

Vancouver

Folk

Music

Festival



July • 17–19

ʔə́yalməxʷ / Íyálmexw / Jericho Beach Park

Information, including the schedule, contained in the Program is subject to change without notice – kind of like life.

WELCOME TO THE 49TH VANCOUVER FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

On behalf of the festival board of directors, I want to welcome you to the 49th annual Vancouver Folk Music Festival – it’s going to be a great one! We come to this year’s festival feeling profound gratitude. We are deeply grateful to the First Nations who host us on their unceded traditional territories: the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and the səlilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations who have stewarded this extraordinarily beautiful land since time immemorial.

There is a lot to be thankful for. The festival has been building back stronger for several years now and we truly believe that our organization is in the best shape it’s been in for a long time. Our superb staff team, led by executive director Corbin Murdoch and artistic director Fiona Black, our extraordinary donors and funders, a united and hardworking board, and the utterly fabulous volunteers have all combined to build us back better. We see your efforts and deeply appreciate them.

We are delighted that 49th festival will be a memorable one, and, as we are all working away to plan for our 50th in 2027, I can promise you the best is yet to be! If you are thankful for this festival, if you want to help us to create the 50th festival, you can help keep the music playing by becoming a festival supporter or monthly donor. Go visit the lovely folks at the donation tent to learn more.

Maybe you are a longtime attendee of the festival or maybe you are here for your first folk fest. Whether you are an old friend or a new one, we wish you a joyous weekend of community, celebration, and discovery. – **Erin Mullan** | *President VFMF Society Board of Directors*

MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

As Artistic Director of the Vancouver Folk Music Festival, I’m often asked about my festival picks. Take Tina Dico, for example. A big star in her native Denmark, Tina’s assured voice and confessional narratives touched me profoundly. I imagined bringing her for a rare Vancouver appearance so that our audience could experience the beauty I experience whenever I hear her songs.

The VFMF is a festival of discovery, where bold artistic choices might shake up your notions of what constitutes ‘folk’ music. It rewards those who love to be surprised musically.

We’ve always championed marginalized voices, so we’re proud that, in spite of the challenges of today’s geopolitics, this year’s lineup includes artists from Taiwan, Ukraine, Somaliland, and Benin. We also welcome a range of Indigenous artists from Canada and abroad who honour and celebrate timeless traditions.

We’re especially proud of some of this year’s festival debuts. Joshua Burnside from Northern Ireland makes his Canadian premiere at VFMF. An artist destined for greatness, his songs will stay with you a long time. Valerie June is the whole package: an utterly distinct voice, a multi-instrumentalist extraordinaire, with an endearing openness. And, as someone of Scottish heritage, I’m drawn to the primal piping of Brighde Chaimbeul; in the setting of Jericho Beach, her unearthly sound will be spellbinding.

So, welcome to the 49th annual Vancouver Folk Music Festival. I hope this year’s festival lets you discover songs that will live on in your hearts. See you in the park!

Fiona Black | *Artistic Director*

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

There is a feeling I get when I walk onto the Folk Festival site for the first time each year— a feeling I have yet to experience anywhere else. It’s difficult to describe, but I’ve heard many others try, which is how I know it isn’t unique to me. Perhaps you’ve felt it, too.

It’s the feeling of returning to a place you love, reuniting with people you’ve missed, and taking part in a tradition that simply wouldn’t be the same without you. The best way I’ve heard it described is as a sense of homecoming.

For me, the word homecoming feels especially apt this year. I’ve been part of the festival community for most of my life: as a volunteer, a patron, a performer, and a board member. But, unbelievably, it has been almost a decade since I last walked through the festival gates and felt that singular sense of magic.

I’m deeply grateful to be doing so again this year. It is a true honour to return in this new capacity, and I can’t wait to spend the weekend with all of you.

Whether this is your first festival, your 49th, or— like me— you’ve been away for a little while... Welcome home.

Corbin Murdoch | *Executive Director*

VFMFS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Erin Mullan President | **Anne Blaine** Vice President | **Jeff Finger** Treasurer | **Melinda Suto** Secretary

Members at large: **Tess Kitchen** | **Alison Klein** | **Ann McDonnell** | **Amy Newman**

Nou Dadoun | **Christina Price** | **Fiona Simons** | **Ann Rowan** | **Jean Fitzgerald**



2026 BOARD L to R: Alison Klein, Nou Dadoun, Jeff Finger, Jean Fitzgerald, Erin Mullan, Melinda Suto, Amy Newman, Ann McDonnell, Ann Rowan



2026 STAFF L to R: Danielle Karlsson, Xin Xuan Song, Filip Poljak, Fiona Black, Parisa Ebrahimi, Don Gordon, Katie Stenning, Corbin Murdoch, Sydney Parisotto, Emma Lancaster, Taja de Silva, Cynnamon Schreinert

For full staff list, see page 1.

The Vancouver Folk Music Festival is held at ʔəyalməxʷ / l̥yálmexw Jericho Beach Park on the unceded and ancestral territory of the hən̓q̓əmin̓əŋ and Sk̓w̓x̓w̓ú7mesh speaking peoples, the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sk̓w̓x̓w̓ú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. We are grateful that we are able to use this beautiful park for our event.

THE VANCOUVER FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Vancouver Folk Music Festival Society is a registered non-profit organization (charity #119261030 RR0001). Our mission is to bring traditional and contemporary folk and roots music to people in an environment of community collaboration and discovery.

WE VALUE:

Artistic Excellence Presenting a diverse range of exceptional artists and providing audiences with engaging opportunities to discover inspiring new music.

Diversity and Inclusiveness Creating accessible and welcoming environments, free of discrimination, and pledging to treat all people with respect and dignity. Read our full Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion statement: vanfolkfest.ca.

Environmental Stewardship Caring and respect for our beautiful space, aiming to minimize our impact on the environment, and inspiring our community through progressive initiatives.

Social Justice Connecting community-minded people who are committed to a fair and equitable society and providing opportunities for meaningful engagement.



CONTACT INFORMATION

1945 McLean Drive, Vancouver
British Columbia
V5N 3J7
604.602.9798
info@thefestival.bc.ca
www.thefestival.bc.ca



@VanFolkFest

#VanFolkFest2026

SPECIAL THANKS

For the exceptional support the festival has received from the BC Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport. To the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation for allowing us to again make ʔəyalməxʷ / l̥yálmexw Jericho Beach Park our festival home. To the City of Vancouver staff for their assistance with permits, parking and a variety of other items. To the Jericho Hill Centre and Gym for their help with our parking.

VANCOUVER FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL AUDIENCE SURVEY



OLD-SCHOOL
FORMS AND
PENCILS
AVAILABLE AT
THE INFO TENT.



SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS
AND WIN BLUNDSTONE BOOTS
AND 2027 FESTIVAL PASSES!



FESTIVAL INFO ⓘ



HOURS

FESTIVAL GATES

Friday 2pm – 10pm

Saturday & Sunday 9:30am – 10pm

THE MUSIC PLAYS . . .

Friday 3pm – 11pm

Saturday & Sunday 10:30am – 11pm

See schedule on pages 32 and 33

ARTISAN MARKET / COMMUNITY VILLAGE

Friday 2pm – 9pm | Saturday & Sunday 9:30am – 9pm

INFORMATION TENT

Friday 2pm – 11pm | Saturday & Sunday 9:30am – 11pm

BAG CHECK AT INFO TENT

Friday 2pm – 11:15pm

Saturday 9:30am – 11:30pm

Saturday & Sunday 9:30am – 11:15pm

BAR SALES

Friday 3pm – 10pm / Last Call 9:30pm

Saturday & Sunday 10am – 10pm / Last Call 9:30pm

ARTISTS' EMPORIUM: MUSIC 'N' MORE

Friday 2pm – 10pm

Saturday & Sunday 10am – 10pm

FESTIVAL MERCHANDISE TENT

Friday 2pm – 10pm

Saturday & Sunday 9:30am – 10pm

LITTLE FOLKS VILLAGE

Friday 3pm – 5pm

Saturday & Sunday 10am – 5pm

MEDIA TENT

Friday 2pm – 10pm

Saturday & Sunday 9:30am – 10pm

PETE'S EATS

Friday 2pm – 10pm | Saturday & Sunday 9:30am – 10pm

ON SITE PHOTOGRAPHY

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THE VANCOUVER FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL IS A PUBLIC EVENT. OUR TEAM OF CAMERA VOLUNTEERS WILL BE TAKING PHOTOS AND VIDEOS THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND. SELECT FOOTAGE MAY BE USED FOR MARKETING AND PROMOTIONAL PURPOSES.



INFORMATION TENT

AUDIENCE SERVICES | LOST & FOUND | BAG CHECK

Our festival Information Tent provides many useful services. It's located near the pond beside the Donations Tent, west of the Main Stage. Helpful volunteers there can....

- **Help find lost items and return found items**, including children and loved ones. Please make sure your kids know where the tent is, and to go there if they become separated from you.
- **Provide a bag check** where you can stash your stuff instead of carrying it around.
- **Answer questions** about where things are on the site, provide transit and city information, and pass on important messages to family and friends.
- **Share your ideas** by filling out a comment form or completing our festival survey.



FIRST AID

If you require medical attention, please visit the First Aid Tent at the East End of the Park near the Food Area and Service Gate.

PREVENTATIVE ADVICE:

- Stay hydrated! No bottled water is sold at the festival, so please bring or buy a refillable container. There are water stations located around the park.
- Protect yourself and your loved ones from the sun with hats, sunscreen (SPF 30 or higher), sunglasses, and comfortable clothing.
- Keep your shoes or sandals on while strolling or dancing in the park. Be on the lookout for uneven ground!
- Watch out for wasps and bees near the bramble bushes.

WHEN THE VANCOUVER FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL FACES CHALLENGES — COVID-19, SUDDEN COST INFLATION, UNEXPECTED FUNDING CUTS — OUR AUDIENCE STEPS UP! YOU DO THIS BECAUSE THE FESTIVAL BELONGS TO YOU. IN THE AGE OF CORPORATE EVERYTHING, OUR NON-PROFIT, COMMUNITY-DRIVEN, WE-CAN-BUILD-IT CULTURE IS PRECIOUS.

The joys of connecting with old friends or discovering a new artist, the opportunities to listen and belong, are only possible because of you. The organization we have built through you is now strong. But we're not wealthy.

No one gets this festival better than its audience. That's why we need you to contribute. We will make this festival richer and more resilient with next year's 50th anniversary. A collective of generous donors has pledged \$100,000 to match your one-time contributions and help us expand 2027's 50th anniversary event.

We know you will give whatever your means allow. Monthly donors make us stable all year long. Legacy donations will help us endure for generations. But this weekend is your opportunity to double your impact.

WE ARE THE FOLK, AND THIS IS OUR FESTIVAL.

YOU ARE OUR MOST RELIABLE FORM OF SUPPORT. GOVERNMENTS CHANGE AND SPONSORSHIP PRIORITIES SHIFT. BUT YOU KEEP COMING BACK.

THE VANCOUVER FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL IS OURS. WE HAVE BEEN AT THE FOREFRONT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY, VOLUNTEERISM, ACCESS FOR THOSE IN NEED, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR NEARLY 50 YEARS. THE GLORIOUSLY DIVERSE MUSIC WE SHARE AT OUR JERICHO BEACH OASIS HAS BEEN PURE TREASURE.

HELP US BUILD ON THAT LEGACY.



Jamie Poh

**DONATE TODAY
AND YOUR GIFT WILL BE MATCHED FOR
2X THE IMPACT UP TO
\$100,000**

Visit the **Donations Tent** or scan this **QR code** to make your tax deductible gift.



Charity BN# 119261030 RR0001 Donations of \$20 or more are eligible for a tax receipt. Folks who give \$35 or more also become voting Members of the Society.

VANCOUVER FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL CODE OF CONDUCT

- 1. Be kind to each other.** VanFolkFest is a welcoming space that celebrates our many intersecting communities; we hold respect for all ages, abilities, genders, sexualities, cultures, appearances, etc - we like you just the way you are!
- 2. We hold a zero-tolerance policy** for discrimination of any kind; any physical or verbal behavior that may be perceived as harassment, bullying, aggression, or violence will be met with swift response from our festival team. We take safety concerns seriously and reserve the right to remove anyone in violation of our code of conduct from the festival site.
- 3. Look out for the lil folks!** The festival is an all ages and family-friendly event. If you encounter a child that is lost or separated from their guardian, let one of our security volunteers know so we can work to safely reunite them.
- 4. Enjoy the vibe responsibly.** Individuals who are overly intoxicated will not be served. Absolutely no alcohol must be given to minors at any time. Disorderly or inappropriate behavior will be addressed by festival staff in the way that we see as best promoting a safe environment for our community.
- 5. Protect the park.** It is our privilege each year to come together here at ʔə́yalməxʷ / Iyálmexw Jericho Beach Park on the unceded and ancestral territory of the xʷməθkʷə́yəm, Skwxwú7mesh, and səlilwətaɫ nations. Please make sure you're disposing of any recycling, compost, or garbage appropriately. Note that no smoking or vaping of any kind is permitted in the park.

REES

Vancouver Folk Music Festival has partnered with REES (Respect, Educate, Empower Survivors) to provide online reporting for unwanted sexualized behaviours and harassment. REES allows event-goers, performers, staff and volunteers to create a record of the incident and share it with event organizers. REES also provides information about community-based resources such as sexual assault centres, healthcare and other support services. To report an incident, scan the QR code.



HELP US CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF FOLK FEST!



As we prepare for our 50th Anniversary in 2027, we're collecting stories from the people who make this festival so special—you!

Visit the Video Tent next to the Info Booth to share your favourite Folk Fest memory, tell us what the festival means to you, or send your best wishes for our milestone celebration.

Video Tent Hours

Friday
3:00–6:00pm

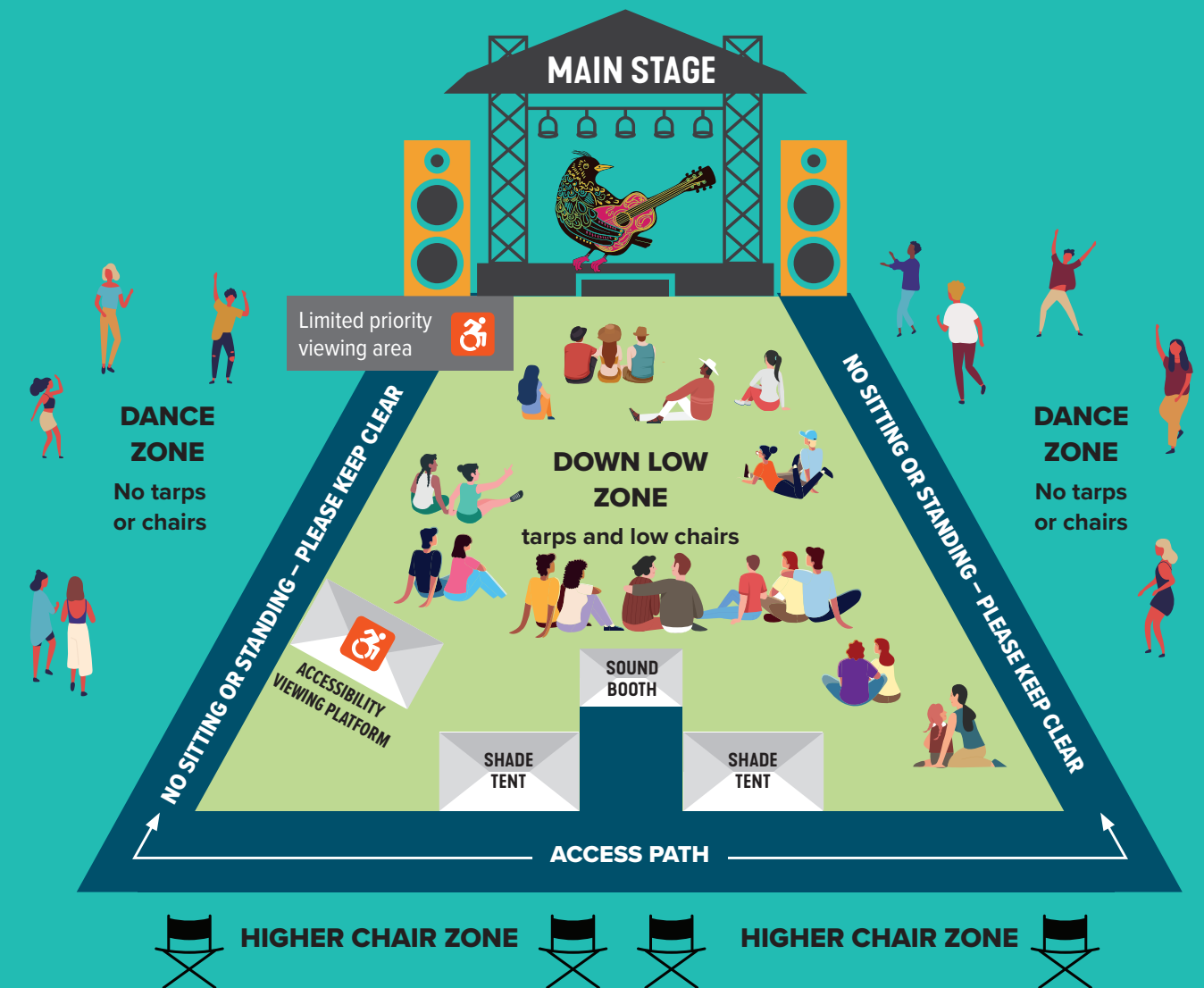
Saturday & Sunday
11:00am–6:00pm



Billy Bragg at the 1987 Festival. Photo by Glen Erikson

There are many ways to enjoy the evening Main Stage – dancing, standing, sitting, or reclining on a blanket. Just make sure you take your blanket with you at the end of the night! Here's a map showing how we can share our common ground at Main Stage so that everyone can enjoy the music in their own way. Please always keep the access path clear to make sure everyone can enter and exit safely, and be mindful of blocking the view of people behind you.

SHARING COMMON GROUND AT THE MAIN STAGE



GET UP! GET DOWN!

Please follow on-site signage that makes it clear where you can dance without ruining the “down low zone” views for those sitting on the ground or on low chairs

DOWN LOW ZONE is for tarps/blankets & low chairs (up to 28” high, including legs up to 4”high) only.

DANCE ZONES are on the outside of the access paths – on both sides of the Down Low Zone – for those that want to move to the music. Please, no seating, tarps, blankets in this area.

HIGHER CHAIR ZONE is behind the access path.

ACCESSIBILITY VIEWING PLATFORM is raised and set midway back in the audience.

LIMITED PRIORITY VIEWING AREA is directly in front of the Main Stage, stage right.

If you have accessibility questions, please inquire at the Access Tent or at the Accessibility Viewing Platform.

AFTER 9PM WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN, we invite those who are able to to get up and dance the rest of the night away in front of the main stage!



THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 FUNDERS, SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

PUBLIC FUNDERS



MAJOR SPONSORS



BEVERAGE SPONSORS



COMMUNITY PARTNERS



MEDIA SPONSORS



1 TICKET
FOR \$10

WIN FABULOUS PRIZES!

FESTIVAL RAFFLE



3 TICKETS
FOR \$20

Talk about a win-win! Visit the Raffle Tent or look for a hard-to-miss roving raffle ticket seller to get your ticket(s) to win one of the nine fabulous prize packages on offer this year. All proceeds support the Vancouver Folk Music Festival Society, a registered Canadian Charity.

Good luck – and thanks for your support!

Tickets will be sold all Festival Weekend. Ticket Draw will take place on Sunday, July 19 at 8pm at the Raffle Tent. Winners will be announced on the Main Stage on Sunday evening. Winner does not have to be present to claim the prize. For rules of play, go to thefestival.bc.ca/raffle-2026

LARRIVÉE GUITAR & ACCESSORIES

Legendary local luthier Larivée has generously donated one of their finest instruments – yours to take home with a selection of premium accessories from Long & McQuade. **\$3,999 value**

YUKON ADVENTURE!

