

Australian
aboriginal
women's
artwork
on display
at MOA
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The Source

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Photo by Axel Naud

Verbatim

I wanted another way of life

by MARC-AURÉLIEN NÉGRI

Leaving for Canada was a choice I had made a long time ago. Originally from the French countryside, from a family that takes little or no vacation and where we work hard, travelling is somewhat foreign to us. Despite that, leaving my comfort zone and leaving alone for far, far away from home tempted me. Having had the chance to have a childhood close to nature, in Normandy, France, I was looking for a place that allowed me to achieve several travel objectives. I wanted to improve my English but also to have easy access to the outdoors. In short, I wanted another way of life. The Vancouver option fulfilled both of these objectives.

First of all, if there is anything that surprised me about Vancouver, it is the multiculturalism. Through Caucasian, Asian, South American, African, etc. communities, Canada has developed a society where origins, colour and religion matter little. Everyone has their place; everyone is welcome. It is absolutely impossible to proclaim loud and clear that discrimination does not exist in Vancouver, but it is fair to point out that the environment is calmer than in France.

The great diversity of Canada and Vancouver has enriched me. And my first (and still current) work experience confirms that. Daily, I hear English and French, but also Mandarin, Portuguese, Spanish, Japanese, Hindi and Italian spoken at work. This diversity has fueled my curiosity and opened me up to many other cultures that were completely foreign to me before, especially Asian cultures. These differences push us to adapt to others with respect, indulgence and empathy. This cultural diversity also brings a lot of variety to the level of cooking and music. In short, there is something for everyone!

See "Verbatim" page 6

Doctors take an eastern medical approach for eye diseases, eye strain

by FLORENCE HWANG

Two Lower Mainland eye doctors who have backgrounds in Chinese medicine say they are concerned with the increase in eye strain conditions and diseases they have seen in their patients due to excessive use of screens.

Dr. Cheryl Wang has been practising 16 years in acupuncture, and six years in micro-acupuncture. Micro-acupuncture is a relatively new acupuncture system that involves 48 acupuncture points located only in the hands and

feet, and is generally not associated with any other acupuncture system. It's used for a variety of health conditions and is effective for treating pain. She points out that Western eye doctors are able to see the physical detailed conditions inside the eyes, such as swelling, bleeding, macular holes, retinal tearing and scar tissue.

According to Bright Focus Foundation, an American non-profit organization that supports research to end Alzheimer's disease, macular degeneration, and glaucoma, the number of people living with macular degeneration is expected to reach

196 million worldwide by 2020 and increase to 288 million by 2040; 60.5 million had glaucoma in 2010. Given the aging of the world's population, this number may increase to almost 80 million by 2020. Wang feels there will be more need for the micro-acupuncture treatments.

Screen syndromes and strains

She is seeing more of the "Computer Eye Syndrome" or "Digital Eye Strain," specifically in the younger generation who are spending more time in front of screens like cell phones, tablets, computers and televisions.

"We have started seeing more eye disorders such as eye fatigue, dry eyes, tearing eyes, eye inflammation, blurred vision, and nearsightedness which [is] caused by the blue lights from these electronic screens," she says.

She points out that these disorders are different from degenerative eye diseases. But if ignored, all these symptoms will eventually lead to retinal damage and eventually vision loss.

Dr. Andrew Lin, a registered Chinese Medicine Practitioner and Acupuncturist, also sees

See "Eye Health" page 5

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Play tackles seniors and social isolation
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Life and times of Kut, the polar bear
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LE COLLEGE DE FRANÇAIS

f t in

Cultural Spotlight

Histories of Islam

by COLLEEN ADDISON

Muslims are an integral part of Canadian society, and yet their history and contributions to that society are often overlooked, says Aslam Bulbulia. Events like those in October for Islamic History Month go some ways towards changing this situation.

"[Islamic History Month carries] in some ways a double edge of separating yourself, of treating Muslims as different, as Other," says Bulbulia, the community engagement coordinator for the Centre for Comparative Muslim Studies who helped put together the upcoming Vancouver event for Islamic History Month. "[However], until there is a visibility of Muslims within the city, opportunities to specifically celebrate are useful, in the sense of pride for your traditions and background."

Some of these historical Islamic traditions, as well as modern depictions of Muslim life, will be on display at Vancouver's Islamic History Month event, which takes place Oct. 27 at the Vancouver Public Library Central Branch.

Miniatures and mehndi

"Post-colonial encounters with the Muslim world tend to underplay the contributions of Muslims in the history of civilization," explains Bulbulia. "The dark ages for Europeans were actually the golden ages for Muslims. Advances were made in terms of mathematics, astrology, medicine. [But] a lot of these contributions were largely ignored during the Renaissance and the colonial period."

One traditional art, calligraphy, is skill originating in some parts of the Muslim world, notes Bulbulia. "There was a religious interpretation among Sunni Muslims



▲ The Islamic history event takes place Oct. 27 at the Vancouver Public Library Central Branch.

that discouraged the depiction of every living being, animals and people. [Such depiction] is an act of creation, and that is supposed to be only what God does. But that's not the case in much of the Shia Muslim world, where there's a longstanding tradition of miniature paintings that includes people being drawn."

This interpretation by the Sunni Muslims led to an importance given to the written word, to the beautification of text, and to many styles of calligraphy, says Bulbulia. The Kufic script, for example, was different, "a block lettering, rather than what's traditionally associated with Arabic calligraphy, which is round, stylistic markings."

This script is still in use today, adds Bulbulia, and can be seen in Vancouver's Mount Pleasant district. "At the Vancouver Mural Festival, the Centre for Comparative Muslim Studies did a mural that uses a modern version of the Kufic script. It's a beautiful quotation from the Koran that talks about mankind being created into many different nations so that we may learn from one another."

The Islamic History Month celebrates modern Muslim life, as well as Muslim history, continues Bulbulia. Artists will be on hand to demonstrate calligraphy techniques in person, and visitors can also experience *henna* hand painting, an art currently in use by North African and Indian women.

"*Henna* is a dye made from lea[ves] and used for beautifica-

tion purposes [for] religious holidays and wedding celebrations, [often with] flower motifs," says Bulbulia. "I've seen women in my family getting their *mehndi* done before big events."

Starting conversations

Bulbulia is new to Vancouver, having emigrated from South Africa a year and a half ago.

"Every community has a lot to offer in terms of understanding the diverse nuances of histories that populations have experienced," he says. "Whether it's learning about the histories of African origin, whether it's a geographic origin or a religious orientation that's privileged – there's always a lot to learn."

This form of education has been at the centre of Bulbulia's time in Canada.

"I found very beautiful people here with really good hearts who I've been able to learn from," he says. "The way indigenous communities are starting conversations [to] recognize and try to rectify injustice [is] to me a tremendous motivation for social change."

Changing society is something about which Bulbulia feels strongly.

"To be an accepting, multicultural, multi-religious society means accommodating and celebrating the needs of every community within the country," he says. ✍

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



Photo courtesy of Aslam Bulbulia

▲ Aslam Bulbulia, community engagement coordinator for the Centre for Comparative Muslim Studies.



