



ArtSpring  
*Presents*

25<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY

# 2023-24 SEASON

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SEASON PARTNER

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# 2023–24 SEASON

25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
SPOTLIGHT

ArtSpring  
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## ADMINISTRATION

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## ARTSPRING STAFF

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Executive & Artistic Director  
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**Robbyn Scott**  
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**Megan Wilson**  
Front of House & Volunteer Manager

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ArtSpring supports the advancement of performing, visual, and creative arts and crafts on Salt Spring Island. Primarily, our work is to facilitate the community in its creative process and its use of this facility. *ArtSpring Presents*, just one of the things we do, is a curated series of professional artists from BC, Canada and beyond. Our other streams include facility rentals, community access, and public programming.

COVER: BALLET KELOWNA. PHOTO BY EMILY COOPER.

ArtSpring  
25<sup>TH</sup>

We are thrilled to announce the arrival of the much-anticipated 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season of ArtSpring, a milestone that celebrates a quarter-century of artistic excellence and community engagement. Over the years, ArtSpring has become a cherished cultural institution that was willed into being by a passionate and dedicated community, and this season promises to spotlight our continued commitment to enriching our community while evolving with the times.

This season is a tribute to the diversity of artistic expression. For *ArtSpring Presents*, we have curated a lineup of renowned artists from Canada and around the world, spanning a multitude of disciplines from dance to music, theatre to film. From captivating classical performances to cutting-edge contemporary works. From thought-provoking intimate experiences to popular crowd-pleasing comedic and musical acts. From refined mature programming to vibrant children's productions. From preserving traditional works to welcoming narratives from women, Indigenous peoples, and new communities and voices. Our 2023–24 programming promises to ignite the imagination, stir the soul, and spark conversation.

But this anniversary season is about more than just performances within

the walls of ArtSpring. It's a season of connection and outreach, as we expand our public programming and take the arts out into the community for the first time. To new venues, audiences, and events. We believe and hope that ArtSpring can be a townhall, a catalyst, a spark — wherever we appear and with whomever we partner.

As we reflect on the past 25 years, we are also excited to look forward. This season is about embracing the future, supporting emerging artists, and nurturing creativity in all its forms. It is a time to express our deep gratitude for the unwavering support that has made ArtSpring thrive. Most of all, it is a heartfelt celebration of our community and the very special, colourful, creative Salt Spring culture we all love. Through collaborations with local artists, special events honouring our patrons, donors, and volunteers, and a renewed commitment to diversity and inclusion, we aim to refresh, reinvigorate, and reinforce the meaning and purpose of being a true community arts centre.

We invite you to join us in our extraordinary collective 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary story.



Howard R. Jang  
Executive & Artistic Director



PHOTO BY HOWARD FRY

ArtSpring acknowledges the unceded territory and the ancestors of Salt Spring Island, the Coast Salish First Nations peoples of Salt Spring and surrounding areas, who continue to use and steward these lands. We at ArtSpring wish to pay respect to the Elders of this land, past and present.



# HOW TO PURCHASE TICKETS

All events in our 2023–24 season are sold as single shows only. We no longer offer subscription series, but there are discounts for multiple event purchases.

## Savings

Purchase 5–9 events together and receive a 10% discount.

Purchase 10+ events together and receive a 15% discount.

Discounted ticket purchases only available in person at the box office or by phone.

## Ticket Sales

**Tuesday September 5 for current members.**

Sales are in-person at the box office, or by phone only.

**Tuesday September 12 for general public sales.**

Sales are online, by phone, and in-person at the box office.

All events are subject to change. Refunds, exchanges, or credits will be offered if events are cancelled or rescheduled.

Please see our website [artspring.ca](https://artspring.ca) for full event programs, workshops, and event updates.

## Theatre Angel Program

ArtSpring makes 20 seats available at every ArtSpring Presents show for a special rate of \$15 per ticket. These will be first come, first serve and offered one week prior to the performance. There is a maximum of two tickets per buyer with no criterion to qualify.

The intent is to remove barriers to encourage and include those who may not have the means, are on a budget, or may not have had previous experience attending. Donors and sponsors who would like to contribute are graciously invited to allocate their giving specifically to the Angel Program and join us in extending the gift of art to everyone. Visit or call the Box Office for more information.



Sun Oct 1  
2:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Dance

PHOTO BY EMILY COOPER

## Ballet Kelowna *taqəš and Other Works*

We are thrilled to open the season with the *taqəš and Other Works* program featuring a stunning line-up of signature dances from Ballet Kelowna's contemporary ballet repertoire. With Cameron Fraser-Monroe's powerful and compelling *taqəš* [tawKESH], Guillaume Côté's mesmerizing *Bolero*, and Alysa Pires' vivacious audience favourite *MAMBO*, this high energy three-in-one performance promises to please a wide range of audiences. Indigenous storytelling, a breathtaking interpretation of Ravel's most famous melody, and a colourful joie de vivre set to a vibrant soundtrack of Latin, swing, and jazz standards promise to make for a magical and memorable evening.

Opening in 2003, Ballet Kelowna presents a dynamic repertoire of neo-classical and contemporary dance and is a leader in commissioning works from emerging and established Canadian choreographers.

With post-show talkback | Thank you to Joan Farlinger, Debbi & Mark Toole, and Salt Spring Coffee for sponsoring this performance. Special thanks to Dance West Network for supporting this presentation.