\$1000 in Air North airline credit, two nights accommodation in a historic Dawson City hotel, a meal at the Yukon's finest restaurant, Bonton & Co, tickets to Diamond Tooth Gerties and the Jack London Museum, and a welcome package from the Klondike Visitors Association. Whether you travel up for the midnight sun or the northern lights, adventure awaits! **\$1,708 Value**

HOLLYHOCK GETAWAY

A two night stay for two adults, at the Hollyhock Retreat Centre on beautiful Cortes Island, including meals! Plus a \$350 BC Ferries voucher to cover travel. **\$1,850 Value**

LIVING ROOM UPGRADE

A luxury runner from East India Carpets and a Roomba provided by Westland Insurance. **\$6,800 Value**

MUSIC LOVERS PACKAGE

Immerse yourself in music with tickets to the Rogue Folk Club, BlueShore Financial Centre for the Performing Arts, Vancouver Coastal Jazz, and Vancouver Recital Society – a total of 20 tickets to 10 incredible events! **\$1,100 Value**

ARTS LOVERS PACKAGE

Your cultural calendar will be complete with a 2026 Vancouver International Film Festival pass, two tickets to the Arts Club Theatre, and a pair of event tickets and swag bag from the Vancouver Writer's Festival. **\$967 Value**

BEST DRESSED AT THE FEST

Upgrade your festival fit with a pair of Blundstone boots sponsored by Tin Shack, an ANIÁN gift card, and an official VFMF hat and pair of socks. **\$425 Value**

2027 FOLK FEST VIP WEEKEND

Two Adult Weekend Passes to the 2027 VFMF, including backstage lounge access and festival swag. **\$450 Value**

CLASSY DATE NIGHT

Two tickets to Ballet BC's season opening performance at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre and a gift certificate for Harbour Oysters + Bar for pre- or post-show snacks. **\$350 Value**

BUY FROM A ROVING RAFFLE SELLER OR VISIT THE RAFFLE TENT



Chances are 1 in 394 to win any prize. Actual odds depend on number of tickets sold. BC Gaming Event Licence #174954

Problem Gambling Help Line 1-888-795-6111
www.bcresponsiblegambling.ca

Know your limit, play within it. 19+ to play!



SPECIAL THANKS TO BIRGER BERGERSEN

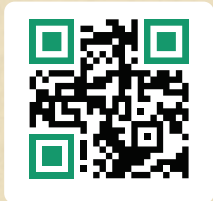
We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of Birger Bergersen, a long time festival supporter who we lost this year. Birger loved the festival and each year discovered new music from around the world, always returning home with a stack of records from the merch tent. In passing, Birger left a bequest to the Festival that will help ensure that the Festival can continue to inspire the next generation of music lovers.

For more information about leaving a gift in your will, please contact board@thefestival.bc.ca

Abby Wener Herlin	Anneke Van Vliet	Carol Buchanan	Damian I Sekoulidis	Duncan Macintyre	Garry Phillips
Adrianne Ross	Anne Klimball	Carol Herter	Dan Day	E Anne McKague	Gary Cristall
Agnes G dEntremont	Anne Marie Konas	Caroline Ewald	Daniel & Ursula Bowditch	Eder Jarquin Gonzalez	Gary Jarvis
A Jordan Creation	Anne-Marie Long	Caroline Penn	Daniel and Sandra Ciske	Edna Leyland	Gary Tennant
Alan Cooper	Anne Thompson	Carol Jerde	Daniel Stenning	Edward Phillips	Geir Rosvik
Alan Toft	Annie Huston	Carol Rossett	Dan Moore	Edward Stenson	Genia Ainsworth
Alexander Daughtry	Ann Macklem	Carolyn Schott	Darby Honeyman	Elaine Schretlen	Genie Crowe
Alex Flynn	Ann McDonell	Carroll Morris	Darcy Hamilton	Elena Serrano	Geoff Plant
Alexis Greenwood	Ann Rowan	Cary Sahm	Darriel Price	Eleni Fetokakis	George Mccutcheon
Alice A Macpherson	Aqueduct Foundation	Catalina Policzer	Dave Myles	Elinor Warkentin	Georges Payrastre
Alison Acheson	Working Design Fund	Catherine Fallis	David/Connie Lank/Smith	Elin Sigurdson	Gina Sadig
Alison Klein	Arik Ligeti	Catherine Munn	David Dexter	Elizabeth Fairhurst	Glee Devereaux
Alison MacLennan	Art Moses	Catherine Russell	David Hume	Elizabeth Pratt	Glenn Vockeroth
Alison Mandaville	Art Price	Cathy Alpaugh	David Knights Cowling	Elizabeth P Seaton	Gordon Fitt
Alison Rolfe	Audrey Ruhland	Cecil and Ruth Hershler	David Leung	Elizabeth Walsh	Gordon Watson
Alixandra Bacon	Aviva Martin	Celia Culley	David Lidstone	Ellen Gould	Graeme Keirstead
Allan Askew	Barbara Karmazyn	Charlene Pirro	David Mamorek	Ellen Jacobs	Grant Henderson
Allen Seager	Barbara Tinson	Charles Goldberg	David Steele	Elspeth Banerd	Greg Tang
Allison Mcphedran	Benjamin Ziegler	Charles J. Campbell	David W Field	Emily Ann Leslie	Greg Doyle
Allison Picard	Bernard David Roitberg	Charley Miller	Deborah A Thomas	Emily Marden	Gregor Reid
Alma McDonald	Bernard Gobin	Cheryl Gravkin	Deborah Brakeley	Emily Wong	Gregory Anderson
Alyssa Watson	Betsy Templeton	Cheryl Prophet	Deborah Fairhurst	Emma Mason	Greg Strong
Amelia Brancati	Bill Dovhey	Cheryl Vickers	Deborah Little	Erica Miller	Greygates Foundation
Amy Farahbakhsh	Bill Hooker	Chloe Knox	Deb Sankey	Erik Talvila	Gwen Litchfield
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Ana Policzer	Bob Bluman	Christine Harris	Deryk E.T Whitehead	Erlene Woollard	Hannah Shouldice
Andrea Anderson	Bob Penner	Christine Mihailedes	Deux Mille Foundation	Estate of Birger	Harriet & Steve Strasberg
Andrea Keber	Bonnie Rice	Christine Roskelly	Devin Baril	Bergersen	& Hodes
Andrea Smith	Bonnie Roberts-Taylor	Christopher Gibbins	De Wet van Niekerk	Evan Gatehouse	Heather Fuchs
Andrew Picard	Bram Herlich	Christopher Nielsen	Diana Panton	Evangeline Ragay	Heather Hay
Andrew Sigal	Bram Lermer	Christopher Tonge	Diane Kadota	Ezra Shanken	Heather Hyde
Angela How	Brenda Benham	Clare Cullen	Dianne Slimmon	Fairway Fund	Heidi Wale
Angie Theilmann	Brian Ross	Clayton Wong	Dixie and Richard Hayduk	Federico Francisco	Helen E Etmanski Kelsey
Anita / Thomas Gras	Brittany Harris	Colin Faber	Donald Mcglashan	Fiona Black	Helen Lemon-Moore
Bryant / Kress	Brooke Bennett	Colleen Burke	Donald Read	Fiona Simons	Hossein Safyallah
Anna de la Rosa	Burt and Staci Alber	Colleen Maguire	Donald Richard-Clancy	Flo Beaumon	Ian Cohen
Anna Pansacola-Quicho	Caitlin Atkinson	Connie Hubbs	Don and Susan Smith	Franco Ferrari	Ian London
Anna Perry	Caitlin Meggs	Corinne Riedijk	Fund	Fran Watters	Ian Wardle
Anna Vander Munnik	Calvin Roskelly	Cynthia Johnston	Donna Henderson-King	Gage Averill	Ira Sutherland
Ann Chasmar	Cam Salay	Cynthia Toze	Doris Brevoort	Gail Moyle	Isabel Gordon
Anne Blaine	Cara Siu	D. Wendy Lee	Douglas Sprenger	Gail Screation	Jackie Cox-Ziegler
Anne Duke	Carlo Diano	Damian Inwood	Douglas Watts	Garry Mckay	Jack MacDermot

Join this all-star list!

Each person and group listed here has made a generous donation to the Vancouver Folk Music Festival Society since last year's festival - and we are immensely grateful for the support that you as our community continue to show for us. If you'd like to make a contribution to the festival, visit the Donations Tent and chat with festival volunteers and members of our Board of Directors to find out how you can give. Contributions over \$20 are eligible for tax receipts, and contributions of \$35 or more will automatically make you a member of the VFMF society.



Jacob Dudley	Jonathon Turlove	Laurie Bloom	Maxwell Lewis	Paul Hecht	Sara Bathgate	Susan Wilburn
Jacqueline Mousseau	Jon Sigurdson	Laurie Reid	Mayumi Takasaki	Pauline Douglas	Sarah Fairhurst	Susan Yaremus
Jade Wilde	Josh Smith	Laurie Rotecki	Mazyar Mohaseb	Paul Norton	Sarah Groves	Susie Gareau
James Dunn	Joshua Baker	Lawrence Birdsall	Megan Chrostowski	Paul O'Neill	Sarah Longenbaugh	Suzanne Fournier
James Scoates	Joyce Bradley	Lee Zuhars	Megan Parke	Paul Whitney	Sarah Murphy	Suzie Ungerleider
James Stanford	J Rosemary Salgo	Lesley Benham	Meghan Carrico	Peggy Moore Kibbel	Sarah Murray	Suzy Coulter
Jamie Fong	Judith Harper	Lesley Joy	Meg Ida	Penelope Fahlman	Sarah Smith	Sydney Foran
Jane Fernyhough	Judith Kaplan	Lesley Pets	Melinda Suto	Penny Tilby	Sarah Tallentire	Tamara Flick-Parker
Jane Heyman	Judith Slivinski	Lesley Toigo	Merrilee Miller	Peter Fisher	Sara Yuen	Teresa Ferguson
Jane Slemon	Judith Wood	Leslie Cossitt	Michael Andersen	Peter Graham	Scott Burgess	Teresa Murphy
Jane Srivastava	Judy Covell	Leslie H McAuley	Michael Ayotte	Peter Ladner	Scott Jackson	Tess Harpur
Janet Rogers	Judy Huser	Leslie Kemp	Michael Fraser	Peter Orr	Scott McKee	Tess Kitchen
Jane Webster	Juergen Dankwort	Leslie Morgan	Michael J. MacDonald	Peter Swayne	Serena Staples	Theresa-Ann Clark
Janice Chutter	Julia Gardner	Liam Adadow	Michael Laslett	Phillip Harris	Seth Klein	Thomas Jones
Janine Robben	Julia Hewko	Libbie Bake	Michael Meshenuk	Pia Sillem	Sheila Cook	Thomas Lee Campbell
Jasmine Olson	Julie Wittrock	Lillian More	Michael O'Connor	Randy S Huth	Sheila Dunnachie	Thomas Radmilovich
Jason Campbell	June Gambrel	Linda Atkins	Michelle Baudais	Raymond Gee	Shelley Neil	Tiffany Kuhlmann
Jason Ryant	June Hunter	Linda L Barnhart	Michelle Philippe	Raymond Lachance	Sherry Hensel	Tom Besser
Jay Rudolph	June Maynard	Linda Nicholls	Michel Ritchie	RBC Foundation	Sherry King	Tom Nesbit
Jeanette McConnell	Karen Gillespie	Lisa Adriance	Michel Turmel	Rebecca Robertson	Sheryl Webster	Toni Serofin
Jean Fitzgerald	Karen Koeppler	Lisa Jamieson	Mikalyn Trinca Colonel	Rebecca W. Knox	Shira Weidenbaum	Tracy McAuley
Jean Gardner	Karen La Pointe	Lisa Kozicky	Mike Dumler	Reisa Schneider	Shirley Lum	Trent Payton
Jeanine Rhemtulla	Karen O'Brien	Lisa Morrow	Mike Goodman	Richard (Dick) Stein	Shona Lam	Trevor Fisher
Jean Schwartz	Karen Sawatzky	Lisa Snelling	Mindy Iris	Richard Dennis	Shoni Field	Tricia Foran
Jeff Finger	Karin Shard	Liz Tuck	Mira Caveno	Richard Vallee	Sidney Katz	Trish Barry
Jeff McDonald	Karma Leroux	Lizzie Woodley	Mirela Djokic	Rick Thirkell	Simone Plusa	Valdine Ciwko
Jeffrey Flieler	Karrie Anne Friend	L Lynn Hardy	Miriam Caplan	Rieuwert Buitenga	Simon Kendall	Valerie Alberts
Jeffrey Levinton	Kate Clifford	Lorenz von Fersen	Miriam Moses	Risa litwin	Steffany Raynes	Vandy Savage
Jeffrey M Myers	Katherine Deane	Loretta Richardson	Mona Talbott	Rita Werner	Stephanie Fischer	Vantage Pha
Jennifer hess	Katherine Miller	Lou DuHamel	Monica Dare	Robert Harvey	Stephanie L Scott	Veronica Light
Jennifer Iredale	Katherine Mooney	Louise Hutchinsonson	Nadia Slakov	ROBERT HEYMAN	Stephen Aberle	Virginia Pateman
Jennifer Kirkey	Katherine Schmidt	Louise M Ricards	Nadine Pinnell	Robert Keith Switzer	Stephen Chessor	Walter Quan
Jennifer LeRoux	Kathleen Cross	Lucas Nogue	Nancy Allen	Robert Melrose	Stephen Edge	Warren Hunter
Jessica Hanson	Kathleen McDonagh	Luciano Bruschetta	Nancy Bulman	Robert Rentz	Stephen Gray	Wayne Bleier
Jessica Ungerleider	Kathryn Aberle	Lucie McNeill	Nancy Duff	Robert Taylor	Stephen Marcus	Wayne Campbell
Jessie Smith	Kathryn Lekas	Lucy Falkner	Nancy Graham	Robin Layne	Stephen Price	Wendy Butchart
Jim Anhorn	Kathryn Spracklin	Lukas Chrostowski	Nancy Lanphear	Robyn Poettcker	Steven T Babick	William Barker
Jim Gaskell	Kathy Neilson	Lydia Cartar	Nancy Mclean	Rochelle Shimerl	Sue Scott	William Hood
Jim Hegan	Kathy Waterworth	Lynell Anderson	Nancy More	Rod Mickleburgh	Sue Watson	William Kowalczyk
Jim McGill	Katia Villa Vassallo	Lynn Ledgerwood	Nancy Rotecki	Roger Brant	Surya Govender	Yarrow Koontz
Jim Sutherland	Kat Ng	Maarten den Ouden	Naomi Moses	Ron Peterson	Susan Craik	Yee Chan & David Wong
Joan deVerteuil	Keith Fossand	Maddy Kipling	Neil Creighton	Rory Pearce	Susan Gunn	Yuri Artibise
Joan Harris	Kelly Maier	Madeline Laberge	Neil Naiman	Rosalind Sadowski	Susan Jardine	Zandrika James
Joanie Anderson	Kelsey Heikoop	Mair Foundation	Nicholas Scott	Roseanne Moran	Susan More	Zhara Balleny
Joan Jaccard	Ken Guenter	Mairghread Murray	Nora D Randall	Rose Blake	Susan Summers	Zool Suleman
Joanna Sillem	Ken Westdorp	Malcolm Bidder	Nou Dadoun	Roxanne Cave	Susan Walker	
Joanne Ingledew	kerry clarke	Margaret Johansen	Ollie Richards	Ruby Maekawa		
Joel Bradley	Kerry Smithies	Margaret Whale	Owen Plummer	Ruby Phillips		
Joel Bronstein	Kevin Setiawan	Marian Gilmour	Pam & Dave Gurd	Rudiger Krause		
Joelle Lazar	Kevin Stewart	Mari Jamieson	Pamela Harrison	Rupinder Sidhu		
John Buchan	Kim Adams	Marilyn Kynaston	Pamela J Frazee	Ruth Egger		
John Culter	Kirsten Abbot	Mario Pirro	Patricia (Pat) Hepper	Ruth Lea Taylor		
John Davies	Kirsten Bevelander	Mark David Kelly	Patricia Gibson	Ruth Pettis		
John Dawson	Kirstie Pirie	Mark Finlay	Patricia Kennaley	Ryan Marchant		
John Eastman	Kris Klaasen	Marlys Erickson	Patricia Lambie	Sallie Shawl		
John Gracey	Krystal Kobelka	Martin & Carole Gerson	Patricia L Sarazin	Sally Thorne		
John Endo Greenaway	Krysten Maier	Martin Miles	Patricia Munro	Samantha Banks		
John Jamison	Kyle Miller	Mary Ellen Glover	Patti Locke-lewkowich	Samantha Kannegieter		
John Kidder	Lamargo Petersen	Mary MacLellan	Patty Beatty-Guenter	Samantha Parton		
John McHenry	Larry Morningstar	Mary Sherlock	Paul Coulter	Sam Black		
John Secord	Larry Pellizzari	Mary Sullivan	Paul Dawson	Sandi Bassett		
John Shultis	Laura-Leah Shaw	Matthew Kennedy	Paul Demers	Sandra Eix		
John White	Laura Mervyn	Maureen Cairns	Paul Friedman	Sandra Hochstein		
Jojo Shea MacEachern	Laurel Murphy	Maurice Bloch	Paul Hayes	Sandra Wood		



Our sincere thanks also to the folks who gave generously but prefer to remain anonymous – you know who you are!

CHAMPIONING GLOBAL ARTISTS: WE BRING THE WORLD TO VANCOUVER

The VFMF has long been a festival of discovery – a place to encounter your new favourite artist. It’s also an opportunity to do some musical globetrotting without leaving Vancouver. The festival’s global artists take us to their home places, bringing stories of culture, struggle, and resistance.

The long grind of the war on Ukraine has put a spotlight on the endurance and defiance of that nation’s people. **Yagódy** embodies that spirit of resistance. Using a fresh form of musical storytelling to revive and reinvent Ukrainian folk songs, they celebrate their culture with dramatic presentation and stunning harmonies. Slava Ukraini!

The art of Brazil’s **Bia Ferreira** is Música de Mulher Preta – Black Woman Music – and through her work she is a proud advocate for Black people and LGBTQ folks. The singer, composer, multi-instrumentalist, and self-described ‘artist’ uses her songs to document both struggle and achievement, saying: “I think music is political and that’s it. Music is a movement, an artistic movement to show what happens in your time.”

The music of **Sauljaljui** is timeless. An Indigenous artist from southern Taiwan, she celebrates her Paiwan culture with pride and artistry. She accompanies her distinctive, soulful voice on the yueqin (moon lute), shining a new light on traditional Paiwan and Hengchun music by bringing outside influences to bear. The Taiwan Ministry of Culture states she is “creating a new intersection between her mother tongue, the land, and contemporary music.”



Yagódy

Bia Ferreira

Sauljaljui

An enduring strength of the VFMF is to features artists who reimagine and reinvigorate tradition. Check out **BIM** (Benin International Musical) – a vibrant collective who build on their homeland’s deep musical culture. Highlighted by polyphonic vocals and balafon, BIM infuse their sound with a delicious and delirious range of stylistic flavours. This is serious dance music!

The duo **Kazdoura** – one hailing from Syria, the other from Lebanon – make music that GQ Magazine describes as able to “seamlessly fuse jazz, funk, and indie rock with traditional Arabic songs and the melodic quarter-tone structures that define Arabic music.” They marry ancient tradition with 21st century groove, creating music that is both nostalgic and contemporary.

The experimental Northern Irish singer-songwriter **Joshua Burnside** is another artist that marries folk to innovation. A stunning live performer, his literate, tender songs flow out of the Irish tradition but move beyond it as he blends in contemporary influences like Americana and electronica.

VFMF artistic director Fiona Black has again peppered the festival lineup with dynamic female artists. One to watch is Cherokee singer-songwriter **Ken Pomeroy**. Poignant storytelling delivered with a clear, distinctive voice – her star is on the ascent, and we are lucky to have her with us this year.