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Mobile app keeps seniors healthy at home

by SUSAN HANCOCK

Caren, a mobile application available on both Android Apps and the App Store, offers families a virtual tool to care for aging parents. The application customizes and stores client medical information and preferences in any language to support caregivers and family members.

"People in care often need routine and consistency to reduce anxiety," says Christina Chui, the founder and chief executive officer of *Caren*. "For instance, if someone has dementia, using a specific coffee cup is important

of being addressed," says Chiu. "This information helps create open communications and trust between the caregiver and the person under their care."

The flexibility of this application allows families to personalize the information to fit their needs, which could include preferences based on language, culture, social economics and education levels.

"In a typical Southeast Asian family, it's more common for the wife, daughter or a daughter-in-law to care for the elderly," says Chiu. "But there are male family members who would like to participate, but culturally don't feel comfort-

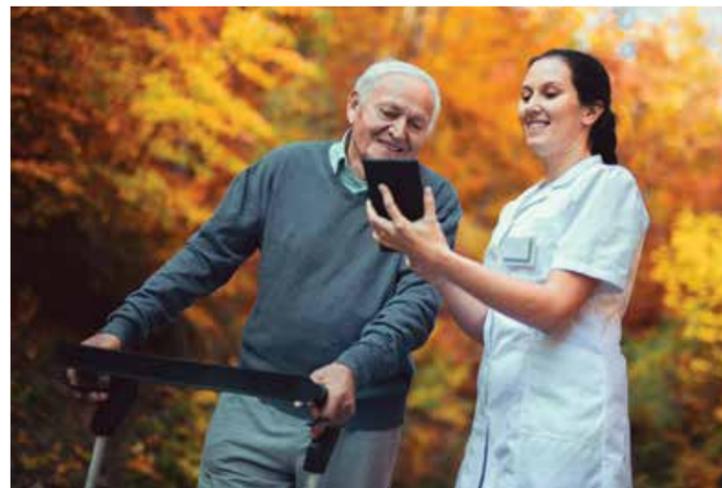


Photo courtesy of CareCrew Technologies

▲ *Caren, a mobile app, offers families care for aging parents.*

to navigating their daily routine. If the cup is missing, their entire day is off."

Caren is designed to store medical history and preferences of aging parents. This information can be shared with professionals, family members or a rotating schedule of different care workers who are responsible for administering medications and support services in the absence of a family member.

As a graduate student at UBC working towards her Masters in Health Administration, Chui is in contact with many physicians and nurses who observe hospital emergencies of seniors caused by a decline in care.

"Many hospital emergencies by seniors are preventable," says Chui. "Consistent care ensures that aging parents are eating proper meals every day, taking correct doses of medications and maintaining proper hygiene."

Language and culture key design element for mobile app

Caren is designed to share data in any language. This is a significant feature that allows people to communicate in their first language. As a graduate student in health administration, Chui is interested in the benefits of language and culture as part of caregiving, observing that seniors often feel more comfortable speaking in their first language.

"I believe that people who care for seniors should be able to speak their language to communicate," says Chiu.

Respecting a client's culture is also important to consistent care. Chui is trained to refer to seniors by their last name, but she recognizes that there are nuances; for example, some older Chinese men like to be called Uncle. This type of information can be uploaded to the mobile app so caregivers know how to address their clients.

"*Caren* recognizes that a person in care has a preferred way

able taking on a parent with incontinence.

Caren breaks down these cultural barriers and allows all family members to participate in important decisions involving the care of a loved one, but it also provides family members with choice in how they can participate in this care.

Next level of senior care

Chiu has her sights on developing a leading senior's care platform with the launch of her mobile app *Caren*. In the future, she envisions it being able to make smart recommendations to prevent hospitalization and keep seniors healthy at home.

"One of our clients is using the app for his dog," says Chiu. "People are using *Caren* in creative ways. Our target is seniors because it's my passion."

Chiu first pitched her idea at Hacking Health Design Challenge in 2016, winning the people's choice award. The following year, she won the Fraser Health Hackathon. In 2018, Chiu joined the e@UBC's Lean Launchpad program, incorporating her company, CareCrew Technologies, to start raising business capital.

By the summer of 2018, Chiu had moved into Innovation Boulevard's Surrey office and became a client of SFU's Coast Capital Savings Venture Connection, which provides mentoring and start-up support to new innovators. More recently, CareCrew won the SFU Coast Capital Savings Venture Prize social impact award.

"I wanted to do something that would alleviate the stress on our healthcare system," says Chiu. "In my studies, I found the missing link was family. Families are willing to play a bigger role if we empower them with the right tools." ✍

For more information, visit www.carenapp.com.

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A celebration of Vietnamese heritage

by VINH NGUYEN

In celebration of Vietnam's culture and heritage, the Southeast Asian Cultural Heritage Society (SEACHS) will be holding *Mai Dao: A Glimpse into Vietnamese Culture* at the Norman Rothstein Theater on Oct. 27.

Reminiscing on his time in Vietnam, *Mai Dao* theatre director Dennis Gupta says he is fond of Vietnamese water puppet show, which is what first introduced him to Vietnamese culture.

"I was stunned with the playfulness of the puppets floating, diving and playing with the pool of water," Gupta says. "It was fantastic!"

It was when Gupta helped with organizing *Mai Dao* that he says he truly immersed himself in the beauty of Vietnamese culture.

"*Mai Dao* sees the beauty of sharing one's culture, language and history in a theatrical space, and the community that forms this event brings sincerity and love," he says.

Gupta hopes his theatrical talents will engage the audience at the event.

"There is always greatness in bringing your visions of hope and connectedness through performative expressions," he says. "It makes it present, alive and heartfelt."

More than pho

Thai Hoa Le, SEACHS executive director and *Mai Dao* organizer, seeks to make *Mai Dao* welcom-

contributed to a notable Vietnamese film during his time in Vietnam: *The Lady Assassin*.

Teaching for community

For Pearl Nguyen, a teacher at Tran HuuTrang Theatre in Ho Chi Minh city, her immediate connections with her heritage guided her to the land of Vietnamese theatre, as she has always been an art lover at heart. Nguyen takes pride in her role as a teacher as well as in her research on problems facing contemporary Vietnamese Theatre, which is recognized by the University of Massachusetts Boston in Boston, United States.

"After graduating university and getting my art degree in theatre direction, I have taken on the path of teaching the younger generations," she says. "I am proud to be a teacher teaching about acting methods and the history of the theatres."

Participating in the Vietnamese community in Vancouver, she notices that the community is quite different from what she experienced in other Canadian cities.

"I have been to Toronto and Montreal multiple times, and I find that the Vietnamese community in Vancouver has a different presence," she says. "The community has a hard time finding a common voice here."

Shedding a more positive light on this subject, Hoang Nguyen, a student at Langara College who moved to Vancouver 4 years ago, says that the Vietnamese students may be timid at first. However, af-



Photo by Hoang Nguyen

▲ Members of the Langara Vietnamese Student Society having fun at Richmond Night Market.

ter they have gotten to know each other better, their bonds strengthen greatly.