PHOTO BY TINE ACKE

Wed Oct 11  
7:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Music

# Michael Kaeshammer

## Turn It Up

Kaeshammer isn’t so much a piano player as a piano whisperer, a master musician, and songwriter able to coax dazzling, kaleidoscopic sounds from his instrument in a way few can rival. Joined by his ensemble of four musicians, *Turn It Up*, his 15th album, is broadly described as “eclectic yet accessible jazz-based pop.” Across a globe-trotting career highlighted by nine tours of China, three appearances at the Olympics, and shows opposite international superstars, the German-born, B.C.-based Kaeshammer has electrified audiences with his indelible repertoire and consistently positive outlook on life which infuse his lyrics.

Thank you to Kate Merry for sponsoring this performance.



PHOTO BY PINK MONKEY STUDIOS

Fri Oct 13  
7:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Theatre/Music

# Love Bomb

Premiering in Vancouver in 2015, the award-winning *Love Bomb* is described as “a rock concert within a play – and a mystery on top of that.” A concert of emotion rips through main character Justine’s first performance in years and all because of one uninvited guest, her music takes on a life of its own.

*Love Bomb* takes an intimate and emotionally brave look at sex trafficking, an issue that impacts lives in Canada and around the world. As one audience member shared, “*Love Bomb* is a wonderful example of how theatre can have a powerful and positive impact. The play is an engaging, insightful story, and the music is great. We took our teenagers to see it because the message is important for them to hear. The play can be a lifesaver for vulnerable people. I would love every student in our province to see it.”

Book by Meghan Gardiner | Directed by Reneé Iaci | Original songs by Steve Charles | Starring Linda Quibell & Amanda Testini

With post-show talkback



PHOTO BY SIMON CARTER

Sun Oct 15  
2:30pm  
\$15 | \$5  
Film

# Banff Centre Mountain Film Fest

Since 1976, the Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival, a flagship program of Banff Centre, has been an international industry leader in showcasing a selection of outstanding adventure, exploration, and mountain culture speakers, films, books, and photographs from around the world. Following the nine-day festival in Banff, its annual World Tour reaches more than 40 countries on 7 continents, making it the largest adventure film tour on the planet. For the first time, ArtSpring presents a curated experience of top films from the Festival of various lengths that most suit our community and our shared sense of the outdoors and adventure.

With post-show talkback | [Program presented in support of Salt Spring Island Search and Rescue.](#)  
[Thank you to Mouat’s Home Hardware for sponsoring this performance.](#)



PHOTO BY EMMANUEL CROMBEZ

Sun Oct 18  
7:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Music

# Oktopus

Award-winning Oktopus is a major presence on the Canadian world music scene, with over 250 performances to its credit at home and abroad. The group is primarily devoted to klezmer, distinguished by a novel approach that pulls together components of the classical and Quebecois repertoire, with some jazz and Balkan accents.

Eight virtuoso musicians offer festive, high-energy performances, both melancholic and profound, sprinkled with humour and spiced with narrative. Original compositions and finely crafted arrangements combine with improvisation. Its members’ shared passion and hard work make each of their performances truly memorable—whether on stage, in the street, on a ship, in a hot air balloon, or in your living room. Oktopus is simply rollicking and spectacular fun.

Gabriel Paquin-Buki – clarinet, composition and arrangements | Matthieu Bourget – bass trombone  
Noémie Caron-Marcotte – flute | Madeleine Doyon – tenor trombone | Guillaume Martineau – piano  
Maxime Philippe – drums and percussions | Francis Pigeon – trumpet | Veronica Ungureanu – violin

With post-show talkback | [Thank you to Paul & Alison McManus for sponsoring this performance.](#)





PHOTO BY CHRISTIAN CAMPANA

Fri Oct 20  
7:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Music

## Trio Fibonacci *The Giants of Minimalism*

Trio Fibonacci made its first appearance on the Canadian chamber music scene in 1998, with the press reporting “to hear them is to enter into the world of miracles” (Le Devoir, Montreal.) Discover a captivating body of works that goes straight to the heart of melody. The highlight of this concert is Max Richter’s masterful re-composition of the *Four Seasons* by Vivaldi, which takes us to the convergence of past and present. Works by Glass, Nyman, Amar, Eno, and Einaudi complete this spellbinding program.

Julie-Anne Derome – Violin | Gabriel Prynn – Cello | Maxim Shatakin – Piano

With post-show talkback



PHOTO BY KEVIN CLARK

Sun Oct 22  
2:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Music

## The Fugitives *Ridge*

*Ridge* is a performance that combines historical WWI stories, powerful lyrics, and music from The Fugitives’ 2022 JUNO nominated album *Trench Songs* to create a poignant and thought-provoking theatre show. In this way, the group carries on the long tradition of folk music reshaping songs over time — the same way soldiers reshaped their protest songs in the trenches. A roots and folk collective, The Fugitives have toured extensively through Canada, Western Europe, and the UK, earning a 12-year reputation for unforgettable live shows brimming with complex harmonies, infectious storytelling, and top-notch musicianship.

Brendan McLeod – Guitar, Bass, Vocals | Carly Frey – Violin, Vocals | Chris Suen – Banjo, Guitar, Vocals  
Adrian Glynn – Bass, Guitar, Harmonica, Vocals

Thank you to Victoria Olchowecki and Debbi & Mark Toole for sponsoring this performance.