Sahra Halgan musically represents her home of Somaliland with pride, using her glorious voice to celebrate her people. Traditional Somali sounds shaped with Tuareg desert rock, Malian blues, and East African rhythms, this is music “filled with soul and courage and love.”

Brighde Chaimbeul is a Gaelic speaker from the Isle of Skye, master of the Scottish small pipes, and one of the outstanding musicians of her generation. Her music is a form of Celtic experimentalism: playing in a way that brings out the rich textural drones of her instrument to a trance-like effect.

Barcelona’s **Maruja Limón** propels and plays with next-gen rhumba Catalana in a fun, feminist, and ever-so-danceable fashion. It’s a feast of flamenco rhythms, virtuoso musicianship, and earthy vocals all delivered with intensity and joy.

This year’s folk fest provides a passport to musical world travel all weekend long.

It’s a voyage of delight and discovery – all aboard!



Maruja Limón

BIM



Kazdoura

Sahra Halgan

Ken Pomeroy

Brighde Chaimbeul

Joshua Burnside



BlueShore at CapU

Sept. 10
JOHN PIZZARELLI TRIO
Ambassador of Swing pays
homage to Tony Bennett.

Sept. 12
VIEUX FARKA TOURÉ
Soulful desert blues at The Pearl.
(Tix at modo-live.com)

Sept. 26
**HAROLD LÓPEZ-NUSSA
QUARTET**
Cuban jazz innovators.

Oct. 16-17
**JJ CALE'S ICONIC ALBUM
NATURALLY REIMAGINED**
Steve Dawson leads all-star lineup
at Kay Meek Arts Centre.

Oct. 22
MARYNA KRUT
Ukrainian folk star.

Nov. 27
**JON FADDIS &
CAPU JAZZ ENSEMBLES**
Legendary trumpeter leads
homage to Dizzy Gillespie.

Dec. 22
WINTER HARP
Enchanting holiday concert.

Jan. 29
**THE POWER OF SONG:
A BLACK HISTORY
SHOWCASE**
Acclaimed guest artists join
CapU ensembles.

Feb. 16
DONOVAN WOODS
Juno-winning folk-roots musician.

March 19
**STEVE DAWSON WITH
FATS KAPLAN**
Duo show by two roots music
masters at York Theatre. (Tix on
sale Oct. 22.)



More info at capilanou.ca/centre



SARAH MCLACHLAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Provides free-of-charge musical education to more than
2,000 multi-barriered children and youth in Vancouver,
New Westminster and Edmonton each year.

"SoM has helped me boost
my confidence in singing.
I got to know a lot of
people there and felt like
I was a part of a
community."
~SoM Student

SOM AT A GLANCE

99%
SoM students face financial
barriers to accessing extra
curricular programs.

614
SoM students face social-
emotional needs including
autism, ADHD, and anxiety.

92%
SoM students say they feel
supported by SoM.



"Every young artist who accesses our programming does so, free-of-charge."



WE SUPPORT THE "WHOLE CHILD" THROUGH

- Customized and affirming musical programming
- Healthy Snack Program
- Transportation Program
- Classes ranging from Musical Discovery, Jazz Band, and Turntablism
- A safe and inclusive space

Transform a Life by Giving the Gift of Music

Sarah McLachlan School of Music | sarahschoolofmusic.com | 604.709.4415

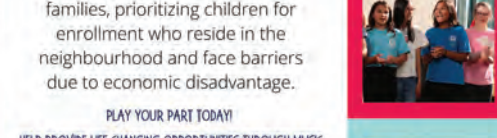
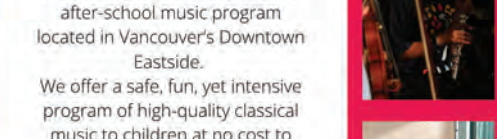


A Musical Life

The Saint James Music Academy
is an orchestral and choir-based
after-school music program
located in Vancouver's Downtown
Eastside.

We offer a safe, fun, yet intensive
program of high-quality classical
music to children at no cost to
families, prioritizing children for
enrollment who reside in the
neighbourhood and face barriers
due to economic disadvantage.

PLAY YOUR PART TODAY!
HELP PROVIDE LIFE CHANGING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH MUSIC



LITTLE FOLKS VILLAGE

As you come in the Main Gate, look ahead to your right to the Little Folks Village! The village is open to folks of all ages, but little ones must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

FRIDAY 3PM – 5PM

Learn to stilt and juggle with Redbird and friends.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY 10AM – 5PM

Weekend activities at the Little Folks Village have something
for everyone - music, dance, storytelling, and more. Check out
the schedule below for the full list of programming.

SATURDAY

10:00 Redbird & Friends

roving stilt performances – learn stilting and juggling

11:00 – 11:35 Nylon Zoo storytelling and costume parade

12:00 – 12:35 Kung Jaadee Indigenous storytelling

1:00 Saint James Music Academy marimba ensemble

1:30 – 2:05 Nylon Zoo storytelling and costume parade

2:10 – 2:40 Kung Jaadee Indigenous storytelling

3:00 – 3:30 Sarah McLachlan School of Music

Samba Afro drum troupe

3:45 – 4:15 Nylon Zoo storytelling and costume parade

4:30 – 5:00 Redbird & Friends learn stilting and juggling

SUNDAY

10:30 Redbird & Friends

roving stilt performances – learn stilting and juggling

11:00 – 11:35 Nylon Zoo storytelling and costume parade

11:50 – 12:30 Compagnie V'ni Dansi

traditional Metis & contemporary dance

1:00 – 1:45 Muevete Marimba Ensemble

1:45 – 2:15 audience invited to play the marimbas

2:15 – 2:45 Nylon Zoo storytelling and costume parade

3:00 – 3:40 Compagnie V'ni Dansi

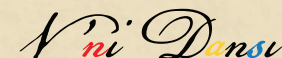
Traditional Metis & contemporary dance

4:00 – 4:35 Nylon Zoo storytelling and costume parade

4:30 – 5:00 Redbird & Friends learn stilting and juggling

THANK YOU!

We are delighted to welcome two preeminent music schools
to Little Folks: the **Sarah McLachlan School of Music** and
the **Saint James Music Academy**. These stellar local schools
provide life-changing access for youth to engage in music-
making. Listen, learn, engage, and play!



CREATION STATION

Come to the Creation Station for crafts, face painting, and
other fun activities put together by our all-star team of Little
Folks volunteers!

KUNG JAADEE

Kung Jaadee is a professional storyteller, educator and author
who has been sharing First Nations stories for 30-plus years
across Canada. She belongs to the X̱aayda (Haida), x̱m̱əθḵw̱əy̱
əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), Tlingit, Tsleil-
Waututh Nations, and is also part Hawaiian. She was born and
raised on Haida Gwaii and loves sharing Haida and Squamish
stories, which include universal teachings about respect,
responsibility and the interconnectedness of all living beings.

NYLON ZOO

The Nylon Zoo is a fun, celebratory event for the whole family.
Everyone gets involved with the interactive storytelling inside
the gigantic, inflatable blue salmon. The event is led by the
fun-loving and animated storyteller Angela Brown who also
dresses the audience in animal or flower costumes and then
leads them in a joyful parade and dance.

REDBIRD

Redbird has been performing at his most favourite festival –
this one! – for 18 years! You can often find him under a shady
tree, singing and making up songs with little folks. Redbird's
family & friends now join him to teach stiltwalking & juggling
to peeps of all ages, and to perform around the park. Redbird is
Peter G-G – actor/musician/physical theatre artist. Learn more
about The SuperFun Stiltwalking Family at www.peterg-g.com

V'NI DANSI

V'ni Dansi is a Vancouver-based traditional Métis and
contemporary dance company dedicated to sharing the
dances, stories and culture of the Métis. Led by Artistic Director
Yvonne Chartrand, the company is dedicated to preservation
and innovation. Meaning "Come and Dance" in Michif, V'ni
Dansi is thrilled to share the Métis people's joyful culture with
audiences of all nations.



PROTECTING THE PARK

As one of our deeply ingrained organizational values, environmental stewardship is a key consideration in the Vancouver Folk Music Festival Society's operations. Our goal is to not only minimize the impact on ʔəyalməxʷ / l̓yálməxw Jericho Beach Park, but to lead initiatives that carry our festival closer to becoming a truly zero-waste event.

We may think of it as home for the weekend, but the sensitive marsh environment within the park supports wildlife all year round; look around and you might see ducks, herons, bullfrogs, dragonflies, turtles – and of course, plenty of rabbits. Please be respectful of the many plants and animals that are sharing their space with us.

Want to learn more about the critters that make up this phenomenal ecosystem? Visit our **Nature Committee** located in the Artisan Market for fun and educational environment-themed activities!

BIKE VALET

We are proud to acknowledge the support of The BC Cycling Coalition (BCCC) and The Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MoTT), whose generous support through the BC Bike Valet Grant Program helps make our Bike Valet possible!

Their commitment to active transportation, climate resilience, and safer, more inclusive communities directly supports our shared goal of making the Vancouver Folk Music Festival a more sustainable and accessible event.

It warms our hearts to see the hundreds of bicycles parked at the valet over the weekend – we're thankful to all who are able to get to the festival on two wheels, and our **Bike Valet Committee** volunteers will make sure everyone is well taken care of (with a serenade, if you're lucky).

Together, we're helping more people choose to bike, scoot, and stroll into the weekend – reducing emissions, easing congestion, and fostering connection on every path to the beach.



Ministry of
Transportation
and Transit



SUSTAINABILITY PARTNER

With the support of Recycling Alternative, we're keeping Jericho Beach clean and green all weekend long. Their in-kind services help reduce our festival footprint and bring our sustainability goals to life.



RECYCLING & COMPOSTING

Our **Environment Committee** volunteers are here to help! Look for the recycling stations located around the site. Compostable cups, cutlery, foodware, stir sticks and straws can all be diverted from the landfill as long as they go in the right bin.

REUSABLE SERVICE WARE

The Vancouver Folk Music Festival is partnering with Sharewares to use reusable beverage service ware at the bars and eliminate single use cups. Clearly identified Sharewares collection bins will be placed throughout the site to collect used cups. Once you've finished enjoying one of our delicious beverage offerings, please make sure to drop your glass off in one of the dedicated bins!



MERCHANDISE & SIGNINGS

VFMF MERCHANDISE

T-shirts, hats, accessories - the Merch tent is full of swag to keep your festival memories alive all year long. Need to cool off? Pick up a festival fan. Looking to keep your drink cold and your hand warm? Pick up a festival Koozie!



FESTIVAL MERCHANDISE HOURS

FRIDAY 2pm – 10pm
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 9:30am – 10pm

ARTISTS' EMPORIUM: MUSIC 'N' MORE

Our friends over at Neptoon Records (supported by our fantastic volunteers) are stationed at the Artists' Emporium all weekend, the perfect place to pick up t-shirts, vinyl, and other merch from our festival roster. A note of advice: if you see something you like, don't snooze on it! Not every artist will be at the festival all weekend, and when they go they'll take their merch with them. So go on, buy that record! You deserve it.



ARTISTS' EMPORIUM HOURS

FRIDAY 2pm – 10pm
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 10am – 10pm

The Merchandise and Artists' Emporium Tent is located between the pond & the West Stage.

SIGNINGS

Found your new favourite performer this weekend? They might be doing a signing session! Check out the schedule below, or swing by the Artist Emporium for the most up to date info. (schedules subject to change)

FESTIVAL ARTIST MERCH SIGNING SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

Surf Hat 4:30 – 5:00pm
El Balcón 6:00 – 6:30pm
Gamksimoon 7:00 – 7:30pm

SATURDAY

Luke Wallace 12:15 – 12:45pm
Sauljaljui 1:00 – 1:30pm
Yagódy 2:00 – 2:30pm
Kazdoura 4:45 – 5:15pm
Jeffery Martin 5:00 – 5:30pm
Teddy Thompson 6:00 – 6:30pm
La Déferlance 6:30 – 7:00pm

SUNDAY

Anna Tivel 12:15 – 12:45pm
Ruby Singh 1:00pm – 1:30pm
John Smith 1:45 – 2:15pm
Lindi Ortega 3:15 – 3:45pm
Ken Pomeroy 3:30 – 4:00pm
Brianna Lizotte 4:45 – 5:15pm
The Slocan Ramblers 6:15 – 6:45pm

ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

VFMF is committed to making our festival as inclusive and accessible as possible. Our dedicated team of accessibility volunteers are on site all weekend to support the variety of accessibility services that we have on site. Look for the folks in blue shirts posted at the Access Gate, Access Tent, and Priority Viewing Areas



ACCESS GATE ENTRANCE

Located on the east side of ʔəʔalməxʷ / lʔálmexw Jericho Beach Park, at the end of West 2nd Avenue. Here you'll find:

- An easily accessible drop-off/pick-up area via Point Grey Road
- HandyDART service pick-ups and drop-offs. (Call 778.452.2860.)
- Limited accessible parking in the Service Lot at the end of Point Grey Road, available on a first-come first-serve basis

COMPANION TICKET POLICY

People living with disability or mobility issues unable to attend without the help of an attendant can purchase a regular price ticket and bring an attendant at no charge*.

ACCESS TENT

The Access Tent is our accessibility HQ! Come by for a moment of rest and shade. If you need a walker, manual wheelchair, or electric scooter to navigate the festival site, we have a limited number available for loan, as well as a space to charge electric wheelchairs. A wheelchair accessible washroom with a sanitary handwashing station is located next to the Access Tent, with other washroom locations marked on the site map.



NEW IN 2026: LOW SENSORY TENT

We're happy to offer a quiet, calming space to take a break, recharge, and self-regulate during the festival. Everyone is welcome, especially neurodivergent individuals, including people with ADHD, autism, sensory processing differences, and anxiety.

Inside you'll find:

- Comfortable seating
- Noise-reducing headphones
- Fidget tools
- Colouring pages



Located next to the Access Tent!

SERVICE ANIMALS

Registered service animals are welcome on site, but please ensure that they're on a leash at all times. For critters with sensitive ears, keep in mind that the music decibel levels may be beyond their comfort level. Any animal exhibiting aggressive or disorderly behaviour may be required to leave the site, at the discretion of festival staff.



PRIORITY VIEWING AREAS

At each festival stage you'll find a roped off area with seating provided for folks with access needs (companions are welcome!), including a raised and covered platform mid-way back stage right of the Evening Main Stage. A limited priority viewing area is also available stage right of the Evening Main Stage at the front. There are access corridors between all viewing areas, but please note that during evening performances access may be limited to between sets.

BETTEAR BY WAVEFRONT

We're proud to be partnering with Wavefront again this year to provide their Bettear technology for every performance on the Main Stage. Bettear is an AI-powered technology that enhances the live music experience for those that are hearing impaired. The Bettear app connects directly to hearing aids to ensure users have the means to make the most of their VFMF experience! Simply download the free Bettear app from the App Store or Google Play, and connect your Bluetooth-compatible hearing aids or personal earphones. wavefrontcentre.ca/bettear



ACCESSIBILITY PARTNER: MOTION



Thanks to the generous support of Motion, we're able to offer on-site mobility equipment and support services to help ensure the festival is welcoming and accessible to all.



AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION

We are offering ASL Interpretation at a number of concerts and workshops again this year on Sunday, July 19th – they're listed below, or look for the ASL symbol on the schedule page.

ASL PERFORMANCES, SUNDAY JULY 19

12:10 – 1:15pm

John Smith *South Stage*

1:45 – 2:45pm

Linda Ortega *South Stage*

3:20 – 4:25pm

Ruby Singh and the Future Ancestors *East Stage*

4:45 – 5:50pm

The Slocan Ramblers *East Stage*



Global News Hour at 6

with Chris Gailus & Sophie Lui

Globalnews.ca



*For weekend ticket holders utilizing this policy: attendants must register daily at the Access Gate and are permitted single-day admission only.

PERFORMER SCHEDULES

This schedule-at-a-glance indicates when and where artists are performing throughout the Festival weekend. Some artists are appearing all three days, while some are appearing on only one or two days. Check the listing and to avoid disappointment! The three daytime stages – **South Stage**, **West Stage**, and **East Stage** – host **concerts**  as well as **collaborative sessions**  featuring multiple artists. The evening **Main Stage** is reserved for **concerts**  as well as **short sets**  in between the headlining acts. Please see page 30 and 31 for the full weekend schedule.

