

Nov 2
— 12
2023



STAND

FESTIVAL

A festival featuring immigrant and refugee artists



STAND Festival

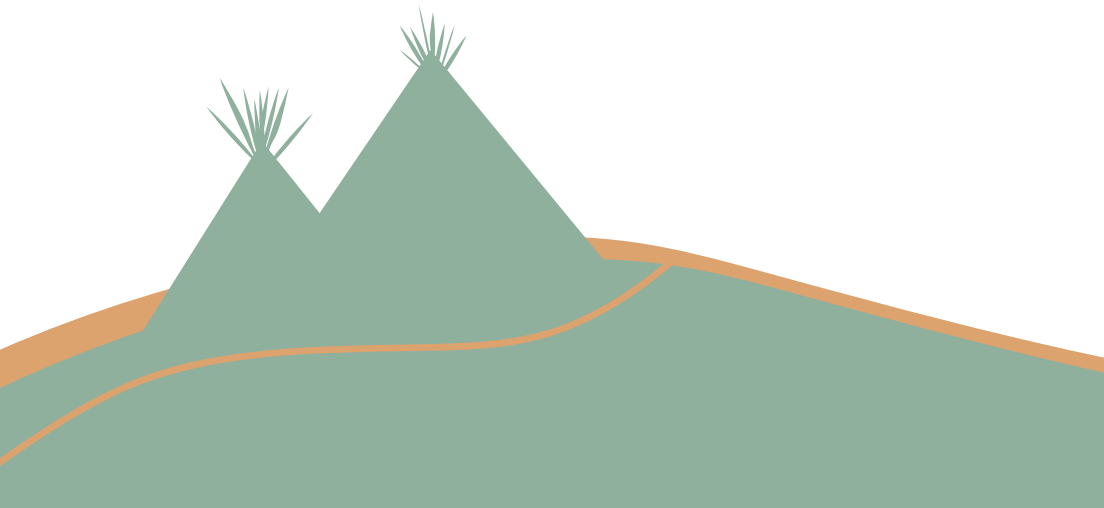


Every November, Blackout Art Society proudly presents the annual **STAND Festival** that celebrates and supports immigrant and refugee artists in Vancouver. This vibrant event showcases a rich tapestry of talents, featuring spellbinding performances in theatre, dance, and music. Beyond the stage, the festival also serves as a knowledge-sharing hub, offering workshops and events that empower artists with tools, techniques, and collaborative opportunities. Our mission is to entertain and foster a sense of community, understanding, and appreciation for the diverse cultures that enrich our world.

The Land We STAND On

In the spirit of storytelling, we pause to honor the ancient and contemporary narratives of this land. We hold the STAND Festival on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), səliłwətaʔ (Tseil-Waututh) and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nations.

Just as we celebrate the diverse voices of immigrant and refugee artists, we recognize the First Peoples who have woven this place's first and enduring tales. Their stories are a testament to resilience, creativity, and the power of community. As we come together from many corners of the world, may we always remember, respect, and learn from the stories that this land holds.



Contents

Festival Information

Words from the Festival Core	3
Voices that Validate and Value	5
STAND 2023 Festival Calendar	19
STAND Team	35
STAND Supporters	36
Get Involved	37
Join STAND 2024	38

Events

KIN (working title)	7
The Body of a Woman as a Battlefield in the Bosnian War	9
Igniting Strength, Shaping Inspiration	11
A Funny Thing Happened on My Way to Canada	13
Tracking Ayatollah's Spokesman in Canada	15
Melodies from Iran	17
Empower & Elevate	21
The Art of Movement	22
The Last Dance Ballet	23
Winds of Desire	25
She Planted, You Watered, and I Grow	27
The Emigrants	29
Intergenerational (dis)Connection	31
Strangers	32
Reborn on Stage!	33

Words from the Festival's Core

Welcome to the STAND Festival,

A vibrant celebration of cultural diversity and artistic brilliance.



We are thrilled to open our arms and hearts to you as we embark on a journey through the creative expressions of immigrant and refugee artists worldwide. In a world where borders often separate us, art can bridge divides, transcend language barriers, and unite us in shared experiences.

Through captivating performances and events, thought-provoking exhibitions, and inspiring showcases, we invite you to join us in honoring the rich tapestry of human stories

that find their home within our festival. Each brushstroke, each note, and each movement speak volumes about the strength, resilience, and beauty of individuals who have crossed continents in search of new beginnings.