PHOTO BY DAVID GOODYEAR

Wed Oct 25  
7:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Comedy Theatre

## *Middle Raged*

Get ready to have a laugh and relate to the real life scenarios in the live sketch comedy *Middle Raged*, written and performed by Geri Hall (a regular on *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*) and Gary Pearson (a writer for *Corner Gas*, *MadTV*, and *Just for Laughs*.) This smart and funny stage show explores the time of life when you realize you are running out of time. With terrific on-stage chemistry, Geri and Gary play a married couple dealing with the madness of childrearing, empty nesting, aging parents, financial stresses, and even trying *Outlander*-style role play to spice up the bedroom.

With break-out successes at Canada’s largest Fringe Festivals, *Middle Raged*, in the words of one reviewer, achieves “hot flashes of brilliance.”

Thank you to Mouat’s Clothing for sponsoring this performance.



PHOTO BY MARK NICOL

Sun Nov 5  
2:30pm  
\$20 | \$5  
Music

## Victoria Conservatory of Music *Young Artists Collegium Program*



The very best students from Victoria Conservatory of Music’s Young Artists Collegium Program come to ArtSpring for a special chamber music concert. Featuring ensembles of outstanding young talent on strings, winds, and piano, the concert will be followed by fascinating on-stage feedback to these rising stars from a great master artist.

Founded in 2006, the Collegium includes 12-18 year-olds studying piano, violin, viola, cello, voice, flute, oboe, clarinet, and guitar. The VCM Collegium program is highly successful and rate among the best in Canada. Students have won top prizes in the local, provincial, and nation music festivals, and graduates have earned placements at UVic, McGill University, Robert McDuffie School, New England Conservatory, Curtis Institute, and the Julliard School of Music.





Thu Nov 16  
7:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Inuit Music

PHOTO BY INUKSUK MACKAY

# PIQSIQ

With a style inspired by haunting northern beauty, sisters Inuksuk Mackay and Tiffany Ayalik are Inuit throat singers from Arctic Canada who blend their ancient traditional form with contemporary technology to create haunting soundscapes and improvisational compositions that change with every show.

With roots in Nunavut's Kitikmeot and Kivalliq Regions, the sisters grew up in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, where they learned and practiced katajjaq (Inuit style throat singing) – a meaningful cultural expression that almost disappeared by the 1960s due to colonization practices of the government and the church. In its revival, the sisters see their work not only as music, but as a form of political protest. Listeners are sure to be enthralled with this very rare cultural performance.

With post-show talk back | [Thank you to Mouat's Old Salty for sponsoring this performance.](#)



PHOTO BY ROLLINE LAPORTE

# Bouge de là Through My Eyes

A dancer enters the stage and discovers a ball. Intrigued, she moves toward it, carefully. As soon as she touches it, the magic of the stage is unleashed: the lights go up, the decor appears all around her, shadows play their tricks...and transform one dancer into many! Now there are four of her, to play together and discover a constantly changing environment. A graphical world made up of forms, colours, textures, sounds, and illusions. A topsy-turvy playground where dance continually shifts with the context, this performance is full of surprises and invites audiences to see the world afresh through the eyes of a child who explores and wonders. Suitable for all ages.

With post-show talkback | [Youth tickets sponsored by Country Grocer.](#)



PHOTO BY MAX TELZEROW

# Quartetto Gelato Tasty Tunes

Virtuosic showpieces and romantic ballads, blazing gypsy tunes and forgotten chestnuts, all brought to life with multi-instrument mastery — this is Quartetto Gelato, a popular and highly unusual classical quartet. With sold-out performances in New York, Washington, L.A., London, Tokyo, and Hong Kong, this dazzling ensemble has enchanted audiences and critics worldwide with its exotic blend of musical virtuosity, artistic passion, and humour.

Colin Maier — oboe, vocals, musical saw | Konstantin Popović — violin, vocals | Matti Pulkki — accordion | Kirk Starkey — cello

With post-show talk back





PHOTO BY SHAYNE GRAY

Thu Nov 30  
7:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Music

## Gryphon Trio *Echo: Memories of the World*

Created by the Gryphon Trio, in collaboration with Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists from Canada and Norway, the new multimedia presentation explores the flow of knowledge and cultural treasures through the generations. As we face the dangers of climate, conflict, and environmental degradation, the work draws on resilient stories from Canada, Norway, Australia, and Mali, combining live and pre-recorded music, spoken word, and film.

Music by Indigenous composers Andrew Balfour and Eliot Britton, and European composers Victoria, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, and Henrik Hellsteinius. Words by Alison Mackay, Renellta Arluk, and Sámi poet Rawdna Carita Eira. Video by Dylan Toombs. Performed by mezzo soprano Marion Newman, and the Gryphon Trio. With pre-recorded performances by Nordic Voices vocal ensemble from Norway and Malian kora player Diely Mori Tounkara.

With post-show talkback | [Thank you to the Reinette Foundation for sponsoring this performance.](#)



PHOTO BY ERIC RICHMOND

Fri Dec 15  
7:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Music

## Gothic Voices *Nowell Synge We Bothe Al and Som*

In what BBC Music Magazine chose as its number one unmissable Christmas event, Nowell Synge We Bothe Al and Som is a reimagined carol evening from UK-based Gothic Voices. For more than 30 years, the ensemble has been renowned for the excellence, refinement, and spirituality of their performances of medieval music. Join us for this haunting and powerfully unique choral performance that transports audiences back to the time, tone, and spirit of the Middle Ages.

