and his friends protect the magical Starstuff.

SOS Children's Gingerbread Village

Nov. 27–Dec. 31
The Spirit Gallery
Grouse Mountain
www.sosbc.org

As they have done for 21 years now, SOS Children's Village BC will be turning The Spirit Gallery

at Grouse Mountain into an enchanting village of extraordinary gingerbread houses. Vote for your favourite house out of the dozens of jaw-dropping creations.

Canyon Lights at Capilano Suspension Bridge

Nov. 27–Jan. 3
Capilano Suspension Bridge
3735 Capilano Rd.,
North Vancouver
www.capbridge.com

Canyon Lights is back for its 10th season as it once again lights up the bridge, Treetops Adventure, Cliffwalk, the rainforest and the canyon with festive and enchanting lights. Visit the world's tallest Christmas tree, and decorate gingerbread cookies during your stay!

18th Annual European Union Film Festival

Nov. 27–Dec. 9
The Cinematheque
1131 Howe St., Vancouver
www.thecinematheque.ca

The annual showcase of films made across Europe is back with the largest film collection yet! Watch entries from all 28 members of the European Union, with a huge variety of films for everyone.

Elements with Metaphor

Nov. 28
ArtStarts Gallery
808 Richards St., Vancouver
www.artstarts.com

Metaphor is a crew of hip-hop artists who build community empowerment through their performances. *Elements* combines poetry, rap, beatbox, percussion and much more to create a single great performance.

Jubilate Vocal Ensemble Presents Winter Light 2015

Nov. 28
Canadian Memorial Church
1825 West 16th Ave., Vancouver
www.jubilate.ca

The Jubilate Vocal Ensemble is back for their third holiday themed performance. Join the choir as they navigate the dark and cold season with a warm and upbeat performance that will have you smiling.

Family Day at PdA: Lantern Making and All Things Small

Nov. 29
Place des Arts
1120 Brunette Ave., Coquitlam
www.kidsvancouver.com

Bring the whole family down to Place des Arts to take in beautiful art, participate in drop-in workshops for all ages inspired by artists and create your own lantern in preparation for the annual celebration of light.

5K@IDF

Dec. 3
Vancouver Convention Centre
Pacific Terrace
1055 Canada Place, Vancouver
www.idf5k.com

Take part in a run or walk along five kilometers of the Vancouver Seawall, hosted by the International Diabetes Federation, to raise awareness of the importance of a healthy lifestyle in preventing and controlling diabetes.

Rogers Santa Claus Parade

Dec. 6
Downtown Vancouver
925 West Georgia St., Vancouver
www.rogerssantaclausparade.com

Kick off the holiday season with the 12th annual Rogers Santa Claus parade! Watch marching bands, dance troupes and festive floats roll past, and get into the spirit of giving with monetary and non-perishable food donations to the Vancouver Food Bank society.



▲ Parade for the whole family.

► "Values" from page 1
an system of values."

According to Johnston, this could even be a source of worry.

"The uptake for citizenship, so far, has been very high. It gave to a large body of the population the possibility to participate in the decision-making process, which is quite a big thing," he says. "It created a lot of leaders within the different ethnic communities and that helped them to feel as active parts of the society."

Gregory Millard, chair and fac-

ulty member of the Department of Political Science at Kwantlen Polytechnic University, feels that the concern about Canadian values is exaggerated.

"These values aren't changing so much and the challenges that Canada is facing today aren't so different from the ones faced during the 70s," he says.

Shaping identity through public policies

Millard explains that debates and the struggle to find general con-

sensus on sensitive topics like gender parity, sexual habits or religious issues are normal in every country. He feels, however, that Canada today is divided by a bigger debate: liberal versus intolerant. Reflecting on how Canadian society was divided during the golden age of Liberalism, referring to Pierre Trudeau's time in office during the late 1960s to the early 1980s, Millard says:

"We often romanticize those years, but even then there was an exclusive Canada opposed to a more open and welcoming country," says Millard.

According to the Rohani, Millard and Johnston, what seems to be changing is the way Canadians identify themselves as a nation, with institutions playing a major role in balancing the lack of cultural and religious homogeneity that less diverse countries seem to have.

"All the values that our liberal

democracy expresses – freedom of speech, choice and movement – are at the basis of our multicultural society," says Rohani.

"Public policies are also a way of defining Canadian character," says Millard, "[For example], the health care system makes us feel Canadian."

National symbols and unity

Johnston adds that symbols are also becoming increasingly important for first and second-generation immigrants.

"We are a kind of supermarket. We have symbols for everyone. Aside from the flag, which was a great political success, every ethnic community finds here something familiar with their country of origin. An example comes from the last Remembrance day," says Johnston.

On Remembrance Day, Victory Square in Downtown Vancouver was full of people, young and old

and of different origins. Together, they celebrated an event that had much to do with Canada's association with the British Empire.

"For people who come from ex-British colonies, it is easy to recognize themselves. The police uniform here is similar to the British ones. The architecture of some of the public buildings can look familiar. All of these things helps us to feel united," Johnston says.