As you immerse yourself in the kaleidoscope of colors, sounds, and narratives, remember that every artist here has a unique story to tell, a perspective to share, and a contribution that enriches the fabric of our society.

Thank you for being part of this remarkable journey and embracing art's transformative power to foster connection and understanding. Welcome to STAND.

Soha Sanojou

Executive producer of the STAND Festival

Amir Naeim Hosseini

Artistic Director of the STAND Festival

Message From Presentation House Theatre



We would like to congratulate Blackout Art Society on the creation of the 3rd Annual S.T.A.N.D. Festival. PH Theatre is very pleased and honored to be a founding partner of this vital cultural event, and proud to continue as a presenting partner here on the North Shore. Amir and Soha's vision for the festival is both generous and ambitious, as it expands to new venues in Greater Vancouver.



Photo by Jalen Saip

We applaud their drive to give other newly arrived artists the opportunities and exposure that they had forged for themselves here on the North Shore. We have been deeply moved by the experiences the festival has brought to our theatre in previous festivals. We know this year's offerings will be even more powerful.

We encourage you all to see as much of this festival as you can. It can change the way you think about our community and the performing arts available here!

Kim Selody
Artistic Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kim Selody'.

Andrea Loewen
Managing Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrea Loewen'.

Voices that Validate and Value

Message from the Hon. Lana Popham Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport



On behalf of Premier David Eby and the Government of British Columbia, welcome to the STAND Festival.

This festival, hosted by immigrant and refugee artists, puts topics of race, class, and gender center stage to increase understanding and inspire social change.

The B.C. government values diversity. We recognize acceptance and inclusion as critical factors of our strength as a province. And we're in strong agreement with the call from the arts and culture sector

to do more in support of equity, diversity, and inclusion. That is why events such as this one, which give space for different voices and perspectives, are proudly supported by the Province through the BC Arts Council.

Thank you to the Blackout Art Society and Presentation House Theatre for their dedication to hosting this annual festival. I applaud your determination and all the hard work involved in staging this multi-day event. All the best to the performers and other participants and I commend you on your contributions to B.C.'s art sector and for making the STAND Festival a positive agent for change and progress in the arts community.

Sincerely,

Hon. Lana Popham
Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport

A handwritten signature of Lana Popham in blue ink.

Message from Mayor Linda Buchanan



On behalf of the City of North Vancouver Council, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2023 STAND Festival. Through the festival's innovative and engaging artistic experiences, much can be learned about the diverse cultural fabric that makes up our community.

The City Council is committed to advancing the community as a vibrant, inclusive, and people-oriented place. The STAND Festival supports this vision by spotlighting the voices and perspectives of newcomers to Canada.

We can all find strength, knowledge, and resilience through art. On behalf of the Council, many congratulations and thanks to the artists for sharing their stories, to the audiences for supporting local arts and culture, and to the Blackout Art Society for organizing this event.

Mayor Linda Buchanan
City of North Vancouver

Dance



Two performers explore themes of belonging, intergenerational memory, and kinship through an introspective, emotive world in this multi-dimensional contemporary dance work.

KIN

(working title)

Contemporary Dance

A collaboration between Belle Spirale Dance Projects and Blackout Art Society, directed and envisioned by **Alexis Fletcher**, complemented by **Sylvain Senez's** dramaturgy and visual design. Collaborators and performers, **Lazaro Silva** and **Juan Duarte**, beautifully translate lineage and memory into their dance.



“I am inspired by how my collaborative process with these two gifted dancers can explore, elevate, and bring to light their personal stories, lineages, and intergenerational memories, and how these aspects can manifest in physical expression. Juan and Lazaro are both sensitive and insightful performers. I am excited to hold space for each of their voices and innate sensibilities as movers to be woven into a work that is at once introspective and universal. We aim to invite the audience into a sensory world of shared experience.”

—— Alexis Fletcher, Artistic Director

When:

Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023
7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Where:

Scotiabank Dance Centre

Ticket:

Free (By Donation)

Photo Credits:

1. Alexis Fletcher by Sylvain Senez
2. Sylvain Senez by Mitchel Slobodian
3. Lazaro Silva by Andria Ortega
4. Juan Duarte

Theatre

Within the depths of flesh and bone, a symphony of battles, seeds yet sown.