Julian Podger – Tenor | Catherine King – Mezzo Soprano | Steven Harrold – Tenor | Stephen Charlesworth – Baritone



PHOTO BY K GOODWIN

Sat Jan 13  
2:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Music

## Victoria Baroque *Aisslinn Nosky plays Bach and Vivaldi*

With signature fiery energy, celebrated violinist Aisslinn Nosky leads Victoria Baroque in concerti by Bach, Vivaldi, Handel, Telemann, and a mesmerizing contemporary piece, “Falling Still” by Canadian composer, Emily Doolittle. Nosky has captivated audiences around the world with her innovative interpretations and impeccable technique as a soloist, director, and conductor. Hailed as “superb” by The New York Times and “a fearsomely powerful musician” by The Toronto Star, widespread demand for Aisslinn continues to grow.

Now in its thirteenth season, Victoria Baroque presents dynamic, personal and engaging performances of music from the Baroque and Classical periods. The ensemble brings together early music specialists from Vancouver Island and beyond for explorations of chamber, orchestral, vocal, and choral works.



PHOTO BY GARY PAYNE

Fri Jan 26  
7:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Music

## Baltimore Consort *In Angel's Wede: Music for Mary Queen of Scots*

Founded in 1980 to perform the instrumental music of Shakespeare's time, the internationally acclaimed music ensemble The Baltimore Consort has explored early music from England, Scotland, France, Italy, and Spain, focusing on the relationship between folk and art song and dance.

In 2020, they were asked if they could perform a women-themed program, to celebrate the centennial for women's right to vote in the US. Angel's Wede: Music for Mary Queen of Scots has French music in addition to Scottish, with touches of Italian for Rizzio, her murdered lutenist (and papal spy?) and an English piece by William Byrd commemorating her martyrdom, titled “In Angel's Wede.” It will be an evening of intrigue with captivating narration provided by Emmy Award-winning television and radio personality Robert Aubry Davis.





Sat Feb 3  
2:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Music

PHOTO BY KEVIN LIGHT

## Victoria Symphony

The strings of the Victoria Symphony are showcased in three works, beginning with a familiar, high-spirited piece by a 16-year-old Mozart. Shostakovich’s sparkling wit, sly humour, and love of musical parody are displayed in his energetic *Concerto for piano, trumpet, and strings*. Then step out from the darkness into the light, and have your view of Schoenberg’s music transformed. *Transfigured Night* is an early, overtly romantic piece with musical echoes of Brahms, Wagner, Mahler, and Richard Strauss.

From its first performance in The Empress Hotel in 1941, Victoria Symphony (VS) is now one of British Columbia’s largest performing arts organizations with nearly 60 main season concerts, education concerts, summer concerts, and performances in Duncan, Qualicum Beach, and Salt Spring Island. The Victoria Symphony performs repertoire from classical to pops, opera to ballet, and new music.

Christian Kluxen — music director | David Jalbert — piano | Ryan Cole — trumpet | Victoria Symphony



Sat Feb 10  
7:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Music

PHOTO BY ANGIE OH

## Joëlle Rabu & Nico Rhodes

As one reviewer said, “Joëlle Rabu is Edith Piaf, Bette Midler, and Carole Burnett all rolled into one extraordinary performer. Her passion-filled voice is spine-tingling and her stage presence electric.” Known for her ability to delve into several musical styles, Rabu’s interpretation of classic European cabaret-style tunes and jazz melodies, her rich vocal timbre and engaging stage presence, her heart wrenching torch songs and comedic moments have left audiences spellbound and on their feet for more than three decades.

Joëlle is accompanied by her son, rising arranger/composer/pianist, Nico Rhodes, a gifted musician who uses his extensive piano skills to frame the intimate power of his mother’s superb vocal interpretations. From Piaf to Minnelli, Cole Porter to Neil Young and every style in between, this rich, eclectic repertoire is the fodder that combines musicality and theatricality into an unforgettable evening.

Thank you to Kate Merry for sponsoring this performance.



Fri Feb 16  
Sat Feb 17  
7:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Music

PHOTO BY CIM MACDONALD

## The Buddy Holly Concert With Zachary Stevenson

Get ready to jump to your feet and sing along! A dynamic two-act show featuring Zachary Stevenson in a dead-ringer performance of the famed rock-and-roller with such hits as “That’ll Be the Day,” “Peggy Sue,” and “True Love Ways.” Stevenson presents Buddy Holly so perfectly we seem to be watching a genuine replica of the nerdy, hip young Texan right down to the guitar licks, trademark hiccup, and energetic dance moves. Above and beyond the music, Stevenson weaves in engaging stories about Buddy and pays tribute to Buddy’s friends --The Big Bopper, Ritchie Valens, Dion, and Eddie Cochrane – to recreate this nostalgic era.

Thank you to Mouat’s Clothing for sponsoring this performance.



PHOTO BY MANDIE GUERARD

## Ensemble Mirabilia *Luce e Ombra*

The Luce e Ombra project, “Light and Shadow,” brings together extracts from opera, a cantata, and instrumental pieces by the famous Venetian composer Antonio Vivaldi. These exceptionally beautiful works are a little in his image, all in contrasts: chiaroscuro, sadness-gaiety, exuberant despair-joy, all sprinkled with characteristic oddities which pleasantly spice up his writing. Founded by soprano Myriam Leblanc and flautist Grégoire Jeay, the Mirabilia Ensemble promotes mainly baroque music played on period instruments, but also explores music from older times or a more contemporary arrangement. Mirabilia gave itself a sufficiently broad horizon allowing it to select and perform a repertoire that reaches music lovers of all backgrounds and all ages while remaining in the great sphere of the classical.

