

2022 TCCF Amazing Music and Dance Program

The "2022 Taiwanese Canadian Cultural Festival" organized by the Taiwanese Canadian Cultural Society will be staged at the ʂxʷł̓ənəq Xwtl'e7én̓ Square (Vancouver Art Gallery North Plaza), Vancouver Playhouse, Annex Theatre on July 1, Canada Day. The organizer will invite 16 music and dance performance groups from Taiwan and Canada to present the most representative and multicultural performing arts of the two countries.

List of Performers:

Sounds Global Ensemble	Crossbridge Strings
Vancouver Pops Orchestra & Choir	Norine Braun Band
V'ni Dansi	Tsatsu Stalqayu
Lara Wong Trio & Lia Grainger	RazzMaJazz
Sons of Granville	Zimbamoto
Uzume Taiko	Ali Razmi Persian Jazz Ensemble
Chronicles of False Creek	Brazilian Swag
Billy Chang & Tara Catherine Pandeya	Wu Gi Troupe

The Festival Music Director – Lan Tung

The music director of the "2022 Taiwanese Canadian Cultural Festival" is the musician Lan Tung, who will also lead the Sounds Global Ensemble to perform the Taiwan aboriginal song [Amis Dance of Dance of the Amis] during the opening ceremony.

Lan Tung will also lead the Crossbridge Strings Orchestra to perform their first concert at the Vancouver Playhouse on July 2, and will invite Taiwanese visual artist Li Tung, as well as two famous dancers Billy Chang and Tara C. Pandeya to perform together.

Crossing between new music, improvised music, and world music scenes, Taiwanese Canadian Lan Tung is the founder, artistic director, and resident composer of various cross-cultural projects, such as the JUNO nominated Orchid Ensemble, the Sound of Dragon Ensemble, Vancouver Erhu Quartet, and Proliferasian. She is the founder/artistic director of the biennial Sound of Dragon Music Festival that showcases innovative projects and facilitates collaboration. She co-leads Naadaleela Ensemble (fusing Taiwanese, Chinese, Indian, and Persian traditions with Jazz and other influences) with Curtis Andrews, collaborates with cellist Marina Hasselberg in Have Bow Will Travel, with Ron Samworth and Neelamjit Dhillon in Birds of Paradox, with Liron Man and Jonathan Bernard in Lalun. Lan performs regularly with the Vancouver Inter-Cultural Orchestra, Sounds Global Ensemble, BC Chinese Music Ensemble, and the NOW Orchestra (improvised music). Lan has toured internationally and appeared as a



soloist with Orchestre Metropolitain (Montreal) and Symphony Nova Scotia, and as a soloist/composer with Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, Turning Point Ensemble (Vancouver & Taiwan), Upstream Ensemble (Halifax), Vancouver Inter-Cultural Orchestra, Atlas Ensemble (Amsterdam & Helsinki), and Little Giant Chinese Chamber Orchestra.

Lan Tung's music often experiments with contradictions by fusing materials from different traditions and genres, such as the sense of breath/space from Chinese music, the rhythmic intricacy from Indian influence, the precision in contemporary compositions, the space for interpretation with graphic notations, as well as melodic or textural improvisation. Lan's compositions and performances are released on numerous CDs, winning International Independent Music Awards and multiple nominations by JUNO, Canadian Independent Music Awards, Canadian Folk Music Awards, and Western Canadian Music Awards.

Billy Chang & Tara Catherine Pandeya

July 1 ~ 3 | Multiple Shows | Free

TD Performing Arts Stage, Ƨxʌ́ə nəq Xwtl'e7énƧ Square (Vancouver Art Gallery North Plaza)

Billy Chang, a former protagonist dancer of Cirque du Soleil who returned to his hometown in 2012, said that he should use his body and dance to write about the beautiful land of Taiwan. After returning to Taiwan, various performance invitations continued, and he also took the initiative to participate in several choreography planning. In 2018, he served as a guest performer and artistic director of the Taiwanese Canadian Cultural Festival. This year, he choreographed and directed the large-scale live show for the "2022 Pingtung Lantern Festival". Whether it is artistic creation or commercial activities, he successfully interprets different styles. .



