



Cretan dances
echo mythology
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Vol 19 No 2 | June 26–July 10, 2018

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Photo courtesy of Black Gardenia

A summer in music

by CURTIS SEUFERT

Daphne Roubini of Black Gardenia brings her band's blend of London jazz and Americana to Granville Island's Canada Day celebrations, while John Welsh & Los Valientes share their combination World Music and Reggae at the Surrey Fusion Festival, and Iskwé aims to deliver a fully experiential trip-hop performance at the Vancouver Folk Festival.

Black Gardenia founder, ukeleleist, vocalist and lead songwriter Daphne Roubini was born and raised in London, England, where her affinity for tradition-

al jazz standards inspired her to study the genre.

Roubini first established the British Jazz band with her husband, and guitarist Andrew Smith, in 2010. Sharing a love of vintage early 20th-century jazz, the duo sought out more members through jam sessions and other musical performances in Vancouver.

Roubini, who came to Canada in 2004, recalls jamming with a myriad of performers at Vancouver venues such as the Bayside Lounge and the Railway Club, finding band members and gaining a Roots/Americana influence that's now present in the band. And while Black Gardenia's lineup is now more or less set in stone, for Roubini, the journey may have

been just as fulfilling as their current destination.

"Every time we had different musicians the song would be different, and I loved that about it. I thought that was true jazz: it was open and spacious, and the musicians could really explore their contributions to those songs," says Roubini.

The result is a band whose rhythm lies steadily in the strings rather than the drummer, whose absence in the band was a conscious choice on Roubini's part, and which carries Roubini's voice, reminiscent of the vocalists who inspired her: Ella Fitzgerald, Carmen McCrae and Sarah Vaughan.

"So now I would say that now Black Gardenia has some of that

Americana in the choice of material," says Roubini. "But there's also the Django Reinhardt 'chunk' that comes through in the guitar playing, and yet it's still got a Billie Holiday and old country tune feel, so it's become even more of a kind of blurred, burnished interpretation of jazz."

John Welsh & Los Valientes

John Welsh has been on the move from a young age. Having immigrated from the U.K. to Canada and back again, studying in Guatemala after high school and finishing university at UBC, Welsh has acquired not only a fluency in English, French and Spanish, but also a love of British bands like

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Verbatim

Strange paradox

by SAMUEL LOPES

For a European, immigration to Canada, whether well prepared or not, is a great adventure. When one is a francophone and chooses to go to Vancouver, it is first and foremost to be in an anglophone environment. One comes to learn, to discover, to be challenged. In other words, to leave one's comfort zone.

The book that has accompanied me since my departure from France is a travel story written by Nicolas Bouvier in the 1950s entitled *The Way of the World*. Having left Switzerland with a friend, their journey lasted almost two years and took them from the Balkans to Afghanistan, by way of Turkey or Iran. Leaving with little money, they faced several unforeseen events but kept intact their thirst for travel: "On the road, the best is to get lost. When one goes astray, plans give way to surprises and it is then, and only then, that the journey begins."

To a lesser extent, it was this feeling that animated me during my first week in Vancouver. I decided to leave an interesting job in France, well paid, with responsibilities and job security for a 150 square foot room, a few hours of work in catering and a lot of volunteering. From the comfort of my loft in the heart of the Alps to the frugality of an isolated room in West Point Grey, this is an adventure in itself. But is that not also what I came for?

After the first few days, one logically begins to want to integrate and meet people. Professional meetings (the sacrosanct "networking"), but also personal encounters. There are those who have been contacted beforehand (friends of friends, nephews and nieces of colleagues, colleagues of nephews of friends, etc.) and fortuitous encounters. The miracle of these meetings is that they are, consciously or

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Cultural Spotlight

Cretan community's love of dance

by VICTOR VAN DER MERWE

Greek Summerfest will be returning to Vancouver for the 32nd consecutive year from July 5–15. With many different Greek societies and associations in the Metro Vancouver area, including the Cretan Association of B.C., the festival has grown from one weekend in 1987 to an event that spans 11 days and is attended by over 40,000 people from all over the Lower Mainland.

The Cretan Association of B.C., established in 1967, currently has over 200 paid members. They are dedicated to supporting a vibrant community here in Canada with other Cretans around the world. Crete is the

culture and heritage to the youth," says Papoutsakis.

Calling all youths

With the constantly changing world, Papoutsakis says it is important to him to get the youth involved with their culture. He wants all people from Crete who live in Metro Vancouver to attend these events, be they lectures picnics or dances, but especially the youth.

"My hope is that the younger generations will take an active role with the Association and will continue our traditions with their children and their children's children. I want the Association to continue to thrive and have members who are genuinely interested in promoting Cretan history and culture in

ated within these kids through music, dance and culture. The pride that these kids feel about their heritage is truly admirable and they are not shy to express it," Papoutsakis says.

With his lifelong involvement with the association and being on the board since the 90s, Papoutsakis has seen plenty of changes but he cannot help but be surprised at the enthusiasm from the youth.

"No matter the years that go by, the youth of Cretan and Greek descent are still extremely tied to their roots. They are proud of being Greek and this shows in their involvement in youth groups, camps as well as the multiple dance groups that are in existence within the Lower Mainland. The Cretan Association dance groups are some of the most prominent and we currently have approximately 40 kids in our dance groups ranging from five years old to adults," he says.

For more information, please visit www.vancouvergreeksummerfest.com



▲ The Vancouver Cretan Minotavri dance group.



▲ Cretan dance group in Seattle in 2005.

largest of the Greek Islands and forms a significant part of their economy, with its own unique culture, food, music, dance and history. Niko Papoutsakis, former president whose family has been involved with the Association since its inception, remembers fondly the time they rented out entire motels in Penticton for one of their weekend retreats.

"We ate, danced and partied – young and old together – all weekend long, passing on our

Vancouver," Papoutsakis continues.

One of the ways the Association tries to keep the young people involved is via dance groups: Agrimakia for ages 3 to 12 and Minotavri for ages 13 to 30. The names have very specific meanings.