Written by **Matei Visniec**, **Sara Poursorkh** takes the lead as the director, with assistance from **Mehrdad Ramezani**, and **Paris Lajevard** as the stage manager.

Yassaman Hosseini, Arghavan Hatamkhan, Yeganeh Dorri, Parniyan Golkar, Faezeh Samani, Mahnaz Sheikhesmaeili, Bahar Salamatian, Hoda Aghaei, Negar Goli, Afsoon Gharib Mombeini, Leila Abtahi, Rana Madani, Shohre Mirzaei deliver the performance and the music is by **Amirhossein Rashidi**.

Genre: Drama

There is a bridge between us from the peaks of joy to the depths of disdain. They cross borders, transcending divides, a universal language where compassion abides. When words fall short, emotions find their cue, in wordless gazes, we reveal what is true - that is life.

Immerse yourself in this gripping exploration of women's resilience amidst the Bosnian War's turmoil. Witness the convergence of pain and strength as the show brings this powerful story to life on stage.

When:

Friday, Nov. 3, 2023
7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Where:

Presentation House Theatre

Ticket:

\$20 - \$35 (Pay what you can)

The Body of a Woman as a Battlefield in The Bosnian War



Visual Art Exhibition

Igniting Strength, Shaping Inspiration





Canvas of Resilience and Hope

A Spotlight on **Harem Jamal's** Art Exhibition.

Experience a gallery that unites stories of courage and the enduring of the human spirit. Born in Kurdistan/ Iraq, Harem takes us through a journey that defies the adversity shaped by childhood experiences of tragedy and misplacement.

Explore and acquire stunning artworks at the festival's art exhibition!

A captivating realm of a refugee artist whose creations traverse borders and encapsulate the spirit of resilience. As a child, Harem witnessed the horrors of his town's chemical attack. Growing up in a refugee camp, he turned to art as a language to express the silent suffering of children in war's wake. His work reflects global tragedies, a testament to the strength of those who endure.

Harem's art offers a glimpse of hope amidst the turmoil. He transformed his creativity into a shield against a terrifying reality. Join us in celebrating the artistic journey that resonates with individuals worldwide, fostering understanding, compassion, and unity.

When:

Friday, Nov. 3, 2023
Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023
Friday, Nov. 10, 2023
Saturday, Nov. 11, 2023
Sunday, Nov. 12, 2023
6 pm - 9 pm

Where:

Presentation House Theatre
Studio and Weaving Room

Ticket:

Free (By Donation)

With 8 solo exhibitions and over 40 co-exhibitions, Harem's art speaks volumes, resonating with diverse audiences.

An Epically Ordinary Gen-X Immigrant Tale

A Funny Thing Happened On My Way To Canada

Written and Performed by **Grace Chin**

Genre: **Dramedy**

Sometimes you do not know who you are until you find yourself. This one time, a part Peranakan, part Malaysian Chinese "cha bor" went on an unexpected journey of self-discovery – through personal, family, and cultural stories past and present, here and there, imagined and primarily accurate – when her father moved the family from Malaysia to Canada.

This show has also recently been played at the rEvolver Festival 2023.

Be prepared to embark on a poignant journey of self-discovery as Grace Chin's captivating performance explores the complexities of identity and the immigrant experience.



When:

Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023
7:30 pm - 8:40 pm

Where:

Presentation House Theatre

Ticket:

\$20 - \$35 (Pay what you can)



Live Podcast

Iran's Modern History Through Audio Documentaries

Presented by **Mahmoud Azimae**
with the assistance of **Maryam Ebrahimpour**

Join Mahmoud Azimae, host of Radio Dastneveshteha, as he shares his immigrant journey and passion for independent journalism in a special talk.

Following the talk, a live podcast recording will be performed. This podcast will provide a glimpse into the life of Sadegh Ghotbzadeh, a close aid of Ayatollah Khomeini, who was once a student in Nelson, BC.

Experience a unique, firsthand retelling of Ghotbzadeh's life journey, from being a student in Canada in the 1960s and falling in love with a Canadian journalist to serving as Iran's Foreign Minister during the tumultuous 1980s, vividly brought to life with audio clips and rare footage and interviews.

When:

Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023
7:30 pm - 9 pm

Where:

Scotiabank Dance Centre

Ticket:

\$20 - \$35 (Pay what you can)

Radio Dastneveshteha Presents:

Tracking Ayatollah's Spokesman In Canada



Music

From mystical songs of Tanbour to Persian classical melodies that embody music across different parts of Iran.

