

PuSh International Performing Arts Festival

January 21–February 9, 2020 | pushfestival.ca

As we welcome blind and low vision arts lovers to our festival, we provide:

- **Live description** for selected shows
- **Introductions** providing additional context for shows without live description
These will be online in December or can also be requested via email or phone
- **Touch tours** where you get to explore the stage and props
- **Sighted guides** can be requested to pick you up at the nearest transit stop (for any show)
- **Complimentary companion tickets**
- **Discounted prices** for VocalEye Members to most shows
- **Accessible seating can be reserved and priority seating is offered**

If we can support you in any other way, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Shows with Live Description by VocalEye

SKYBORN

By SAVAGE SOCIETY from CANADA

Skyborn employs puppetry, animation, creative sound design and an evocative mise-en-scène to engage the audience, but its greatest asset is the simple, irreducible force of human presence.

VocalEye live description on Saturday Feb 1 at 2pm and pre-show touch tour (time TBD)

At The Cultch Historic Theatre | from \$26

FRONTERA

By ANIMALS OF DISTINCTION from CANADA

Amid pulsing flashes and towering vertical rays, ten human figures dance—at times alone, at times with each other, at times against each other. Their wild gestures are a response to the propulsive music, to the commands of the lighting and to things less easy to define; it's a large-scale struggle between impulse and design.

VocalEye live description on Thursday Jan 30 at 8pm

At Queen Elizabeth Theatre | from \$25

ANYWHERE BUT HERE

By ELECTRIC COMPANY THEATRE from CANADA

From North to South, a family reverses the refugee's path in this darkly humorous vision of exile. Inventively staged, inflected by magic realism and boasting stunts, a terrific musical score and two rap tracks by Shad Kabango, Anywhere But Here pulls out all the stops in its portrayal of a Latinx family and its hopes, fears and fantasies.

VocalEye live description on Saturday Feb 8 at 2pm, pre-show touch tour (time TBD)

At Vancouver Playhouse | from \$20

Shows that are Blind and Low Vision Friendly

This means they won't be described but can be enjoyed without description. We highly recommend reading the introduction beforehand or when deciding if you want to go. Sometimes the introduction has essential information you need to follow the show. We always have them available at the box office as well and our volunteers are more than happy to read them to you.

OLD STOCK: A REFUGEE LOVE STORY

By 2B THEATRE from CANADA

Wild, witty and wonderfully inventive, this fusion of concert and drama tells the true tale of Chaim and Chaya, Jewish refugees from the pogroms of Romania. The story, told in song, moves forward to their lives as a couple in Montreal and backward to the horrors of the Continent.

Introduction available on our website in December.

A **touch tour** is **available upon request**.

Shows from Jan 24-25, 28-30 at 7:30pm

At Frederic Wood Theatre | price \$39

LITTLE VOLCANO

By VEDA HILLE with THEATRE REPLACEMENT from CANADA

Veda Hille's new work is a musical memoir, a testament to maternal love, a joyful embrace of nature and much more. The singer, pianist and songwriter takes us through her life using stories, Bach preludes, a selection of her own music and some unique and surprising recordings, redefining autobiography as she goes along.

Introduction available on our website in December.

Shows from Jan 21-23 at 8pm

At Annex | price \$39

SHE, MAMI WATA AND THE PUSSY WITCH HUNT

By FRANK THEATRE & D'BI from CANADA

Whether playing a church pastor, a pole dancer or a child in a schoolyard, d'bi positively glows with fervour; the spirit of protest runs strong through the multiple characters, shifting timelines and changing settings of the narrative. Telling the story of four friends and their lives in present-day Jamaica, the artist paints a picture of lust, love and the forces that would seek to deny them.

Introduction available on our website in December. **Please read it before booking.**

Shows from Jan 29-31 and on Feb 1 at 8pm **!! Dates in the program guide are wrong !!!**

At Performance Works | price \$39

FREE ADMISSION

By URSULA MARTINEZ from THE UK

As Martinez holds forth on the paradoxes of life, the absurdity of contemporary living and her own intimate feelings, she builds a wall between herself and the audience—a brick wall, to be exact. Piece by piece, Martinez erects this barrier, even as her show gets more and more personal. What happens when the wall is complete?

Introduction available on our website in December.