Agrimakia are mountain goats that are indigenous to the island of Crete. They are wild and jump around just like the young dancers. Minotavri are named after the mythical creature in Greek mythology, the Minotaur. He lived on the island of Crete and was part man and part bull," Papoutsakis explains.

Cretan beat

Both groups will be performing at the Greek Summer Festival on Friday, July 13, 2018. The Cretan dances are famous throughout Greece, and Cretan dances are echoes of the dances of the Curetes, or daemons from Cretan mythology. Papoutsakis says traditional Cretan dances are danced by men and women, who all wear Cretan costumes in formal events. They are either fast or slow, but always vivid and imposing.

"We hope spectators can see the pride that our youth feel for their heritage, their Cretan roots as well as the bond that is cre-

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MISSING ASIAN GIRL

Vancouver stood across my walking.
What bones of feet had trod here, invisible now.
Bones ground in. Vanished tracks.
Who could see the city in me?
How did it manifest itself?
I pulled its hood over my head. Ghost pueblo.
This was where home yearned for me.
Searched for me in the misty rain, called and called my name
Past the weathered faces that turned to pavement.
Here I paced going nowhere, bone sliding on bone.
Buried here the mockery of days.

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Photo credits for front cover
Page 2 (top): Courtesy of the Cretan Association
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From policy to practice: resettlement journeys of Syrian refugees

by KATY THOMPSON

UBC Public Scholars Award recipient Bronwyn Bragg worked with immigrant and refugee communities as a community-based researcher in Calgary before returning to school to complete her PhD in human geography. Her current research findings may shed light on how immigration policy can affect the successful resettlement of Syrian refugees in the Lower Mainland.

Through her work, Bragg saw firsthand the impact that Canadian immigration policy has on the everyday lives of community



Photo courtesy of Bronwyn Bragg

▲ Bronwyn Bragg, PhD candidate in human geography at UBC.

members. She was employed during a time of extensive change to the immigration system, when new policy decisions regarding family reunification and language requirements for economic immigrants were being made under the Conservative government.

“I decided to go back to school to explore this intersection, between policy and community, at a deeper level as well as to think about ways that research can lead to better policy decisions,” says Bragg.

The research

Bragg’s research is based on a four-square block ‘mini enclave’ of Syrian refugees in East Calgary. The neighbourhood, known by residents as ‘Little Syria,’ is home to 35 Syrian families who resettled in Canada in 2015 and 2016. Through interviews and participant observation, Bragg has researched how geography affects settlement, sense of belonging and the reshaping of neighbourhood life.

Despite struggling with poverty and marginalization, Bragg says that Little Syria shows its resilience in social inclusion initiatives and resident-led community development projects.

According to Bragg, understanding how Syrian families experience settlement starts with researching the local context in which they live. Bragg

has communicated with community stakeholders and service providers, and she emphasizes the importance of getting away from the mindset that there is a separate sector for immigrant services.

“What Canadians want for Syrian refugees may be different than what Syrian refugees want for themselves.

Bronwyn Bragg, PhD candidate in human geography

“What I have observed in my research is that two to three years after their arrival in Canada, most Syrian women are not accessing services specific to immigrants/refugees,” she says.

Instead, Bragg has observed that they are participating with mainstream resources, such as their children’s schools and the medical system. She encourages municipalities and provincial governments to think of services, including schools, hospitals, social workers and the police as also being immigrant serving.

“I think it is important that we think about how these ‘mainstream’ services are prepared to work with newcomer/refugee populations,” says Bragg.

Bridging policy and practice

Bragg contends that Canadian immigrants and refugees are affected by immigration policy everyday. For example, it is be-

coming increasingly difficult for Canadian Permanent Residents to sponsor family members, due to factors such as who ‘counts’ as a family member, caps on how many family members can be admitted each year, and income re-

the ground level,” Bragg says.

The successful resettlement journey

According to Bragg, there is no singular definition of a successful resettlement journey.

quirements for families wanting to sponsor a relative. The impact of this policy is especially felt by immigrant women who depend on the support of extended family members.

“This is a core priority for the Syrian families in my study and yet the ability to sponsor relatives is out of reach for most of them,” says Bragg.

Bragg’s research faces the challenge of making the bridge between policy and practice at the community level. She proposes two ways of approaching policy change. First, Bragg hopes that community-engaged research like her own will be able to inform policy decisions. Second, she believes that service providers, such as schools and hospitals, play a key role in policy implementation.

“I hope to use my research to support better implementation of policy and service delivery at

“What Canadians want for Syrian refugees may be different than what Syrian refugees want for themselves,” she says.

As Bragg explains, the reality of the ongoing conflict in Syria, and family members that still live in Syria, or in refugee camps in Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey, make it unfeasible for Syrian refugees to lose ties to their homeland. She also warns of overburdening refugee families with preset expectations regarding employment, language skills and how they will lead their lives in Canada.

“Because of the overwhelming level of interest and involvement by Canadians in the Syrian initiative, I think we sometimes lose sight of the fact that this process isn’t actually about us,” she says. ✍

For more information about Bronwyn Bragg, visit www.grad.ubc.ca/campus-community/meet-our-students/bragg-bronwyn

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▲ “Verbatim” from page 1

not, between francophones! What a surprise for me to find here a francophone community so important and so alive! We help each other, we advise each other, we invite each other to dinner and we speak French.

The most curious thing about all this is that, for a Frenchman, the notion of the “Francophonie” remains a rather broad and vague concept. We are sometimes told of the holding of a “Francophonie Summit,” but I challenge anyone to tell me what steps or decisions have been taken during one of these summits. Also, before coming here, I had no idea of the existence of a francophone community in Vancouver, let alone one so dynamic!

sation between francophones. Peculiar paradox!

I have no desire to be critical, and my arrival is too recent to be able to closely analyze this process of integration. I simply note with interest the international reach of the Francophonie and how this language brings us closer and makes us a community, even on the other side of the world.

My first month in Vancouver ends soon. The next meetings will be with anglophones, francophones or allophones, whatever. The most important is that they be beautiful and rewarding. I appreciate both my “new francophone comfort zone” and my meetings and exchanges in a still hesitant English. I am still in the moment



▲ Surprises that await the traveller.