Join us for an evening of captivating Persian melodies with a two-part performance. The first half of the event features the soulful tones of Kurdish-inspired songs, with the evocative strumming of Tanbour players **Parham Pashaei**, **Tannaz Doroudian**, and **Sarah Hosseini**. Their melodies are underscored by the rhythmic beats of Daf Player **Atin Cheraghchi**.

For the second half, the classic notes of Persian music take center stage. The harmonious blend of **Hazar Ava** with a performance by **Pegah Sherkat**, **Atoosa Nezakati**, and **Banafshe Farahmand**. **Misagh Khorram** plays Kamancheh, **Soheil Mahinpour** plays Daff and Tonbak, and **Ali Mahinpour** plays Tar, further elevating this musical journey.

Hazar Ava proudly received 2 Silver Medals, the Best Female Vocalist and The Best Trio, at the Global Music Laurels Awards 2022 for their album "The Mystery of Nightingale's Warbling".

Don't miss this profound musical tradition from Iran.

When:

Sunday, Nov. 5, 2023
7:30 pm - 8:45 pm

Where:

The Annex

Ticket:

\$20 - \$35 (Pay what you can)

Persian Music Melodies From Iran



STAND 2023 Festival Calendar

*P: Presentation House Theatre - Gallery S: Scotiabank Dance Centre A: The Annex

*P: Presentation House Theatre - Studio P: Presentation House Theatre

November		THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Theatre	The Body of a Woman as a Battlefield in the Bosnian War		P 7:30 pm									
	A Funny Thing Happened on My Way to Canada			P 7:30 pm								
	She Planted, You Watered, and I Grow									P 7:30 pm		
	The Emigrants										P 7:30 pm	
Music	Melodies from Iran				A 7:30 pm							
	The Last Dance Ballet						A 7:30 pm					
	Winds of Desire							A 7:30 pm				
Dance	KIN (working title)	S 7:30 pm										
Workshop	Intergenerational (dis)Connection				P 11 am							P 4 pm
	Empower & Elevate - Grant Writing					*P 5:30 pm			*P 5:30 pm			
	The Art of Movement					A 6:30 pm						
	Reborn on Stage - Monologue Writing									*P 6 pm	*P 11 am	
	Strangers - A LARP Experience										*P 1 pm	
Live Podcast	Tracking Ayatollah's Spokesman in Canada			S 7:30 pm								
Art Exhibition	Igniting Strength, Shaping Inspiration		*P 6 pm - 9 pm							*P 6 pm - 9 pm		

P Parking

Wheelchair access

Washrooms

Baby Changing

Air Conditioning

The workshops in the Gallery of the Presentation House Theatre are **not** Wheelchair accessible.


P **Presentation House Theatre:** 333 Chesterfield Ave, North Vancouver, BC V7M 3G9


P **Scotiabank Dance Centre:** 677 Davie St, Vancouver, BC V6B 2G6

P **The Annex:** 823 Seymour St, Vancouver, BC, V6B 3L4

STAND 2023 Festival Calendar

November		THU 2	FRI 3	SAT 4
Theatre	The Body of a Woman as a Battlefield in the Bosnian War		P 7:30 pm	
	A Funny Thing Happened on My Way to Canada			P 7:30 pm
	She Planted, You Watered, and I Grow			
	The Emigrants			
Music	Melodies from Iran			A
	The Last Dance Ballet			
	Winds of Desire			
Dance	KIN (working title)	S 7:30 pm		
Workshop	Intergenerational (dis)Connection			
	Empower & Elevate - Grant Writing			
	The Art of Movement			
	Reborn on Stage - Monologue Writing			
	Strangers - A LARP Experience			
Live Podcast	Tracking Ayatollah's Spokesman in Canada			S 7:30 pm
Art Exhibition	Igniting Strength, Shaping Inspiration		* P 6 pm - 9 pm	


-  Parking
-  Wheelchair access
-  Washrooms
-  Baby Changing
-  Air Conditioning

 The workshops in the Gallery of the Presentation House Theatre are **not** Wheelchair accessible.