Shows on Jan 31 & Feb 1 at 8:30pm | Show on Feb 2 at 4pm

At Scotiabank Dance Centre | price \$39

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KISMET, THINGS HAVE CHANGED

By THE CHOP THEATRE from CANADA

“How do you cope?” In this live performance, the artists present the gathered responses to this question, portray their cross-country trek and share their own stories of change over the decade. Using projection, audio recordings and a continually transforming set, four artists take the audience through births and deaths, victories and defeats, sudden reversals and slow conversions. What emerges is an innovative and very moving depiction of aging, as well as a rich human mosaic—glittering with insights, anecdotes and relatable detail.

Introduction available on our website in December.

Shows from Feb 4-8 at 7:30pm | Show on Feb 8 at 2pm

At Historic Theatre, The Cultch | from \$26

FOOTNOTE NUMBER 12

By THEATRE REPLACEMENT & SPREAFICA ECKLY from CANADA & NORWAY

A deep dive into the politics of language and the dynamics of privilege, Footnote Number 12 turns the act of reading into riveting theatre. You could call it a subversive piece of literary criticism; it takes a celebrated essay by the late David Foster Wallace and breaks it down in a series of seriocomic monologues. Don't expect to be a passive audience member: there will be reading from distributed texts, a group song and more, in the name of showmanship but also empowerment. Deconstruction has rarely been this mischievous, this innovative, this fun.

Introduction available on our website in December.

Show on Feb 6 at 8pm | Shows from Feb 7-8 at 6pm

At Performance Works | price \$39

THE DJ WHO GAVE TOO MUCH INFORMATION

By PME ART from CANADA

One turntable and dozens of records, each one with a story behind it. That's the simple premise of PME-ART's party performance; it's all about the ways in which music helps to organize our memories, beliefs and perceptions.

Introduction available on our website in December.

Show on Feb 7 at 7pm

At Western Front | price \$15

BRING YOUR OWN RECORD / LISTENING PARTY

By PME ART from CANADA

Audience members who especially love the song/story format of The DJ Who Gave Too Much Information are invited to this event the following day; it's a chance to get in on the fun. Choose a record and story of your own, and bring them on down to share.

Introduction available on our website in December.

Show is Feb 8 at 7pm

At Central Studios | free admission

A USER'S GUIDE TO AUTHENTICITY IS A FEELING

By PME ART from CANADA

Authenticity Is a Feeling is a book that blurs the lines between several genres: personal memoir, official history, manifesto... In the end, Wren and his co-conspirators decided to turn this book about performance into a performance itself. Thus we have this User's Guide—an artist's talk of sorts, but one that tilts toward the unconventional end of the spectrum.

Introduction available on our website in December.

Show on Feb 5 at 8pm | Show on Feb 6 at 6pm

At Western Front | price \$15

WHAT YOU WON'T DO FOR LOVE

By WHY NOT THEATRE from CANADA

They've researched, they've taught, they've publicized, they've protested... but above all, they've loved—each other and the planet. Drs. David Suzuki and Tara Cullis are activists and life partners, and on this special evening, they take the opportunity to share with us a lifetime of stories.

As this show will be workshopped in the days leading up to it, the **introduction** will only be available at the theatre.

Show on Feb 4 at 8pm

At Anvil Centre | Only available to PuSh passholders and Anvil Centre subscribers

GARDENS SPEAK

By TANIA EL KHOURY from THE UK & LEBANON

In today's Syria, oppression and violence are so far-reaching that even burial and mourning have become subversive acts. In groups of ten, audience members are led to a garden space marked by graves. At each grave, one person will hear a story—the reconstructed history of an individual killed in the conflict.

Introduction available on our website in December.

Shows from Jan 28-Feb 1 | Showtimes: 12 :30pm, 2pm, 6pm, 7pm, 8:30pm, and 9:30pm

Show on Feb 2 | Showtimes: 12 :30pm, 2pm, 5:30pm, 6:30pm, 8pm, and 9pm

At Roundhouse Community Arts & Recreation Centre | price \$25

TELL ME WHAT I CAN DO

By TANIA EL KHOURY from THE UK & LEBANON

Gardens Speak has had 30 showings across five continents, and many of them have included a special request, with Tania El Khoury asking her audiences to write letters. "Tell me what I can do" is a sentence that recurs throughout the handwritten texts, and those six small words reflect so much: empathy and caring, but also anguish, confusion, even desperation.

Assistance by a volunteer to read the letters is **available upon request**.

Exhibition open from Jan 28-Feb 2 and will go from 12pm to 9:30pm

At Roundhouse Community Arts & Recreation Centre | free admission

For full details and to discuss accessibility needs contact:

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