

## \*\* VOCALEYE COMMUNITY NEWS | MARCH 2024

---

In this issue:

- 1) Springing into March
- 2) VocalEye In-Person
- 3) Every Brilliant Thing, Arts Club Newmont Stage
- 4) un/tangling, un/covering, un/doing, Surrey Art Gallery
- 5) Made in Italy, Surrey Arts Centre
- 6) Jade Circle, Gateway Theatre
- 7) Father Tartuffe: An Indigenous Misadventure
- 8) Community Spotlight
- 9) Walkers' Caucus
- 10) Art Therapy Drop-In (The Post 750)

### \*\* 1) SPRINGING INTO MARCH

---

Not sure about you, Friends, but spring couldn't come soon enough! We have an eclectic month of March coming up with a busy schedule of live theatre events, plus our first descriptive gallery tour at Surrey Art Gallery! And what do we love more than spring in Vancouver? Live theatre of course! [World Theatre Day](#) takes place on March 27, a day to celebrate the value and importance of the art form (not to mention, the importance of

accessible theatre!). Each year an outstanding figure in theatre or a person outstanding in heart and spirit from another field is invited to share his or her reflections on theatre and international harmony. What is known as the International Message is translated into more than 50 languages, read for tens of thousands of spectators before performances in theatres throughout the world, and printed in hundreds of daily newspapers.

This year's International Message, titled 'Art is Peace' comes from Jon Fosse, a Norwegian writer/ playwright:

"Art, good art, manages in its wonderful way to combine the utterly unique with the universal. It lets us understand what is different—what is foreign, you might say—as being universal. By doing so, art breaks through the boundaries between languages, geographical regions, countries. It brings together not just everyone's individual qualities but also, in another sense, the individual characteristics of every group of people, for example of every nation." [Read it in full.](#)

Reminders:

👉 Ticket Access rebates are available for those in financial need. Please contact [donna@vocaley.ca](mailto:donna@vocaley.ca) before purchasing your tickets.

👉 Theatre Buddy sighted guides are available to assist from meet up locations close to transit. Please reserve 3 days in advance by contacting [buddies@vocaley.ca](mailto:buddies@vocaley.ca)

👉 For schedule updates, visit the [VocalEye website](#)

\*\* 2) VOCALEYE IN-PERSON

-----

\*\* 3) [EVERY BRILLIANT THING](#)

-----

**Finding joy in life's intricacies.**

**Described on Sunday, March 4 at 2 pm at the Arts Club Newmont Stage, 162 West 1 Ave, Vancouver. The Arts Club offers special ticket prices for VocalEye users: Zone A+, A or B seats \$49; Zone C seats \$29. Please call the Arts Club Box office to purchase, [604-687-1644](tel:604-687-1644), and be sure to mention VocalEye, or [purchase tickets online](#).**

What do you do when you're just seven years old and mum finds it hard to be happy? Start writing down for her every brilliant thing worth living for—ice cream, water fights, rollercoasters—and then never stop. #315 The smell of old books. #994 Hairdressers who listen to what you want. #2000 Coffee. #9996 Sex. Watch this list take on a life of its own in this unusually funny show about depression and love.

Described by Stacie Steadman.

[Accessibility at the Arts Club](#)

\*\* 4) [un/tangling, un/covering, un/doing](#)

-----

**Join us for the first descriptive tour at Surrey Art Gallery!**

**Saturday, March 9 at 1:30 pm at Surrey Art Gallery, 13750 88 Avenue, Surrey. Space is limited for this free event.**

**[Register now](#)** For assistance with registration, email [info@vocaleyecanada.ca](mailto:info@vocaleyecanada.ca) or call 604-364-5949.

Artists from across Canada offer reflections on how hair embodies the importance of culture. The descriptive tour will include selected works from this compelling exhibition.

From the moment of birth, hair takes on multi-faceted meanings. Rooted within storytelling by families and communities, the politics of hair have been both intimately personal and profoundly social. Hair carries diverse cultural narratives that are usually shared through identity and gender. Experience the first descriptive tour led by Surrey Art Gallery educators and discover the stories and art embedded in the rituals attached to hair, such as acts of resistance and sacred reverence.

Make a day of it! The Gallery is hosting a reception afterwards and visitors are invited to stay for light refreshments and conversation. **Consider making a day of it by attending VocalEye's described performance of [Made in Italy](#) after the tour!**

[Accessibility at Surrey Art Gallery](#)

\*\* 5) [MADE IN ITALY](#)

-----  
**A hilarious coming-of-age musical, by Farren Timoteo.**

**Described on Saturday, March 9 at 4 pm at Surrey Arts Centre, 13750 88 Avenue, Surrey. Ticket prices start at \$29.**

**Please call the Surrey Arts Centre office to purchase, 604-501-5566, and be sure to mention VocalEye.**

Salvatore Mantini, an Italian immigrant from Abruzzo, invites the audience to eat with him in his traditional dining room in Jasper, Alberta. As he prepares the meal, course-by-course, Salvatore's story unfolds. As does the story of Francesco Mantini, his teenage son, struggling in the 1970s to find his place in small-town Alberta. Fed up with years of bullying, Francesco leaves his father behind to reinvent himself as the crooner and ladies 'man, Frank Martin. However, even with an entirely new identity, Francesco discovers just how difficult it is to escape where he truly comes from. Weaving the electrifying music of the 1970s with classic Italian tunes, this five-time Jessie Award–nominated show is a hilarious coming-of-age story about a kid with the heart of Rocky Balboa and the moves—and hair—of John Travolta.