Myriam Leblanc — soprano | Grégoire Jeay — flute | Antoine Malette-Chénier — baroque harp | Mélisande Corriveau — baroque cello

Thank you to Michael Pidgeon for sponsoring this performance.





PHOTO BY MAX TELZEROW

Feb 20–24  
7:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Theatre  
(for small groups of 25)

## Jane Miller *These Are the Songs that I Sing When I'm Sad*

An intimate, interactive, and joyous performance for singer Jane Miller and her limited series of small audiences. It explores the songs people turn to when they're sad; the songs they play to soothe their blues or lift them up out of the depths. Jane sings and tells stories about songs that play this role in her own life and invites the audience to share the songs that they sing (or play or listen to) when they're sad. Sad Songs, despite its name, includes a good deal of laughter. It is a rare opportunity to hear a superb singer up close and personal as she delves into the link between deep emotions and the musical elements that make sad songs so addictive. (Visit website for announcement of location.)

By Jane Miller and Brian Quirt | Commissioned and created by Toronto-based theatre company Nightswimming



PHOTO BY JIYANG CHEN

Thu Feb 29  
7:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Music

## Isadore Quartet

The members of the quartet are violinists Adrian Steele and Phoenix Avalon, violist Devin Moore, and cellist Joshua McClendon. The four began as an ensemble at the Juilliard School, and following a break during the global pandemic reconvened at the Kneisel Hall Chamber Music Festival in the summer of 2021 under the tutelage of Joel Krosnick. Recently, the quartet won the prestigious 2022 Banff String Quartet Competition.

The New York City-based Isidore String Quartet was formed in 2019 with a vision to revisit, rediscover, and reinvigorate the repertory. The quartet is heavily influenced by the Juilliard String Quartet and the idea of “approaching the established as if it were brand new, and the new as if it were firmly established.”

Adrian Steele and Phoenix Avalon – violins | Devin Moore -- viola | Joshua McClendon – cello

Thank you to our anonymous sponsor who wished not to be recognized by name.



PHOTO BY ALISTAIR MAITLAND

Tue Mar 5  
7:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Music

## Diyet & the Love Soldiers

An alternative country, folk, roots and traditional ensemble with catchy melodies and stories deeply rooted in Diyet's Indigenous world view and northern life. She spent her childhood on the ancestral lands of the Kluane First Nation people in Canada's Yukon Territory. Coming from a family rooted in traditions but tempered with a good sense of adventurous hippie attitudes, Diyet has created a musical presence that is as diverse as her Southern Tutchone, Tlingit, Japanese, and Scottish heritage.

Diyet sings in both English and Southern Tutchone. Backed by husband/collaborator Robert van Lieshout and Juno Award- winning producer Bob Hamilton, this trio from the Yukon has a sound story that has captivated audiences across Canada and Europe.

Diyet – vocals/bass guitar | Robert van Lieshout – acoustic guitar/drums/percussion | Bob Hamilton – electric guitar/pedal steel/mandolin

Thank you to [Victoria Olchowecki](#) for sponsoring this performance.



PHOTOS (L-R) BY PASCALE METHOT | JULIE ARTACHO | ANGELA FAMA | MICHELE MATEUS | JULIA HEMBREE  
AGNES WYWROT | MIKE THOMAS

## The Ostara Project

An estimated five percent of jazz instrumentalists are women. In February 2022, Canadian bassist Jodi Proznick (JUNO nomination 2007, 2018) and pianist Amanda Tosoff (JUNO nomination 2022) decided to challenge the almost-exclusive male narrative by bringing together seven outstanding Canadian female jazz musicians, each one a composer and bandleader in her own right. The group recorded a self-titled album: seven compositions, one contributed by each member. The playing is powerful and the message is clear: these musicians have something to say, and they are creating the space where their voices will be heard. ArtSpring is so proud to be presenting The Ostara Project on International Women's Day.

Jodi Proznick – composer/bassist | Amanda Tosoff – composer/pianist | Allison Au – composer /saxophonist  
Rachel Therrien – composer/trumpet | Virginia Macdonald – composer/clarinet | Valérie Lacombe – composer/drums | Laila Biali – vocalist.

Thank you to John Moore for sponsoring this performance.





PHOTO BY ROSS DEN OTTER WITH PINK MONKEY STUDIOS

Thu Mar 14  
7:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Youth Theatre

## Axis Theatre *Frog Belly Rat Bone*

Incorporating beautifully handcrafted puppets and an original pop/rock musical score, Cementland comes to life as two enigmatic garbage collectors tell the story of a very special boy whose singular wish is to find a TREASURE!

The boy discovers a rusty tin box packed with colourful envelopes and an old wrinkled note: “Put my wondrous riches into the earth and enjoy.” The boy tosses the contents — hundreds of specks — onto the ground. Nothing happens! But night will come and the specks must be protected from junkyard thieves. He invents a guard by “gathering wet smelly socks, moldy old pillow stuffing, and scraggly wire to bring his creation Frog Belly Rat Bone to life. What happens next?

With post-show talkback | Youth ticket program sponsored by Country Grocer.



PHOTO BY PETER YUAN

Fri Mar 22  
7:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Music

## Payadora *Tangomania*

Join us for music that excites the heart and feeds the soul! Payadora is an award-winning ensemble who performs a repertoire drawing from Argentinian/Uruguayan traditions (tangos, milongas, waltzes, and folk music such as the Zamba and chacarera,) as well as original songs inspired by that tradition. Comprised of musicians who are each musical powerhouses in their own right, this “super group” has combined their profound love of tango with their classical, jazz and world music backgrounds to create something entirely new. Payadora is officially endorsed by the Argentinian Consulate in Toronto for its adherence to the spirit of tango.

