



Vancouver Fringe Festival
Box 203-1398 Cartwright St.
Vancouver, BC, V6H 3R8
vancouverfringe.com

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For Immediate Release / Photos & Interviews
Available Upon Request

Get Lucky At The Vancouver Fringe Festival

September 7-17, 2017

Required Membership: \$5

Mainstage/BYOV Tickets: \$14; Frequent Fringer Cards: \$40/\$90/\$270

Big Rock Brewery Fringe Bar: FREE

Public Market Pick of the Fringe & Pick Plus: September 20-24; \$25

Tickets and Info: vancouverfringe.com

For Immediate Release: August 8, 2017 — Did you know Fringe shows are selected through a lottery? Artists need a little love from Lady Luck to produce a show at the Fringe! And with **100 shows** in the 2017 edition of the Vancouver Fringe Festival, it's time to double down and take a chance—you're bound to **Get Lucky at the Fringe** this September 7 to 17!

Music loving high rollers will love the **expanded hours at the Big Rock Brewery Fringe Bar!** Now open on Saturday and Sunday afternoons as well as every night of the Festival, Ocean Art Works on Granville Island is the Festival's wild card.

Want to hedge your bets? See 40 previews at **the Georgia Straight Fringe-For-All!** Now on Wednesday, September 6—the day before the Festival—the Fringe-For-All lowers the stakes by giving you a sample of each show.

The Fringe is comprised of un-juried, un-censored productions that are literally drawn from a hat or chosen on a first come, first served basis! This means the theatre you see at the Fringe is filled with emerging artists and seasoned veterans in traditional and experimental work alike.

The Festival is centred on Granville Island, but venues extend across the city to The Cultch, the Firehall Arts Centre, Havana, and beyond—and site-specific shows use unusual locations on and off Granville Island too!

Tickets are now on sale and are \$14. Half-Price tickets will be offered to select shows. Frequent Fringer Cards offer a great value and limited quantities are available for four, 10, or 30 performances. Tickets and Frequent Fringer Cards can be purchased at vancouverfringe.com or at the Fringe Box Office, located at 1398 Cartwright Street on Granville Island. Please note the Fringe Box Office is physically open from Sept. 5 through to the end of the Festival on Sept. 17.

Show descriptions can be found at vancouverfringe.com and in our program guide, available at select Blenz Coffee locations and other Fringe friendly businesses.

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NEW NIGHT* *The Georgia Straight Fringe-For-All: September 6

Hilarious hosts Travis Bernhardt and Chris Ross lead you through 40 previews at *the Georgia Straight Fringe-For-All*—a great way to sample shows in this year’s Festival.

***NEW NIGHT* Opening Night: Celebrate the Start of 11 Days of Fringing: September 7**

Join fellow Fringers in a celebration to kick off the Festival! This free event at the Big Rock Brewery Fringe Bar includes a welcome drink from XFour, hors d’oeuvres from Dockside Restaurant, the Keg, and La Taqueria, hand-crafted cocktails from Sons of Vancouver, and door prizes from Urban Distillery and XFour.

Ancient Astronauts, Viral Videos, Beavers, Crybabies, and much, much more!

Drawing shows from a hat makes for a mix of emerging and veteran artists and a wide variety of shows—take a chance and you’re sure to “Get Lucky!” Ingrid Hansen returns with the third installment following that precocious kid, Kitt, originally seen in *Little Orange Man* and *Kitt & Jane*. This time she’s a 96-year-old astronaut in *Interstellar Elder*. Bill Pats imagines the return of capital punishment to Canada in the near future in *Executing Justice*. *Uptown Magazine* calls Australian comedian Lana Schwarcz’s *Lovely Lady Lump*, about her breast cancer diagnosis, “pure comedy with a serious edge.” “Master storyteller” (*Monday Magazine*) Andrew Bailey delves into chaos after accidentally creating a viral video in *Brain Machine*. The North American premier of award-winning playwright Abhishek Majumdar’s *An Arrangement of Shoes* sees a young woman desperate to connect with her recently deceased grandfather. Awkward Stage Productions showcases a cast of 17 in the Canadian premier of the John Waters hit, *Cry-Baby: The Musical*. Mind of a Snail returns with their unforgettable shadow puppetry in *Multiple Organism*, “a surreal, gender-bending, feminist fable” (*Mooney on Theatre*). All this plus cryonic preservation, sexy scientists, beavers dreaming of development, samurai fighting vampires, following white hares, poetic hyenas, and more. Visit vancouverfringe.com for full listings.

Advance Theatre: New Works by Women

Ruby Slippers Theatre and Playwrights Guild of Canada partnered with the Fringe to showcase dramatic readings of five new plays by diverse Canadian women playwrights in the name of equity. From early female astronauts, to the forced internment of Japanese immigrants, to sex in seniors’ homes, these new works will be featured as matinees during the Festival.

***NEW* Generation Hot: Waterborne**

The Only Animal partners with the Fringe to mentor young artists in the creation of works in response to water related climate crisis issues. Works range from mythic fantasy, to family drama, to surreal parable. Tickets to Generation Hot: Waterborne are just \$12.