Described by Cas Wanden.

\*\* 6) [JADE CIRCLE](#)

-----  
**A multi-disciplinary performance that explores the power of language and identity.**

**Described on Saturday, March 16 at 7:30 pm at Studio B at the Gateway, 6500 Gilbert Road, Richmond. Gateway Theatre offers a 50% ticket discount to VocalEye patrons. Call Box Office at 604-270-1812 to purchase.**

NOTE: Studio B is an intimate theatre space and there is a choice of seating options for this performance. Please specify your seating preference (a chair or a cushion on the floor) when you book your tickets.

Through powerful music, captivating movement, and poignant storytelling in Mandarin and English, Jasmine discovers her place within the legacy of her matriarchs. Yearning to reconnect with her late grandmother, she embarks on a transformative journey to relearn Mandarin and unearths lost stories of her grandmother's past through intimate interviews with her mother. This beautiful story will inspire you to rediscover and reclaim your mother tongue.

**“Don't wait to learn and don't wait to ask. Whatever your language is, spoken or unspoken, it can bring you closer to who you are.”** – Jasmine Chen

Described by Stacie Steadman.

\*\* 7) [FATHER TARTUFFE: AN INDIGENOUS MISADVENTURE](#)

---

**A new spin on a comedy classic.**

**Described twice: Tuesday, March 19 at 7:30 pm and Friday, March 22 at 8 pm at the Arts Club Granville Island, 1585 Johnston Street, Vancouver. The Arts Club offers special ticket prices for VocalEye users: Zone A+, A or B seats \$49; Zone C seats \$29. Please call the Arts Club Box office to purchase, [604-687-1644](tel:604-687-1644), and be sure to mention VocalEye, or [purchase tickets online](#).**

After coming into some money thanks in part to his government job with Expo 67, celebrating the 100th anniversary of Canadian Confederation, Orin and his family are living well on the Rez. But when the gullible patriarch welcomes the con artist Father Tartuffe into their home, his relatives must rally together to save themselves from the imposter's conniving ways. Can they snap Orin out of his delusions and expose Tartuffe's less-than-holy intentions? This fresh take on Molière's most popular play is guaranteed to delight.

Described by Eileen Barrett with the assistance of Artist in Residence and Indigenous Cultural Consultant, Deanna Gestrin



## \*\* 8) COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

---

### IN PERSON

- [Walkers' Caucus](#) is a local citizen's group dedicated to improving walkability for all in the community. Their mission is to be the "one stop shop" for all issues concerning walking. During White Cane Week 2024, Walkers' Caucus organized a walk where a group of blind and low vision community members led their elected officials and others on a walk in the New West/ Burnaby neighbourhoods. If you are interested in volunteering to hold a similar walk in your neighbourhood with a local politician, Walkers' Caucus will set it up. To learn more about the Walkers' Caucus, email [info@walkerscaucus.ca](mailto:info@walkerscaucus.ca). To set up a walk in your area, contact Vic Leach, Pedestrian Advocacy by phone at 778 - 237-005 or email [vleach.bc@gmail.com](mailto:vleach.bc@gmail.com)
- **Art Therapy Drop-In:** Three free art therapy workshops designed for Indigenous, Black, Asian, and/or otherwise racialized folks who may also be neurodivergent, immunocompromised, disabled, queer, and/or trans, and reside in the so-called Vancouver Lower Mainland. These workshops are designed by Decipher Counselling Art Therapy Studio.  
[Register here](#)

**Workshop 1 (March 3):** let's talk about what rest means to us

**Workshop 2 (March 17):** burnout & recovery

**Workshop 3 (March 31):** ways we find joy

Feel free to register for 1, 2, or all 3 workshops. Although each workshop is connected, you're welcome to participate in any single workshop. The workshops go from 5 to 9 pm.

**Location:** The Post at 750 (East Studio) at 110 - 750 Hamilton St, Vancouver. **The Post at 750** is **wheelchair accessible** via an **elevator**. Masks are mandatory and snacks are provided.

-----  
[Buy Me a Coffee](#) is perfect for smaller donations that don't need a tax receipt. Canadian residents who would like a tax receipt can donate once, or join our small but mighty **Make it Monthly Team**, through [Canada Helps](#).

-----  
Special thanks to the generous funders, donors and supporters who help us make the arts more accessible for people who are blind and partially sighted.

Canada Council for the Arts

Province of British Columbia - Gaming

British Columbia Arts Council

City of Vancouver Cultural Services

# The Hamber Foundation

---

[Website](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[YouTube](#)

[Instagram](#)

[info@vocaleyecanada.ca](mailto:info@vocaleyecanada.ca)

We occupy the unceded lands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

=====

Copyright © 2024 VocalEye | All rights reserved.