Rebekah Wolkstein, violin/vocals | Drew Jurecka, bandoneon/violin/vocals | Joseph Phillips, bass | Robert Horvath, piano | Elbio Fernandez, vocals

Thank you to Gérald Tibbits for sponsoring this performance.



PHOTO BY EMELIE BLAND

Wed Mar 27  
7:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Dance

## Shay Kuebler | Radical System Art *(MOI) Momentum of Isolation*

A strong and iconic voice from Vancouver, the dynamic Shay Kuebler returns with a poignant and virtuosic piece that delves into the pain of solitude. In today’s world, isolation—a theme that has inspired Kuebler since 2018, when he learned that the UK had appointed a Minister for Loneliness—has taken on a whole new meaning and even greater resonance. Through inventive and powerful choreographic language, Momentum of Isolation beautifully translates this universal emotion. Kuebler’s signature style—highly physical dance rooted in his background in martial arts, urban dance, and theatre—is on full display.

Thank you to Joan Farlinger and Salt Spring Coffee for sponsoring this performance.  
Special thanks to Dance West Network for supporting this presentation.

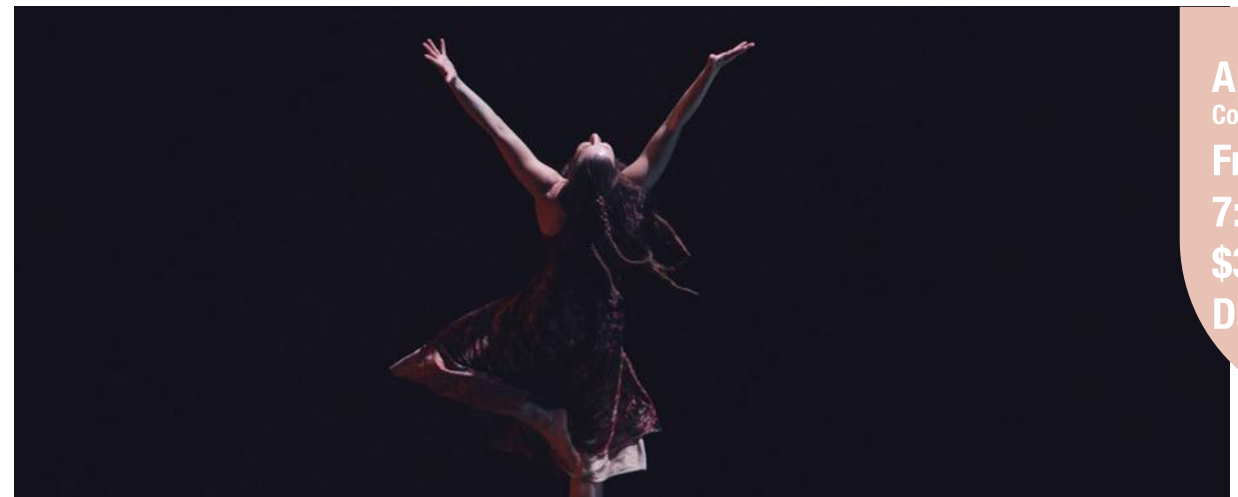


PHOTO BY TRACEY LYNN

Apr 8–13  
Community Workshops  
Fri/Sat Apr 12–13  
7:30pm  
\$35 | \$5  
Dance

## Matriarch’s Uprising

You are invited to celebrate contemporary Indigenous dance as Matriarchs Uprising takes over ArtSpring for an exciting multi-day series of events that brings together Indigenous female choreographers who are nurturing the art of contemporary dance and weaving stories of transformation. Take part in the artist-led Talking Truths circle conversation and tea social to glean deeper insight into the creative impulses guiding the choreographers. Dive into choreographic workshops for a first-hand experience of movement philosophies and creation methodologies. Witness evening performances showcasing works by Canadian Indigenous female choreographers and stay for intimate post-show artist talkbacks.

Curated by Olivia C. Davies (Anishinaabe-settler), and produced by O.Dela Arts, the festival shines a spotlight on contemporary Indigenous dance artists who are pushing the form forward into the future while presenting multiple platforms for audiences to engage, learn, and witness Indigenous ways of sharing through movement and story-telling.

Thank you to Joan Farlinger for sponsoring this performance.





**Ticket prices**  
\$25  
\$20 senior  
\$15 youth

ROMEO & JULIETTE PHOTO BY BETH BERGAMN, COURTESY OF THE METROPOLITAN OPERA

# Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD Broadcast



The Met’s award-winning series of live transmissions returns in October with an extraordinary lineup, including exciting company premieres, new productions, and classic repertory favorites. ArtSpring is proud to present six opera experiences this season, which include fascinating behind the scenes real time coverage, live interviews with the stars, and our popular intermission quiche break. A lovely way to spend a Saturday.

**DEAD MAN WALKING**  
Sat Oct 21 | 9:55am

**FLORECIA EN EL AMAZONAS**  
Sat Dec 9 | 9:55am

**NABUCCO**  
Sat Jan 6 | 9:55am

**CARMEN**  
Sat Jan 26 | 9:55am

**LA FORZA DEL DESTINO**  
Sat Mar 9 | 8:55am

**ROMEO & JULIETTE**  
Sat Mar 23 | 9:55am

# WORKSHOP THE FLAME

Weekend Workshop

Sat Jan 20 | 10am-4pm  
Sun Jan 21 | 10am-4pm  
Sun Jan 21 | Performance 7:30pm | \$10

No matter who we are, what we all have in common is we have a story to tell and need to be heard. It’s how we connect. But what makes a great story, and how can you be a better personal storyteller? Enter Deb Williams, storyteller, actor, comedienne, playwright, teacher, and co-founder and Artistic Producer of The Flame -- Vancouver’s premiere storytelling event – who brings her transformative storytelling two-day workshop to Salt Spring for the first time.