I am willing to bet that almost all the “working holidayers” like me live the same adventure and make the same assessment after three weeks in Vancouver. We come here to experiment, to discover, to put ourselves in danger. We want to get out of our comfort zone, but we soon find ourselves in the cozy situation of a conver-

where everything is new and beautiful, just in a hurry to be surprised and amazed by the unexpected.

“We travel for things to happen and change; otherwise we would stay at home.” Nicolas Bouvier (*The Way of the World*). ✍

Translation by Barry Brisebois

A mediator at heart

by RAMAN KANG

“How we treat the poorest and the most vulnerable people in our community is an indication of what we are like as a society and it’s really important to make sure no one is left behind,” says Zulie Sachedina, Vice President, Human Resources and General Counsel at Providence Health Care.

Sachedina, a 2018 YWCA Women of Distinction Award recipient, is a human rights activist who has combined law and health-care to help make sure marginalized groups are heard.

“Sometimes you need opportunities to be able to amplify



Photo courtesy of Zulie Sachedina

Zulie Sachedina, a human rights activist, amplifies the voices of marginalized groups to make sure they are heard.

that voice so that it is actually heard,” she says.

Born in the small village of Njombe in Tanzania, Sachedina left to pursue education in England and eventually made the move to Canada with her parents.

“We arrived in Montreal in the middle of winter. My mother was like, ‘what the heck have we done?’” she says.

Sachedina continued her education combining health administration and law.

Working with the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Ontario, Sachedina was part of a task force that had been established to look at the processes for responding to complaints of sexual harassment that were brought to the College by patients who had been sexually harassed by physicians.

The task force had been established in response to complaints by women’s groups because the processes were very difficult for patients and the College was determined to make sure that when people complained, they were responded to appropriately, says Sachedina.

“This was my first area of looking at systemic processes and to put processes in place that help equalize the relationship of people who are inherently on the vulnerable end of it,” says Sachedina. “The process itself can be intimidating and now with the Me Too movement, it’s apparent we have to continue to work at figuring out how we equalize the power im-

balance in relationships and the perception of power imbalance to make it possible for people to come forward and have their voices heard.”

Working with refugees

While working as a member on the Immigration and Refugee

board members have to determine parameters when assessing a claim.

“I was lucky enough to deal with cases that dealt with persecution based on sexual orientation and transgender cases, which would never have been heard in the 1940s,” says Sa-

chedina. “Those are the kinds of cases that helped advance the law and establish a system to expand the ways to define membership in a particular social group.”

“I had the opportunity to see the refugee camps at the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan at the time. It was a shocking sight to see children

“ I’m a mediator at heart. I like to have people come together to see if we can work together to make something happen.

Zulie Sachedina, Vice President, Human Resources and General Counsel at Providence Health Care.

chedina. “Those are the kinds of cases that helped advance the law and establish a system to expand the ways to define membership in a particular social group.”

“We focused on the most vulnerable people seeking asylum,” says Sachedina.

She among many others helped create new definitions of what it means to belong to a social group, to include sexual orientation and victims of domestic violence.

“The refugee law system emerged after the Second World War, when countries made a commitment that when someone comes to your border and claims to be a refugee you must have a system in place to assess their claim,” Sachedina explains.

She says that the Refugee

board, Sachedina was part of a team that heard the claims of refugees seeking asylum.

That meant victims of domestic violence or sexual orientation could be “put into this bucket” and still stay true to the legal regime of legislation that had been set down, says Sachedina.

Helping others thrive

Sachedina encourages international development by looking for agencies that work in these areas.

After 9/11, Sachedina went to Afghanistan with Oxfam Canada, an international devel-

opment agency that is part of a global movement to eradicate poverty, to assess the “humanitarian crisis.”

and people in such dire strain,” she says. Sachedina has also served on the Canadian Council for International Cooperation and raises money for causes like the Aga Khan Foundation, a not-for-profit development agency.

Sachedina is a member of the Ismaili community serving as chair on the Ismaili International Conciliation and Arbitration Board appointed by His Highness Prince Aga Khan.

The Board helps to resolve disputes through mediation, arbitration and conciliation.

“I’m a mediator at heart. I like to have people come together to see if we can work together to make something happen,” she says. ✉

Questioning the role of museums

by JAKE MCGRAIL

“Mythmaking,” the theme for this year’s Indian Summer Festival will focus on storytelling, the human imagination, and how both of those affect how people and society function. How sharing stories and memories – and which ones are chosen to be shared – are crucial, and one of the keys to how people shape their histories is through collections of the past: museums.

As part of the events planned for this year the Tiffin Talks, a lunchtime ideas series, will present New Museology on July 11.

“I think museums play a very important role,” says Shaheen Nanji, director of International Community Engagement at SFU. “They have the privilege of housing artifacts, and they help immortalize culture. They have a responsibility to share the materials they hold through education and access.”

The Indian Summer Festival brings together artists, writers, speakers and community members and will run July 5–15.

Carriers of the past

Nanji will be one of three presenters at New Museology, alongside Ammar Mahimwalla

and Marika Echachis Swan, one of a five-part series of talks that aim to inform and provoke discussion amongst participants. Much of Nanji’s work revolves around creating welcoming communities for refugees and newcomers to Canada, and she has worked with the Museum of Vancouver to help make it a more accessible – and a more inclusive – environment.

“I immigrated to Canada in the 1980s [from Kenya],” she says, “but it was only in the last five or ten years that I realized in all my efforts to fit into Canada, there’s always been this layer of feeling like an outsider.



Photo courtesy of ICC/Geoff Howe.

Shaheen Nanji, director of International Community Engagement at SFU.

I’ve missed understanding the history of this land.”

Nanji and the Museum of Vancouver have looked to connect and collaborate with local Indigenous communities, and have worked to share underrepresented stories and history with all Canadians, both old and new. This discussion of how these histories and stories are captured – or should be captured – is what Nanji will bring to PAUSE Pavilion for the Tiffin Talk, and the fact that the pavilion is located at the site of an Indigenous village only adds a powerful natural element to the panel.