AMISTAT pg. 33

 **SATURDAY 4:00 – 5:15pm**

Stories From Across the Pond South Stage

 **SUNDAY 4:35 – 5:45pm South Stage**

ANNA TIVEL pg. 33

 **SATURDAY 10:30 – 11:40am**

Cascadia Dreaming East Stage

 **SUNDAY 10:45 – 11:50am East Stage**

AYSANABEE pg. 25

 **FRIDAY 6:00 – 7:10pm Main Stage**

 **SATURDAY 11:00 – 12:10pm**

Eastern Sunrise South Stage

BIA FERREIRA pg. 34

 **SATURDAY 1:30 – 2:35pm West Stage**

 **SATURDAY 9:10 – 9:25pm Main Stage**

 **SUNDAY 4:25 – 5:40pm We Be Jammin' West Stage**

BILLY BRAGG pg. 25

 **SATURDAY 7:35 – 9:05pm Main Stage**

 **SUNDAY 10:30 – 11:50am**

Rise Up and Sing (host) South Stage

BIM (BENIN INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL) pg. 26

 **SUNDAY 4:25 – 5:40pm**

We Be Jammin' West Stage

 **SUNDAY 9:30 – 10:40pm Main Stage**

BRIANNA LIZOTTE pg. 34

 **SUNDAY 12:20 – 1:35pm**

Trad-ically Hip (host) East Stage

 **SUNDAY 3:10 – 4:15pm South Stage**

BRÌGHDE CHAIMBEUL pg. 35

 **SATURDAY 12:10 – 1:20pm East Stage**

 **SUNDAY 12:20 – 1:35pm**

Trad-ically Hip (host) East Stage

COUSIN HARLEY pg. 35

 **SATURDAY 12:00 – 1:05pm West Stage**

 **SUNDAY 12:50 – 2:10pm**

Rock Out (hosts) West Stage

EL BALCÓN pg. 36

 **FRIDAY 4:30 – 5:40pm East Stage**

 **SATURDAY 4:40 – 5:50pm**

Global Ties That Bind West Stage

EMPANADAS ILEGALES pg. 36

 **SATURDAY 4:40 – 5:50pm**

Global Ties That Bind West Stage

 **SUNDAY 2:40 – 3:50PM West Stage**

GAMKSIMOOON pg. 37

 **FRIDAY – 4:30 – 5:40pm West Stage**

HALEY BLAIS pg. 37

 **FRIDAY 3:00 – 4:10pm East Stage**

HAZLETT pg. 26

 **FRIDAY 7:40 – 8:50pm Main Stage**

JEFFREY MARTIN pg. 38

 **SATURDAY 10:30 – 11:40am**

Cascadia Dreaming East Stage

 **SATURDAY 3:10 – 4:20pm East Stage**

JOHN SMITH pg. 38

 **FRIDAY 8:55 – 9:15pm Main Stage**

 **SATURDAY 4:00 – 5:15pm**

Stories from Across the Pond (host) South Stage

 **SUNDAY 12:10 – 1:15pm South Stage**

JOSHUA BURNSIDE pg. 39

 **SATURDAY 2:20 – 3:30pm South Stage**

 **SATURDAY 7:15 – 7:30pm Main Stage**

 **SUNDAY 12:20 – 1:35pm**

Trad-ically Hip (host) East Stage

KAZDOURA pg. 39

 **SATURDAY 3:05 – 4:10pm West Stage**

 **SUNDAY 4:25 – 5:40pm**

We Be Jammin' West Stage

KEN POMEROY pg. 40

 **SUNDAY 10:30 – 11:50am**

Rise Up and Sing South Stage

 **SUNDAY 1:55 – 3:00pm East Stage**

 **SUNDAY 7:15 – 7:30pm Main Stage**

LA DÉFERLANCE pg. 40

 **SATURDAY 4:40 – 5:50pm East Stage**

 **SUNDAY 12:20 – 1:35pm**

Trad-ically Hip (host) East Stage

LINDA ORTEGA pg. 41

 **SATURDAY 10:30 – 11:40am**

Cascadia Dreaming (Lindi Ortega) East Stage

 **SUNDAY 10:30 – 11:50am**

Rise Up and Sing – South Stage

 **SUNDAY 1:40 – 2:45PM South Stage**

LUKE WALLACE pg. 41

 **FRIDAY 3:00 – 4:10pm South Stage**

 **SATURDAY 10:30 11:40am Cascadia**

Dreaming (host) – East Stage

 **SUNDAY 9:10 – 9:25pm Main Stage**

MARUJA LIMÓN pg. 27

 **SATURDAY 4:40 – 5:50pm**

Global Ties that Bind West Stage

 **SUNDAY 6:00 – 7:10PM Main Stage**

MITSUNE pg. 42

 **SATURDAY 11:00 – 12:10pm**

Eastern Sunrise South Stage

 **SUNDAY 11:15 – 12:20PM West Stage**

RUBY SINGH AND THE FUTURE ANCESTORS pg. 42

 **SUNDAY 10:30 – 11:50am**

Rise Up and Sing – South Stage

 **SUNDAY 3:20 – 4:25PM East Stage**

RUBY WATERS pg. 27

 **SATURDAY 9:30 – 10:45pm Main Stage**

SAHRA HALGAN pg. 28

 **FRIDAY 9:20 – 10:35pm Main Stage**

SAULJALJUI pg. 43

 **FRIDAY 4:30 – 5:40pm South Stage**

 **SATURDAY 11:00 – 12:10pm**

Eastern Sunrise South Stage

 **Concert**

 **Day Stage Collaborative Session**

 **Main Stage Short Set**

SURF HAT pg. 43

 **FRIDAY 3:00 – 4:10pm West Stage**

 **SUNDAY 12:50 – 2:10pm**

Rock Out (hosts) West Stage

TAMI NEILSON pg. 28

 **SATURDAY 6:00 – 7:10PM Main Stage**

 **SUNDAY 12:50 – 2:10pm**

Rock Out (hosts) West Stage

TEDDY THOMPSON pg. 44

 **SATURDAY 1:40 – 2:50pm East Stage**

 **SATURDAY 4:00 – 5:15pm Stories from**

Across the Pond South Stage

THE SLOCAN RAMBLERS pg. 44

 **SUNDAY 12:20 – 1:35pm**

Trad-ically Hip (host) East Stage

 **SUNDAY 4:45 – 5:50pm East Stage**

TINA DICO pg. 45

 **FRIDAY 7:15 – 7:35PM Main Stage**

 **SATURDAY 12:40 – 1:50pm South Stage**

 **SATURDAY 4:00 – 5:15pm**

Stories from Across the Pond South Stage

VALERIE JUNE pg. 29

 **SUNDAY 10:30 – 11:50am**

Rise Up and Sing South Stage

 **SUNDAY 7:35 – 9:05pm Main Stage**

YAGÓDY pg. 45

 **SATURDAY 10:30 – 11:35am West Stage**

 **SATURDAY 4:40 – 5:50pm**

Global Ties that Bind West Stage

stir

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INDIGENOUS WELCOMES

Prior to the arrival of settlers, ʔəyalməx^w Jericho Beach was home to a Musqueam Nation village, Ee'yullmough. We are honoured to hold our festival as guests on this place where land, sea and sky meet, home since time immemorial to peoples of three nations: the x^wməθk^wəyəm Musqueam, səliłwətaʔł Tsleil Waututh, and SkwɁ wú7mesh Squamish. As the host nation, Musqueam representatives will open the festival on Friday night with representatives from the Tsleil Waututh Nation offering a welcome on Saturday evening and the Squamish Nation offering a welcome on Sunday evening.

EVENING MAIN STAGE EMCEES



TIM REINERT FROM INFIDELS JAZZ

Tim Reinert is a Vancouver- based concert promoter, record label owner, and podcast host. He is probably best known for founding Infidels Jazz, which will present over 350 concerts in 2026, and will co-present VanJazz 26 in October of this year. For more info, visit www.theinfidelsjazz.ca

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MARGARET GALLAGHER LISA CHRISTIANSEN

Margaret Gallagher is the host of *North by Northwest*, BC's highest-rated weekend radio show. She's been a key part of the CBC for more than 20 years, has a wealth of awards and the gift of the storyteller. Music has been an important part of her life, and she's brought all her skills and charisma to the VFMF's Main Stage for many years. We're thrilled she's back.

Lisa Christiansen is the editor and the reporter for CBC Radio's weekday morning show, *The Early Edition*. She's the co-host of the feminism and pop culture podcast, *Pop This!*, and has a deep love for music. She's been a two-time Polaris Music Prize grand juror and a four-time JUNO Award judge for Heavy Metal Album of the Year – and we welcome her return to the Main Stage.



KRYSTLE DOS SANTOS, ARTIST EXTRAORDINAIRE

Krystle Dos Santos is a powerhouse vocalist, songwriter, and performer whose dynamic presence and rich, soulful sound have captivated audiences across Canada. With a career spanning multiple genres and disciplines, she has shared stages with celebrated artists such as Allen Stone, Serena Ryder, Ruth B, Stevie Wonder, and Michael Bublé. Whether on stage, in the studio, or curating historical narratives through music, Dos Santos is a powerful voice ensuring that the past, present, and future of music remain deeply connected.

ARTIST BIOS Main Stage

AYSANABEE ONTARIO

Aysanabee is a multi-instrumentalist, producer and singer-songwriter currently based in Toronto. He is Oji-Cree, Sucker Clan of the Sandy Lake First Nation—a remote fly-in community in the far reaches of Northwestern Ontario.

Solemn and soaring, backed by a swirling blend of indie, soul, and electronic soundscapes, mournful saxophone and pulse-quicken finger-picking, Aysanabee's striking sound is equal parts hypnotic and melodic. His music has been compared to Bon Iver, Matt Corby, Don Ross, Kim Churchill, Kings of Leon, and Sam Smith, but he's truly an original Canadian voice.

His debut album *Watin* (2022) was named after his grandfather and shortlisted for the Polaris Prize. "*Watin* actually started out as a series of conversations between myself and my grandfather," Aysanabee said. "We spent the first year of the pandemic talking about things we've never spoken about, his life on the trapline on Sandy Lake First Nation, falling in love, his life in residential school and then leaving everything behind... we never spoke of it until now. Even though we were over 1,000 kilometres apart, it was probably the closest we've ever been."

In 2024, Aysanabee made history as the first ever Indigenous Artist to win JUNO Awards for Alternative Album of the Year and Songwriter of the year for *Here and Now*, his sophomore album. This year he won JUNOs for both Alternative Album and Indigenous Artist of the Year for his 2025 album *Edge of the Earth*. – EL



Aysanabee guitar, vocals; **Kyla Charter** backing vocals; **Konstantine (Dean) Aivaliotis** keys, vocals; **Adam Hanney** guitar; **Miles Gibbons** drums, tracks

🕒 **FRIDAY 6:00 – 7:10 Main Stage**

🕒 **SATURDAY 11:00 – 12:10 Eastern Sunrise South Stage**

BILLY BRAGG UNITED KINGDOM



For longtime Festival-goers, **Billy Bragg** is a folk icon and a working class hero. Perhaps more than any other living artist, he epitomizes the spirit of what the festival has always strived to achieve. Since his first appearance at Jericho in 1987, when he ripped up the main stage with songs about the power of unions and the solidarity possible when common people work together, Bragg has balanced

his anthems that cry for social justice with love songs of raw and aching tenderness.

Long before he collaborated with Wilco on *Mermaid Avenue* Bragg first brought his unique perspective on Woody Guthrie's music to a Folk Festival workshop stage. On his second appearance at the festival in 1989, he crafted new verses for 'The Internationale' with Pete Seeger, solidifying his role as a torch carrier for a new generation of political folk artists. A return appearance with Joe Henry a few years ago proved that the years have done nothing to diminish the fire in Bragg's live performances, or his respect for the musical lineage that he's become an integral part of.

Billy Bragg remains an uncompromising musical force. If you've seen him more times than you can count, you won't need any encouragement to get to his performances early and to pull up a blanket in the front of the stage. If you've never had the chance to hear Bragg before, don't even think of missing out on what will surely be a life-changing experience. – DH

Billy Bragg vocals, guitar; **Jacob Stoney** keyboard

🕒 **SATURDAY 7:35 – 9:05 Main Stage**

🕒 **SUNDAY 10:30 – 11:50 Rise Up and Sing (host) South Stage**

BIM [BENIN INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL] BENIN

BIM (Benin International Musical) is a dynamic collective of young Beninese artists dedicated to reclaiming and reimagining their country's profound musical heritage. Blending rock, rap, and traditional voodoo rhythms, BIM creates a powerful sonic experience that bridges past and present, ritual and modernity. Their performances are more than concerts – they are immersive ceremonies, charged with energy, spirit, and emotional intensity.

Rooted in the historic city of Ouidah, a key port on the 17th to 19th century trans-Atlantic slave route, BIM draws from a lineage that has influenced global music for generations. From gospel and blues to jazz, rock, and hip-hop, many modern genres trace echoes back to Benin's cultural rhythms – an influence heard in bands like Arcade Fire, Talking Heads, and Gorillaz.

Formed in 2016 by Hervé Riesen and Jérôme Ettinger, BIM emerged after extensive artist searches across Benin. The seven-member group spent two years crafting their debut album, fusing traditional songs with electric textures, polyrhythmic percussion, and rich vocal harmonies. After fellow Benin native Angelique Kidjo brought BIM to New York for a sold-out concert at Carnegie Hall, *Rolling Stone France* named them one of 25 bands that count that year.



With international tours spanning Europe, Morocco, Benin, and New York, BIM continues to captivate audiences worldwide. Their music celebrates voodoo culture as a force of positivity, connection, and humanity – offering a bold, authentic voice that repositions Benin on the global musical map.

D SUNDAY 4:25 – 5:40 *We Be Jammin' West Stage*
C SUNDAY 9:30 – 10:40 *Main Stage*

HAZLETT AUSTRALIA

Sweden-based, Australian-born **Hazlett** returns with a new full-length album, *last night you said you missed me*, anchored by singles like “doing my best,” “tell me something” and “queen of the season.”

Hazlett divulges, “It’s a little different, which I know is cliché to say, but it’s true I think it would be easier to say after all these years that I’ve found my sound and that’s where I’ll stay. But I think there’s a lack of authenticity in staying the same. When I started this whole thing I wanted anyone who starts to listen to feel like they’re part of this whole thing with me. Growing, trying and finding pieces of ourselves along the way.”

From lush acoustic textures to stripped-back ballads, each track on the album unfolds like a page from a well-worn journal with themes of self-preservation, distance, yearning, and quiet hope. For the restless hearts, the gentle souls, and the dreamers, this album is both a confession and a cathartic hug. It reminds us that home is not always a place. Sometimes, it’s a song that stays a while.

At the 2026 Vancouver Folk Music Festival, Hazlett invites audiences into his world of reflective songwriting and understated beauty, where every lyric feels lived, and every melody lingers long after the final note.

Hazlett lead vocals, guitar; **Roland Niccol** bass;
Greg Settino drums; **Nicholas Kozushko** pedal Steel

C FRIDAY 7:40 – 8:50 *Main Stage*



MARUJA LIMÓN SPAIN

The intoxicating Barcelona band **Maruja Limón** take their audiences on a voyage through the musical geography of Catalan. The group makes music that travels from *flamenco* and *rumba* on a joyous journey that incorporates *quinqui*, *mestizo*, pop, and Cuban *son*. Maruja Limón “intertwines the soulful strains of traditional style with an audacious blend of rumba rhythms and a burst of punk zest...capturing the time-honoured spirit of flamenco and propelling this storied art form into an exhilarating, contemporary spotlight.”—*Billboard*.

Formed in 2014, the band writes and arranges their own songs and has played festivals around the world. This will be their first appearance in Vancouver. London Ontario’s Sunfest said Maruja Limón bring “their fierce, *flamenco*-charged energy to the stage — a powerful blend of rhythm, sisterhood, and Mediterranean fire you feel in your chest.” While the band has made several outstanding records, singer Esther González says the spirit of the band definitely shines best on stage: “There is an energy to live music that can’t be captured.”

We are delighted to have the fire of Maruja Limón light up the folk fest Main Stage!

Esther Gonzále vocals; **Cristóbal Salazar** spanish guitar;
Sheila Mesas vocals; **Milagros González** trumpet; **Elisenda Fabregas** percussion/drums; **Carla González** bass



D SATURDAY 4:40 – 5:50 *Global Ties that Bind West Stage*
C SUNDAY 6:00 – 7:10 *Main Stage*

RUBY WATERS BRITISH COLUMBIA

Ruby Waters is an Ontario-born indie artist whose music is as raw, playful, and honest as her live shows. Growing up in Shelburne with parents in a country band, she was performing by age 13—busking and playing bars, honing the soulful, candid style that has become her signature.

Waters first broke through with her debut single “Sweet Sublime,” followed by “Supernatural” and “Last Cigarette” and quickly caught attention opening for City and Colour on his 2019 tour. She released two acclaimed EPs, *Almost Naked* (2019) and *If It Comes Down to It* (2020), the latter earning her a JUNO Award nomination for Alternative Album of the Year. Her 2021 single “Blow” ranked among CBC Music’s top Canadian songs. Her 2024 debut full-length album, *What’s The Point*, showcases Waters at her most introspective and daring, with standout tracks like “Breathe” and “Sour

Patch,” recorded after a period of creative isolation in British Columbia.

Hot on the heels of her album, Waters dropped “Wet T-Shirt”, a sultry, heart-pounding summer anthem, accompanied by a fearless dirt-bikes-and-trucks-in-the-mud video that amplifies her playful energy.

With more than 50 million streams and sold-out shows across North America and Europe, Ruby Waters is a festival must-see – bringing infectious energy, nostalgic riffs, and cutting lyrics that linger long after the last note. – *DS*

Ruby Waters lead vocals, guitar; **Leena Rodriguez Torres** bass; **Stu Mein** drums;
Marcus Ramsay music director, guitar

C SATURDAY 9:30 – 10:45 *Main Stage*



SAHRA HALGAN SOMALILAND

Sahra Halgan is a remarkable singer, cultural force, and storyteller whose music carries the soul of Somaliland — a self-declared nation in the Horn of Africa with a rich culture and history that often goes unrecognized in the west. Sahra began singing as a teenager despite cultural pressure against women performing publicly. During the brutal conflict of the late 1980s she earned the nickname “Halgan,” meaning “the fighter,” by singing to comfort and inspire fighters and civilians alike.

Living in exile as a political refugee in Lyon, France, Sahra returned to music with a trio that blends her deep Somali vocal traditions with electric guitars, hypnotic percussion, and influences from rock, Afrobeat, and North African rhythms. They create a vibrant fusion that pulses with ancient poetry and modern energy under a vocal delivery drawing on Arabic song and Ethiopian lilt.

Her music celebrates love, resilience, identity, and the dignity of her people — with danceable grooves, trance-like riffs, and Sahra’s intensely expressive voice at the centre.

In her home city of Hargeisa, Sahra founded Hiddo Dhowr, a live music and arts venue. In Somali, “Hiddo Dhowr” means “Preserve the Culture,” a fitting name for this cultural hub where Somali music and artistic expression can thrive after years of conflict and suppression. Hiddo Dhowr is also the name of her record label and latest recording.

Whether you’re drawn to heartfelt vocals, cross-cultural sounds, or music that speaks to hope and cultural pride, seeing Sahra Halgan live is an unforgettable experience — a powerful blend of history, rhythm, and joy. — *ND*

Sahra Halgan lead vocals; **Aymerci Krol** percussion, drums, tour manager; **Maël Salètes** electric guitar; **Régis Monte** keyboards

FRIDAY 9:20 – 10:35 Main Stage



TAMI NEILSON ONTARIO/NEW ZEALAND

Tami Neilson is “a reminder of the soul-shattering effect of the human voice at the height of its powers,” (*MacLeans*). Singing straight from the golden age of soul, country and rockabilly, Tami Neilson comfortably occupies the space between Patsy Cline and Wanda Jackson with just a touch of Peggy Lee in the mix.

As a young girl in Canada touring with the Neilson Family band, she worked with the likes of Johnny Cash, Tanya Tucker, and Kitty Wells. As a solo artist, she’s based in New Zealand, where she has blossomed as a formidable talent in her own right. She recently fulfilled her lifelong dream of making her debut at the Grand Ole Opry, toured as part of the Outlaw Music Festival lineup, and released the duet “Beyond the Stars” with Willie Nelson.

Since making New Zealand her home, Neilson has won almost every music award possible, becoming one of her adopted home country’s most beloved artists. She’s an eight-time NZ Music Award winner, including Best Country Album and Best Female Artist. Her latest album, *Neon Cowgirl*, is out now on Outside Music / Next Door Records. — *EL*

Tami Neilson lead vocals; **Jay Neilson** bass; **Cy Winstanley** guitar; **Mark Mariash** drums

SATURDAY 6:00 – 7:10 Main Stage

SUNDAY 12:50 – 2:10 Rock Out West Stage

VALERIE JUNE UNITED STATES

Valerie June brings the joy!

An artist who blends Americana, folk, gospel, soul, and blues to create something she calls “organic moonshine roots music,” June grew up in western Tennessee, a part of the world where different musical traditions meet, something that is reflected in her special sound. She was raised in a musical family where everybody sang..

She is a singer, songwriter, and a multi-instrumentalist who plays banjo, guitar, and ukulele. She’s also an author, a poet, and a certified mindfulness instructor who sees joy as something fierce, powerful, and radical — a form of resistance. She told *The New Yorker*, “I’m basically an ambassador for joy, and people are oftentimes like, ‘That’s so fake, you’re bypassing shit.’ But that’s not my truth. My truth is understanding the darkness and understanding the night and the hard times and choosing to be in a place of joy.”

Her distinctive radiant voice, her glorious songwriting, and her openhearted approach to music and to life has earned her an enthusiastic fan base. “Valerie June has built a devoted following by ignoring expectations. She is simultaneously rural and cosmopolitan, historically minded and contemporary, idiosyncratic and fashionable, mystical, and down-to-earth.” — *New York Times* — *EM*

Valerie June; Matt Marinelli; Carlos (Caito) Sanchez

SUNDAY 10:30 – 11:50 Rise Up and Sing South Stage
SUNDAY 7:35 – 9:05 Main Stage



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WEST 4TH

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

EVENING MAIN STAGE



FRIDAY JULY 17

5:50
xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam)
Welcome

6:00 – 7:10
Aysanabee

7:15 – 7:30
▶ Tina Dico

7:40 – 8:50
Hazlett

8:55 – 9:15
▶ John Smith

9:20 – 10:35
Sahra Halgan

SATURDAY JULY 18

5:50
səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh)
Welcome

6:00 – 7:10
Tami Neilson

7:15 – 7:30
▶ Joshua Burnside

7:35 – 9:05
Billy Bragg

9:10 – 9:25
▶ Bia Ferreira

9:30 – 10:45
Ruby Waters

SUNDAY JULY 19

5:50
Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish)
Welcome

6:00 – 7:10
Maruja Limón

7:15 – 7:30
▶ Ken Pomeroy

7:35 – 9:05
Valerie June

9:10 – 9:25
▶ Luke Wallace

9:30 – 10:45
BIM (Benin International Musical)

10:45 – 11:00
Finale

FRIDAY CONCERTS

EAST STAGE

3:00 – 4:10
Haley Blais

4:30 – 5:40
El Balcón

WEST STAGE

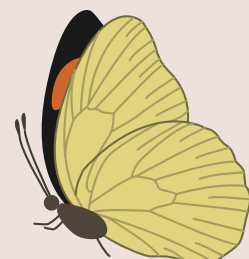
3:00 – 4:10
Surf Hat

4:30 – 5:40
Gamksimoon

SOUTH STAGE

3:00 – 4:10
Luke Wallace

4:30 – 5:40
Sauljaljui



Schedule subject to change. Just like life.