From shy beginners to the accomplished, storytellers of all ages, genders, orientations, and cultures are welcome to join a joyful, creative, and supportive space to learn the foundational rules of effective storytelling. With practice, tips, and encouraging feedback, participants will leave the workshop with several polished and meaningful stories about their life experiences. Collectively, the stories that are developed are entertaining, self-deprecating, heartfelt, unpredictable, healing, and community forming.

Make new friends, become confident in crafting and presenting your stories, and leave listening, observing, and seeing your life as a story-filled venture!

This is a TWO-DAY workshop, and participants must be able to attend both days (Jan 20 + 21, 10am – 4pm each day).

Price for both days is \$80.00 (plus GST).  
Register online or call the Box Office.  
Space is limited.

# YOUTH ARTS

## SCHOOL SHOWS

Special performances for youth are organized through schools on Salt Spring Island.

**BOUGE DE LÀ**  
*Through My Eyes*  
Mon Nov 20

**AXIS THEATRE**  
*Frog Belly Rat Bone*  
Wed Mar 13

## YOUTH TICKETS

Youth 18 and under get \$5 tickets to ArtSpring Presents performances.

Youth tickets are generously supported by Country Grocer.

## MAKANA YOUTH CHOIR

Directed by Caroni Young

**MAKANA KIDS** (grades 2-5)  
Fridays, 3pm–4pm

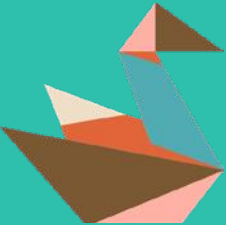
**MAKANA YOUTH** (grades 6-9)  
Fridays, 4pm–5pm

**FALL TERM**  
Fri Sep 15–Fri Nov 25  
Winter concert: Nov 25

**SPRING TERM**  
Fri Jan 27–Fri May 26  
Spring concert: Jun 1

\$167/term. Please visit [artspring.ca](http://artspring.ca) for full details.

Thank you to and Galleons Lap Photography, The Lost Chords, and Viva Chorale! for sponsoring this program.



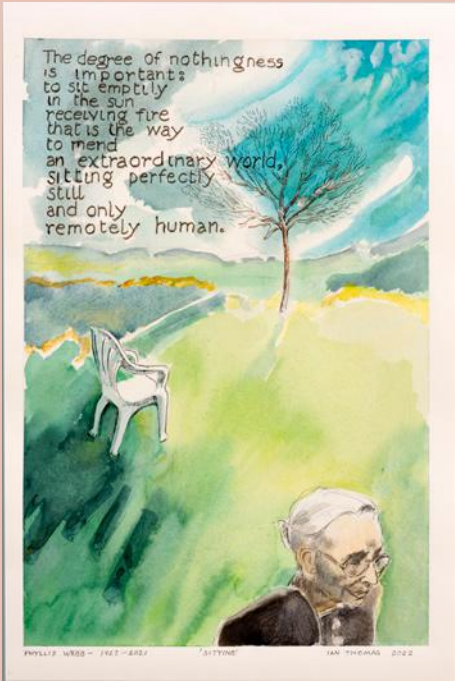


# VISUAL ART EXHIBITIONS

## IAN THOMAS: PAST AND PRESENT

Curator | Margaret Day

ArtSpring is proud to present an exhibition of the work of Ian Thomas as a celebration of his 46th year as an active member of the island’s arts community. An exhibition in two parts covers key moments from a lifetime of art-making on a grand scale together with new, more intimate work in which he returns to a lifetime’s love of poetry.



PHYLLIS WEBB (1927-2021) ‘SITTING’.  
BY IAN THOMAS. WASH AND PENCIL ON PAPER.



IAN THOMAS. PHOTO BY DAVID BORROWMAN.

Thank you to Seth Berkowitz Photography for sponsoring this exhibition.

## Lobby art at ArtSpring

ArtSpring is proud to support our island’s visual artists with monthly exhibitions in our lobby. Painting, drawing, printmaking, photography, and mixed media works are on display year-round. If you’d like to exhibit – either as an established, an emerging, or a youth artist - please contact [meghan@artspring.ca](mailto:meghan@artspring.ca)

# CREATIVE RESIDENCIES

**Out Innerspace Creation/Production Residency**  
Dance Theatre  
August 21-25, 2023

**Christina Penhale, Jekka Mack, and Debbi Toole**  
Theatre  
September 18-22, 2023

**Nayana Fielkov**  
Performance Art  
Jan 30-Feb 2, 2024

## 25th Anniversary Spotlight Season

To mark our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, ArtSpring will be unveiling a series of memorable events, creative projects, and fun activities all season long, culminating in an April community festival spotlighting our local arts, crafts, and Salt Spring’s distinctive cultural spirit! Be part of the story. Be part of the celebration. Be part of the legacy.

“ArtSpring is more than just a place.  
It’s the spark.”

- Howard Jang, Executive & Artistic Director.