*P: Presentation House Theatre - Gallery S: Scotiabank Dance Centre A: The Annex

* P: Presentation House Theatre - Studio P: Presentation House Theatre

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
					P 7:30 pm		
						P 7:30 pm	
A 7:30 pm							
		A 7:30 pm					
			A 7:30 pm				
		P 11 am					P 4 pm
	*P 5:30 pm			*P 5:30 pm			
	A 6:30 pm						
					*P 6 pm	*P 11 am	
						* P 1 pm	
					*P 6 pm - 9 pm		


Presentation House Theatre: 333 Chesterfield Ave, North Vancouver, BC V7M 3G9

Scotiabank Dance Centre: 677 Davie St, Vancouver, BC V6B 2G6

The Annex: 823 Seymour St, Vancouver, BC, V6B 3L4



Workshop

Empower & Elevate

Grant Writing Workshop

When:

Monday, Nov. 6, 2023
Thursday, Nov. 9, 2023
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Where:

Presentation House Theatre - Gallery

Ticket:

\$35 (Limited Spots)

Specifically tailored for immigrant and refugee artists, this immersive experience delves deep into the intricacies of grant writing.

Led by **Amir N. Hosseini**, Blackout Art Society's Artistic Director, this workshop not only equips artists with the knowledge and tools needed to create compelling grant applications but also offers a hands-on project with a chance to win a \$150 grant award.

Join us to elevate your skills, share your story, and potentially kick-start your next artistic venture!

Workshop

Establishing a profound connection between the self and the body through the language of movement.

When:

Monday, Nov. 6, 2023
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Where:

The Annex

Ticket:

\$25 (Limited Spots)

The Art of Movement

A Dance Workshop by Navid Charkhi

In this captivating workshop, you will explore various techniques to effortlessly connect with your breath and embrace your body's natural movement.

"Emotions are energy in motion. If they are not expressed, the energy is repressed. As energy, it has to go somewhere. Emotional energy moves us as all energy does... To deny emotion is to deny the ground and vital energy of our life."

- John Bradshaw



Music

Naadaleela Ensemble presents

The Last Dance Ballet

Multicultural Music

The event credits feature a diverse and talented ensemble of artists, each contributing unique skills and cultural backgrounds to create a rich and captivating performance.

The ensemble includes **Curtis Andrews** (mridangam/kanjira/composer), **Jonathan Bernard** (percussion), **Jared Burrows** (guitar/composer), **Amir Eslami** (ney/composer) from Iran, **Dailin Hsieh** (zheng) from Taiwan, **Lan Tung** (erhu/voice/composer) from Taiwan, and **Vidyasagar Vankayala** (voice/composer) from India. Adding a visual dimension to their performances is **Fereshteh Zakery**, an Iranian dancer. Their combined talents ensure a culturally diverse and enriching performance.



The Naadaleela Ensemble blends Persian, Indian, Chinese, and North American musical traditions. They feature diverse talents and create a unique fusion that celebrates centuries of cultural exchange, offering an unforgettable musical experience.

In this performance, you will experience the premiere of "The Last Dance Ballet" by Amir Eslami, based on a story about the prohibition of dance in Iran, plus several more pieces by other composers in the ensemble.

When:

Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2023
7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Where:

The Annex

Ticket:

\$20 - \$35 (Pay what you can)



Music

When:

Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2023
7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Where:

The Annex

Ticket:

\$45 - \$55 (Pay what you can)

Through the harmonious interplay of strings, rhythm, and voice, experience Persian culture's enduring spirit and depth as it resonates with both past and present.

In collaboration with Nava Records and Blackout Art Society an unforgettable musical experience is crafted with **Raha Yousefi** as the captivating singer, **Saeid FarajPouri** showcasing his remarkable skills on the Kamancheh, **Hamed Afshari** impressing on the Ghaychak Bass and Tar, and **Sina Hosseini** adding rhythm and depth with his percussion talents.

Dive into a soul-stirring evening where timeless Persian instruments harmoniously blend with the haunting voice of a female songster. This concert promises a journey through emotions, bridging ancient rhythms with modern sentiments. Experience the profound depths of Persian musical heritage intertwined with the passionate verses of Iran's most iconic poets.

Harmonies of the Heart
A Fusion of Poetry and Rhythm

Winds of Desire



Theatre

Intergenerational trauma and How to deal with it
Have You Ever Wanted to Become "That" Girl?