"As a Vietnamese international student, I think there is a really strong connection between Vietnamese students in general. However, I think growing up in the South East Asian culture, people are shy to start conversations with others," he says. "But once we become friends, we have a strong sense of community."

Nguyen also says that Vancouver is a vibrant city full of diversity, where he can embrace his culture.

"Vancouver is a very multi-racial city, where everyone is treated fairly without discrimination or racism," he says. "I have always been proud of my Vietnamese heritage." ✍

Besides his acting credited in the blockbuster movie *X-Men: Days of the Future Past*, Le also

For more details and tickets, visit www.explorasian.org.



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Public Service Announcement: November 1 – 15, 2018 Free Community Activities

Culture Smart Conversation (Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi)

Join us in a friendly and warm environment where you can have a conversation about Canadian culture and current affairs or topics you are interested in.

- 🕒 Wednesdays, October 3 – November 28, 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- 📍 MOSAIC Surrey Office, #200-7134 King George Blvd
- ☎ Atttf 778 591 9334 ext 126 || aihsan@mosaicbc.org

Canadian Citizenship Preparation

Join us for a two-day workshop to prepare for Canadian citizenship! The sessions will be facilitated by MOSAIC staff. We will talk about topics such as Canada's history, symbols, government and geography, as well as the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Free service. Registration required.

- 🕒 November 7 & 8, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- 📍 South Hill Branch, Vancouver Public Library, 6076 Fraser Street
- ☎ Angel 604 254 9626 ext 2121 || atse@mosaicbc.org

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What should I pay attention to when renting a house or apartment

- Lease agreement
- Tenant rights and responsibilities
- How to complain to the landlord
- FAQs
- 🕒 November 9, 10 am – 12 pm
- 📍 CCM Centre, 2nd floor Crystal Mall, 4500 Kingsway, Burnaby
- ☎ Angel 604 254 9626 ext 2121 || atse@mosaicbc.org

Francophone Language and Culture Sharing

Learn more about the Francophone language and culture. Exchange ideas and knowledge.

- 🕒 Fridays, October 5 – November 30, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
- 📍 MOSAIC Surrey Office, #200-7134 King George Blvd
- ☎ Faustin 778 591 9334 ext 105 || fbilikano@mosaicbc.org

MOVING AHEAD

Citizenship Preparation 1, 2, 3 (Tigrinya)

Prepare for the Canadian citizenship test by studying some of the content in the Discover Canada guide book.

- 🕒 November 3, 17 & 24, 4 pm – 6 pm
- 📍 MOSAIC Highgate Office, #310-7155 Kingsway, Burnaby
- ☎ Tedros 604 636 4712

How to Deal with Emergencies (English/French/Swahili)

Learn how to identify emergency, call for help and emergency toolkits to keep at home or in the car.

- 🕒 November 6, 10 am – 12 pm
- 📍 MOSAIC Highgate Office, #310-7155 Kingsway, Burnaby
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Newcomers Group – Crafts (Arabic)

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SENIORS CLUB ACTIVITIES

Activities at MOSAIC 5575 Boundary Road, Vancouver

English Conversation Circle (Lower Beginner) **

When: Thursdays, September 27-December 6, 10 am-12 pm

English Conversation Circle (Intermediate) **

When: Thursdays, September 27-December 6, 2-4 pm

Computer, Smartphones & Tablets Application

When: Tuesdays, October 9-November 27, 10 am-12 pm

Knitting Circle

When: Tuesdays, September 25-November 27, 1-3 pm

Arts and Crafts**

When: Wednesday, November 7, 10 am-12 pm

Activities at MOSAIC 5902 Kingsway, Burnaby

English Conversation Circle (Upper Beginner)

When: Thursday, November 8, 9:30-11:30 am

Activities at Brentwood Community Resource Centre, 2055 Rosser Avenue, Burnaby

English Conversation Circle (Beginner)

When: Wednesday, November 7, 9:30 am – 11:30 am

English Conversation Circle

When: Fridays, September 21-November 23, 1-3 pm

Wai Dan Gong

When: Fridays, October 5-November 30, 9-10 am

Tai Chi

When: Fridays, September 21-November 30, 10:30 am-12 pm

Contact: Eliza 604 292 3907 or echan@mosaicbc.org

Jennifer 604 254 9626 ext 1157 or jng@mosaicbc.org

**Daisy 604 254 9626 ext 1005 or daisyau@mosaicbc.org

MOSAIC is a multilingual non-profit organization dedicated to addressing issues that affect immigrants and refugees in the course of their settlement and integration into Canadian society.

Refugees share their stories of struggle and success in resettlement

by KATY THOMPSON

The Unique Lived Experiences of Refugees in Metro Vancouver, A Public Forum, will be held on Saturday, Oct. 27 from 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m., at MOSAIC located at 5575 Boundary Road in Vancouver.

The forum aims to highlight the contributions and resettlement experiences of refugees who put down new roots in Metro Vancouver.

“Each refugee who arrives in Metro Vancouver brings their own unique experiences,” says Saleem Spindari, manager of Refugees and Migrant Workers Programs at MOSAIC and the forum’s moderator. “They come to seek

safety and protection. At the same time, they bring their talents and have strengths. At the forum, all these issues will be discussed.”

The forum

As the forum’s moderator, Spindari will invite panellists to share their stories of settlement and the ups and downs of their new lives in Canada.

“Keynote speakers are former refugees who are very active within their own communities,” says Spindari.

According to Spindari, about eight people are expected to talk at the forum, including a representative from Squamish and Nisga’a Nations.

The predicted turnout of 120 participants will have op-

portunities to ask questions, share their thoughts and be a part of the dialogue, which will take place in the form of panel sessions and small group dis-

of *Separation*, by Amar Chebib. The film tells the tale of three friends living in Aleppo, Syria who use their love of music to find meaning in

perspective and teaches a valuable lesson about what settlement can look like for refugees in Metro Vancouver.

“It is important to hear from

“ Each refugee who arrives in Metro Vancouver brings their own unique experiences.

Saleem Spindari, manager of Refugees and Migrant Workers Programs at MOSAIC

cussions. During the forum, attendees will also be able to network and gain access to resources on refugee resettlement.

In addition to panel sessions and small group discussions, there will be a screening of the film *Wajd – Songs*

the aftermath of the revolution while they face their traumatic pasts and rebuild their lives in exile.

DJ Judi Sketch Lewinson will also provide live music over lunch provided by Calabash Bistro. Spindari hopes that the use of multiple mediums will help make the forum more interactive and informative for participants.

Diverse topics at a crucial time

Many topics covered at the forum will include talks by refugees living with disabilities, refugees that come from LGBTQ+ communities, and refugees who self-identify as members of diverse ethnic, religious, gender and social groups. Spindari stresses the importance of giving each refugee’s story equal consideration; every story lends a new

them because we need to listen to their unique lived experiences, understand their issues, learn about their strengths and learn how to be aware of their past and present struggles and successes,” states Spindari.