Whether it is sparking creative ideas, sparking interest, or sparking conversation, ArtSpring aims to be a catalyst for expression and connection through the arts. In addition to providing an important venue for local, national, and international stage arts and gallery exhibitions, this year ArtSpring has organized more community engagements with our visiting touring artists than ever before. From participating in post show talk-backs and panels to interactive workshops and community gathering events, students and adults alike have the opportunity to enrich their knowledge and exchange their stories in meaningful ways.



SEASON CALENDAR 2023–24 | LIVE ON STAGE



Sun Oct 1	Ballet Kelowna <i>taqəš and Other Works</i>	2:30pm	\$35   \$5	Dance
Wed Oct 11	Michael Kaeshammer <i>Turn It Up</i>	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Music
Fri Oct 13	<i>Love Bomb</i>	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Theatre/Music
Sun Oct 15	Banff Centre Mountain Film Fest	2:30pm	\$15   \$5	Film
Wec Oct 18	Oktopus	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Music
Fri Oct 20	Trio Fibonacci <i>The Giants of Minimalism</i>	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Music
Sun Oct 22	The Fugitives <i>Ridge</i>	2:30pm	\$35   \$5	Music
Wed Oct 25	<i>Middle Raged</i>	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Theatre
Sun Nov 5	Victoria Conservatory of Music <i>Young Artists Collegium Program</i>	2:30pm	\$20   \$5	Music
Thu Nov 16	PIQSIQ	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Music
Tue Nov 21	Bouge de là <i>Through My Eyes</i>	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Youth Theatre
Thu Nov 23	Quartetto Gelato <i>Tasty Tunes</i>	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Music
Sat Nov 25	Makana Youth Choirs <i>Fall Concert</i>	7:30pm	\$10   \$2	Youth Music
Thu Nov 30	Gryphon Trio <i>Echo: Memories of the World</i>	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Music
Fri Dec 15	Gothic Voices <i>Nowell Synge We Bothe Al and Som</i>	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Music

Sat Jan 13	Victoria Baroque <i>Aisslinn Nosky plays Bach and Vivaldi</i>	2:30pm	\$35   \$5	Music
Fri Jan 26	Baltimore Consort <i>In Angel's Wede: Music for Mary Queen of Scots</i>	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Music
Sat Feb 3	Victoria Symphony	2:30pm	\$35   \$5	Music
Sat Feb 10	Joëlle Rabu & Nico Rhodes	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Music
Fri Feb 16 Sat Feb 17	<i>The Buddy Holly Concert</i> with Zachary Stevenson	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Music
Sun Feb 18	Ensemble Mirabilia <i>Luce e Ombra</i>	2:30pm	\$35   \$5	Music
Feb 20—24	<i>These Are the Songs that I Sing When I'm Sad</i> with Jane Miller	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Theatre
Thu Feb 29	Isadore Quartet	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Music
Tue Mar 5	Diyet & the Love Soldiers	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Music
Fri Mar 8	The Ostara Project	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Music
Thu Mar 14	Axis Theatre <i>Frog Belly Rat Bone</i>	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Youth Theatre
Fri Mar 22	Payadora <i>Tangomania</i>	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Music
Wed Mar 27	Shay Kuebler   Radical System Art <i>(MOI) Momentum of Isolation</i>	7:30pm	\$35   \$5	Dance
Apr 8—13 Apr 12—13	Matriarch's Uprising	Festival / TBD 7:30pm	Free \$35   \$5	Workshops Dance
Sat Jun 1	Makana Youth Choirs <i>Spring Concert</i>	7:30pm	\$10   \$2	Youth Music



# FUNDERS AND SPONSORS

Thank you to our season partner:

IslandSavings

WEALTH MANAGEMENT

A DIVISION OF FW WEALTH MANAGEMENT LTD.

ArtSpring acknowledges funding from:

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DANCE  
WEST  
NETWORK

connecting artists and  
communities in motion

CRD

Making a difference...together

salt spring island  
foundation

CONNECTING *your giving* WITH ISLAND NEEDS

ArtSpring is grateful to local businesses and individuals for their sponsorship of ArtSpring programs:

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Photos by: Seth Berkowitz

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Carol & Ted Brown | Joan Farlinger | Mary & Alan Hughes | Regan Hunt | Kate Merry | John Moore  
Victoria Olchowecki | Michael Pidgeon | Reinette Foundation | Mark & Debbi Toole | The Lost Chords | Viva Chorale!

## Support ArtSpring

If you would like to support ArtSpring further,  
please consider making a one-time or monthly donation.

If you would like to discuss your donation, or to make a planned gift,  
please call Howard Jang, Executive & Artistic Director, 250.537.2125.

Donate online – [artspring.ca/donate](https://artspring.ca/donate)  
Donate by phone – 250.537.2102  
Donate by mail – ArtSpring, 100 Jackson Ave, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2V8

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT.



ENSEMBLE MIRABILIA. PHOTO BY MANDIE GUERARD.





ArtSpring celebrates 25 colourful years of arts, history, and community, while also putting the spotlight on donors, volunteers, and a diverse line-up of artists and issues. Shining the light on the classics to the contemporary, drawn from many voices and points of view, ArtSpring's eclectic 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season promises to enrich, uplift, and connect the community in a way that only the arts can do. Art is the springboard that elevates us all to new heights.

**Enrich**

**Uplift**

**Enlighten**

**Exchange**

**Create**

**Connect**

**Include**

**Sustain**

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**ArtSpring**

100 Jackson Ave  
Salt Spring Island, BC  
V8K 2V8