Tara C. Pandeya was an outstanding dancer of "Cirque du Soleil". She is also an experienced Performer, Choreographer, Speaker, Independent Dance Scholar, and Educator with 20 years of experience working in cross-cultural dance settings across 5 continents in over 35 countries. Tara will perform together with Billy Chang at the Festival. Tara has studied dance since childhood and has been involved in the research and performance of Central Asian dance for 20 years. She has traveled to Urumqi "Xinjiang Art Institute", Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and India to study Central Asian dance, and participated in the performance of "Taji Korola National Dance Troupe". Active in the West Coast of the United States, she is committed to promoting Central Asian dance, and often performs in collaboration with Abbos, a Uzbek tambourine master in the United States. From 2010 to 2015, she toured 170 cities on five continents with "Cirque du Soleil", with more than 1500 performances.



Wu Gi Troupe

July 1 ~ 3 | Multiple Shows | Free

TD Performing Arts Stage, ᓐᓂᓐᓐ ᓂᓐᓐ ᓂᓐᓐ ᓂᓐᓐ Square (Vancouver Art Gallery North Plaza)

Wu Gi Troupe was established by Zi-Yung Cheng in 2017. "Wu Gi" represents the "center" in Tai Chi (Tai Ji), so Wu Gi Troupe means "the team from Central region." The "plum blossom" on the logo tells the world that "We are from Taiwan."



Wu Gi Troupe was created with the mandate of "Integrating the performing art of various domains with traditional Taiwanese culture and sparking the fresh flame in art. The leader Zi-Yung Cheng has formed an ensemble of twelve actors of diverse expertise to sublimate various spheres and styles of performing arts. Wu Gi Troupe expects to integrate the various facets of traditional Taiwanese culture and develop an unprecedented and innovative style of performance.

In the past years, the Troupe has been invited to perform abroad and had participated in a variety of performances in Taiwan with renowned artists and teams in creative cultural feasts in several fields.

Sounds Global Ensemble

July 1 | Fri | 11:30AM | Free

TD Performing Arts Stage, ᓐᓂᓐᓐ ᓂᓐᓐ ᓂᓐᓐ ᓂᓐᓐ Square (Vancouver Art Gallery North Plaza)

An ensemble that sounds like how Vancouver looks, Sounds Global Ensemble's diverse repertoire is drawn from Jewish, Persian, Taiwanese, Vietnamese, Indian and Chinese music. This band is comprised of some of Vancouver's most active musicians in the world music scene: Moshe Denburg on guitar, Ali Razmi on tar (Persian lute), Jonathan Bernard on percussion, Lan Tung on erhu (Chinese 2-string violin), and Dailin Hsieh on zheng (Chinese zither). In addition, their singing creates an unusual mix of ethnic vocal styles.

The Sounds Global Ensemble is formed to represent the Vancouver Inter-Cultural Orchestra (VICO) at festivals and events when it's not feasible to have the full orchestra on stage. The ensemble can perform with 4-8 members. The musicians of the Sounds Global are also members of the orchestra. They represent the different cultural backgrounds where VICO musicians have come from.

Lan Tung - erhu

Dailin Hsieh - zheng

Ali Razmi - tar

Jonathan Bernard - percussion

Moshe Denburg - guitar



Tsatsu Stalqayu - The Coast Wolf Pack

July 1 | Fri | 1:00PM | Free

TD Performing Arts Stage, ᓐᓄᓄᓄ ᓐᓄᓄᓄ ᓐᓄᓄᓄ ᓐᓄᓄᓄ Square (Vancouver Art Gallery North Plaza)

Tsatsu Stalqayu translated into English means Coastal Wolf Pack. A traditional Salish song and dance group, the group consists of over 25 male and female members of a single family, from age 6 months to over age 50. Their variation in age and gender allows for more song, dance, and stories to be shared on stage and in their presentations. The members of the group with pride represent the following Coast Salish communities: Musqueam, Sto:lo, Lil'Wat, Squamish, Okanagan, Tsartlip, Nanaimo and more, all of whom form Tsatsu Stalqayu, The Coast Wolf Pack. This breadth of membership along with the multigenerational performers gives their audiences a sense of belonging to this, the hereditary lands of the Coast Salish people.