“I think this will be a great opportunity to be in this beautiful space that holds a history many of us aren’t aware of,” says Nanji. “It will be an opportunity to unpack that history and the role museums play in the different ways we understand what spaces like these hold.”

A unique presentation

Admission to the Tiffin Talks is by donation, with the goal to include all those who wish to attend. No one will be turned away, and that fits with what Nanji sees as one of the Indian Summer Festival’s strongest aspects.

“The festival is about engaging different cultures, and I

think it’s really exciting,” she says. “We often talk about diversity and multiculturalism, but we sometimes forget to include those aspects in everyday life.”

Nanji hopes she and her fellow presenters of New Museology will be engaging and informative in their panel, but she sees a lot of added value in the lunch that will take place following the presentations.

“Often when there’s a panel there might be an audience Q&A,” she says, “but then you go away and discuss [what you’ve heard] only within your small group. At this event there will be time for people to interact with what they’re hearing, and continue the conversation.”

It is that opportunity to continue conversations that attracts Nanji. The topics that will be discussed are not simple or black and white, so being able to relax and converse with others over a delicious meal will hopefully lend itself to a more nuanced and engaging dialogue.

“I think it’s really important to discuss deep issues together,” says Nanji. “I’m hopeful this will spark another level of conversation and understanding.” ✉

For more information, visit www.indiansummerfest.ca.

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- ☎ Tim 604 438 8214 ext 114 or 604 254 9626 ext 1105 || tchow@mosaicbc.org

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It is summer! Besides getting help with summer school homework and preview courses, you will also get piano and drama lesson in each session. No experience necessary. Subjects for homework support include English, math (Algebra, Pre-calculus), science and social studies...etc from buddies who are Canadian universities graduates. We also teach computer Windows programs and help prepare presentation, research and projects. Free snacks and drinks. Free bus tickets for eligible clients. English with Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean and Tagalog language support.

- 🕒 Tuesdays & Thursdays, July 5 – August 9, 4–6 pm
- 📍 MOSAIC Head Office, 5575 Boundary Road, Vancouver
- ☎ Joy or Angel 604 254 9626 || jjhocson@mosaicbc.org or atse@mosaicbc.org || Text message: 778 321 5406

MOVING AHEAD

Basic Law Knowledge of Canada (Tigrinya)

- 🕒 Saturday, July 7, 4 – 6 pm
- 📍 MOSAIC Highgate Office, #310-7155 Kingsway, Burnaby
- ☎ Dirar 604 636 4712

Newcomers Group: Canadian Culture and Social Expectations (Arabic)

- 🕒 Friday, July 13, 10 am – 12 pm
- 📍 MOSAIC Highgate Office, #310-7155 Kingsway, Burnaby
- ☎ Amal or Suhair 604 636 4712

Newcomers Group: Field Trip to Community Centre (Dari/Farsi)

- 🕒 Friday, July 13, 3 – 5 pm
- 📍 MOSAIC Highgate Office, #310-7155 Kingsway, Burnaby
- ☎ Rafi 604 636 4712

Citizen Rights and Responsibilities (Tigrinya)

- 🕒 Saturday, July 14, 4 – 6 pm
- 📍 MOSAIC Highgate Office, #310-7155 Kingsway, Burnaby
- ☎ Dirar 604 636 4712

MULTICULTURAL WOMEN'S GROUP

English Conversation Circle for Persian-Speaking Women

Join this free conversation circle for women to improve your English. Persian-speaking volunteer assistants provide support to Persian-speaking women of all English levels. Topics are relevant to everyday life and are chosen by the group.

- 🕒 Tuesdays, 10 am – 2 pm
- 📍 MOSAIC Head Office, 5575 Boundary Road, Vancouver
- ☎ Mehrzad 604 254 9626 ext 1013 || msalari@mosaicbc.org

Drop-In English Conversation Circle for Work Permit Holders

- Learn effective communication skills and practice workplace English
- Familiarize yourself with Canadian workplace culture
- Meet new people and have meaningful conversations
- 🕒 Mondays, May 28 - July 30, 2018 (excluding statutory holidays), 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
- 📍 MOSAIC Head Office, 5575 Boundary Road, Vancouver
- ☎ Rey 604 438 8214 || rblasco@mosaicbc.org

SENIORS CLUB ACTIVITIES

Activities at MOSAIC 5575 Boundary Road, Vancouver

Knitting Circle

When: Tuesdays, until June 19, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Field Trips will be organized in July and August.

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

Jennifer 604 254 9626 ext 1003 or jng@mosaicbc.org

LGBTQ

I Belong Peer Support Social Group for LGBTQ Newcomers

Meet new people, make friends and participate in fun activities! Our peer support group gives you a chance to learn about community resources, share experiences and information and build up your social connections. Language support provided by volunteers (please contact us in advance to ensure that we have a volunteer who speaks your language).

- 🕒 July 9, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
- ☎ Masashi 604 254 9626 or ibelong@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.

An artist's journey home

by BRITTANY THOMSON

Interdisciplinary artist Deanna Bowen is in Vancouver to finish her multi-media exhibit called *The Long Doorway*, which is currently in post production at Vancouver's Western Front Society. Based on a CBC program from 1956 and Bowen's own research into her family history, the exhibit is set to challenge the way visitors see Canada and its race relations.

Co-commissioned by the Contemporary Art Gallery and Mercer Union in Toronto, *The Long Doorway* is a combination of a reimagined script from a 1956 CBC teledrama and the restaging of a 1964 ABC interview with the Ku Klux Klan's Imperial Wizard, Robert Shelton.

The script, which was written by Canadian screenwriter Stanley Mann and starred Bowen's own great uncle, is what Mercer Union describes as a rare dramatic work that deals with black/white race relations in Toronto and in Canada.

"[It's] a greater thematic about black presence and media representation in Canada," Bowen says. "All of it is rooted in my family genealogy and Canadian media history."

Marrying many forms of media, including performances in film, dance and print, Bowen chose these tools because she feels they will help tell the story best. The footage the exhibit is

paternal families rooted in the Deep South of the United States, she was more than familiar with segregation. As her family fled the South and the Ku Klux Klan, they migrated through the Canadian prairies and settled throughout Canada.