Spindari hopes that the dialogue generated at the forum will help eliminate the many misconceptions that exist regarding what it means to be a refugee.

“This forum comes at a very crucial time when misinformation is widespread about refugees in general,” says Spindari. “The forum will provide a good opportunity to hear first-hand how former refugees are contributing to building a stronger community.”

For more information about *The Unique Lived Experiences of Refugees in Metro Vancouver, A Public Forum*, please visit www.liu.arts.ubc.ca



▲ The platform aims to highlight contributions and resettlement experiences of refugees.

► “Eye Health” from page 1

the effects of excessive screen time in the younger generation, causing a lot of damage in their retina and macula, noting there are more macular degeneration cases he has seen. But he’s indicated there are other influences on a person’s vision.

“In Chinese Medicine, there are many organs that have a direct influence on your vision, especially the liver. Which is very common as a lot of patients who suffer from vision loss may be on some kind of medication that is very toxic to the liver,” explains Lin.

He feels it’s important to address the eye strain due to increased screen time.

“It can cause a lot of harm and damage to the rod and cone cells in your retina. In the future this may lead to a rise in age-related macular degeneration epidemic,” he says.

Macular degeneration has increased slightly more than other eye diseases like glaucoma. While macular degeneration is

impossible to cure, micro-acupuncture combined with other treatments can slow down or stop the progression and improve vision, Wang says.

She says micro-acupuncture can treat macular dystrophy or macular edema, glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, to name a few. It can’t cure any of these diseases, but can be an effective treatment for most diseases.

Treating the body as a whole

Lin says his eastern medicine approach contrasts to the western counterpart.

“We do not see the eye as a separate organ but rather we treat the body as a whole. We use Chinese herbs, micro current stimulation, electrical stimulation and the micro-acupuncture system to stimulate the optic nerve to deliver more blood flow to the retina and the macula,” he says.

Seeing more clearly

Like Wang, Lin’s patients have their vision tested by their Ophthalmologist or their Op-

tometrists before he starts his treatment. After a series of treatments, Lin re-tests them and checks for measurable improvements in his patients.

“John Hopkins University had done a study on this ophthalmic micro-acupuncture system for patients with retinitis pigmentosa, which is an irreversible degenerative condition, and has shown 50 percent improvement in all the subjects in that study,” he says.

Wang also noticed patients’ improvement in their vision after she has treated them.

Some of her patients say street lights are no longer distorted, they are able to drive again when their eye doctor said they wouldn’t, there is a reduction or elimination of swelling, no more dry eyes and no more progression since the treatment.

She also recommends her patients see their eye doctors to get tested again after her treatments. Most patients see their eye doctors regularly after their initial diagnosis.

“Most patients do not even know there are alternative treatments out there. Some patients heard about the treatment but their eye doctors would tell them not to ‘waste’ their money because they do not believe there is any alternative treatment that is effective,” she says.

Wang has noticed an increase of patients for her services, but clarifies that “a tiny” fraction of



▲ Dr. Cheryl Wang, micro-acupuncturist.

the population has vision diseases.

Lin has trained with the world’s top eye specialists like Dr. Andy Rosenfarb helping patients with various forms of degenerative eye conditions. He had been in general practice for four years before meeting his mentor Dr. Rosenfarb, a naturopathic doctor and licensed acupuncturist based in New Jersey. Dr. Rosenfarb is the pioneer of Ophthalmic Acupuncture, Lin says.

“It really interested me because he was helping patients with various degenerative eye conditions regain lost vision and preserve it long term. Especially conditions that conventional medicine has very little solution to. I knew right away this was a path I wanted to embark on,” says Lin.

Lin will be speaking at the *Vancouver Health Show* on Oct. 28 about *The Effects of Screen Time & Eye Health*. For more information, visit www.healthshows.com.

SCAMPER AND THE AIRPLANE THIEF

BY DANIELLE S. MARCOTTE

A thrilling BC adventure and the basics of flying for ages 7 to 9, only \$14.95 at most bookstores
daniellesmarcotte.weebly.com



Festival of lights and culture

by BRITTANY THOMSON

This year's Diwali Festival in B.C. promises to both entertain and educate. Founded by Rohit Chokhani, Diwali in B.C. is an artistic platform and a celebration of the festival of lights during the Indian New Year. A multi-cultural festival, Diwali promises to engage artists and people from different backgrounds and specialties.

Raised in Mumbai, Chokhani grew up with the mindset that he would become a doctor or a lawyer. While pursuing a career in computer science, he managed only to participate in the arts as a side project.

Fast forward to 2018 and Chokhani is now an award-winning artistic director of Diwali in B.C. Having only founded Diwali B.C. in 2017, Chokhani has made a great deal of progress in making Diwali B.C. a B.C.-wide



▲ R. Chokhani, founder of Diwali in B.C.

celebration. Chokhani's day-to-day is filled with content curation, collaboration, partnerships and a lot of chai. Though making space for different perspectives can be difficult, he credits his passion for providing a platform for artists that are not often represented as his driving force.

This year's celebrations are themed New Horizons.

"[The theme is] an artistic response to racial tensions and gender abuse that continues to threaten the safety of the world in which we live," says Chokhani.

Many of the performances this year reflect this choice of theme. In the production *A Vancouver Guldasta*, there are fresh conversations around trauma and healing through the lens of a Punjabi-Sikh family living with a Vietnamese refugee in Vancouver. In *The Believers Are But Brothers*, through the world or technology it takes a deeper look at toxic masculinity, and *Shyama* explores different colours of love, the price of desire, forgiveness, and morality through one of India's most celebrated playwrights – Rabindranath Tagore. The theme also refers to Diwali B.C.'s geographical expansions. This year Diwali is expanding to three new cities, including Vernon, Nanaimo and Maple Ridge.

Chokhani hopes that this year's celebration encourages more local productions. He also hopes Diwali B.C. will experience growth both organizationally and financially, allowing the organization to undertake proj-



▲ Dancer Arno Kamolika.

ects that have a more culturally specific process for creation.

"We want to develop and produce more theatre shows locally. We want to represent more underrepresented groups from different backgrounds and abilities, provide more free acces-

sible residencies, mentorship opportunities and internships," explains Chokhani.

Universal artistry

Another project Chokhani has been working on is Project SAT (South Asian Theatre). De-

scribed as an initiative aimed at creating a network for developing, touring, producing, and presenting national and international South Asian theatre projects in Canada, Project SAT serves to inspire the next generation of South Asian artists. Through a series of workshops, artists can learn producing, playwriting, dramaturgy and *Natyashastra* (a text on the performing arts). As the program enters its third year, Chokhani says he has received an overwhelmingly positive response. Many workshops are fully booked, but there are still opportunities for those eager to learn. With hopes of developing more workshops and opening their doors to different underrepresented communities, Chokhani has high hopes for expanding the project.