She Planted, You Watered, and I Grow (Full Version)

Written, directed, and performed by **Behtab Behseta**

Videos by **Ferdos Vakilian**

Music by **Shervin Nivbagheri**

Genre: Dramedy

She Planted, You Watered, and I Grow depicts the struggles of a young woman who has migrated to Canada and has a strange relationship with her family, past, and home country. This thought-provoking drama unravels the complexities of intergenerational trauma and the resilience needed to confront and heal from it.

This performance's Pilot version (30 minutes) mesmerized audiences at the last STAND Festival. Its captivating portrayal of human struggles and self-discovery left a lasting impact on those who experienced it.

Take advantage of this extraordinary theatrical experience that will leave you moved and inspired.

When:

Friday, Nov. 10, 2023
7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Where:

Presentation House Theatre

Ticket:

\$20 - \$35 (Pay what you can)



Theatre

Two Immigrants, One New Year's Eve, Countless Dreams and Realities

The Emigrants

The play is written by **Slawomir Mrozek**, and translated by **Henry Beissel**. Directed and produced by **Cristiana Zachau**. **Akshaya Pattanayak** and **Jacob Macin** deliver spellbinding portrayals of immigrant characters. **Kate Chan** designs the immersive soundscape.

Genre: Dramedy

When:

Saturday, Nov. 11, 2023
7:30 pm - 9 pm

Where:

Presentation House Theatre

Ticket:

\$20 - \$35 (Pay what you can)



The theme of the performance is immigration and the issues migrants face, where two immigrants in a typical democratic country share a unique and interconnected bond. One dreams of literary greatness, aspiring to write an incredible book, while the other yearns to return to his homeland with hard-earned savings for a better life for his family. On a transformative New Year's Eve, they engage in a riveting battle of hopes and realities, grappling with the complexities and dilemmas many immigrants face. Witness their journey as they strive to balance their dreams with the practicalities of life.

This show has also recently been played at the Fringe Festival 2023.

Please take advantage of this thought-provoking performance that delves into the human experience of immigrants and the challenges they navigate.



Workshop



Intergenerational (dis)Connection

In immigrant and refugee communities
in Canada.



What does Intergenerational (dis) Connection look like? What does it feel and sound like? How can we move from Intergenerational (dis) Connection to Connection?

When:

Sunday, Nov. 12, 2023
4 pm - 6 pm

Where:

Presentation House Theatre

Ticket:

\$10 (Limited Spots)

Join us for an empowering performance directed by **Dr. Michelle LaFlamme**, a theatre educator and social justice advocate, with support from Assistant Director **Faedra Mirhashemy**, **Hamed Mafakheri**, as Sound designer, and **Sebnem Ozpeta**, as Visual designer.

This event is a five-day interactive workshop. The other workshop's dates are on the Festival Calendar, page 19.

To create this event, immigrant and refugee community participants engaged in an interactive workshop, creating simple stories on the theme. Using theatre techniques and symbolism, we devised a performance that highlights intergenerational (dis)connection and connection. Following the show, we will host a talkback session to encourage dialogue and gain insights into fostering intergenerational relationships within Canadian immigrant and refugee communities.

Strangers A LARP Experience

Workshop

Step into the shoes of refugees and the people they must now live among, navigating the challenges of diverse cultures on unequal ground.

Co-Produced by **Blackout Art Society** and **Joel Grinke Experience Design**. **Joel Grinke**, Creative Director and Facilitator, and **Christian Ching**, Facilitator.

This LARP was originally written for Funen Art Academy by **Nina Runa Essendrop**.

Experience “Strangers”, an immersive journey where you step into the world of refugees or their new neighbours. With no need for prior experience in performing or gaming, you'll collaboratively shape two unique societies, each with its own customs and language. Explore the challenges and emotions that arise when tragedy forces these cultures to intersect.

“Strangers”, is an emotional exploration of the refugee experience, cultural identity, and the shared humanity that connects us all.

When:

Saturday, Nov. 11, 2023
1 pm - 5 pm, Including Breaks

Where:

Presentation House Theatre Studio

Ticket:

\$10 (Limited Spots)



Workshop

Join an immersive workshop led by **Naghmeh Samini**, scriptwriter and lecturer in Dramatic Arts. You'll learn the craft of writing monologues based on real historical or cultural figures, bringing them back to life on stage.

Participants in this three-day workshop will first improve their writing skills in creative writing exercises and then go through the creative methods of writing monologue (Mono Drama) by focusing on a real character Who has historical or cultural importance. At the end of the workshop, the participants will read their writings and receive feedback.