Her family created four of the most Northern all-black communities in North America, which allowed them to be both free and self governed. She was able to trace her paternal side to a small all-black town, Nicodemus, Kansas. According to Bowen, the community produced some of the first black politicians in the United States, a fact that she feels much pride for.

"It was important for me to recognize how important both my grandfather and grandmother's communities were within the greater Canadian historical narrative," says Bowen.

Bowen hopes her exhibit will serve as evidence to history – the ways in which time has not changed and how much it has. Recognizing that there are all kinds of racialized histories that have not been brought forward into the mainstream, she hopes that her audience will come to realize how much work has to be done and decide to contribute by demanding more exhibits and education.

"I want people to be affected – inspired to make change, big or small," says Bowen.

As her time in Vancouver nears its end, Bowen already



▲ Deanna Bowen, ON TRIAL The Long Doorway.

based on is lost to history, but by working from the original script, Bowen has brought it back to life.

"With black archives, the archive barely exists or it hints at something that happened. A lot of the bigger story is omitted," she says.

Bowen is also adding a dance performance to her exhibit. Working with Vancouver-based dancers and Toronto's Seika Boye, she based the piece on an archival recording from the CBC's Eleanor Collins' variety show in 1955. Like all of Bowen's work it has ties to her family.

Collins, known as 'Vancouver's first lady of jazz,' comes from the same all-black community in Northern Alberta that Bowen's family is from. With the help of Western Front, Bowen will piece these two separate projects into one solo show. The sets from Toronto will be brought to Vancouver and the original live performances will be integrated into the exhibit.

Family ties

Born in Oakland and raised in Vancouver, Bowen grew up with more than an interest in her family history. First it became her passion and then her career. With both her maternal and



▲ Installation detail: Deanna Bowen, "On Trial The Long Doorway" – newspaper prop, Mercer Union, 2017.

has her eye on a new project. She is currently researching and developing new works based on her 2013 piece the 1911 Anti-Creek Negro Petition. ✎

The Long Doorway will be fully open to the public next April at Vancouver's Contemporary Art Gallery.

For more information, visit www.front.bc.ca.

Photo by Toni Hoffenscheid.

Photo courtesy of Deanna Bowen.

Tricksters Laugh

Modern indigenous spirit with humour

by XI CHEN

A Haida legend has it that at the beginning of the world, there was nothing but darkness and a raven. The raven, tired of flying in the dark, plotted a scheme to steal the light and spread it to the world. And that was how light came into the universe. Since then, Raven has become a Native American symbol of both creation and trickery.

Tricksters Laugh, an upcoming art exhibition hosted and organized by the Burnaby Arts Council will be held at the Deer Lake Art Gallery from July 7–Aug. 11.



▲ Artwork by Alanna Edwards.

The exhibition, which features contemporary indigenous artists Alanna Edwards and Geronimo, exemplifies this raven spirit as they navigate the themes of cultural identity, history, environment and everyday life with a sense of trickery and humour.

"I hope this exhibition can be fun and welcoming, as it is about making a connection with the viewer," Edwards said.

By mixing contemporary and traditional materials with the natural and synthetic in unusual ways, she raises questions on the authenticity and the perception of objects through her artworks, alluding to her own identity and what it means to be considered an indigenous artist in Canada.

Humour underlies social and political message

Working under the alias "Geronimo", a Native American warrior and healer, the second artist, Tamara Bell, is equally whimsical and unconventional. The artist blends traditional indigenous iconography with vibrant colours and playful concepts, usually with a humorous social or political message behind, thus creating a juxtaposition of styles reminiscent of pop art. Resurrecting a traditional indigenous practice of not signing the artwork with a real name but with the artist's status num-



▲ Artwork by Geronimo.

ber assigned by the government, Geronimo intends to make a statement that the artworks represent the entire indigenous community and a more democratic art world is still needed, which is inclusive for all and free of systematic racism, sexism and economic exclusion.

"The art world still doesn't support women enough, particularly indigenous women," Geronimo said, by adopting a male warrior pseudonym, she makes a stand against the gender bias that still exists in today's world.

Despite deviating from indigenous art traditions in forms, at

core both artists show a strong connection with nature through their artworks, reflecting the fundamental indigenous belief that the land is sacred and man has a spiritual relationship with nature.

In one of Geronimo's paintings, a bear, the Native American symbol for protector, is holding a gun, showing that "nature is armed" as we continue to make our transgressions against it.

"We lost the inside for the outside," Geronimo said, using art as a silent protest against the damages done by modern consumerism on the environment at large.

"The younger indigenous generation finds it hard to ascertain their identities, as they are split between fitting into the economic machine of the modern world and adhering to the traditional belief of protecting and respecting the land and nature," Geronimo added, who is of the Haida raven clan.

Culture and integration

With bicultural family backgrounds, the search and construction of a unique identity also permeate their artworks in this upcoming exhibition. For Edwards it is through the explorations of materials and presentations, while for Geronimo through colours and concepts.

"The indigenous culture is about a strong connection with the land, when we talk about integration, the question is whose cultural value should we integrate into, as the indigenous people were the original settlers of the land," echoes Edwards who is of Mi'gmaq and settler descent.

Through humour, the exhibition wishes to share the playful and fun spirit of the indigenous communities while shedding new lights on how we look at the world because of our own culture and values. ✍

For more information, please visit www.burnabyartscouncil.org.



Have no plans for the summer yet?

JOIN THE PICS SUMMER CAMP TODAY!

This summer, the Progressive Intercultural Community Services (PICS) Society will be hosting a three week camp for children between the ages of 6 and 12. The PICS staff will provide arts & crafts, games, activities and field trips for all the kids to enjoy! An orientation session for the camp will be held at the PICS Surrey office on June 29th at 3PM. Register now, space is limited!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL THE PICS SURREY OFFICE AT:

Call: 604-596-7722 EXT: 144
OR Email: summercamp@pics.bc.ca

WHEN:
Monday to Thursday
From 9 AM - 12 PM
or 1 PM - 4 PM

DURATION:
July 3rd - 19th



WHERE:
PICS Surrey Office #205
12725 80th Avenue
Surrey, BC

REGISTRATION FEE:
\$20 (non-refundable)

PICS SUMMER CAMP FOR KIDS 2018

► "Summer Music" from page 1 the Beatles, as well as Reggae and a number of other genres of Central American music.