"Speaking out and representing underrepresented voices is part of living my truth. I know what it is like to be ignored, to be on the outskirts or feel unheard. It has happened to me and it made me stronger and hungrier to not let it affect me and so I want that platform to exist that can offer space for folks who need it the most," says Chokhani. ✍

Diwali in B.C. takes place between Oct. 3 and Nov. 17. Through theatre, dance, and culturally specific workshops, Chokhani promises a rewarding experience for all who attend. For more information, please visit www.diwalibc.ca and www.projectsat.ca.

Marking the Infinite: Contemporary aboriginal women artists from Australia

by PETRA GIFFARD

Marking the Infinite will make its Canadian debut at UBC's Museum of Anthropology (MOA) in November. The show seeks to celebrate and preserve Indigenous knowledge, languages and traditions through the eyes of nine Aboriginal women's artworks.

"It is a series of firsts for us," explains Carol E. Mayer, curator of the Pacific at MOA. "It is our first Australian exhibition, our first contemporary art exhibition and the first all woman exhibition we've ever held at MOA."

The show was originally curated by art historian and curator Henry Skerritt. Mayer has worked with Skerritt almost daily to ensure that the exhibition stays true to his vision.

"It is his exhibit. He curated it. I don't change the content of the exhibit. What we do at MOA is we take his curation and we 'MOA-ise' it. We really work at presenting it differently," says Mayer.

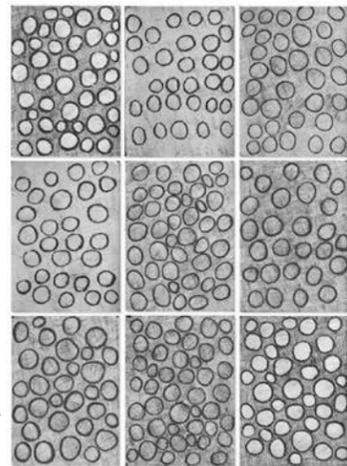
Mayer is hoping that people's experience of the exhibition will emulate her own first encounter with the show at the Phillips in Washington.

"Although I've worked with Australian material before, I had a preconception of contemporary Australian art being paintings on bark, lots of dots and being mainly by men. So when I walked into the exhibition for the first time I stopped in my tracks. It's not the colours you

would expect, it's not the standard ochre that people use in Pacific art," she says. "The paintings are about tradition. Their message is tradition. But the practice is contemporary. There is no history of painting on canvas in aboriginal life."

The women were initially helped by individuals in Australian Outback Stations who provided canvases and then helped market the artworks.

"Once the buyers and curators saw what they were doing and how different it was to recognized aboriginal artwork it just

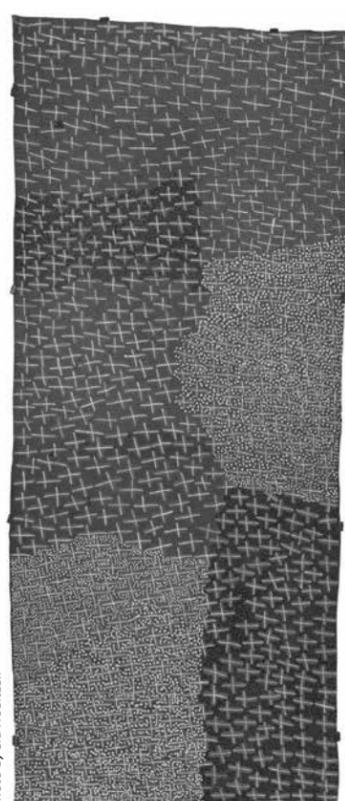


▲ Artwork by Nyapanyapa Yunupingu.

leapt into the contemporary art world," says Mayer

Borders and boundaries

Almost all of the works featured in the exhibition are paintings, with the exception of one weaving. Other weavings were intended for the show but these



▲ Artwork by Gulumbu Yunupingu.

were stopped by customs due to feathers being incorporated into the works.

"What is so interesting is that there are no borders in the women's work and it took a border of our making to stop them coming across," says Mayer.

The show also blurs the boundaries between museum and gallery displays.

"We have a lot of trouble with Indigenous art because we have this ethnographical debate that goes back and forth like 'should

this be in a gallery or museum?'" says Mayer. "This one is in a museum and in our museum we have shown many contemporary art shows and art. Many cultures do not have a word for 'art' so we're the ones that angst about it. They don't."

A map of Indigenous territories in Australia has also been included in the exhibition to help contextualize the works. According to Mayer, the map looks like a dot painting because there are so many territories, and all the edges are fuzzy because there are no edges.

"All of the paintings are about land. It is not just land physical it is land spiritual because the land is walked. When you are walking you sing the world into existence, and when your song ends that's the end of your territory," she says.

Indigenous knowledge

When asked about how the exhibition helps to preserve Indigenous knowledge, Mayer simply states that it does so by being the real thing. She also adds that sharing their stories around the world is incredibly significant to them because they know that Indigenous knowledge is relevant.

"That is something we've accepted here in British Columbia but a lot of the world is still needing to learn that. Indigenous knowledge like much good knowledge is globally applicable," she says. ✍

For more information, please visit www.moa.ubc.ca.

► "Verbatim" from page 1

I was fortunate to have some of my intercultural relationships turn into friendships. And it's with the same good fortune that I was able to achieve two goals: explore the Canadian outdoors and be part of an anglophone environment!

Outdoor activities in British Columbia appeal to me. This city makes outdoor sports easily accessible and opens doors for anyone wishing to try skiing, sailing or hiking, for example. But more than that, the outdoors is, for me, a way to appreciate the simple things. Far from the frills and superficiality of any city, the outdoors is a way to remember that happiness can be simple. Walking and camping in the wild with little equipment always makes me more aware of the comfort I have at home.

Vancouver was my first and still current "home" in Canada. My arrival and the beginning of this experiment was not easy, for example, the notorious cost of living on the West Coast put a damper on me upon my arrival and did not help the first few months. As well, making international friends requires effort and time. But despite these barriers, this outward-looking city has allowed me to develop another lifestyle that I like at the moment. I spend my weekends mostly in the mountains or on the water and with friends from all over the world! ✍

Translation by Barry Brisebois



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 30, 2018
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UBC School of Music 2018–2019 Concert Season: Exploring the Power of Music

Vancouver — The UBC School of Music is excited to announce its 2018–19 season. Scientific research is confirming what music lovers and musicians have known since the dawn of time: our brains are hardwired to respond to music, which serves to ease pain, evoke memories, stir emotions, change our physiology, and more. This year, our concert offerings continue to explore the power of music, with performances by our large and small ensembles, faculty and guest artists.

Concert of Winners: Showcasing the School of Music's brightest young pianists

We begin this season with a showcase of the winners of the inaugural Robert and Ellen Silverman Piano Concerto Competition. Held last March, the competition was a brilliant success, and we are thrilled to present this concert of the winners, each performing with the UBC Symphony Orchestra at the Chan Centre on September 23rd. The grand prize winner Benjamin Hopkins performs Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No. 4*, while the other prize winners, Evgenia Rabinovich, Ayunia Saputro and Aydan Con, will perform selected movements of concertos by Beethoven and Mozart, all conducted by Dr. Jonathan Girard.