SATURDAY WORKSHOPS & CONCERTS

JULY 18

EAST STAGE

10:30 – 11:40
CASCADIA DREAMING
Luke Wallace *host*
Anna Tivel
Lindi Ortega
Jeffrey Martin

12:10 – 1:20
Brighde Chaimbeul

1:40 – 2:50
Teddy Thompson

3:10 – 4:20
Jeffrey Martin

4:40 – 5:50
La Déferlance

WEST STAGE

10:30 – 11:35
Yagódy

12:00 – 1:05
Cousin Harley

1:30 – 2:35
Bia Ferreira

3:05 – 4:10
Kazdoura

4:40 – 5:50
GLOBAL TIES THAT BIND
Empanadas Ilegales *hosts*
Maruja Limón
El Balcón
Yagódy

SOUTH STAGE

11:00 – 12:10
EASTERN SUNRISE
Tennyson King *host*
Aysanabee
Sauljaljui
Mitsune

12:40 – 1:50
Tina Dico

2:20 – 3:30
Joshua Burnside

4:00 – 5:15
STORIES FROM ACROSS THE POND
John Smith *host*
Amistat
Tina Dico
Teddy Thompson



SUNDAY WORKSHOPS & CONCERTS

JULY 19

EAST STAGE

10:45 – 11:50
Anna Tivel

12:20 – 1:35
TRAD-ICALLY HIP
Brianna Lizotte *host*
The Slocan Ramblers
La Déferlance
Joshua Burnside
Brighde Chaimbeul

1:55 – 3:00
Ken Pomeroy

3:20 – 4:25
👤 Ruby Singh
& the Future Ancestors

4:45 – 5:50
👤 The Slocan Ramblers

WEST STAGE

11:15 – 12:20
Mitsune

12:50 – 2:10
ROCK OUT
Cousin Harley *hosts*
Tami Neilson
Surf Hat

2:40 – 3:50
Empanadas Ilegales

4:25 – 5:40
WE BE JAMMIN'
Gordon Grdina Trio *hosts*
Bia Ferreira
BIM
Kazdoura

SOUTH STAGE

10:30 – 11:50
RISE UP AND SING
Billy Bragg *host*
Ruby Singh & the Future Ancestors
Valerie June
Lindi Ortega
Ken Pomeroy

12:10 – 1:15
👤 John Smith

1:40 – 2:45
👤 Lindi Ortega

3:10 – 4:15
Brianna Lizotte

4:35 – 5:45
Amistat





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ARTIST BIOS Day Stages

AMISTAT GERMANY/AUSTRALIA



Twin brothers Josef and Jan Prasil, known collectively as **Amistat**, have embarked on a remarkable musical journey that transcends borders and is rooted in an unspoken and unexplainable bond. Their captivating story is best experienced through the power of their harmonious melodies, which have been influenced by a rich tapestry of cultures. Born in Germany with roots in the Czech Republic and Australia, thanks to their parents, Josef and Jan's upbringing was a cultural whirlwind.

The Prasil brothers' early years saw them calling Italy their home, where they spent their formative years until high school. This time in Italy laid the foundation for their diverse musical influences, adding a Mediterranean flair to their artistic repertoire. However, it was their eventual move to Australia that further enriched their cultural experiences. The land Down Under infused their music with the vibrancy of the Southern Hemisphere and expanded their horizons.

It was their ultimate return to their hometown of Rosenheim, Germany, in 2019, that marked a significant turning point for the dynamic duo.

Following a landmark 2025, selling over 30,000 tickets across Europe, the UK, and North America, the brothers return in 2026 with a fresh collection of songs showcasing their evolution and artistry.

This fall, Amistat embark on a major European tour, giving fans the first chance to hear their new music live. Alongside the headline tour at the end of the year, the duo will also play a run of festivals across Europe, as well as a series of shows in Canada this summer. Known for their unmistakable harmonies and unspoken musical bond, the duo continues to captivate audiences around the world.

With every note, they turn the ordinary into something unforgettable. Join them on their musical journey, a live experience you won't want to miss.

Josef Prasil vocals, keyboard; **Jan Prasil** vocals, guitar, keyboard, percussion

D SATURDAY 4:00 – 5:15 *Stories From Across the Pond South Stage*

C SUNDAY 4:35 – 5:45 *South Stage*

ANNA TIVEL UNITED STATES

Anna Tivel is a songwriter whose singular poetic vision shines light on the human condition. Her verses are lyrical mastery, beautifully crafted observations, colourful and evocative, yet raw and honest, unveiling beauty and spirit. She sings of the common truths that underlie all of us, the things that define us as human beings.

The depth of her lyrics and imagery — the palpable empathy — place her among the bright lights of contemporary songwriters. Her latest album, the critically acclaimed *Animal Poem* (2025), is a quiet masterpiece that draws on folk, jazz, and pop influences. It is a meditation that, according to Tivel, asks, "How do we talk about destiny from the balcony of a nation in decline? ... In the face of endless avarice and cruelty, how do we talk about the realness of love?"

Based in Portland, Oregon, Tivel sings in an understated conversational voice, like a familiar friend sitting next to you, half dreaming, lazily sharing, unfiltered and open. She has the gift of melding her poetry with memorable melodies that worm their way into your ears and into your heart.

Roots music journal *No Depression* wrote, "She's one of the finest storytellers modern folk music has to offer, with lyrics



so literary that it's tempting to think of her as a poet with an exceptional gift for playing guitar and singing." This is Anna Tivel's VFMF debut. Come and be inspired. — LP

Anna Tivel vocals, guitar

D SATURDAY 10:30 – 11:40 *Cascadia Dreaming East Stage*

C SUNDAY 10:45 – 11:50 *East Stage*

BIA FERREIRA BRAZIL

Singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, anti-racism activist, and fierce defender of the LGBTQ2S+ community worldwide, **Bia Ferreira** defines her music as MMP: Música de Mulher Preta (Black Woman Music). Born in a rural town in the Minas Gerais region of Brazil to a family of evangelical missionaries, she studied at the Brazilian Music Conservatory where she learned to play dozens of different instruments as well as piano. At the age of 12, she says, she wrote her first song – a plea to God to “cure” her thoughts that she was a lesbian. That didn’t happen.

By age 15, she had gotten involved in the Black women’s movement in Brazil, and in her 20s, she hitchhiked around the country, playing and selling her self-produced CD wherever she could. She then gained fame with the track “Cota Não é Esmola,” in which she sang about the importance of the quota system for Black people’s access to university. Her performance of the song on YouTube has had over 14 million views and the song’s lyrics became required reading for the University of Brasília’s entrance exam.

She was nominated for the 2018 Women in Music Awards, and on her 2019 album, *Igreja Lesbiteriana: Um Chamado*, (Lesbitarian Church: A Calling), the messages are harnessed to funky beats, reggae, and soul ballad grooves. – *EL*



C SATURDAY 1:30 – 2:35 West Stage
D SUNDAY 4:25 – 5:40 We Be Jammin’ West Stage



BRIANNA LIZOTTE ALBERTA

Born and raised in a musical household in Sylvan Lake, Alberta, Edmonton-based fiddler **Brianna Lizotte** is keeping her family musical traditions alive. As a kid, the Métis musician dreamed of playing the fiddle at kitchen parties, like she saw in her family’s home movies, and asked her mom for a fiddle at age 10. She started getting paying gigs at age 13 and by 16 she had won the rising star award from the Alberta Men and Women of Country Music in 2016.

Since then, she has continued to celebrate the traditions of both her family and the larger Métis community. “The thing that makes fiddle music in the Métis music world different from bluegrass or Irish or Scottish is that horse gallop rhythm,” she told CBC. “You could hear that rhythm pretty much in every tune that you play.”

In addition to regular gigging, for among others, the Pope (as part of the Canadian Indigenous delegation to Rome), she has also released two albums: *Scratch ‘Em* and *Winston & I*, which earned her a JUNO nomination in 2025.

Brianna and her husband Ethan Graves teach Métis History Through Music and Dance workshops to students across Alberta, and she’s an in-demand session musician as well. This is one unique musical voice to watch. – *EL*

Brianna Lizotte fiddle; **Ethan Graves** spoons; **Francesco Rizzuto** guitar

D SUNDAY 1:30 – 2:35 Trad-ically Hip (host) East Stage
C SUNDAY 3:00 – 4:05 South Stage

BRÌGHDE CHAIMBEUL SCOTLAND

Brighde Chaimbeul is a leading purveyor of Celtic experimentalism and a master of the Scottish smallpipes. Her music is mesmerizing and mystic: ancient melodies accompanying a haunting drone that seems to come right from the earth. A native Gaelic speaker from the Isle of Skye, Chaimbeul roots her music in her language and culture. She started learning the pipes at the age of seven, and has devised a completely unique way of arranging for pipe music that emphasises the rich textural drones of the instrument —that plush transcendent hum that roots us in a timeless frontier. Chaimbeul uses an array of effects and layering to convey her experience as the piper to the audience; these effects allow listeners to experience the music as if they’re up close to the pipes, enveloped by drone, inhabited by resonance and overtones.

Chaimbeul draws inspiration from the world of interconnected piping traditions, including Bulgarian, Irish, Scandinavian, and Cape Breton traditions. Her most recent album, 2025’s *Sunwise*, brings in influences from ambient, avant garde, and electronic music. She has collaborated with folk luminaries like Ross Ainslie and Lankum’s Radie Peet as well as artists like American singer Caroline Polachek and Montreal-based saxophonist Colin Stetson.

Recipient of the BBC Young Folk Award, and the BBC Horizons Award, Chaimbeul is transforming and creating

new definitions for Scottish folk in the 21st century. Join us in the enchantment at Brighde Chaimbeul’s VFMF debut. – LP

Brighde Chaimbeul scottish smallpipes



C SATURDAY 12:10 – 1:20PM East Stage
D SUNDAY 12:20 – 1:35PM Trad-ically Hip East Stage



COUSIN HARLEY BRITISH COLUMBIA

Cousin Harley has come a long way since they recorded their first EP using a dilapidated 1965 Chevy Nova as an isolation booth. Together for more than two decades, they’ve shared their incendiary live show with audiences in clubs and festivals across Canada, the US, Europe, and Australia.

Built around guitarist Paul Pigat’s melodically diverse visions, Cousin Harley is a Vancouver-based musical trio that uses Honky Tonk and bluegrass motifs as a take-off point for explorations of almost every conceivable genre of music. Whether you’re a fan of Appalachian caterwauling or spirited Count Basie swing, Cousin Harley has something for almost everyone to enjoy.

Swinging from cranked-up-to-eleven electronic squonk to turn-on-a-dime shifts in tempo that bring a song down to a hushed whisper, Cousin Harley is one of popular music’s most daring livewire acts. A song that begins by strutting out of the gate with shredding, muscular riffs that wouldn’t be out of place at a biker bar may bounce and slide into Sun Ra-infused bebop before resolving into a tender and ethereal melody that would make David Crosby proud. Cousin Harley has proven that they can play anything with soul and commitment. Delivered with a wry smile, a wink, and a nod, listeners should expect fire, swooning, and testifying to come cascading from Harley’s musical pulpit.

Stop reading, get up, and find out where Cousin Harley is playing. Theirs is a show that needs to be experienced to be fully appreciated. – *DH*

Paul Pigat guitar, vocals; **Jesse Cahill** drums; **Jeremy Holmes** bass

SATURDAY 12:00 – 1:05 West Stage
D SUNDAY 12:50 – 2:10 Rock Out (hosts) West Stage

EL BALCÓN QUEBEC

Although they came together to reimagine Mexican folk music, Montreal's **El Balcón** have morphed into a globe-and genre-spanning group. They layer the sounds of the *jarana*, *tarima*, *requinto*, and *cajón*—traditional Mexican folk instruments—with Middle Eastern *oud* and Western violin, suffusing their sound with microtones and mixing it up in a new and fresh way.

Anchored by acoustic bass and hard-driving percussion, El Balcón arranges the traditional music of Veracruz, *son jarocho*, with rhythms, harmonies, and influences from around the world. Rooted in lead vocalist Valeria Del Marre's Mexican heritage, the band both celebrates and reinvents tradition while getting people of all ages and backgrounds up and dancing.

The band has released four albums: three of traditional covers and original arrangements, and a fourth released in 2025, *El Errante* (The Wanderer), featuring their original compositions on the themes of movement, migration, and cultural exchange.

A festive hurricane, El Balcón captivates and compels audiences with their fiery stage presence, dynamic sound, and explosive energy. — *EL*

Valeria Del Marre vocals, and podorrhythmia; **Charles Cantin** vocals & Jarana; **Nicolas Lafortune** cajon; **Alexandre Marchand** bass; **Joshua Greenberg** requinto & oud; **Laetitia Francoz Levesque** violin

C FRIDAY 4:30 – 5:40PM East Stage

D SATURDAY 4:40 – 5:50PM Global Ties That Bind West Stage



Their music is both homage and invention: folkloric traditions meet experimental synths, Persian and Andean influences intertwine with dub grooves, and swirling guitars collide with raucous horns to create expansive, dance-driven compositions. Their latest release, *Sancocho Trifásico*, pushes this hybridity further, delivering the band's most layered, soulful, and adventurous work to date. Previous releases include *Papayón*, recorded live at Vancouver's Fortune Sound Club, and *Creepy Mambo*, a psychedelic tribute to *cumbia* classics, later documented with a rooftop recording at the Warrington Art Collective.

Known for their electrifying live shows, Empanadas Ilegales has performed at Sled Island, Montreal Jazz Festival, Calgary Folk Fest, SunFest, Mixto Fest, and JUNOFest, earning a reputation for playful, immersive performances that transport audiences to a vibrant world of contagious grooves and altered sonic landscapes. Their music is a rhythmic call-and-response connecting hemispheres, bridging cultures, and igniting dance floors wherever they play. - *DS*

Jaime Millan guitar; **Daniel Ruiz** drums, timbales; **Daniel Hernández Pinto** bass; **Andrea Milagros** maracas; **Jocelyn Waugh** trumpet

D SATURDAY 4:40 – 5:50 - Global Ties That Bind West Stage

C SUNDAY 2:40 – 3:50 West Stage



Formed in 2017 through late-night jam sessions and rooftop gigs, **Empanadas Ilegales** is a Vancouver-based psychedelic *cumbia* and *salsa* collective that ignites dance floors with their genre-defying sound.

Comprised of musicians with roots in Colombia, Ecuador, Argentina, and Canada, the seven-piece ensemble blends the vibrant, percussion-heavy *cumbia* rhythms of Colombia's Caribbean coast with surf-rock, surf-rock guitar textures, *salsa* melodies, and free-jazz-inspired horns into a kaleidoscopic, hypnotic sonic experience.

GAMKSIMOON BRITISH COLUMBIA

Gamksimoon, meaning waterspout in Sm'algyax, is a unique rock and roll project deeply rooted in the cultural and natural heritage of the Ts'msyen people. Created by Wil Uks Batsga G̓alaaw (Jeremy Pahl) of the Gitga'at First Nation, Gamksimoon draws its inspiration from the swirling, transformative energy of the waterspout—a weather phenomenon that mirrors the project's dynamic and ever-evolving sound.

Blending the intricate rhythms and melodies of pre-contact Ts'msyen music with the raw power of rock and roll, Gamksimoon offers a soundscape that is both timeless and cutting-edge. Singing entirely in Sm'algyax, Gamksimoon honours and revitalizes the language, bringing its beauty to audiences through an electrifying musical experience.

"I'm really passionate about keeping our language going," Pahl told Windspeaker.com. "We don't have too many speakers left and it's just kind of a race against time while our Elders are still around. There's not too many of us that are stepping up to the plate so to speak."

The music of Gamksimoon is a celebration of culture and nature, resonating with the unpredictability and force of the waterspout it's named after. From its intricate storytelling to its driving rhythms, Gamksimoon carries the essence of the Ts'msyen spirit into the world of contemporary music, inspiring listeners to embrace the connection between tradition and innovation. — *EL*

Jeremy Pahl vocals, guitar; **Karl Wyssen** bass; **Danny Bell** drums



C FRIDAY 4:30 – 5:40 West Stage

HALEY BLAIS BRITISH COLUMBIA

Haley Blais is a Canadian singer-songwriter crafting defiant, scream-into-your-pillow anthems since 2014. She first built a devoted following as a teenager through diaristic YouTube videos and tender ukulele covers, inviting listeners into her candid inner world. Since then, she has evolved from solo beginnings to fronting a five-piece band with a guitar-driven indie pop sound.

Her 2020 debut album, *Below the Salt*, produced with Tennis and Louise Burns, delivered jangly yet emotionally sharp songs that resonated widely. The release earned millions of streams and strong critical support, leading to sold-out tours across the UK, Europe, and the United States.

Now signed to the Arts & Crafts label, Blais has grown into a singular voice, capturing both the absurdity

and beauty of everyday life. Her lyrics explore restlessness, acceptance, and the desire to build a life that feels genuinely fulfilling.

Onstage, Blais' confidence is unmatched, her band filling rooms with a warm, folksy soul. On record, her poetic trains of thought trace vulnerability, while live performances reveal the full nuance and depth of her musicianship.

Her sophomore album, *Wisecrack* earned a spot on the 2024 Polaris Music Prize Long List, cementing her as one of Canada's most compelling indie voices. -*DS*

Haley Blais vocals; **Andrew Rasmussen** bass; **Lindsay Sjoberg** guitar; **Alex Maunders** keys; **Graham Serl** drums

C FRIDAY 3:00 – 4:10 East Stage



JEFFREY MARTIN UNITED STATES

Former schoolteacher **Jeffrey Martin** always encouraged his students to follow their dreams and do the thing that most interested them. In 2015, he followed his own advice and has been a touring musician ever since.

Paste magazine called Martin’s last studio album, 2023’s *Thank God We Left the Garden*, “a stunner of a record, with songs that are stark in their simplicity, yet emotionally rich in a way that can catch your breath in your throat or leave your eyes suddenly damp.” Martin released *Alive* July 25, 2025 in 2026. Recorded in his home town of Portland, Oregon, the album is a snapshot of Martin’s fearless openness laid bare before a mesmerized crowd.

His songs are communiques from the heart, unveiling raw and poignant portraits of everyday angels and demons, explorations and ruminations on mortality and morality. A modern troubadour, Martin and his guitar at times evokes John Prine: simple songs and singable melodies underlaid with deeply compelling narratives. His gentle vocals build emotionally as he gives himself to the song, his untamed vulnerability chilling the listener. There’s no formula here, just a handful of chords and a truck full of heart delivered straight-up.

2026 marks Jeffrey Martin’s VFMF debut. If you value songs that will touch you and leave you lost in the moment, songs

that ache with beautiful longing from an artist in his prime, don’t miss him. -LP

Jeffrey Martin vocals, guitar



D SATURDAY 10:30 – 11:40 *Cascadia Dreaming East Stage*
C SATURDAY 3:10 – 4:20 *East Stage*



JOHN SMITH UNITED KINGDOM

For 20 years, **John Smith** has been bringing his songs to audiences across Britain, Europe, and North America, and his VFMF debut is long overdue. Smith comes with a guitar case full of songs exploring the ebb and flow of love, loss, and longing, but always with an eye to the light shining in the dark. His smoky molasses voice complements his warmth as a live performer; his gift of connecting with audiences makes him beloved wherever he plays.

Raised by the Devon seaside, Smith developed an innovative guitar style in the bars and clubs of Liverpool. He cut his teeth opening for the late John Martyn, and has since worked with a diverse who’s who of artists such as the Milk Carton Kids, Joan Baez, Sarah Jarosz, Patty Griffin, David Gray, Tom Jones, and Jackson Browne.

Critics have compared Smith to John Martyn, Richard Thompson, and Ray Lamontagne, and a strong undercurrent of blue-eyed soul drives many of his songs. Smith’s friend and guitar hero, the late John Renbourn, called him “the future of folk music.”

Smith’s most recent recording, 2025’s *Gatherings*, revisits songs from his first three albums, songs that have evolved through years of touring and that Smith felt warranted a second life. The album features guest vocal appearances from Lisa Hannigan, The Staves, Siobhan Miller, and our own Dan Mangan.