Johnston also says we shouldn't underestimate the importance of sports in bringing Canadians together as a cohesive unit and keeping traditions alive.

"Think about hockey, which is very Canadian," he says. "If you go to a hockey game today you'll see a great diversity of parents with their children on the ice. It is quite something. Some sports are better than others in achieving these results, and our hockey is becoming one of them." ❧



▲ A Canadian citizenship ceremony.

Photo courtesy of ISS of BC

Photo courtesy of Rogers Santa Claus Parade

Human Structures will prevail



Human Structures, a sculpture by Jonathan Borofsky, is depicted here in False Creek's Hinge Park facing Habitat Island, an urban sanctuary for local flora and fauna. B.C. Place is in the background lit with the colours of the French flag. The sculpture is both physical and metaphysical. Physically, it's composed of 64 painted and moulded galvanized steel figures. It's 17 metres tall and weighs 2,560 kilograms.

All the figures are connected with bolts and plates and form a multi-coloured human pyramid.

Mathematically precise, the sculpture was digitally created to be equally enjoyed from every view, including from above. The shape of the figures was designed to allude to pixels, the pixel being the basic element of computer imagery connecting us universally through images. The multi-coloured figures are human scale, all interconnected

physically, and by implication through their uniformity but different colours speak to our common humanity, despite differences of race, beliefs and gender.

Borofsky's art strives to emphasize the positive and buoyant aspect of human nature especially in today's world filled with adverse events. We have only to look at B.C. Place in the background lit up with the colours of France to stand in solidarity in the face of the recent massacre

in Paris. This makes Borofsky's work all the more poignant. It's about diversity and inclusiveness – what we need to hold dear, enrich and celebrate if this world is ever to change for the better.

Borofsky's sculpture is part of the Vancouver Biennale (2014–2016). Its theme is "Open Borders/Crossroads Vancouver." How perfectly the message of his sculpture fits in with theme and location. It's in a beautiful open setting on False Creek

next to Olympic Village, the former residence of Olympic Athletes from all over the world who competed together peacefully.

Borofsky is a US-based, internationally acclaimed artist. He has versions of *Human Structures* in San Francisco and Beijing. For a more comprehensive look at his amazing work go to: www.borofsky.com

Don Richardson

Recipe by Jen dela Luna

Selsig Morgannwg – Glamorgan Sausages

Ah, yes, Vancouver in November. The weather outside is frightful – good thing these Glamorgan sausages are very, very delightful! I was lucky enough to try this dish whilst in a pub in Britain this past summer, so getting Wales as my next assignment was a delightful surprise.

This vegetarian dish has humble origins dating back to as early as mid-19th century Wales; the first written record of it is found in the book *Wild Wales: Its People, Language, and Scenery*, published in 1862. Meat in Victorian Britain was no cheap ingredient, but cheese and homegrown vegetables were easy enough to acquire as a farmer. Thus, this "poor man's sausage" was born. Originally made with Glamorgan cheese (from Glamorgan cows, now a very rare breed), a good Caerphilly or, in my case, a Welsh Cheddar, suffices beautifully for us here on the other side of the world.

Whether eaten at brunch or breakfast with a full fry-up or on a Friday night with a pint at a party, these treats are a cinch to make (even in large batches!) and will definitely be a crowd favourite. Crisp and golden on the outside, gooey and melty on the inside... even the biggest of carnivores won't be able to say no. Enjoy!

Ingredients

- 200 g Welsh cheddar or caerphilly, grated/crumbled

- 150 g Breadcrumbs, plus more for breading
- 1.5 tsp Powdered English mustard (Colman's is optimum!)
- A few sprigs of fresh thyme
- 1 Leek, finely chopped
- 3 Eggs
- Salt and freshly cracked black pepper

Method

1. Heat up some oil or butter in a small pan and sweat the leeks until softened. Keep this on a lower heat so the leeks don't colour. Once done, set aside.
2. In a large bowl, mix the cheese, breadcrumbs, powdered mustard, and thyme. Be sure to only get the thyme leaves, not the twigs!
3. In a separate bowl, crack two eggs and one egg yolk, and set the third egg white aside. Mix salt and pepper into the eggs, then pour this mix over the cheese.
4. Stir to incorporate, followed by the leeks. The eggs along with the warmth of the leeks will cause the mixture to bind. If you pick up some of this "dough," it should be able to hold its shape unaided. If it requires some more moisture, add a splash of milk.
5. With clean hands, scoop out golf ball sized chunks of the mixture and shape into logs or patties – whichever your preference.



▲ And since we have the sausages – Let us eat! Let us eat! Let us eat!

6. Using the egg white you set aside earlier as coating, dip each shape into the egg white, followed by a coating of breadcrumbs, and repeat for all the pieces (this recipe ought to yield approximately 20).
7. Set these aside in the refrigerator

8. In a skillet on medium-high heat, fry the patties – no more than 1.5 minutes on each side, until golden brown, then transfer onto paper towels to drain excess oil.
9. Serve immediately!



The web has a new forum of diversity

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