The Power of Music: A Pulitzer Prize-winning opera and Stravinsky's *L'Histoire du Soldat*

Two events explore the unifying and healing power of music in response to the horrors of war, and the internal conflicts of human beings. On Nov. 3rd and 4th and 8th and 9th, the UBC Opera Ensemble will perform the Pulitzer Prize-winning opera *Silent Night* by Kevin Puts, which recounts the remarkable true story of the 1914 Christmas Truce: a spontaneous cease-fire during World War I. In a spring performance, the music of a soldier's violin is a central theme in Stravinsky's *L'Histoire du soldat* as it explores the ancient story of making deals with the devil in the hope of happiness and fortune. UBC's Director of Bands, Dr. Robert Taylor conducts a chamber ensemble of faculty and guest artists with a narrator and custom projections in our Music on the Point series on March 17th.

Chamber Music: Intimate Conversations | Collaborations and Intersections

You are invited to "Listen in" on the intimate conversations of musicians in many chamber music concerts throughout the season. One highlight is a recital by internationally-renowned artists Jose Franch-Ballester *clarinet*, and Jane Coop *piano* of works by Brahms, Schumann and Weber in our Music on the Point series on March 1st. In February, Rena Sharon leads a two-day event of concerts and workshops entitled "Collaborations and Intersections," which explores ideas about the Chamber Music realm, and collaborations with Mathematics, Mediation, Medicine, and more.

New Energy and Perspectives

The School is pleased to welcome new faculty member Valerie Whitney *horn*, who will bring her energy and fresh perspective to our explorations. Whitney is featured in a solo recital on January 23rd and performs chamber masterworks by Dohnányi and Prokofiev with faculty and guests on November 21st. Both are on our popular Wednesday Noon Hours series.

The Piano – A powerful tool of communication in the hands of masters

Piano recitals are plentiful this season, revealing a wide range of voices, emotions and messages. Concerts include solo piano recitals by faculty members Mark Anderson and Corey Hamm, with Anderson playing works by Röntgen and Brahms on October 24th, and Hamm performing pieces by Prokofiev, Dutilleux, Ping, and Kapustin on January 18th. Guest artists David Jalbert and Douglas Finch will also give solo piano recitals.

Invoking peace, introspection and jubilation this holiday season

On December 1st, UBC Choirs and UBC Symphony Orchestra explore contrasting themes in performances of Poulenc's *Gloria* and Vaughan Williams's *Dona Nobis Pacem*, conducted by Jonathan Girard.

Scheduling note

Bands, Choirs and Orchestra concerts at the Chan Centre have new start times this year: 7:30 pm (previously 8:00 pm).

The above is a small sampling of our many exciting concerts and events.

Please explore our concert calendar and visit music.ubc.ca/calendar for the latest updates!

"Ah, music," he said, wiping his eyes. "A magic beyond all we do here!"
– Dumbledore in J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*

A PDF of the entire season and up-to-date online event listings are available at www.music.ubc.ca.
Digital photos of UBC faculty, student ensembles, and guest artists are also available upon request.

-30-



Speaking volumes with one act

by THERESA K. HOWELL

In the upcoming theatre production *The Ones We Leave Behind* viewers are immersed in a character play that subtly addresses one of society's major issues: social isolation, abandonment and loneliness.

With the support of the Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre (VACT), the seminal MSG Lab play will be making its debut from Oct. 24–Nov. 3 at The Cultch's historic theatre.

Disappearing into loneliness

"In our increasingly interconnected world, how has social isolation become an epidemic?" asks Loretta Seto, the playwright of *The Ones We Leave Behind*.

According to Statistics Canada, as many as 1.4 million elderly Canadians report feeling lonely. In the last year, the UK government has opened an official position: Minister of Loneliness. However, it wasn't Seto's initial intent to address the social issue in the script. It surfaced when she was encouraged to write a short piece for the MSG Lab, by the artistic director of VACT, Donna Yamamoto.

"The idea came when I was reading a small news article about a man who passed away in his home and wasn't discovered until years afterwards. It really struck a chord for me," Seto says.

It seemed unfathomable to Seto how someone could disappear without anyone even noticing. Over the years, the idea percolated until she received the request from VACT. From that time, Seto started to fill in the gaps and out came the first act. Yamamoto knew right away the short play, comprised of eight pages, had something.

Beatrice has died without any family or friends to claim her. As Abby uncovers more details of Beatrice's lonely life, she is confronted by her own demons and is forced to face the mystery of her own life: the truth about her own father who walked out on her and her mother years ago.

Digging deep

Initially, Yi read for the part during the MSG Lab workshops.

“In our increasingly interconnected world, how has social isolation become an epidemic?”

Loretta Seto,
playwright of *The Ones We Leave Behind*

When Yamamoto offered him the role in the full-scale production, he didn't hesitate to say yes. Yi's been working with VACT ever since he relocated to Vancouver from Alaska over five years ago. He joined the community theatre group and took on as many roles as he could.

"I consider doing theatre like being in class; I learn so much," says Yi.

During rehearsal, Yi credits director John Cooper for helping him to flesh out his role. Greg, Yi's character, has proved to be challenging. Cooper directed Yi to dig deep into the subtext of the character.

"This really allowed me to grow as an actor. This play is very well-



▲ Cast of *The Ones We Leave Behind*.

"Initially, I go with my intuition then I watch the audience for feedback," says Yamamoto. "With, *The Ones We Leave Behind* people were crying at the end, yet laughing all the way through."

The story unfolds

Agnes Tong, a local Asian-Canadian actress, plays the lead character of Abby, an investigator for the Public Trustee. She is assigned her first case alongside a career investigator, Greg, played by James Yi. They need to find the next-of-kin for an elderly woman named Beatrice, played by Alannah Ong, a Hong Kong film and TV actress.

written, and the characters are well developed," he says.

Yamamoto, with her 30 years of experience in acting plus her current five years at VACT, knows brilliant writing. She recently won a Jessie Award for her outstanding leadership in developing works by three Asian-Canadian playwrights in The Cultch's 2015–16 season. Subsequently, it has been one of her endeavours to bring Asian-Canadian writers and performers to the forefront. With this current production, she has managed to do both. ✍

For more information, visit www.thecultch.com.

"Traditions are a big part of my culture. Unfortunately, so is diabetes."

Bernie, First Nations counsellor

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Photo courtesy of Javaad Alipoor

Art with an alternative perspective

by CURTIS SEUFERT

Javaad Alipoor, writer, co-director and lead performer, brings *The Believers Are But Brothers* to centre stage at the Culture Lab Oct. 30–Nov 10.

The one-actor play deals with identity, insecurity and fantasy while taking on the topics of toxic masculinity and far-right extremism in the online world.

A representation of masculinity and extremism

With just a few years of experience under his belt, writer-director-actor Javaad Alipoor has received acclaim and buzz for

ply two sides of the same coin either: for both sets of beliefs there are similarities and differences in their inciting factors and consequences.