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Dramatic Works Series: Exclusively featuring playwrights of Asian Descent

With support from the Lochmaddy Foundation, the Fringe is able to boost dramatic content at the Festival. Featuring previously published dramatic works by playwrights of Asian Descent, the artists in the Dramatic Works Series have been mentored by Sherry Yoon (*Shylock, King of the Yees*). Showcased at The Cultch's Vancity Culture Lab, this year's series includes work by Anosh Irani, Rajiv Joseph, David Henry Hwang, Mieko Ouchi, and Qui Nguyen.

The Big Rock Brewery Fringe Bar

The Fringe Bar has expanded again! Now with daytime performances on Saturdays and Sundays, there's even more opportunity to mingle at the Fringe—and there's no cover! On Sept. 16, Polaris Prize Nominee **Rae Spoon's** analog electronic sound will "leave you feeling uplifted and with an urge to dance" (*Now Toronto*). **Queer as Funk's** "cultural fusion of funk, soul, and Motown" (*the Georgia Straight*) is sure to pack the house on Sept. 8. **The Matinée's** "high energy, infectious rhythm and catchy lyrics" (*Canadian Beats Media*) will get you moving Sept. 9. Known for singing backup for Bonnie "Prince" Billy, **Ashley Shadow's** "simple, beautiful arrangement[s] and her strong vibrato" (*Stereogum*) grace the stage Sept. 13. Visit VancouverFringe.com/fringe-bar for a full lineup of this 11-day music festival within the Fringe.

Workshops for Artists & Aspiring Artists

Shadow Puppetry with Mind of a Snail: Ever seen a Mind of a Snail show (*Caws & Effect, Curious Contagious*) and wondered, "How'd they do that?" They'll be sharing tips and techniques on *Monday, Sept. 11. \$53 or \$48 if you register by Aug. 31.*

How to Puppeteer Anything with Ingrid Hansen: Join SNAFU's Ingrid Hansen (*Little Orange Man*) and learn how to choose, manipulate, and uncover a puppet's hidden character. *Wednesday, Sept. 13. \$23.*

Your Story. Your Voice: Deborah Williams, co-creator of the *Mom's the Word* Trilogy and storytelling series *The Flame* will lead two workshops, one for those "New to Storytelling" and one for "Experienced Storytellers," where she'll share tools to create and share compelling true stories. Participants will be invited to tell their stories during *The Flame* at the Fringe on Sept. 13 at 9pm or Sept. 15 at 10pm at Performance Works. *Workshops take place Sept. 11-13 (New to Storytelling) and Sept. 14-15 (Experienced Storytellers). \$150.*

To register for the Shadow Puppetry, How to Puppeteer Anything, or Your Story. Your Voice. workshops, visit tickets.vancouverfringe.com/categories/workshop.

Deaf Inclusion in Theatre: Looking for best practices for including d/Deaf artists and audiences? Deaf Arts Administrator, Landon Krentz will provide insight on how to effectively partner with d/Deaf artists and participants. *Friday, Sept. 15. \$50-\$100 sliding scale. Email generalmanager@theatreterrific.com to apply.*

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Fringe Awards and Closing Night Party: September 17

The Public Market Pick of the Fringe Awards will be announced as well as the Cultchivating the Fringe Award, the Joanna Maratta Award, the BC Touring Council Award, and the Artistic Risk Award—all of which help emerging artists take their work to the next level. The Awards will be held at Performance Works with an after-party at the Big Rock Brewery Fringe Bar.

Public Market Pick of the Fringe and Pick Plus: September 20-24

Presented by the Granville Island Public Market, the Pick is the last chance to see the hottest shows of the Festival. Tickets go on sale following the Fringe Awards Night on Sept. 17, where they'll be announced. The Fringe will also host the Pick Plus—hits from years past and shows we just can't wait to see. If you're into "fairly twisted and often outright bizarre, but also tremendously entertaining" (CBC), check out ***The Merkin Sisters*** from Stephanie Morin-Robert and SNAFU's Ingrid Hansen on Sept. 20. Morgan Brayton returns with ***Give It Up*** on Sept. 21, asking the question, "Whatever happened to my big break?" Vancouverite Shirley Gnome has never performed at the Vancouver Fringe, yet has won Outstanding Production and Outstanding Performance at the Toronto Fringe, Patron's Pick at the Orlando Fringe, and so many more. On Sept. 22, Vancouver will have a chance to see ***Shirley Gnome: Taking It Up The Notch***. Get your annual dose of Peter n' Chris on Sept. 22 with ***Peter n' Chris' Best Bits***. Visit vancouverfringe.com/pickplus for full details. Pick Plus tickets are on sale now. Partial proceeds from the Pick and Pick Plus shows go to support the Vancouver Fringe Festival and the shows take place at Performance Works on Granville Island.

To see everything the 2017 Vancouver Fringe Festival has to offer, visit vancouverfringe.com or pick up a program guide at Blenz Coffee locations. See you at the Fringe!

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