Uzume Taiko

July 1 | Fri | 4:50PM | Free

TD Performing Arts Stage, ᓐᓄᓄᓄ ᓐᓄᓄᓄ ᓐᓄᓄᓄ ᓐᓄᓄᓄ Square (Vancouver Art Gallery North Plaza)

Uzume Taiko celebrates the rhythm of life itself with shows that wow audiences through a uniquely theatrical blend of music and dance. They have handcrafted a unique brand of West Coast Canadian taiko drumming that offers a visual, sonic, and dynamic experience to their audience.

Uzume Taiko has performed in all corners of Canada, from the Western and Mid Arctic to both coasts and many points in between. The group has toured their evening concerts, festival and youth shows across North America, the United Kingdom and Europe. With the choreographed physicality of martial arts, the heart-stopping pulse of the Odaiko and the rhythmic sensitivity of a jazz ensemble, the drummers of Uzume Taiko put on an exhilarating performance.



Bonnie Soon - Taiko Drums, Percussion, Shinobue Flute

Jason Overy - Taiko Drums, Percussion, Martial Arts

Jordy Riley - Taiko Drums, Percussion

Boyd Seiichi Grealy - Taiko Drums, Percussion, Shinobue Flute, Tin Whistle

Zimbamoto

July 1 | Sat | 6:50PM | Free

TD Performing Arts Stage, ᓃᓄᓃᓃ ᓃᓄᓃᓃ ᓃᓄᓃᓃ Square (Vancouver Art Gallery North Plaza)

Zimbamoto is an Afro-Fusion ensemble led by Canada's foremost virtuoso *mbira* and marimba player, Kurai Mubaiwa and featuring some of Vancouver's best "world" musicians. Mixing the traditional music of Zimbabwe with electric grooves and heavy beats, they create a hypnotic sound that is uniquely built for the dance floor. They will move you through southern Africa, from the village to the urban street party.



The music is rooted in the classical repertoire of the *mbira*, a metal-tined 'thumb piano' that first appeared in the Zambezi River valley nearly 1,000 years ago, that is traditionally used to invoke ancestral spirits. Mubaiwa has been playing the instrument since childhood, where he would walk from village to village while playing, something he still does today in urban Vancouver! *Tambai* is their debut album (released Nov.2017).

Kurai Mubaiwa - mbira/marimba/lead vocals

Curtis Andrews - drums/vocals

Mark Campbell - guitar/vocals

Greg Valou - bass/vocals

Israel "Toto" Berriel - percussion/vocals

V'ni Dansi

July 2 | Sat | 12:30PM | Free

TD Performing Arts Stage, ᓃᓄᓃᓃ ᓃᓄᓃᓃ ᓃᓄᓃᓃ Square (Vancouver Art Gallery North Plaza)

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.



Dancers perform Métis dance under the name- the Louis Riel Métis Dancers, and contemporary works as V'ni Dansi.

V'ni Dansi holds the distinction of being the only company in Canada to teach and perform both Métis and contemporary dance. Meaning "Come and Dance" in Michif, V'ni Dansi is thrilled to share the Métis people's joyful culture with audiences of all nations.

Norine Braun

July 2 | Sat | 2:30PM | Free

TD Performing Arts Stage, ᓃᓂᓗᓂᓗ ᓂᓗᓂᓗ ᓂᓗᓂᓗ Square (Vancouver Art Gallery North Plaza)

A Vancouver based singer-songwriter recording artist, Norine Braun is set to release her **13th** album, the groove oriented *Songs For Trees* in May 2022. Thanks to a **Canada Council For the Arts Award** and a **First Peoples' Cultural Council Award in 2021**, Norine set her musings during the ongoing pandemic last year to focus on climate change and the healing power of trees.