It’s a real treat to welcome John Smith to VFMF audiences. Come let yourself be charmed. -LP

John Smith vocals, guitar

► **FRIDAY 8:55 – 9:15** *Main Stage*
D **SATURDAY 4:00 – 5:15** *Stories from Across the Pond (host) South Stage*
C **SUNDAY 12:10 – 1:15** *South Stage*

JOSHUA BURNSIDE NORTHERN IRELAND

Joshua Burnside makes beautifully haunting music, what one reviewer described as “songs that feel both rooted in tradition and radically experimental.” The Belfast musician and singer has been honing his craft for over a decade, crafting powerful songs that incorporate a myriad of influences stitched together by the thread of Irish tradition.

His hometown of Belfast is central to his music. He told the Irish magazine *The Thin Air*: “I think if you want to give the listener an honest insight into your world, to your life, then how could you not bring a sense of place into it?...to generate a sense of community and togetherness, people need to see themselves and their homelands reflected in art and music.”

Burnside’s records have featured dense and layered textures – like a musical magpie he plucked a variety of sounds to unpin his songs. His 2026 release, the widely praised *It’s Not Going to be Okay*, sees a shift to a more stripped down approach with this moving meditation on grief following the sudden death of his best friend.

Joshua Burnside vocals, guitar; **Dan Byrne McCullough** backing vox, electric guitar; **Zarah Byrne-McCullough** backing vox, cello



C **SATURDAY 2:20 – 3:30** *South Stage*
► **SATURDAY 7:15 – 7:30** *Main Stage*
D **SUNDAY 12:20 – 1:35** *Trad-ically Hip East Stage*

KAZDOURA CANADA/SYRIA/LEBANON

2026 JUNO Award-winning **Kazdoura** is an exciting and soulful Arabic fusion music project that brings together roots, resilience, and reinvention in a way that appeals to world-music lovers and adventurous listeners alike. The project unites a Syrian singer and songwriter, Leen Hamo, who was forced to leave her homeland due to war and a Lebanese multi-instrumentalist, John Abou Chacra. Their paths crossed at a Toronto fundraiser following the catastrophic 2020 Beirut port explosion — a meeting that sparked a powerful musical synergy. Kazdoura transforms Arabic musical heritage into something deeply contemporary and irresistible.

Leen’s rich, expressive vocals, rooted in classical Arabic traditions and shaped by her lived experience as an immigrant, blend seamlessly with John’s jazz-inflected guitar, saxophone, and eclectic modern production. Their sound weaves classic Arabic maqams and melodies with jazz, funk, electro-pop, disco, psychedelic rock, and trip-hop, creating a cross-cultural fusion that feels both timeless and intriguingly inviting.



Kazdoura captured attention with their 2022 debut EP *Wain*, attracting radio play across North America, and have since built an enthusiastic following online, with millions of views on TikTok, and live on stages from their base in Toronto to Europe, the UK, Egypt, and beyond. Their 2025 full-length album *Ghoyoum* delves into powerful themes of displacement, identity, and home, with evocative arrangements that make you feel the music as much as you hear it, garnering them the 2026 JUNO for Global Music Album of the year.

Whether you’re drawn by their lush rhythms, emotive vocals, or vision of blending Eastern and Western sounds, seeing Kazdoura live is an experience full of energy, heart, and connection — music that celebrates both heritage and resilience with a beat you can dance to! -ND

Leen Hamo lead vocals, percussions; **John Abou Chacra** saxophone, guitar; **Reef Hamadah** keyboard, synth; **Daniel Botos** bass; **Max Senitt** drums

C **SATURDAY 3:05 – 4:10** *West Stage*
D **SUNDAY 4:25 – 5:40** *We Be Jammin’ West Stage*

KEN POMEROY UNITED STATES

Ken Pomeroy began writing songs at age 11, but the songwriting seed had been planted much earlier: “I heard [John Denver’s] Jet Plane’ when I was like six, and I became infatuated with it,” she says. “My stepmom burned a CD of just that song playing 18 times in a row, and I listened to that for years... I didn’t know you could feel a certain way listening to music. And ever since then, I’ve wanted to do that for other people.”

Indeed, Pomeroy has been doing just that with songwriting that is deeply personal, embracing her traditions, yet understated and expansive as the plains.

Raised in Moore, Oklahoma (the tornado capital of the United States), Pomeroy is a member of the Cherokee Nation. Her songs are infused with nature: coyotes, horses, and cicadas work their way into your imagination while stray dogs and rodeo clowns dance the dusty streets between Americana and alt-country.



Pomeroy began playing gigs at 13 years old. At 16 she opened for Wanda Jackson at the Oklahoma Rodeo Centennial Opry. Two of her songs, “Pareidolia” and “Cicadas,” were featured on the Hulu show *Reservation Dogs*. She partnered with Wilderado and James McAlister to cover Richard and Linda Thompson’s “Wall of Death” for the 2024 film *Twisters*, further boosting her profile.

Pomeroy’s latest album, 2025’s *Cruel Joke* is rich with raw spacious songs full of hurt and hope that establish her among the freshest new voices in contemporary folk. — LP

Ken Pomeroy lead vocal, guitar; **Dakota McDaniel** guitar; **Ramsey Thornton** banjo, guitar; **Cole Holleyman** drums; **Mike Rose** bass

- D SUNDAY 10:30 – 11:50AM** *Rise Up and Sing South Stage*
- C SUNDAY 1:55 – 3:00PM** *East Stage*
- SUNDAY 7:15 – 7:30** *Main Stage*

LA DÉFERLANCE QUEBEC

Together since 2018, Quebec City-based **La Déferlance** has been offering a refreshing and vibrant brand of traditional Quebecois music. The group takes its name from the French word ‘déferlante’ (meaning a crashing wave), capturing the unique energy and elemental force this band delivers onstage.

The band’s sound combines lively folk tunes and classic traditional songs arranged in its own style, with a substantial body of original compositions characterized by beautifully crafted vocal harmonies, call and response vocals, traditional Quebec foot percussion, fiddle, accordion, and modern instruments such as the electric bass, all blended with a Celtic edge.

Their energetic yet polished performances reflect the years of diverse musical experience of its members, particularly in jazz and classical music. Recipient of numerous nominations (Canadian Folk Music Awards, GAMIQ, OPUS, Heritage Award), the group released its second album, *Âmes des bois* (Souls of the Woods) in 2025. The album explores the history and folklore of Québec with songs honouring the coureurs des bois (French-Canadian fur traders) and other unsung heroes, particularly women, from the province’s past. Looking both backwards and forwards, La Déferlance is at the forefront of Québec’s burgeoning trad revival. -EL

Marie-Desneiges Hamel vocals, accordions; **Mathieu Baillargeon** lead vocals, piano, podorythm; **Grégoire Painchaud** vocals, violin, guitar, step dance; **Renaud Labelle** vocals, double bass, bass



- C SATURDAY 4:40 – 5:50** *East Stage*
- D SUNDAY 12:20 – 1:35** *Trad-ically Hip East Stage*



LINDI ORTEGA BRITISH COLUMBIA

Roots-noir artist **Lindi Ortega**, a two-time Canadian Country Music Award-winning singer-songwriter, has captivated audiences with her signature vibrato, magnetic stage presence, and hauntingly soulful voice.

Renowned for her ability to blend the ethereal with the evocative, Ortega’s artistry transcends genre labels, weaving stories that linger long after the last note fades. Her latest album, *From the Ether*, is an eerie sonic tapestry of lilting melodies, poetic lyricism, and organic percussive textures.

Fans have also recently been treated to her 2024 collaborations with rising prodigy Jack Barksdale, offering spellbinding renditions of Tom Waits “How’s It Gonna End” and “Yesterday Is Here.” After a year of personal and vocal challenges, loss, and reinvention, she is putting the finishing touches on a new album and hitting the road with renewed energy and focus. “I feel very grateful and humbled by that experience and everything that I get to do. I have no agenda whatsoever, it just comes down to dealing with hardships and channelling those hardships through my music,” she told *Lonesome Highway*. “Having my outlet and passion and being able to do what I do through my music is enough for me.” Watch for a new release soon.

Esoteric yet deeply relatable, enigmatic yet undeniably raw, Ortega is a master storyteller who defies convention. Whether gracing the hallowed stage of the Grand Ole Opry or commanding stadiums alongside Chris Stapleton, hers is a voice that will haunt you for a long time to come. — EL

Lindi Ortega vocals, guitar; **Tennyson King** guitar, backing vocals, stomp box

- D SATURDAY 10:30 – 11:40** *Cascadia Dreaming (Lindi Ortega) East Stage*
- D SUNDAY 10:30 – 11:50AM** *Rise Up and Sing South Stage*
- C SUNDAY 1:40 – 2:45** *South Stage*



LUKE WALLACE BRITISH COLUMBIA

Luke Wallace is a dynamic force in contemporary folk music, blending heartfelt songwriting,choral arranging, and activism into performances that inspire change. Hailing from the Coast Salish Territory of Vancouver, Canada, Luke has spent over a decade touring, recording, and advocating for environmental and social causes, making him a standout voice for the planet.

Luke Wallace blends heartfelt folk, indie-rock energy, and activist spirit into unforgettable performances, turning songs into rallying cries for social and environmental change that inspire hope, reflection, and action on every stage he graces.

In 2023, Luke brought his music to the global stage as a feature performer at the United Nations Water Conference, captivating audiences with his message of hope and action. With hundreds of concerts across North America, he has earned a reputation as a modern-day protest singer,carrying forward the spirit of folk legends like Pete Seeger and Woody Guthrie while infusing

his sound with indie-rock sensibilities and memorable, breezy choruses.

His latest album, *The Dandelion Resistance*, showcases his growth as a songwriter and performer. Tracks like “Biosphere” open with warm intimacy and sing-along choruses, while “Jetlag” pairs gentle acoustic strumming with incisive wordplay. Songs such as “Passing Through” and “The Permit Song” highlight his lyrical depth and strong vocals, and “Devices”strips back to bare acoustic guitar, revealing raw honesty and poetic insight.

From festival stages to intimate venues, Luke Wallace invites listeners to join a collective journey of reflection, resistance, and hope. — DS

Luke Wallace lead vocals, guitar; **Karla Mundy** vocals; **Noa Neuman-Spivak** vocals; **Emily Villavicencio** vocals; **Mark Wilson** piano

- C FRIDAY 3:00 – 4:10** *South Stage*
- D SATURDAY 10:30 – 11:40** *Cascadia Dreaming (host) East Stage*



MITSUNE JAPAN/BERLIN

Mitsune is a wildly original Japanese folk fusion band based in Berlin that's been attracting global attention with a sound and stage presence that's as electrifying as it is deeply rooted in tradition. Born from a shared love of Japanese music and a spirit of adventure, Mitsune was formed in 2018 by musicians from Japan, Germany, Australia, and Greece. The core of the group are the three women who play the three-stringed Japanese instrument, the Tsugaru shamisen. Shiomi Kawaguchi, Tina Kopp, and Youka Snell met through their shared passion for the instrument and formed the core of the ensemble. They performed as a trio before eventually expanding to include vocals, percussion, and double bass.

What makes Mitsune irresistible is how they fuse centuries-old Japanese folk traditions with psychedelic, jazz, blues, cinematic, and even punk energy, crafting a modern folklore that feels both ancient and fresh. Their performances are immersive spectacles: driving rhythms, virtuosic string work, lush percussion and double bass, dramatic costumes, and an infectious joy that sweeps audiences off their feet.

Their 2022 album Hazama meaning "in between" earned praise from Songlines and Rolling Stone, charted in the Transglobal World Music Top 10, and won nominations from the German Record Critics. But Mitsune is more than recordings: their live shows feel like a mission to

break boundaries, inviting everyone regardless of musical background to revel in raw emotion, hypnotic grooves, and cultural fusion.

If you love music that's heartfelt, genre-defying, and unforgettable on stage, Mitsune is an experience you'll be talking about long after the festival is over. They don't just perform — they'll trance-port you. -ND

Shiomi Kawaguchi vocals, shamisen, shinobue, shakuhachi; Youka Snell vocals, shamisen; Daigo Nakai bass, vocals; Petros Tzekos percussion

D SATURDAY 11:00 – 12:10 *Eastern Sunrise South Stage*

C SUNDAY 11:15 – 12:20 *West Stage*



RUBY SINGH AND THE FUTURE ANCESTORS BRITISH COLUMBIA/UNITED STATES

Ruby Singh and the Future Ancestors' music, perhaps more than any other ensemble appearing at Jericho Beach this summer, encapsulates everything the Folk Festival has tried to communicate with its audience for nearly half a century.

Future Ancestors' unique sound arises from Vancouver poet, visual artist, and melodic visionary, Ruby Singh's ongoing experiments with blending traditional forms and approaches to music with cutting edge modern beats and textures.

When Singh encountered Arthur Flowers a few years ago at Vancouver's Indian Summer Festival, he was completely enraptured by the Memphis-born storyteller and novelist's approach to telling stories through music. Flowers, a life-long practitioner of Hoodoo — an African-American form of folk magic based on conjure, mojo, witchcraft, and love spells — had never been featured in a musical recording until Singh started to put together Celestial Libations, their first collaboration that grew out of their improvisations around story, poetry, rhythm, and prayer.

Together, Singh and Flowers create living tapestries of sound that point to new directions in music, while acknowledging and sending listeners back to reconsider the familiar melodic constructions of American folk, blues and hip hop.

Gospel luminary Khari Wendell McClelland (the Sojourners) brings a vibrant spiritual joyfulness to the mix, delivering lines that rise like fire towards the night sky. Together, this trio holds

the core of a work rooted in reverence, kinship, and sonic healing. Come hear new musical futures created in the moment as voices and beats coalesce into a radiant storm of sound. This will surely be one of the most memorable experiences of this year's festival. Come be transported. -DH

Arthur Flowers handpan, vocals; **Ruby Singh** vocals, synth; **Khari Wendell McClelland** vocals; **Holly Eccleston** vocals; **Kenton Loewen** drums; **Karlis Silins** bass; **Paul Finlay** turntables; **Paul Pigat** guitar

D SUNDAY 10:30 – 11:50 *Rise Up and Sing South Stage*

C SUNDAY 3:20 – 4:25 *East Stage*



SAULJALJUI TAIWAN

Sauljaljui (戴曉君) is a celebrated Indigenous vocalist from southern Taiwan, known for her soulful blend of traditional Paiwan melodies, Hengchun folk, and global sounds. Her 2025 self-produced album VAIVAIK won Best Indigenous Language Album and Best Arrangement at the Golden Melody Awards (GMA), and also earned Best Folk Album and Best Instrumentalist at the Golden Indie Melody Awards (GIMA).

With her moon lute and powerful voice, she has performed at major festivals including WOMAD (UK), WOMADelaide (AU), Colours of Ostrava (CZ), and Folk Alliance International (CA). Guided by her philosophy "Finding a Way Home Through Music," she continues to share Paiwan culture worldwide as a musician and cultural advocate.

Sauljaljui lead vocals, guitar, moon lute; **NINE JI AG, PGM,** guitar, moon lute, backing vocals; **AVON** percussion, back vocals; **Dakung** bass, backing vocals

C FRIDAY 4:30 – 5:40 *South Stage*

D SATURDAY 11:00 – 12:10

Eastern Sunrise South Stage



SURF HAT BRITISH COLUMBIA

What started as a joke between friends on a beach in Tofino has gradually snowballed into something real. In 2022, a loose pact was made: start something new, don't overthink it, and write catchy songs that feel relatable and genuine.

Based in the mountain town of Squamish, British Columbia, **Surf Hat** have been crafting their own version of cold-water surf rock — beach music written somewhere between the ocean and the mountains. Their sound floats somewhere between breezy shimmer of Allah-Las, the loose swagger of The Growlers, and the off-kilter quirkiness of Talking Heads.

The band has quickly built momentum the old-fashioned way: writing constantly and taking their music on the road. Surf Hat have released three full-length albums, including *Modern World Blues* released in November 2025, a record that expands their sound without losing the loose, unhurried spirit the band started with.

Following their most recent release, Surf Hat have spent the year circling the globe on sold out headline tours across Canada, the United States, and Australia, convincingly turning casual listeners into lifelong fans. Next, they'll head back out across Canada supporting The Sheepdogs on some of the country's biggest stages — not bad for a band named after a hat.

Jon Allan lead vocals, electric guitar; **Evan Camm** drums; **Riley Voth** keyboard; **Matthew Burnham** bass

C FRIDAY 3:00 – 4:10 *West Stage*

D SUNDAY 12:50 – 2:10 *Rock Out West Stage*

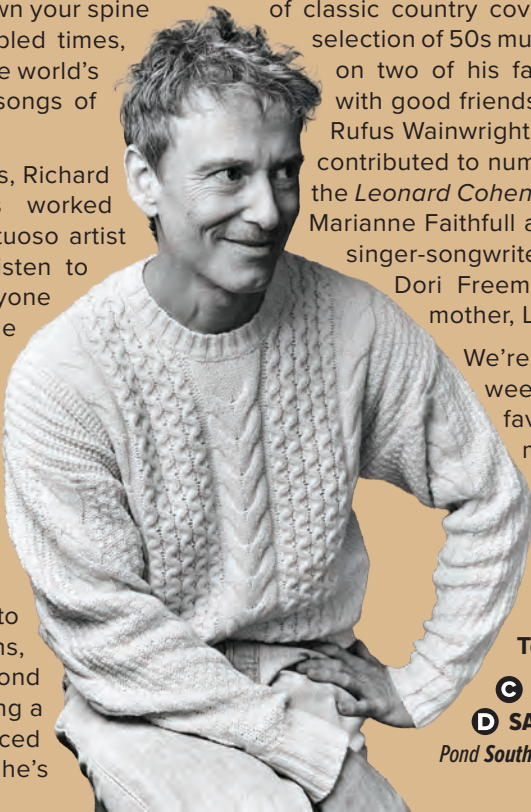


TEDDY THOMPSON UNITED KINGDOM

How can a musician whose stock and trade is pain and heartache send such shivers of joy down your spine every time he sings? These are troubled times, and there may be no better balm for the world’s pain than immersing yourself in the songs of **Teddy Thompson**.

The son of legendary British folk artists, Richard and Linda Thompson, Teddy has worked tirelessly to establish himself as a virtuoso artist in his own right. Saying that, one listen to his music is enough to convince anyone that the apple didn’t fall far from the tree. Whether he’s singing a country classic or one of his own tunes, Teddy Thompson inhabits a song like few other vocalists can. The dynamism of his voice is counterpointed by an intuitive guitar style that extends on his father’s quiet power and innovative phrasing.

Thompson moved from England to New York while barely out of his teens, and cut his musical teeth playing second guitar in his dad’s band before releasing a self-titled album in 2000 that introduced him to the world at large. Since then he’s



released five albums of original music, three collections of classic country covers and an Everly Brothers infused selection of 50s music. Over the years, he’s collaborated on two of his father’s records as well as sitting in with good friends like Jenni Muldaur and Martha and Rufus Wainwright on various recording ventures. He’s contributed to numerous tribute projects, most notably the *Leonard Cohen: I’m Your Man* soundtrack, sung with Marianne Faithfull and produced albums for Americana singer-songwriters Allison Moorer and Shelby Lynn, Dori Freeman, Roseanne Reid as well as his mother, Linda Thompson.

We’re not sure what Teddy has in mind this weekend, but whether he’s singing his favourite songs of yesteryear, or new music from *Never Be the Same*, his most recent album, we’re grateful that he’s taken time out of his busy schedule to cast his musical spell and enchant us at this year’s Festival. -DH

Teddy Thompson vocals, guitar

- 🕒 SATURDAY 1:40 – 2:50 *East Stage*
- 🕒 SATURDAY 4:00 – 5:15 *Stories from Across the Pond South Stage*

THE SLOCAN RAMBLERS ONTARIO

Do you like banjos? How about mandolins? If you’re a bluegrass fan, you’re going to love **The Slocan Ramblers**, winners of the 2020 IBMA Momentum Band of the Year Award, and 2019 Juno Award nominees. Rooted in tradition, fearlessly creative, and possessing a bold, dynamic sound, The Slocans, as they’re known, have become a leading light of today’s Canadian acoustic music scene. With a reputation for energetic live shows, impeccable musicianship, and an uncanny ability to convert anyone within earshot into a lifelong fan, The Slocans have been winning over audiences from Merlefest to RockyGrass and everywhere in between.