“I don’t make a simple comparison or argue that these are two reflected extremisms. What the show is really about is fantasy, resentment and digital screens as a sort of political catalyst – that’s the conversation I’m hoping to have with people,” says Alipoor.

A need for new perspective

Mainstream media is not his only source for discussion – Alipoor says that the need for a new perspective extends beyond the news. He feels art can be just

“ I think the ideas that I explore in this play are ones that a lot of my audience are already tussling with.

*Javaad Alipoor, writer, co-director and lead performer of *The Believers Are But Brothers**

The Believers Are But Brothers, which he says has enabled him to tour the play throughout the U.K. as well as abroad.

The piece is a collection of three stories about men who become involved in the world of extreme, far-right politics online, journeying further and further into narratives – and consequently, life paths – that appeal to some of the men’s most deep-seated angers, insecurities and desires.

The many themes of the show, which include toxic masculinity, the alt-right, 4chan and Islamic extremism, are some of what Alipoor feels are pressing and hotly discussed social issues of today. Alipoor says it’s the appearance of issues being distant that makes them all the more dangerous.

“I think the ideas that I explore in this play are ones that a lot of my audience are already tussling with,” says Alipoor. “I hope that through engaging with the work, they get a sense of stickiness, complicity and urgency – the feeling that these problems are not something over there to be thought about, but something we are all complicit in.”

Alipoor recognizes the proliferation of this discussion topic and says he is critical of the common approach of Western media outlets in how they seek to understand white far-right extremism and its online roots.

Alipoor says this becomes especially apparent when compared to media discourse around Islamic extremism, but the two extremes are not sim-

as powerful in either helping or hindering such a re-framing of discussion, and the world of theatre is an engaging platform for novel perspectives.

“I think this background has always made me really bored of the parochialism of lots of Western theatre: the idea that the white and European view is international and universal by default is nonsense to me,” says Alipoor. “I think if you come from working class immigrant communities there is an easy cosmopolitanism, an internationalism that comes from below that I hope is present in my work.”

Alipoor is a British-Iranian Bradford, England native, whose background spans from DJ-ing in the U.K.’s unlicensed rave scene to advocating for alternative community work. He feels the success of *The Believers Are But Brothers* arguably marks another commercial success for art with an alternative perspective.

But Alipoor insists that for the frame of artistic discourse to truly open up, the worth of art must extend beyond its financial value.

“As artists I don’t think the commercial argument is the final or most important one for us. The leadership of our industries is still primarily upper class, white and male. It’s when that changes that I think the really interesting things happen – not just a change in who makes art, but why and how it’s made,” says Alipoor. ✍

For more information, visit www.thecultch.com.

A polar bear's life

by RAMAN KANG

Filmmaker, Julia Kwan explores themes of aging and the abandonment of the elderly in her first animation film, *The Zoo*.

Animated by Jesse Cote at Jester Coyote and co-produced by the National Film Board (NFB) and Telus, *The Zoo* takes us on a journey through the story of Kut, a polar bear cub who finds himself living in a confined, cemented pit at a zoo and a young Chinese boy named Jun, who visits him from their youth, well into their old age.

SPARK will be showing *The Zoo* Oct. 27 at the Vancity Theatre.

Inspiration

Dedicated to her dad, the film, written and directed by Kwan raises the question of how much we value seniors in our society, she says.

In *The Zoo*, we see both Kut and Jun age together until they are both in their twilight years.

The concept of *The Zoo* came from Kwan's real life experiences from visiting Tuk, the real bear who once lived at Vancouver's Stanley Park Zoo and was left there to wait out his life after it closed because he was too old to be moved and tie into her experience with taking care of her aging parents.



▲ Boy visits Kut.



▲ Family picture with Kut.

abandonment and loss through lives of Chinese seniors living in Vancouver's Chinatown, says Kwan.

Kut, much like the real Tuk, is left to live out the rest of his life in an abandoned zoo after it has closed and Jun is seen slowly walking up the stairs into his cramped apartment in Chinatown with no one by his side.

Show don't tell

The Zoo is Kwan's first film without dialogue.

"It was a challenge for me, I didn't hear a voice for the bear, I wanted the emotions to play out

in action, through facial expressions or circumstances of story," says Kwan.

Although not an animator herself, Kwan says *The Zoo* lends itself to animation and wanting to convey Kut's emotions without dialogue or voiceover meant that she had some research to do.

Kwan was also faced with showing how her two characters aged through the film without the use of dialogue.

She credits her animator Cote, for coming up with the concept of showing the two characters at different stages in life through a series of photographs.

Kwan says the details Cote put into a senior Jun, reminded her of her dad.

"I see my dad's physicality in that old man especially in the crooked back," she says.

Finding her voice

For Kwan, visiting the Stanley Park Zoo was a magical experience for her as a child, she says.

"There was no way my parents could afford to take us on a safari, it was the only chance I had as a child to be up close to animals, it fueled my imagination," she says.

Kwan's parents immigrated to Vancouver from China.

"I was such a shy kid that I didn't really have a voice and I found my voice through my writing," says Kwan.

Her mother, a school teacher and her father a manager/bus boy at a restaurant, Kwan says no one in her family ever pursued the arts.

Kwan's love for film would lead her into a scriptwriting and when she told her mom she was pursuing writing, she got a phone call from her sister saying "you know, mom thinks you're studying calligraphy."

On her first animation film, Kwan says "it's exciting, because I want to try different things, challenge myself as a filmmaker." ✂

Photo courtesy of Julia Kwan

THE ROGUE PRESENTS

Irish Mythen

I had no idea what to expect when this five-foot-nothing lady took the stage, all smiles and twinkling eyes and guitar. Then, she opened her mouth and out flew a voice that came straight from the Heavens with all the power and the glory and the truth of someone destined to be a singer. I've been blessed with seeing and hearing a lot of talented musicians in my life, but I have never experienced anyone quite like Irish Mythen. She is a force of nature and a gift from Almighty Herself.

~ Lisa Schwartz, *The Philadelphia Folk Festival*

Thursday, October 25th at the St. James Hall
3214 West 10th Avenue - \$24 (\$20 members)
Info: 604-736-3022 - Tickets: Highlife, Tapestry or
www.roguefolk.com

THE ROGUE PRESENTS

MARTIN KERR

Huge Hit at the Folk Festival in July!

Martin's soaring voice, storytelling and intelligent lyrics connect with hearts of all ages and backgrounds. Born and raised in England, he traveled to 35 countries, gathering experiences and stories that would later become the inspiration behind his songs. Now living in Edmonton, his last album debuted at #2 on iTunes Canada and he sold out the 1700-seat Winspear Centre.