Emotional, heartfelt, and eclectic, Braun is an award-winning artist (**Western Canadian Music Award** nominee, **Banff Centre Musician in Residence**, **Los Angeles Independent Music Awards**, **SIBL International Songwriting Competition Winner**). Braun released her 12th album *December Falls* "delicious alt-rock with bluesy country hues." for Christmas 2020. It was heralded as one of 5 new seasonal releases worth putting under your tree by The Vancouver Sun.

Photo credit Karolina Turek

Ali Razmi Persian Jazz Ensemble

July 2 | Sat | 3:00PM | Ticket: \$19

ANNEX

The Art of improvisation makes a bridge between different kinds of music naturally. Ali Razmi Persian Jazz ensemble is seeking different spaces with mixing elements of Jazz , folk, and traditional Persian music together.

A gifted Tar & Setar player who got his Master Degree in music from The Art University Of Tehran in 2006. Since his arrival to Canada in 2007 he is a roster member of the Vancouver Intercultural Orchestra and has done workshops and concerts with well-known musicians from all around the world.



Ali Razmi : Vocal and Tar

Ali Sajjadi : Oud

Saina Khaledi : Santoor

Bardia Sadeghi : Percussion

Kenton Loewen : drums

RazzMaJazz

July 2 | Sat | 4:40PM | Free

TD Performing Arts Stage, ᓃᓂᓄᓄ ᓂᓄᓄ ᓂᓄᓄ ᓂᓄᓄ Square (Vancouver Art Gallery North Plaza)

The RazzMaJazz ensemble is a popular and entertaining band that performs traditional jazz creole, dixieland and blues style music. The ensemble started its musical journey performing on a riverboat on the Fraser River in 1998 and has since played at many festivals, conferences, special events and dance halls. Comprised of top professional jazz musicians, the six-piece band features multiple horns and a swinging rhythm section and can be expanded to include a vocalist. This highly entertaining and energetic band can perform acoustically to lead an entourage of people, stroll around an event, or perform as a headliner act on a stage.



Chronicles of False Creek

July 2 | Sat | 6:40PM | Free

TD Performing Arts Stage, ᓃᓂᓄᓄ ᓂᓄᓄ ᓂᓄᓄ ᓂᓄᓄ Square (Vancouver Art Gallery North Plaza)

Chronicles of False Creek started performing in BC in 2015 after Scott Driscoll, lead singer, moved to Vancouver from Ontario. The band features seasoned musicians with a lifetime of performance experience. "Our focus is on making sure you have a great time singing along and dancing to your favorite songs."

The band is kept busy and in demand because we offer an eclectic mix of music from multiple kinds of music. Our genres include; Country Rock, Country, Bluegrass, Modern Folk, Celtic & Irish favorites, and Rock n' Roll. We can perform songs from the 50's right up to today's hit music. Our fans, who hire us for private events, often arrange with us to have a whole night of just one type of music. To that we say, "Our pleasure." We are excited to be a part of the community and enjoy every chance we get to make someone happy while enjoying live music.



Crossbridge Strings

July 2 | Sat | 7:30PM | Ticket: \$19

Vancouver Playhouse

Bowed string instruments from the East and the West meet in the hands of improvising musicians! The all-star band of musicians from Indonesian, Taiwanese, Iranian, avant-garde, Jazz, and western contemporary music backgrounds take the audience on an adventurous journey. Taiwanese artist Li Tung will interact and respond to the music with abstract painting, visualizing the music with bold colours.