Welsh picked up the guitar late in high school and has since built up his musical and vocal chops over the years on his own and with friends. Having met various band members throughout the many music scenes of the Lower Mainland, Welsh now performs in both English and Spanish with Los Valientes.

"Los Valientes means the courageous ones," he says. "So it's just about moving forward and instead of focusing on the negative, trying to bring this happiness and positivity which we believe the world needs more of."

Welsh's music is tinged with a multitude of multicultural influences, picked up both from his own and other band members' worldly musical knowledge, but he says that the main goal of the band is engaging the audience and bringing people together.

"We're really big on bringing different ages and cultures together, because there's these common songs and rhythms that seem to resonate with people from all walks of life, so we're all about trying to find those sounds that really bring in people," says Welsh.

Iskwé

Iskwé recalls being raised in an arts-heavy family, particularly with an emphasis on music and dance. Although she resonated less with childhood piano lessons, her love of singing has persisted throughout her life.

Yet at times her passion for singing was a quiet one; she took a hiatus from singing partly to focus on dance, as public solo singing performance had always evaded Iskwé. That is until she was inspired by a friend to try out for Canadian Idol.

"I was like 'Well I wanna audition for Canadian Idol', and my

partner at the time had no idea that I even sang, because even though we'd been living together for 2 years I kept that very private," says Iskwé. "I went and auditioned for Canadian Idol, and did alright [initially] but then bombed one of my auditions because I had no experience: the nerves got me. From that moment on I realized, this is what I want to do, this is what I'm going to do."

Iskwé's cultural heritage has had a significant impact on her music, drawing both from her non-biological father's Latvian/European heritage in building an appreciation for the classical arts as well as her mother's Cree/Métis side with regards to topics in song. But although her music often touches on political topics and the social and political landscape surrounding indigenous people, for Iskwé – or "Δ'ᑭᑦ", whose name is Cree for woman – music is, more than anything, an intuitive, liberating, creative process.

"I like to create music that feels good to write – whether it feels good because it's a release for me or feels good because I feel like music itself really moves me, whether it's musically or lyrically," says Iskwé. "But I think my goal is really just to feel free in that creation process."

For Iskwé this manifests in a multi-faceted, performance-based trip-hop project with a heavy emphasis on bringing the audience a veritable artistic journey.

"I want people to walk away feeling like they've experienced something," says Iskwé. ✍

For more information please visit on the festivals these artists will be performing at, please visit the following sites:

www.surreyfusionfestival.ca
www.thefestival.bc.ca
www.granvilleisland.com/canada-day

Poetry & prints: a Filipino migration story

by SIMON WILLIAMS-IM

Scattering and Gathering, curated by Jing Palad, is the latest offering at Vancouver's Roundhouse, running July 7–12. The exhibition aims to expose the experiences of the ongoing exodus to Canada from the Philippines.

"I think an understanding of what it's like to be an immigrant – and not just a Filipino immigrant – is becoming more relevant every day. Also, the search for employment is no longer limited to the city or province where we were raised, so the possibility of migration at some level may be more imminent than many of us expect," says Palad, who was born and raised in the Philippines.

The exhibition focuses on a specific narrative of Filipino people who are coming to Canada in search of a better life.

"The process of setting out, leaving your home country to find and build a new reality may be a distant concept for some, but it is something we've known for centuries as a people. I think visitors may be surprised at how many facets there are to this experience and also how it's almost always about family. In addition, I would hope that visi-

tors leave with a better understanding of just how challenging this can be, but that it can also be very rewarding," says Palad.

A poet and a printmaker

The exhibition centers around the works of two Filipina migrants. Poet and writer Lakshmi Gill of Spanish-Filipina-Punjabi heritage moved to Canada from the Philippines at a very young age. Her work speaks about the experiences faced by people of multi-ethnic heritage making such a life changing journey. She hopes visitors will gain an insight into her perspective on how this profound experience changes over time.

Alongside the display, the exhibition features the prints of Lenore Lim, who relocated alongside her children. She now has a reputation for a vibrant blend of printmaking and high technology.

Both Gill and Lim became friends in the course of their settling in Canada and decided to collaborate by creating a dialogue between their works; the result is a glimpse into their stories as immigrants of Filipino heritage.

Of dreams and expectations

Palad says the exhibition turns themes such as dreams, expect-

tations, searching for employment, displacement, longing for one's home country, accomplishments, and new friendships inside-out – all of which are tied to uprooting oneself and rebuilding in a new country. Part of the exhibition is an extension of this exploration into the lives of Filipino immigrants.

"We've assembled the works of poets Wilbur Victoria and Maria Castillo and artists Danvic Briones, Art Galapatia, Stuart Dee, Chito Maravilla and Esmie McLaren," says Palad.

An inspired calling

"After university my first job was as a graphic designer which led me from Manila to Hong Kong and to Singapore. I also spent time in Spain and Thailand. It was a productive first phase of my career, but



▲ Lily of the Valley, 1998, Photoetching, monoprint.

Photo courtesy of Lenore R. S. Lim

I had always been fascinated by art, artists and the entire creative process," she says. "So after many rewarding years I decided to follow my original passion. I completed a Master's

in Arts Management in Italy and I've been involved in art projects in the Philippines, Singapore and now Canada. Two years ago my husband and I decided to settle here in Vancouver permanently."

Palad says her fondness of art and the creative world is simply due to the potential of creating meaningful influences in her own life and the lives of others.

"To some, art is still seen as a picture that hangs on the wall of an illustrious museum or an object that cannot be touched. I think we're now entering a time when artists, educators, curators and many others are ensuring that art is experienced by all in many different ways," says Palad.

Palad says as more people resonate with and get closer to art, the more they can also help to support it, and she wants to be a contributor.