Saturday, November 10th at the St. James Hall
3214 West 10th Avenue - \$24 (\$20 members)
Info: 604-736-3022 - Tickets: Highlife, Tapestry or
www.roguefolk.com

Cultural Calendar

October 23–November 6, 2018

by SIMON YEE

“Double, double toil and trouble; fire burn and caldron bubble!” Once again, the spine-chilling, hair-raising, heart-pounding Halloween season has returned, and there are plenty of Halloween-themed activities for the whole family (and for adults-only for the really frightening stuff!). But if the scary season isn't for you, not to worry. As always, there are many other (non-scary) festivals and events going on! Have a fun and safe Halloween season everyone!

Potter's House of Horrors

Until Oct. 31
12530 72nd Avenue, Surrey
www.pottershouseofhorrors.com

Potter's Farm & Nursery, a local garden centre in Surrey supplying plants, pottery and garden gifts, converts into the Potter's House of Horrors every October. Featuring terrifying custom haunted houses loaded with twisty turns, horrific surprises and heaps of fun, their goal is to ensure patrons have the best time possible while also hoping to provide a delightfully frightful Halloween experience. There are two versions of the haunted house: one for the family, where the scariness factor is reduced, and an adult version. For more information, please visit their website.

Heart of the City Festival

Oct. 24–Nov. 4
Downtown Eastside, Vancouver
www.heartofthecityfestival.com

With a focus on the rich and diverse communities of the Downtown Eastside, the 15th Annual Downtown Eastside Heart of the City Festival celebrates the creative and committed artists and activists who thrive in the heart of Vancouver. The 2018 festival features twelve days of music, stories, songs, poetry, cultural celebrations, films, theatre, dance, spoken word, forums, workshops, discussions, gallery exhibits, mixed media, art talks, history talks and history walks. This year's theme is “Seeds of Justice, Seeds of Hope.” For more information, please check out the website.

Spirit of Hungary

Oct. 26, 7:30–10 p.m.
Massey Theatre,
New Westminster
www.masseytheatre.com

Established in 1949 in its original form, the Hungarian National Dance Ensemble has been touring the world with significant



▲ Join the Pumpkin Parade in Burnaby Heights.

success. The 2018 North American Tour is a special engagement to commemorate the 170th anniversary of the 1848 Hungarian revolution and present authentic Hungarian folklore in a dazzling performance. The first part of the show will feature thematic dances commemorating the 1848 Hungarian revolution. The second half of the program will feature authentic Hungarian folk music and dances from the Carpathian Basin. Check out the Massey Theatre's website for tickets and more information.



▲ Dazzling performance of Hungarian culture.

Danielle S. Marcotte: Book Signing and Discussion

Oct. 27, 1–3 p.m.
Black Bond Books, 5251 Ladner Trunk Road, Delta
www.facebook.com/CWILLBC

Author Danielle S. Marcotte will meet the public and discuss and sign her latest children's book, *Scamper and the Airplane Thief*, at Ladner's Black Bond Books from 1–3 p.m. on Oct. 27. Will Scamper, the little red seaplane, be able to save his rebel pilot in Canada's wilderness? When a student kidnaps the small training plane for a joyride, it is up to the little Lus-

combe 8f to show courage, determination and quick thinking to save the day. Her seven other titles for kids will also be available in their French and English versions.

The Parade of Lost Souls

Oct. 27, 7–10 p.m.
Commercial Drive, Vancouver
www.dustflowerpotcabaret.com

Tighten your boots, folks, 'cause your socks are gonna get blown right off! The Parade of Lost Souls invites you to indulge in this year's theme of Magic and Realism! Come prepared to feast your eyes and ears on live bands, art installations, clowns galore, delicious food trucks and much more from the minds and hearts of our beloved city's artists! Please visit the website for more information!

Halloween on the Heights

Oct. 31, 3:30–8:30 p.m.
(Trick or Treat and Fireworks)
Nov. 1, 5:30–9 p.m. (Pumpkin Parade)
Burnaby Heights Neighbourhood
www.burnabyheights.com

Halloween belongs in the neighbourhood and this is very true on the Heights. *Halloween on the Heights* is the true folkloric event that is meant to be – safe, fun and a celebration of a good spooking! On Halloween, there will be trick-or-treating on Hastings Street from participating merchants in the afternoon and then a fireworks show at 8:15 p.m. at Gilmore Community School. On Nov. 1, there will be a Pumpkin Parade at Confederation Park. For more information, please visit the website.

Then and Now: 1968–2018 Conference

Nov. 2–3, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.
SFU Vancouver
www.sfu.ca/humanities-institute/public-events/conferences/1968conf.html

On the 50th anniversary of 1968, SFU Vancouver will host a conference that will consider various aspects of “the Sixties” in light of what has developed since. The conference will consider our current situation and its prospects: from women's liberation to contemporary feminism, indigenous politics then and now, the philosophical situation of the 1960s, changes in labour and labour politics, and the role of SFU and Vancouver, from anti-psychiatry to contemporary therapies. The speakers will take up one of the strands of the politics and culture of the 1960s to illuminate contemporary concerns. Check out SFU's website for a list of speakers and schedule information.

Fifth Annual Vancouver Turkish Film Festival

Nov. 2–4
Goldcorp Centre for the Arts, Vancouver
www.vtff.ca

As a “melting pot” of many cultures for thousands of years, the land of modern Turkey has so much to offer from a cultural sense, and the fifth Annual Vancouver Turkish Film Festival is one of the ways to share Turkey's multicultural heritage with the residents of Metro Vancouver. Turkish cinema has celebrated its centennial recently and flourished over the years. The festival this year will take place from Nov. 2–4 at the Goldcorp Centre for the Arts Cinema. There will be a panel discussion on Nov.

3 related to a theme in some of the films that will be screened. Two of the films portray the lives and challenges of Syrian refugees in Turkey. For showtimes and movie information, please visit the festival's website.

Vancouver Tea Festival

Nov. 3–4
Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden, Vancouver
www.vancouverteafestival.ca

Come explore the world of tea, interact with like-minded tea lovers and taste dazzling examples of one of the world's most be-



▲ Explore the subtleties of tea.

loved beverages returning once again to the Chinese Cultural Centre in Vancouver. Savour the elegant, timeless beauty of the Classical Chinese Garden as you experience a true pan-cultural celebration of tea in all its forms. For tickets and more information, check out the festival's website.

Aquarela do Brasil: An Explosive Celebration of Music and Dance

Nov. 8–9, 8 p.m.
Vancouver Playhouse
www.vlacc.ca

In honour of the 60th anniversary of the birth of Brazil's esteemed Bossa Nova musical movement, the Vancouver Latin American Cultural Centre Society will present a dazzling concert showcasing Brazil's multi-faceted musical culture in *Aquarela do Brasil: An Explosive Celebration of Music and Dance*, happening Nov. 8 & 9, 8 p.m. at Vancouver Playhouse. Created by internationally renowned percussionist Sal Ferreras, an ensemble of award-winning musicians and dancers will ignite the stage with some of Brazil's most infectious musical styles, from Rio's exuberant carnival rhythms and Bahia's iconic samba-reggae to the fiery steps of Recife's frevo, soulful choro classics and lyrical Bossa Nova melodies. Check out the website for tickets and more information.



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