Naghmeh has recently led a similar workshop at the University of Tokyo, Japan.



The art of giving voice
to the voiceless Characters on stage.

Reborn on Stage!

How to write a monologue based on a real character

When:

Friday, Nov. 10, 2023 6 pm - 8 pm

Saturday, Nov. 11, 2023 11 am - 5 pm

Sunday, Nov. 12, 2023 11 am - 5 pm

Where:

Presentation House Theatre - Gallery

Ticket:

\$65 (Limited Spots)



STAND Team



At the core of the STAND Festival is a team of dedicated professionals, each contributing their unique skills and passion to create a transformative experience for all attendees.

Together, this dynamic team is committed to celebrating and uplifting immigrant and refugee artists, creating a festival that resonates with audiences year after year.

Amir N. Hosseini, Artistic Director

Soha Sanajou, Executive Producer

Shideh Taleban, Marketing Manager and Public Relations

Neda Majidi, Festival Organizer

Shila Amin, Festival Stage Manager

Anahid Flores, Digital Marketing Specialist

Faedra Mirhashemi, Educational Coordinator

Yasaman Hosseini, Volunteer Coordinator

Hedyeh Vahidy, Outreach Associate

Volunteers

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to all the volunteers of the STAND festival. Their dedication and passion are essential for the event's success. Without them, our vision wouldn't come alive. We are deeply grateful for their commitment and energy. Here's to those shaping an unforgettable experience. Thank you!

STAND Supporters

We are deeply grateful to **Presentation House Theatre**, the presenting partner of the STAND Festival, for their unwavering support and collaboration.

Kim Selody | Artistic Director, **Andrea Loewen** | Managing Director, **Emily Brown** | Company and Box Office Manager, **Giselle Clarke-Trenaman** | Production Coordinator/Facilities Manager, **Arceli Ferrara** | Marketing Coordinator, **Linnea Perry** | Development Associate, **Manami Hara** | Director of Applied Arts, **Brad Trenaman** | Technical Director, **Kaeden Atkinson** | Head Technician, **Adrien Hodgson** | Associate Technical Director, **Brian Postalian** Artistic Associate for the Creative Hub

Funders

As we embark on this journey, we want to express our sincere gratitude to the founders of STAND. Their vision, dedication, and passion have been instrumental in shaping our path. We honor their legacy as we proudly display their logos and thank them for their pivotal role in the STAND festival.



Media Partners and Collaborators



Get Involved

Every year, we curate an array of cultural events, programs, workshops, and a festival illuminating multiculturalism's richness. Now, we invite you to join hands with us and be part of our mission.

We are willing to assist artists needing help paying the membership fee.

• Individual Member (Free)

Stay informed through our newsletter, receiving the latest news and opportunities for immigrant artists.

Get early access to event details and presentations.

• Artist Member (\$25/ year)

Individual member benefits

Refine your grant application skills by joining the Grant Writing Club.

Expand your network by attending various Networking Mingler Events.

Promote your profile in our Directory on our website, featuring your photo, bio, contact details, and links to your portfolio or website.

Enjoy exclusive early-bird discounts on workshops and classes.

• Artist in Space Member (\$55/year)

Artist member benefits

Submit your proposals, scripts, and more for a professional evaluation to advance your career.

Waive your submission fees when applying to the STAND Festival, Stand-Out, and Stand-Alone programs.

Receive free promotion across our social media platforms, newsletter, and website.

Gain an edge with early-bird ticket discounts for workshops and classes.

Join STAND 2024

STAND 2024 Awaits Your Unique Story

Amplify Your Voice

Are you an immigrant or refugee artist with a unique story to express through your art?

We invite you to join our **STAND 2024** initiative, where we aim to amplify diverse voices, foster cultural exchange, and celebrate unique talents like yours.

To ensure you get all the submission guidelines and important dates, subscribe to our updates at

<https://www.standfestival.com>

Let's stand together and make your voice heard!



Strength Through Art Network Diversity

Blackout Art Society presents
With support from Presentation House Theatre



GENERAL INQUIRIES
info@standfestival.com

WEBSITE
www.Standfestival.com

CONTACT/FOLLOW
🐦 [Stand_festival](#)
📷 [Stand.festival](#)



Graphic Design: Z Studio