"I recognise that while there might be some commonality in experiences, every immigration story is unique, and so I would only wish for us to keep the resolve that guided us when we all started our journey," says Palad.

For more info, please visit www.roundhouse.ca/events/scattering-gathering-exhibition/



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Photo by Lindsay Elliott Photography

Magic and romance under the stars

by GÜLCE IPCI

Dreams do come true during the summer nights, and *Theatre Under the Stars (TUTS)* invites audiences to see their two new musicals for the 2018 summer season. Vancouver's vision of Richard Rodgers & Oscar Hammerstein's *Cinderella* and *42nd Street* will run at Stanley Park's Malkin Bowl stage (July 4–Aug. 18).

"We're doing a show with a diverse cast and nowhere else is [a] better place to do this show," says Tré Cotten, who plays prince charming in *Cinderella*.

The most popular fairy tale: *Cinderella*

Cinderella, a well-known fairy tale comes to the stage with a modernized version.

Cotten, a North Carolina native, received an MFA in acting from the University of Washington School of Drama. He is very excited about his role in *Cinderella* as Prince Topher.

"This is touching on everything. I was excited because the prince is not just a regular quiet prince charming," says Cotten. "He is also struggling, and he has an actual journey to go through. I am pretty impressed about that."

The Tony Award-winning musical is directed by Sarah Rodgers and choreographed by Nicol Spinola, with musical direction by Brent Hughes.

Cotten had the chance to work with Sarah Rodgers before *Cinderella*. Now, he is happy to work with her again.

"Sarah, [is] really great with directing and motivating the actors. As a black actor, I give great value on that in this industry," says Cotten.

In the story, both Cinderella and Prince Topher lose their parents. While drawing [on] the prince charming role, Cotten focuses on being human.

"A young man deals with the loss of parents and tries to find out who he is. So, I would apply the humanness first. And as an actor, I'm trying to live my truth," says Cotten.

A black man as a Prince Charming

Cotten is proud to represent a black man in the prince charming role.

"As a black man, I have an opportunity to play the prince.

While I was growing up, I didn't watch a black actor in this role," says Cotten. "With this role, I'm giving hope to people who look like me. This is a form of education and feels great."

As a foreigner and a black actor, he is delighted to be in Vancouver.

"In Vancouver, I hear so many different languages and [there are] many people who have different lifestyles. I really love that because it educates me about what else is out there," says Cotten. "We're doing a show with [a] diverse cast and nowhere else would be a better place to do this show. Vancouver is in action rather than just talking about the diversity. I really appreciate that."

Family basics

Every summer, since 1940, TUTS has gotten the amateur and professional actors together for Vancouver audiences and visitors.

Cotten is happy to be working with TUTS for the first time.

"I have heard about how they do one of the best, beautiful and magical things in the summer. The performances are natural and beautiful under the night lights," says Cotten.



▲ Mallory James and Tré Cotten.

TUTS makes the shows real with the help of more than 200 volunteers every season.

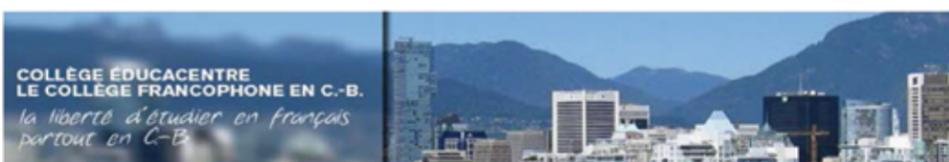
"The volunteers and the board members are very generous, kind and caring. Everybody in the show is giving all their energy and trying to do their best. I take very good and positive energy. TUTS is like a family or a community. I love that," says Cotten. ✍

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

Photo by Lindsay Elliott Photography



LE COLLEGE FRANCOPHONE EN C-B
THE FRENCH COLLEGE IN BC



LINC Instructor & On-Call Positions

Status: Morning Classes (Vancouver and Surrey) LINC levels 1-6
Salary: According to scale
Starting date: As soon as possible

Collège Éducacentre is currently looking for qualified and experienced candidates to fill their Instructor & On-Call positions for the LINC Program in Vancouver and Newton, Surrey.

At Collège Éducacentre, LINC is provided mainly to Francophone immigrants from levels 1 to 6. Intended to focus on immigrant needs relating to social, cultural, economic and political integration in Canada, this integrated approach to language learning has target objectives and outcomes identified in a task-based and learner-centered learning environment.

Requirements

- Bachelor's Degree and TESL Canada teaching Certification or equivalent
- 3 years teaching experience in adult ESL settings
- Demonstrated familiarity with Portfolio Based Language Assessment (PBLA) and the Canada Language Benchmarks (CLB).
- Competency using technology in the classroom
- Flexibility to attend/complete training and Professional Development as required
- Some knowledge of French (not mandatory, must be at ease working in a French-speaking environment)
- Team player, adaptable, culturally sensitive

Job Description:

- Prepare CLB aligned lesson plans and curriculum materials
- Plan and lead field trips and activities with students
- Maintain accurate attendance reports and activity reports
- Monitor students' progress and provide timely feedback
- Collaborate with colleagues and LINC Coordinator

www.educacentre.com

Candidates are invited to submit their resumes asap to:

E-mail : ressourceshumaines@educacentre.com

Cultural Calendar

June 26–July 10, 2018

by SIMON YEE

July is finally here! Although I've picked out just a sampling of the multitude of activities happening around the city below, there are many events and festivals to go to this summer. So go out and enjoy the sunny weather, travel to nearby places, hike around the mountains, eat and drink good food and have a Happy Canada Day!

Storm Crows Quidditch: Open Practice

Sundays between June 3–Aug. 26, 1–3 p.m.
Connaught Park, Vancouver
www.stormcrowsquidditch.ca

The Vancouver Storm Crows Quidditch Club is bringing the team sport of quidditch to a field near you every Sunday at 1 p.m.! Not sure what quidditch is? Think of rugby, handball and dodgeball all mixed up together; that's what quidditch is. This gender-inclusive sport has something for everyone, even if you've never played a team sport before. If you are looking for a fun way to stay active, or just a fun way to make new friends, check them out for a Sunday afternoon of quidditch. All are welcome. All you need is a pair of running shoes (cleats if you have them), some water and a smile!