Sutrisno Hartana – rebab & suling & kendang (Indonesian fiddle & flute & drums), vocal

Sina Ettehad – kamanche (Iranian fiddle)

Lan Tung – erhu (Chinese fiddle) & vocal

Meredith Bates – violin

Reginald Quiring – viola

James Meger – bass

in collaboration with

Li Tung - visual artist

Billy Chang – dancer

Tara C. Pandeya – dancer



Vancouver Pops Orchestra & Choir

July 3 | Sun | 12:00PM | Free

TD Performing Arts Stage, ᓃxʷᓴ ənəq Xwtl'e7énk Square (Vancouver Art Gallery North Plaza)

Founded in 2010 by Tom Kuo, artist director, Vancouver Pops has performed music of all genres over the years, including "The Phantom of the Opera", "Pirates of the Caribbean", Disney's "Aladdin", and the 2011 Grammy Award-winning "Baba Yetu", as well as the Broadway's "Fiddler on the Roof", and classical masterpieces such as "William Tell Overture", and Dvorak's "New World" symphony. This year's Taiwanese Canadian Cultural Festival invites Vancouver Pops Orchestra & Choir to perform the Disney movie series, which will bring the audience a happy musical feast.



Lara Wong Trio + Guest dancer: Lia Grainger

July 3 | Sun | 3:00 PM | Ticket starts \$12.20

ANNEX

Lara Hailing from the Spanish capital of Madrid, the **Lara Wong Trio** brings us some of the most exciting music from the flamenco scene today. This flamenco jazz trio features **Lara Wong** on flute and bansuri, **Melón Jiménez** on flamenco guitar, **Davide Sampaolo** on percussion, and **guest dancer Lia Grainger**. The dynamite encounter of these three extraordinary artists results in a treasure chest of musical gems that have their origins in flamenco and are embellished with Indian and Jazz influences. Mystical melodies on bamboo bansuri flute and exploratory improvisations on traverse flute are accompanied by dazzling flamenco guitar riffs and sophisticated rhythms on percussion.



Lara was born and raised in Vancouver but left for Spain at age 22, driven by her fascination with a rather niche genre of music, the flamenco flute. After having studied flamenco in Seville, Lara moved to Madrid and settled down there. In Madrid, she formed the Lara Wong Trio and recently released her first album, "**Rosa de los Vientos**". After a sold-out BC tour in 2021, Lara Wong is back with her trio for a more extensive tour across Canada this summer.

Lia Grainger is a Canadian flamenco dancer, choreographer, and artistic director. She has toured internationally with her ensemble Fin de Fiesta, is a member of the musical ensemble Qairo, and is the artistic director and principal dancer of Flamencolia Dance Company. Lia lived, trained, and performed in Seville and Madrid for seven years before returning to Canada, where she is based in Toronto. This September, her new full-length theatrical work, "La Forastera," will premiere in Toronto at The Factory Theatre.



Lara Wong - flute and bansuri

Melón Jiménez - flamenco guitar

Davide Sampaolo - percussion

Lia Grainger – Guest Dancer

Sons of Granville

July 3 | Sun | 2:50PM | Free

TD Performing Arts Stage, ƛxʷłənəq Xwtl'e7énk Square (Vancouver Art Gallery North Plaza)

Sons of Granville earned three podiums in Georgia Straight's annual fan voted "Best of Vancouver" listing with their signature instrumental trio of viola, guitar and cajon. Founded in 2010 by two busking virtuosos outside the Granville skytrain station, they became a staple of the city's entertainment district and vibrant music culture. In 2014 they released the Imperative Drive LP as a farewell to their busking roots, going on to perform special events in Vancouver and throughout B.C.



Brazilian Swag

July 3 | Sun | 4:20PM | Free

TD Performing Arts Stage, ƛxʷłənəq Xwtl'e7énk Square (Vancouver Art Gallery North Plaza)

Brazilian Swag is a dance group composed of girls that came together and decided to share their passion for dance with the community. Bringing their culture performing Brazilian rhythms and dances.

These girls became Zumba® Instructors but each of them also brings a historical background in the dance field and other activities like Capoeira, and you can check this mix in their performances with Abalaê Capoeira bringing the roots of Brazil with love and passion.