Though the past few years have brought the group accolades, the group has known its share of tragedy and turmoil. Bandmates lost close family members and their bassist decided to step back to spend more time at home. The remaining members channeled these tumultuous changes into some of their most honest and direct compositions yet. *Up the Hill and Through the Fog*, their 2022 release, showcases the breadth of their varied influences while staying true to their roots in the rough and tumble bluegrass scene of Toronto’s no-nonsense bars and dancehalls. From Frank Evan’s classic, dusty vocals, to John Hartford-inspired lyrical musings, it’s all buttressed by impeccable musicianship, and emotionally raw songwriting from the three core members.

This is roots music without pretension, art powerful enough to cut through the fog and chart a more hopeful course forward. – EL

Adrian Gross mandolin; **Darryl Poulsen** guitar, vocals; **Bryan McDowell** fiddle, banjo, vocals; **Charles James** bass, vocals

- 🕒 SUNDAY 12:20 – 1:35 *Trad-ically Hip East Stage*
- 🕒 SUNDAY 4:45 – 5:50 *East Stage*



TINA DICO DENMARK

Tina Dico’s songs are observational and reflective narratives about the people and the world around her. Her recordings range from sparkling layered gems that ebb and flow beneath a dancing line of compelling lyrics, to sparse but complementary acoustic foundations supporting honest and intimate vocals. Her arrangements are both simple and lush. Dico’s voice leads it all: resonant and assured, there’s an underlying confidence



in the truths she uncovers. Grounding it all is her dedication to her craft. She cites Bob Dylan, Leonard Cohen, and Tracy Chapman as huge influences.

Dico’s interest in playing music started in an eighth grade cover-band. She went on to study at The Royal Academy of Music in Aarhus, but left to pursue her dream of being a professional singer-songwriter.

Her career has taken her from topping the charts five times in her native Denmark, to collaborations with the Danish National Chamber Orchestra. She was awarded the Steppeulv (the Danish music critics award) in the category “Composer of the year” and a Danish Music Award for “Songwriter of the year”. Yet, for all these accolades, Dico has stayed true to her vision.

Dico comes to our festival with her partner and collaborator Helgi Jónsson. They met touring Canada around 2009 and became touring partners for several years before becoming a couple. They reside in Iceland, working closely together on almost everything they create. This is their only Canadian stop, so don’t miss the chance to experience this acclaimed artist. – LP

- ▶ FRIDAY 7:15 – 7:35 *Main Stage*
- 🕒 SATURDAY 12:40 – 1:50 *South Stage*
- 🕒 SATURDAY 4:00 – 5:15 *Stories from Across the Pond South Stage*

YAGÓDY UKRAINE

Yagódy has one clear driving purpose: to preserve Ukrainian folk traditions while demonstrating their continued relevance during a time of ongoing turmoil. One of the most charismatic contemporary Ukrainian folk bands to have emerged in the past decade, the group was founded in Lviv, Ukraine, in 2016 by Zoryana Dybovska. Yagódy (meaning “berries”) is rooted in Ukrainian and Balkan musical traditions, but the ensemble has created its own modern and gripping sound by showcasing theatrical singers supported by musicians playing drums, percussion, guitar, bass, and accordion.

For centuries, folk music has carried history, identity, and collective memory through periods of occupation, censorship, and attempted erasure. As Ukraine continues to endure sustained attacks, Yagódy’s art serves as a living expression of resilience and continuity. Praised as “mesmerizing” by the Chicago Sun-Times, a Yagódy performance is ritualistic and self-described as a musical trance based on the pulse of humanity, like a love letter from the past that hasn’t arrived yet. – EL

Zoriana Dybovska vocals, percussion instruments; **Vasylyna Voloshyn** vocals; **Tetiana Voitiv** vocals, Tibetan bowl, percussion instruments, drymba; **Nadiia Parashchuk** vocals, accordion; **Teimuraz Gogitidze** drums

- 🕒 SATURDAY 10:30 – 11:35 *West Stage*
- 🕒 SATURDAY 4:40 – 5:50 *Global Ties that Bind West Stage*



IN MEMORIAM

To all the good friends we have lost along the way

THEIR MUSIC LIVES ON . . . ARTISTS WHO SHARED THEIR TALENTS ON OUR STAGES OVER THE YEARS



Barbara Dane

Barbra Dane left the world on October 20, 2024 after 97 years of living. A radical activist, blues singer, songwriter, record label (Paredon) founder and more, she made significant contributions in every area she touched. She came to the festival in 1983 with her son, Cuban musician and band leader, Pablo Menendez. At the festival she renewed her relationship with blues giant Memphis Slim, who along with Willie Dixon had been her accompanist back in the days when Black artists couldn't get work in their own right. Starting her career in 1945 Dane recorded with Lightning Hopkins, worked with Lenny Bruce, Jesse Fuller, and Gary Davis, performed in concert in Havana in 1967, did benefits for the United Mine Workers in the '70s and much more. A film about her life has recently been released.



Josh White Jr. November 30, 1940 – December 28, 2024

Joshua Donald White Jr. appeared at this festival in both our inaugural year, 1978 and in 2014. He began as a child star performing and recording with his legendary father Josh White, a Carolina Piedmont blues player who pioneered blues, spirituals and songs of social conscience in the 1930s and 1940s. It was a lot to live up to but Josh Jr. more than managed to both carry on his father's work, performing his old repertoire and creating his own vision of the world through his own songs.



Tracy Schwartz

Tracy Schwartz was one of those artists whose varied abilities and career achievements brought him to Jericho Beach on more than one occasion with more than one title. He passed away on March 29, 2025, at the age of 86. He came to the festival with the New Lost City Ramblers, most recently in 2006 along with John Cohen and Mike Seeger and with traditional singer Ginny Hawkins in 1993. Born in New York City, Schwartz lived and passed away in West Virginia, more attuned to the music he made with his West Virginian wife Ginny. In addition to the Ramblers, and Hawkins. Schwartz

also performed with Mike Seeger and Alice Gerrard in the Strange Creek Singers. A master of various instruments Tracy Schwartz helped create the wide audience for American old time music it enjoys today.



Gabriel Yacoub

February 4 1952 – January 22, 2025

Gabriel Yacoub has been cited as France's Richard Thompson. This based on his career as leader of a folk rock ensemble purveying traditional music in new forms and later as a singer songwriter performing his own compositions. The ensemble was Malicorne and they appeared at the festival in 1984. Yacoub returned in singer songwriter form a decade later in 1993. Yacoub started his career at 18 as an accompanist for Breton legend Alan Stivell. In 1973 he founded Malicorne blending the sound of old instruments like bagpipes and hurdy gurdies with electric guitars. The repertoire was a mixture of French traditional and Celtic. His own compositions later were much more influenced by the North American singer songwriter tradition. Both were brilliant. Festival audiences were lucky to hear both.



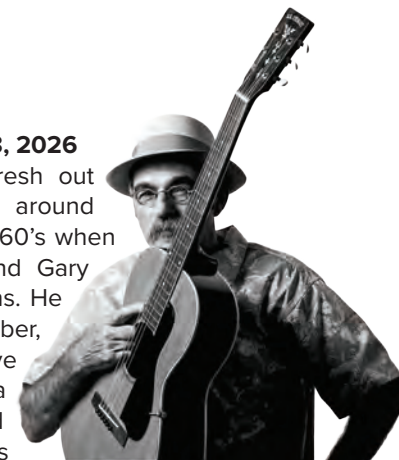
Dolores Keane 1953 – March, 2026

Dolores Keane was quite simply one of the finest Irish traditional singers... period. She first came to attention as a founder of DeDannan, a major ensemble in the Irish traditional music scene. However, she had made her recording debut for Irish radio in 1958 at the age of five. She performed at this festival with John Faulkner and Reel Union in 1982. She rejoined DeDannan in 1988 and continued with her solo career. She also began acting and starred in the Dublin revival of Brendan Behan's The Hostage in 1990-1991. In 1995 she was awarded the Fiddler's Green Hall of Fame award for her "significant contribution to the cause of Irish music and culture".

Roy Book Binder

October 5, 194 – March 3, 2026

Roy Book Binder was fresh out of the navy, hanging around Greenwich Village in the 60's when he heard about Reverend Gary Davis giving guitar lessons. He got the reverend's number, called him and for five dollars got the lesson, a supper of turkey wings and a whole new life as a blues singer. Later a visit to South Carolina and Pink Anderson would enlarge his repertoire and give him the song Travelling Man, which became a metaphor for Roy's life. Touring constantly in his motor home, Roy used to say he was always on the road and always at home. He played at this festival a number of times starting in 1978 when we did.



John Hammond Jr.

John Hammond Jr. helped launch the festival in 1978 with a powerful set of blues interpretations and creations. The junior in his name came from another music legend – his father – a promoter and record producer who worked with everyone from Billie Holiday to Bob Dylan. John Jr. fell in love with the blues when, at the age of seven, his father took him to a concert by Big Bill Broonzy. By 1963 John had turned pro, recorded his first album, and played at the Newport Folk Festival where he joined John Lee Hooker, Mississippi John Hurt, Sonny Terry and Dave Van Ronk in the blues workshop. He had arrived. Later he would be the only band leader to claim both Jimmy Hendrix and Eric Clapton as band members at the same time! John became a blues legend in his own right before passing away in February of this year.



Paul Geremia

Dave Van Ronk called him "the world's best blues guitarist and singer." You don't get much higher praise. Paul Geremia passed away at 82 this past March 14. He performed at this festival in 1994. Over a career that lasted some 60 plus years, Paul performed his interpretations of traditional blues and his own compositions on 11 albums and hundreds if not thousands, of stages, on tv, radio, and in a documentary called 'Somethin' Gotta Be Arranged', which maybe you can find. In these ways he introduced hundreds of thousands to original renditions of a great American popular tradition – unvarnished country blues.

Hoang Ngoc Bich June 2024

Bich (Bik) as she was known, was half of a remarkable duo with Khac Chi, her husband and long time collaborator. She was a virtuoso on many traditional Vietnamese instruments, notably the dan bau and koni (a two-stringed violin that uses the mouth as a resonating chamber), t'rung (bamboo xylophone), and k'lông pút (percussion tubules). She was one of the first women to play the koni, generally reserved for men. She and Khac Chi came to Vancouver to perform at the 1992 festival and decided to stay. In doing so Bich elevated the quality of south-east Asian music in the city, and Canada at large, to new levels.



Country Joe MacDonald

Best known for a rude cheer and a song opposing the American war in Vietnam, Country Joe MacDonald was much more than a footnote. As leader of Country Joe and the Fish he composed a tribute to Janis Joplin as well as political ditties, more often than not, opposing the war. Joe came by his politics honestly; both parents were members of the Communist Party and named Joe after Joseph Stalin. Joe had more of an anarchist bent but remained a radical artist all his life. After the demise of the Fish in 1971, he worked as a solo artist and recorded albums devoted to Woody Guthrie and the pacifist songs of poet Robert Service. He appeared at the festival in 1982. Born in 1942, he passed away March 7, 2026.

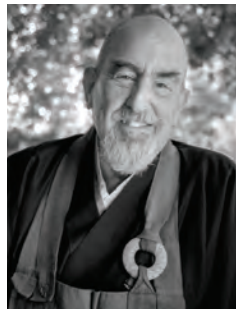
Rick Scott

Most artists are guests at the festival, but Rick was family. He helped us get going on Friday night, August 11, 1978 in a cold blowing rain. Rick, dulcimer in hand and Joe Mock, took the evening concert stage and delivered a performance that got a standing ovation and an encore from a rain soaked audience in danger of hypothermia. We knew we had a good thing going. Rick helped prove it as a member of Pied Pumkin, Pied Pear, and solo. Numerous times over the next decades Rick was a part of the festival, as a performer, an emcee, and a host when we made a movie in 1988. He left the planet on August 1st, 2025.



Rick Scott and Joe Mock at the 1979 Festival. Photo by Glen Erikson.

IN MEMORIAM



Alan Senauke

A master of American traditional music, Alan Senuake played three times at the festival. He first appeared in 1981 with Howie Tarnower as one half of the Fiction Brothers. Two years later he was part of an all-star band – The Blue Flame Stringband and made a third appearance with High Country in 1986.

A brilliant player on guitar, mandolin and banjo, Alan embraced a panoply of musical styles, from a Georgia Sea Islands children's tune to a Delmore Brothers composition. He was an encyclopedia of American folk music. Originally from New York, he spent most of his life in northern California where in addition to music he was a leading proponent of Sōtō Zen. Alan died in December of 2024.



David Wiffen

“Well have I not been far enough
How many times
do you have to die now
Hey how many sets has it been
Not another one oh no...”

A folk singer's lament and a memorable line from a memorable song, More Often Than Not, by one of the best this country of songwriters has produced.

David Wiffen died on April 5th, this year

at the age of 82. He has left behind a handful of great songs sung by many better-known artists from Anne Murray to Harry Belafonte. Those of you lucky enough to have been at the first folk music festival had the chance to hear the man himself sing his work.



Tony Wilson

Guitarist and composer Tony Wilson, who passed June 7, spent his life how he wanted to spend it, and made the music he wanted to make. A true individualist, he forged his own way, and created a unique artistic voice. His influence on the Vancouver music scene--especially the jazz scene--can be heard everywhere. From his modest home on Hornby Island, he was a prolific player,

composer and organizer, making the 7-hour trip to Vancouver frequently and running the No Horses Festival on Hornby. He wrote at least two books, created moving multimedia presentations that reflected on his experiences with abuse and homelessness, and pencilled, by hand, hundreds and hundreds of compositions. His first and only appearance on the VFMF stage was in 2023, with his San Pedro Cinco project. Thanks to John Korsrud.

Cris Derksen

Cris Derksen was a world-class Indigenous artist whose unique sound touched audiences around the globe. Cree from Treaty 8 and Mennonite, she championed diversity and inclusion. In her music, ancestral memory and classical refinement met the shimmering currents of electronic innovation.

The Cellist (for Cris Derksen)

The cello is considered the instrument that most closely resembles the human voice

your voice knew things about sorrow
most of us spend lifetimes
trying not to learn

you carried entire winters in your chest
and still found a way
to make music sound like a spring thaw

your music never pretended pain was beautiful
It simply refused to let pain be alone

your bow
pulled people toward remembering themselves
in a country that taught forgetting
like it was the curriculum

the tragedy is not only that you are gone

it's that the world had just begun
to understand
how much healing could fit inside your hands.

– Shane Koyczan



IN MEMORIAM

STAFF, VOLUNTEERS AND GOOD FRIENDS OF THE FESTIVAL



John Taylor

John Taylor valued the ways in which lives intersect and believed that each person both gives and receives something of lasting significance. His life intersected with ours at the festival when our then Head Chef approached St. Mary's, where he was Verger, to enquire whether it might be possible to rent their commercial kitchen to do advance prep for the 10,000 meals we

served on site to volunteers and performers. John offered the use of the kitchen free of charge in exchange for the donation of leftover ingredients and unused food back to the church for their weekly community meal, an arrangement that continued for nearly a decade. He subsequently joined the Food and Beverage team, managing the 30+ food trucks that feed festival-goers. John cultivated many meaningful relationships and felt a genuine spiritual connection with those around him. His was a life well lived. He will be remembered and missed.



Peter Gerencher

On May 20, long time Festival sound engineer Peter Gerencher passed. He mixed stage 3 (West) for the past 10 years, and before that he was a frequent flier on multiple Folk Festival stages since the '80s. Peter worked on many classic Vancouver stages, including Vancouver International Children's Festival, Capilano University, and many more, working with countless bands

and musicians. He treated all who knew him with kindness and respect, and lived by the philosophy that, while working hard and working to a high standard are both important, what is equally important is working with joy. Peter brought a lot of joy to our festival and he'll be missed.



Hal Wake

Hal Wake dedicated his life to telling stories and helping others tell theirs, first as a CBC broadcaster and then as the Artistic Director of the Vancouver Writers Fest. He was intensely curious about the world and loved words, books and especially writers, including songwriters. Hal believed in the power of words to build community, and had the inspired idea to create and publish “Reverberations”, a chronicle of the early days of the Festival's history for its

twenty-fifth anniversary in 2002.

Hal Wake passed away on January 7, 2026 at his home on Vancouver Island.

Bridge, 1982. Photo by Glen Erikson.



ARTISAN MARKET

Come explore the extraordinary talent of our Artisan Market vendors! In the market you'll find handcrafted clothing, artwork, jewelry – and so much more.

AFRICAN FAIR TRADE

Soap, shampoo and skin lotion locally made from shea butter, supporting women and children in West Africa, Senegal, and Ghana.

ALMA DE GAUCHO

Artisan leather inspired by Argentina's gaucho culture, love of horses, and respect for traditional craftsmanship.

ARTHURBUTUS DESIGNS

Unique artwork created using sound-colour synesthesia as inspiration: from earrings to suncatchers to vinyl records.

BC PARKS FOUNDATION

Celebrating and protecting British Columbia's natural spaces with products created to inspire pride in BC's parks and to connect people with the landscapes.

BIRD BROTHERS PHILANTHROPIC TRADING COMPANY

T-shirts, dresses, tank tops, hoodies, pants and shorts from Southeast Asia, some made by hilltribe people in Laos, Thailand and Cambodia.

BLACK HIVE

Hand-crafted works that honor the integrity of natural materials and the slow craft tradition using natural vegetable-tanned leathers, hand-tanned buckskin, and thoughtfully repurposed hides.

BLUE DEER

Old techniques meet modern designs, inspired by the rich history of Indigenous ancestors.

BLUE SKY, NATIVE ARTISAN

Native-owned, Woodland-style native art. Acrylic on canvas paintings, prints on canvas plus well as skateboard decks hand, drums, T-shirts, running shoes and more.

CHERYL'S TRADING POST

Indigenous-owned and based in Surrey, BC selling authentic Indigenous artwork, with a strong focus on Northwest Coast Native hand-carved jewelry by artists from the coast.

COSTCO WHOLESALE RICHMOND

Costco Wholesale is a global membership-based warehouse retailer known for offering high-quality products at competitive prices. The Richmond location provides a wide selection of groceries, produce, electronics, essentials, and Kirkland Signature items.

DELUXE KITSCH UPCYCLED CLOTHING

Re-use, Rework, Re-Love is the approach to deluxe kitsch's upcycled clothing designs. Sustainability is key!

DIMITY HANDMADE

Sweet smock tops and more made from vintage linens and trims that would otherwise head for the landfill.

ECOMAMAS GLOBAL COMMUNITY GARDENS

A registered non profit both in Canada and in Uganda running an outdoor learning center for Organic farming, Tropical plant medicine, and Holistic Nutrition.

ELMWOOD CANDLES

Natural and unique seasonal soy wax candles inspired by nature's beauty and boho style for a long-lasting, eco-friendly experience.

FARAH LARKI

Vancouver based jeweler of Iranian origin, working to support her family and give back to the community.

FELT YOU UP

Slow fashion, wearable fibre art using botanical dyes and eco-printed on natural fabrics with leaves foraged from the Sunshine Coast, BC.

GRACED BY YOGA APOTHECARY

Re - SOURCE yourself with seasonal ritual tools from the garden. Slow down and listen to Mother Earth.

HEADLER HATS

Headler celebrates quality and ethics through the art of millinery. Every hat is hand shaped and a 1 of 1 original.

HEYBESTIE STUDIO

Born from a passion for color, textiles, and creative expression, designed to inspire self-expression and spark joy. Apparel items for ALL ages, ALL sizes, ALL genders.

INNER CONNECTION

Handcrafted jewelry creating meaningful pieces from natural gemstones, pearls, seeds, and wood beads, chosen not only for their beauty but also for their energetic qualities.