My Funny Valentine

June 28, 8 p.m.
Centre Stage at Surrey City Hall
www.surrey.ca/culture-recreation/24163.aspx

The Zee Zee Theatre Company will be putting on a production of My Funny Valentine at Surrey City Hall's Centre Stage on June 28. Written by playwright Dave Deveau in response to the 2008 murder of 15-year-old Lawrence King, the play peers into the hearts and minds of seven characters – including a journalist, a disgruntled father, an 11-year-old girl and a teacher – on the fringes of this murder who find themselves caught in the orbit of King's death. Each one offers poignant and probing reflections, and together they represent a nuanced and diverse community in mourning, trying to heal. Check out the website for tickets and more information.

Golden Spike Days 2018

June 29–July 2
Rocky Point Park, Port Moody
www.goldenspike.ca

The Golden Spike Days Festival is one of the oldest and longest running family events in B.C. The festival is held at Rocky Point Park around Canada Day, attracting upwards of 40,000 people of all walks of life with live entertainment, special events and activities for all ages. The event commemorates the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway line and its arrival at the original western terminus in Port Moody, where the last spike was driven. For event details, please visit the website.

Jasmine Jazz

June 30, 7:30 p.m.
Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden, Vancouver
www.vancouverchinesegarden.com



Photo courtesy of Greek Summerfest

▲ Vancouver Greek Summerfest – 32 years strong.

On June 30, the Vancouver Classical Chinese Garden will be hosting Jasmine Jazz, a presentation featuring an unusual interplay between traditional Chinese and jazz instruments by the Vancouver Chinese Music Ensemble and some of Vancouver's finest jazz artists led by Juno-nominated bassist and composer, Jodi Proznick. There will also be tastings of the highest quality jasmine teas, scented using the Imperial Scenting Method, before and during the concert. The natural aroma of jasmine blossoms, with the musical blend of jazz and Chinese instruments, will create a sweet summer night!

Women's Voices in the Americas

July 4, 6:30 p.m.
UBC Robson Square, Vancouver
www.carnavaldelesol.ca

On July 4, UBC Robson Square will host Women's Voices in the Americas, a filmmakers' panel that provides a different intercultural perspective of the Americas told using women's voices. This event uses works created by women as a starting point for dialogue and incorporates unique historical views showcasing cultures in the Americas from the point of view of women. Ana Cruz, director of Humboldt en México: La Mirada del Explorador; Jill Sharpe, creator of the Emmy-nominated film Bone Wind and Marilyn Norry, founder of My Mother's Story, will be in attendance. For more information, please check out the website.

Between Time and Space

July 5–7, 11 a.m.–8 p.m.
Dudoc Vancouver
www.dudocvancouver.com

Dudoc Vancouver will be presenting the new collection of Canadian-Russian artist Natalia Vetrova's work, which explores the intersection of realism and conceptualism and our relationship with the past and the present. The exhibition celebrates the wonders and achievements of centuries with their time-honored great conceptions giving a strong basis for creating self-awareness in this contemporary world with its new technologies and high-speed communications. For a schedule of events for the exhibition, please check out Dudoc's website.

Dancing on the Edge

July 5–14
Various venues in Vancouver
www.dancingontheedge.org

The Dancing on the Edge Festival is Canada's longest running festival of contemporary dance,

taking place July 5–14 at various venues in Vancouver. This year's festival showcases over 30 performances involving more than 30 innovative choreographers. Artists from across Canada, from Belgium and South Korea will dance on stages and in the streets during the 10 day festival, in full length and mixed bill programs, as well as site-specific works. The 30th annual Dancing on the Edge Festival will bring dance in all shapes and forms to Vancouver audiences. Please visit the website for a complete list of events.

Indian Summer Festival

July 5–15
Various venues around Vancouver
www.indiansummerfest.ca

The Indian Summer Festival is a contemporary multi-arts festival

that takes place over 11 days every July in Vancouver. This year's theme is mythmaking, and the festival hopes to examine 10 centuries of human imagination and storytelling by presenting a continent-spanning range of artists, from the inheritors of ancient oral storytelling traditions to genre-defying musicians, award-winning novelists and provocative visual artists. For a complete list of events, please check out the festival's website.

Greek SummerFest

July 5–15
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, Vancouver
www.vancouvergreeksummerfest.com

The Vancouver Greek Summerfest is back for its 32nd consecutive year from July 5–15 at the St. Nich-

olas Greek Orthodox Church. The Greek SummerFest is an annual celebration of food, entertainment and family fun –from the famous BBQ lamb and Loukoumades to the dozens of live singers and dancers on the Performance Stage. This year's feature performances include the bands Zougla, Urban Myth, Asi Somos, Dalaras Tribute Band, Dolphin Jazz, Jim Byrnes, as well as tribute artists Gotta B George Michael and Steve "Elvis" Elliot. Greek Summerfest is free to attend.

Carnaval del Sol

July 7–8
Various locations around Vancouver
www.latincover.ca

Latincover promotes relationships and cultural exchange among Latin Americans and the Canadian mosaic. Their signature event, Carnaval del Sol, is the biggest Latin festival in the Pacific Northwest, which they have produced since 2009. Carnaval del Sol recreates the atmosphere of a vibrant city plaza in Latin America. The arts showcased during this event include live musical bands (450+ artists), Native Canadian and Latin American visual art, traditional folk dances from different countries, arts and crafts displays, dancing and culinary lessons (1 international chef, 10 local chefs) and a Latin American inspired fashion show.

BASTILLE DAY FESTIVAL
JULY 14

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Join the team and 6000 visitors to share the French "joie de vivre"!

We have many missions that are waiting for you. Interested in participating to a French experience?

Fill this form:
<http://www.bastilledayfestival.ca/volunteer.html>

Rejoins l'équipe du Bastille Day Festival et ses 6000 visiteurs le 14 juillet et partage l'art de vivre à la française aux Vancouverois!

Nous t'attendons alors inscris-toi vite!
<http://www.bastilledayfestival.ca/volunteer.html>

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