

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'e7énk 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



Wu Gi Troupe

July 1 ~ 3 | Multiple Shows | Free

TD Performing Arts Stage, ᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐ ᓂᓐᓂᓐ ᓂᓐᓂᓐ 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, ᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐ ᓂᓐᓂᓐ ᓂᓐᓂᓐ 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



Zimbamoto

July 1 | Sat | 6:50PM | Free

TD Performing Arts Stage, ᓃᓂᓴᓂᓴᓂᓴ ᓂᓴᓂᓴᓂᓴ 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, ᓃᓂᓴᓂᓴᓂᓴ ᓂᓴᓂᓴᓂᓴ 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, ƛxwł ǝnǝq Xwtl'e7énk 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.



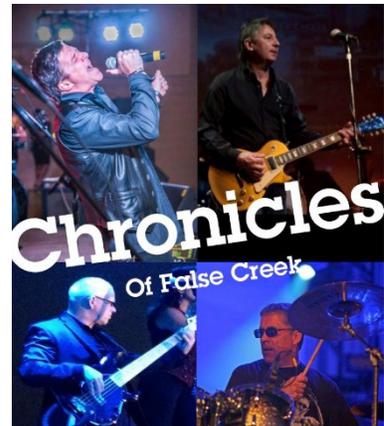
Chronicles of False Creek

July 2 | Sat | 6:40PM | Free

TD Performing Arts Stage, ƛxwł ǝnǝq Xwtl'e7énk 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.



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.