KATIBA SHWESHWE

Bucket hats and other fabric accessories handmade in South Africa by local artisans from shweshwe, a textile known for its intricate patterns, vibrant colours and cultural significance.

KINDRED COAST

Based on Vancouver island in Parksville, we make all our clothing 100% here in Canada (dyed, knit, cut, sewn and screen printed) and print all our original artwork on them.

LAGO: EXOTIC JEWELRY & DESIGNS

Unique, travel-inspired handcrafted jewelry with healing crystals & copper. Electroformed jewelry plus, feather earrings and hair extensions, plus more!

LAWRENCE LOWE

Lawrence creates intricate pen drawings on paper, wood, stone, discarded antler, and handcrafted drums. He also produces relief prints from carved linoleum and wood blocks.

LINA CUTNAM

I create one of a kind tree of life pyrography genuine leather bags and accessories.

MARISA CRAFTS THINGS

Marisa Crafts Things is an Indigenous youth artist creating pieces reflective of relationships to land, culture and love with various mediums.

MEHNDI BY ITI

A skilled henna artist who uses only 100% natural, PPD-free henna, she offers safe, beautiful, and personalized temporary tattoos for all ages.

MELTED HEAD ART COLLECTIVE

Run by married lesbian couple Erin and Al, we use a combination of handworked mediums to create wearable art, specializing in block printing and crochet.

MZ CHIEF, JACALYN SHARP

An independent visual artist and maker selling anything from T shirts and bags to essential oil blends in carrier oil, copper jewellery with crystals, and other forms of original artworks.

NZINGA BOUTIQUE

We offer a range of clothing, jewelry and accessories to add to your closet while also offering african inspired pieces and colorful items.

OGILVIE DESIGNS TIE DYE

Ogilvie Designs Tie-Dye was inspired from the 4th Ave Hippie era and specializes in hand dyed clothing and accessories made locally by hand.

ROAM BY ROLLINGCABIN.STORE

Outdoor Collection made sustainably. For adventures that leave no trace.

SALISH HAUS DESIGNS

Salish Design Haus sells jewelry and artwork rooted in Coast Salish design.

SILVER FX

Silver FX is a locally owned third generation all women business that offers stunning hand-carved silver and gold plated Indigenous jewelry, with or without stones.

SLOW SUNDAY FOODS

Slow Sunday Foods makes small-batch sauces from whole BC fruit, no concentrates or added sweeteners.

WYLD SAGE WARES

Wyld Sage Wares is a wizard-led artisan brand and supply shop perfect for the witch, wizard, or magically inspired.





COMMUNITY VILLAGE



The Festival is proud to host an impressive group of organizations that are building awareness for causes in alignment with our values of social justice, inclusivity, and artistic excellence. Stop by the Community Village booths to learn more about how they're shaping the world through positive change - and how you can contribute!

BC CANCER

BC Cancer is dedicated to reducing cancer incidence, lowering mortality rates, and improving the quality of life for those affected by cancer, delivering a comprehensive cancer control program for people across British Columbia.

CJSF 90.1 FM

CJSF 90.1 FM is an independent, campus-community radio station based at Simon Fraser University's Burnaby campus. CJSF can be heard across Metro Vancouver at 90.1 FM, and online worldwide at CJSF.ca.

OCEAN AMBASSADORS

Ocean Ambassadors is a registered charity that is turning the tide on marine pollution. Through our educational programs and community initiatives, we connect people to the ocean, educate them about the threat of marine pollution on the health of our ocean, and empower people to make real change.

ROGUE FOLK CLUB

The Rogue Folk Club has been presenting 50 concerts per year of folk, blues, and roots music in Vancouver since 1987, programming artists with something new to say mostly at Mel Lehan Hall at St. James Community Square in Kitsilano.

THE NARWHAL

Diving deep to tell stories about the natural world in Canada you can't find anywhere else. *The Narwhal's* reporting uncovers solutions, not just problems, and aims to harness the power of journalism to bridge divides.

VANCOUVER COOPERATIVE RADIO

Vancouver Cooperative Radio has been producing creative and engaging programming for underrepresented communities since 1975. Rooted in volunteerism and diversity, COOP exists through the support of the communities it serves.

VANCOUVER LATIN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTRE

VLACC is the Vancouver Latin American Cultural Centre, a non-profit organization that celebrates cultural diversity by sharing Latin American culture with all! Most programs are presented in English and celebrate the increasing importance of the Latin American community in Canada.

WEST COAST ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

West Coast Environmental Law is a non-profit group of environmental lawyers, strategists and communicators dedicated to safeguarding the environment through law. Since 1974 it has worked to develop proactive legal solutions to protect and sustain the environment.

GRANDVIEW PARK PLAYLIST

New works by:

Amy Stephen

Shireen Nabatian

D'arcy Han (ZiZi)

Kathleen Nisbet

Free! Live Music

RUMBLE

VICO VANCOUVER INTER-CULTURAL ORCHESTRA

August 20th at 8 PM | GRANDVIEW PARK

WE ARE THE FOLK AND THIS IS OUR FESTIVAL

A collective of generous donors has pledged \$100,000 to match your one-time contributions and help us expand 2027's 50th anniversary event.

DONATE TODAY AND YOUR GIFT WILL BE MATCHED FOR

2X
THE IMPACT

UP TO \$100,000

Visit the Donations Tent or scan this QR code to make your tax deductible gift.



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Birkenstock 500, 1991. Photo by Glen Erikson.



VOLUNTEERS



IN GRATITUDE

Quite simply, our festival doesn't happen without our amazing volunteers. Everywhere you look, volunteers are working to make this weekend possible—offering directions, supporting artists, solving problems, sharing smiles, and showing up for community and music. Their care, enthusiasm, and dedication are woven into every single corner of the Festival.

We feel incredibly fortunate to be supported by such a vibrant volunteer community. As you enjoy the weekend, we invite you to join us in appreciating the people whose generosity helps us breathe love and life into the weekend.

To our volunteers: THANK YOU!! From our pre-fest crews working hard in the months leading up to our festival to everyone on site during, to the committees that work hard through strike – you are an integral part of our success. I am so incredibly proud to work alongside each and everyone one of you!

– Parisa Ebrahimi, Manager of Volunteer Operations

VOLUNTEER COMMITTEES MAKE OUR WORLD GO ROUND

The festival is an amazing collaboration of hundreds of volunteers coming together to bring the music to ʔəyalməx^w Jericho Beach Park. Whether it's pre or post festival, during the weekend, out on the festival grounds or backstage - here's all the ways our volunteers and Folk Fest family work together:

Accessibility (43 volunteers)

These folks help facilitate ease-of-use for festival attendees with alternate needs, including but not limited to persons with disabilities, mobility restrictions, ASL, and seniors.

Accessibility Security (20 volunteers)

Working to ensure everyone is safe and cared-for by monitoring the accessible seating areas of each stage.

Administration (9 volunteers)

They run the festival's biz onsite, directing volunteers to where they're needed most.

Artisan Market/Community Village (9 volunteers)

These volunteers help the vendors and organizations in this area with their various needs to make their Festival experience positive.

Artist Check-In (14 volunteers)

These folks are dedicated to the good care of artists on site so they can focus on giving their best performance to you.

Artist Emporium: Music n' More (15 volunteers)

The place where all things music and memorabilia are sold! Aside from helping with CD and merch sales, they assist artists with their signings throughout the weekend.

Backstage Lounge (22 volunteers)

These volunteers host a hangout zone with refreshments and snacks for artists and festival workers to relax backstage.

Bars (80 volunteers)

The fine folks serving beverages, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic, at various serving stations throughout the site.

Bikes (15 volunteers)

These volunteers maintain safe and organized storage for attendees who pedal in on two wheels. And an impromptu extra stage if you catch them at the right time!

Box Office/Will Call – Site (17 volunteers)

These folks distribute tickets, answer questions, redirect people who are lost, and maintain a friendly and warm disposition at our busy Main Gate. Plus, they're your point of contact if you don't have your pre-purchased ticket on your phone.

Community (22 volunteers)

Around & about outside the gates, these help guide the smooth use of parking lots and flow of traffic to minimize the fest's impact on our good neighbours.

Decorations (11 volunteers)

Creative decorators, they're on a mission to make the site look fun, artsy, and folky.

Environment (72 volunteers)

The ace crew that keeps our park responsibly clean as we work towards becoming a zero waste event.

Festival Merchandise (20 volunteers)

Need a water bottle? Hat? Forgot your sunscreen? They've got you covered!

Food and Beverage (14 volunteers)

The folks who assist with keeping our 1,200 volunteers, crew and staff fed and watered each day of the Festival. They distribute snacks, make drinks, work with vendors, and more!

Gate (35 volunteers)

The big WELCOME crew for the Festival – you can't miss them!

Grounds Control (12 volunteers)

Someone has to keep order in the park before and after the festival weekend – they're the folks!

Green Room (10 volunteers)

They deliver friendly backstage hospitality for our artists.

Hotel Info Desk (8 volunteers)

There to make sure everything goes smoothly at the artist's hotel.

Information Booth (16 volunteers)

Lost something? Need a bag checked? Have a question (or a complaint)? Ask these folks.

Instrument Storage (11 volunteers)

These are the keepers of performers' equipment and personal items between shows.

Labour Pool (25 volunteers)

They fill in gaps and step in when other committees need a hand.

Lanterns (21 volunteers)

Lead the way off site each night with a procession of beautiful hand-made Lanterns.

Little Folks (30 volunteers)

Entertainment for our youngest audience members, with face painting, crafts and more.

Media (14 volunteers)

They assist the media on-site with all they need to share our story.

Membership/Donations (8 volunteers)

They'll give you the goods on the benefits of being a member and how to contribute.

Mentorship Program (33 volunteers)

Introduce young folks to the volunteer festival experience, aiming to spark an interest in volunteering for years to come.

Movers n Shakers (6 volunteers)

The crew that helps us get our supplies to and from site, and also helps keep the good vibes going at our Volunteer Party!

Nature (8 volunteers)

They combine interactive art and guided tours to engage our visitors about the rich natural environment of ʔəyalməx^w Jericho Beach Park.

Neighbour Liaison (1 volunteer)

Here to connect with our neighbours, answer questions, and ease accessibility concerns.

Neighbourhood (7 volunteers)

These volunteers hit the streets to deliver news and parking passes to the houses in the area, making sure we are doing out best to be a part of the community.

Office (7 volunteers)

These folks assist with multiple office tasks prior to the Festival.

Operations Support Committee + Inventory (14 volunteers)

A small hands-on committee providing tech support throughout and make sure all committees have the supplies they need.

Outreach (4 volunteers)

Our pre-festival promo team – you'll see them out and about at local events!

Performer Transport (40 volunteers)

The calm and friendly crew ferrying artists and their equipment around the site.

Photography (12 volunteers)

Talented folks who capture the VFMF from all angles.

Privy Council (7 volunteers)

A small but essential crew, flagging the way for the honey trucks.

Radioland (10 volunteers)

Essential to our communications, this group handles and distributes our radios and batteries to ensure smooth communication on site

Raffle (18 volunteers)

You see them everywhere on site (they're hard to miss) – a nomadic committee selling raffle tickets. A great way to support the festival - and you might win a fabulous prize!

Security (116 volunteers)

The largest crew on site, they're responsible for monitoring the safety and security of the audience, artists, volunteers and crews.

Signage (12 volunteers)

They put up the signage telling you where you are and where you want to go.

Stage (43 volunteers)

The folks on stage, making sure you see & hear the sounds from near & far.

Street Team (8 volunteers)

They plaster the city with festival posters and postcards to spread the word!

Transportation – Pre/Post (12 volunteers)

Charged with delivering necessities to the festival and ensuring safe return when the fun's over.

Transportation – Weekend (18 volunteers)

Transporting artists and equipment between the airport, accommodations and the festival.

Video (4 volunteers)

Recording it all for posterity, and possible promotional use in the future.

Volunteer Gate (15 volunteers)

They welcome and check in 1,000+ festival volunteers.



PRESENTED BY



The Vancouver Folk Music Festival's Volunteer Program is proudly presented by Westland Insurance. Behind every stage, gate, and grassy corner this weekend, you'll find 1,000+ dedicated volunteers, and Westland makes it possible to recognise and celebrate every one of them.

One of Canada's largest brokerages, Westland has grown from a single family-owned office in BC to nearly 4,000 people in communities across the country. Through it all, their belief has stayed the same: strong communities don't happen on their own. They're built by people who show up. For Westland, supporting our volunteers is one more way of taking care of it. Learn more at westlandinsurance.ca

THE OFFICIAL BEER OF THE 49TH ANNUAL

Vancouver Folk Music Festival

PILSENER

SQUAMISH, BC

BACKCOUNTRY BREWING

RIDGERUNNER

PILSENER

HAZY IPA

SQUAMISH, BC

BACKCOUNTRY BREWING

WIDOWMAKER

HAZY IPA

HAZY PALE ALE

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HESTER CREEK

Our roots run deep

ROSE CABERNET

OKANAGAN VALLEY BC VQA

HESTER CREEK

Our roots run deep

PINOT GRIS

OKANAGAN VALLEY BC VQA

HESTER CREEK

Our roots run deep

CABERNET MERLOT

OKANAGAN VALLEY BC VQA

We're excited to introduce a fantastic lineup of BC beverage partners for the 2026 Vancouver Folk Music Festival. This year our Official Partners have sponsored all Beverage Tents but rest assured all products will be available at all locations throughout the festival!

OFFICIAL BEER	OFFICIAL CIDER	OFFICIAL WINE	OFFICIAL COCKTAILS
 SQUAMISH, BC BACKCOUNTRY BREWING	<i>— Authentic Dry Cider —</i> LONETREE OLD GROWTH ORCHARD	HESTER CREEK 	
Ridgerunner Pilsner Trailbreaker Pale Ale Widowmaker IPA	Authentic Dry Cider Apple Pear Cider	Pinot Gris Rose Cabernet Merlot	Salted Lime Margarita Grapefruit Paloma Mango Margarita

NEW TO THE FESTIVAL	NON ALCOHOLIC
Rodney's Hard Spicy Caesar!	Clink Beverages Mimosa Cocktail & Raspberry Limoncello
	Nonny Pilsner and West Coast IPA
	Non-alcoholic Beer
	Lonetree Authentic Dry De-alcoholized Cider

Be on the lookout for some new pop up beverage stands on site, sampling and selling some of our new refreshing products this year!
Cool tips for hot days: Pick up one of our festival Koozies to keep your drink crispy all afternoon! Available at the bars and the festival merch tent.

SITE-WIDE LICENSE	WRISTBANDS	TIPPING
You can purchase your beverages at one of three Beverage Service Areas: along the North Fence, near Pete's Eats, and near the South Stage. Take them with you anywhere on site! Tables and shade tents are set up around the site so you can kick back, relax, and enjoy a frosty beverage to the music. Maximum two drinks per purchase or one 473ml serving.	Age verification wristbands are required before consuming any alcohol on site. Visit our volunteers at any of the bars with your government issued photo ID ready to receive your 19+ wristband.	Tipping at the bar is optional and at your discretion, and all proceeds from tips are treated as donations to the festival. So if you're able to show us a little extra love at the till, know that your contributions go directly towards keeping our festival strong!
HOURS Friday 3pm – 10pm last call 9:30pm Saturday & Sunday 10am – 10pm last call 9:30pm		

CHEERS TO GREAT MUSIC, GREAT COMPANY, AND GREAT DRINKS AT FOLK FEST 2026!

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#VanFolkFest | 57



- ⓧ Picnic / Concession
- Ⓣ North Fence
- Ⓦ Bridge Walkway
- Ⓥ vegetarian/vegan
- ⓖⓉ gluten free

STREET EATS

Big City Bannock ⓧ Ⓥ ⓖⓉ @bigcitybannock
Elk tacos, beef burgers, beef tacos, bannock

G's Donairs ⓧ Ⓥ ⓖⓉ @gsdonairs
Chicken, beef or lamb donairs with fresh homemade sauces, falafel, greek salad

Holy Taco & Mexi Eats ⓧ Ⓥ ⓖⓉ @holytacovan
Quesabirria, beef birria, chicken, veggie, and vegan tacos, quesadillas, agua de jamaica

Indish Food Truck ⓧ Ⓥ ⓖⓉ @indishfoodtruck
Curry rice bowls, flaky paratha wraps, samosa chaat, masala poutine, smash burgers, mango lassi, and hot masala chai.

Japanese Teriyaki Express ⓧ Ⓥ www.asianconcessions.ca
Traditional teriyaki on rice/yakisoba, chicken, beef, tofu, japa tacos, prawn tempura, gyoza, takoyaki and chicken karaage.

Mahshiko Ⓣ Ⓥ @themahshiko
Bibimbap with various proteins, Korean Chicken with a special dipping sauce

Midnight Joe's Ⓣ Ⓥ @midnightjoesvancouver
Elevated sloppy joes with options such as cheesy, spicy, and vegan

MJ's Caribbean ⓧ Ⓥ @mjscaribbean
Caribbean cuisine, with a healthy twist featuring Jerk chicken and Jamaican patties

Mom's Grilled Cheese Truck ⓧ Ⓥ ⓖⓉ @momsgilledcheese
Classic home-style gourmet grilled cheese and soups

REEL Mac and Cheese Ⓣ Ⓥ @reelmacandcheese
Gourmet mac & cheese made fresh on the truck and served with toppings. Specialty all beef jumbo hot dogs with funky fixings.

Super Thai Food Truck Ⓣ Ⓥ @superthaifoodtruck
Pad Thai (chicken or shrimp), Thai curries (chicken, shrimp or tofu), chicken satay

The Dragon Bowl ⓧ Ⓥ @superthaifoodtruck
Rice bowls (vegetarian, grilled tofu or chicken), desserts, Moroccan iced tea.

The Original Hurricane Potato ⓧ Ⓥ ⓖⓉ @urbanwfpizza
Spiral-cut potatoes, zucchini, and sweet potatoes topped with a variety of savoury seasonings and toppings

Urban Wood Fired Pizza ⓧ Ⓥ @urbanwfpizza
Freshly made, wood-fired pizzas with vegetarian & meat options

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SNACKS

Gary's Kettle Corn Ⓣ Ⓥ ⓖⓉ @garyskettlecorn
Sweet and salty kettle corn, caramel corn

JJ's Hot Cobs ⓧ Ⓥ ⓖⓉ @jjshotcobsroastedcorn
Freshly roasted corn, butter and a wide selection of savoury salts

REFRESHMENTS

Aperitivo Coffee ⓧ Ⓥ ⓖⓉ @aperitivotruck
Hot & iced espresso drinks and cold brew coffee, blended drinks, smoothies

Insomniac's Coffee Ⓦ Ⓥ ⓖⓉ Insomniacs-Coffee-Co
Hot & iced espresso drinks, cold brew coffee, mocha freeze and raspberry iced tea.

Juicy Green & Fusion Icy Ⓣ ⓖⓉ @juicygreenandfusionicy
Freshly squeezed lemonade, bubble tea, slushy drinks, shaved ice

SWEET TREATS

Chilango Mango Ⓣ Ⓥ ⓖⓉ @chilangomangos
Fresh mangos hand carved into a flower on a stick.

Rolled West Coast ⓧ Ⓥ @rolledwestcoast
Handcrafted ROLLED ice cream, waffle tacos & waffle pops

Slavic Rolls Ⓣ @slavicrolls
Caramelized pastry dessert cylinder, rolled in sugar and cinnamon



After you've consumed a beverage from one of our liquor service areas, please place your used glass in the dedicated Sharewares collection bins located throughout the site.



Vancouver Food Trucks

Track down Vancouver's food trucks on the go. Get the free app for iPhone & Android.



🍏 iPhone App

🤖 Android App

Scan the QR code to download the Apps



*No Public or Ticketholder access through Service Gate

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WE PROVIDE the front-line public services we all depend on: education, health care, community social services, parks, libraries, government services and so much more. WE SALUTE the artists, volunteers and staff who make this festival such an inspiring experience.

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