



WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE BLOOR ST. CULTURE CORRIDOR JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2015

TORONTO, Canada (January 7, 2015): The **14 arts and culture destinations** of the **Bloor St. Culture Corridor** - Toronto's most diverse arts and culture district - offer a wide variety of events in January and February, from museum experiences to films, art exhibitions to music concerts, and opportunities to experience some of Toronto's cultural diversity, including French, Jewish, Italian, Japanese and Aboriginal arts and culture.

The Bloor St. Culture Corridor **free mobile app** provides access to **special offers exclusive to app users**, and a convenient way to easily see the richness of **cultural destinations and events on offer in the Bloor St. area** of central Toronto, within an easily-walkable 1.5kms between Bathurst and Bay, from The Annex through to Yorkville. More information about the Bloor St. Culture Corridor and upcoming events can be found at: www.bloorstculturecorridor.com. The Bloor St. Culture Corridor is on Twitter [@bloorstculture](https://twitter.com/bloorstculture) and on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/bloorstculturecorridor.

Highlights of arts and culture events on the Bloor St Culture Corridor in January and February include:

Special Events:

The public is invited to attend the **Big Drum Social at the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto** every Thursday evening at 6:30pm.

Friday Night Live Encore: on February 6, the **Royal Ontario Museum** thaws the winter freeze with a special Carnival-themed FNL, with more of the unique mix of live music, dancing, eclectic eats and drinks, gallery activities and unexpected experiences which have made FNL one of Toronto's most unique social destinations.

Film:

Movie Thursday at **Alliance Française de Toronto** features *Versailles rive gauche* on January 8; *La Haine* on January 15; *The Triplets of Belleville* on January 22; *Rosetta* on January 29; *Age of Panic* on February 5; *Under the Starry Sky* on February 12; *Tanguy* on February 19; and *Hélène Berr, une jeune fille dans Paris occupé* on February 26. A **special NFB Short Movies Selection** for kids (2 to 4 years old), will be on screen January 10.

The **Bloor Hot Docs Cinema** starts 2015 with a fantastic selection of documentary films. Highlights include *Monk with a Camera*, the story of Buddhist monk Nicholas Vreeland, grandson of legendary Vogue editor Diana Vreeland, opening January 9. Award-winning director Rory Kennedy takes a stunning look at the chaotic final days of the Vietnam War in *Last Days in Vietnam*, opening on January 16. And two new series launch in January, Composers on Screen with *In Search of Mozart*, co-presented with The Royal Conservatory, and Ballet on Screen with The Royal Ballet's production of *Manon*. The Music on Film series continues on January 27 with *Let's Get Lost*, the life story of legendary jazz artist Chet Baker, presented in partnership with The Royal Conservatory.

Jewish film events on the big screen of the **Miles Nadal Jewish Community Centre's** Al Green Theatre includes *Cupcakes* with guest speaker Jamie Levin, co-presented with Kulanu Toronto and Inside Out Toronto LGBT Film Festival on January 18; and *The Matchmaker* with guest speaker Professor Kalman Weiser, *part of* Spotlight on Israeli Culture, on February 15. Both films screen at 4pm and 7:30pm each day. Tickets: 416.924.6211 x606

Music:

Alliance Française de Toronto presents *Paris 1900* on January 9 at 8pm, where Jacques Israelievitch (violin), Benjamin Smith (piano) and Jihyun Ahn (cello) explore the music of Paris at the time of the Belle Époque; at *Europe et Opéra* on January 23 at 8pm, singers from the **COC Ensemble Studio** offer extracts from operas in four European languages; on January 16 at 8pm jazz singer **Samantha Clayton** will offer her vision of Paris and sing her fondness for the City of lights; Japanese/Canadian jazz trio **The Japan Project: Memoires et improvisations** offers a new vision of traditional Japanese music on February 20 at 8pm; and at *L'Europe au diapason* on February 27 at 8pm French virtuoso pianist **Olivier Chauzu** will perform works by Listz, Shuman, Debussy. Also part of Opera/Ballet series broadcast from the Paris National Opera House, **Celebrate Dance with the Paris Opera Ballet** featuring the Étoiles, Premiers danseurs, Corps de Ballet and pupils of the School of Dance in an important ritual, the *Défilé* that brings together 154 dancers and *Nutcracker* experts on January 30 at 1:30pm; **The Abduction from the Seraglio – Mozart**, a new production from **Zabou Breitman** with **Philippe Jordan** conducting takes place on February 21 at 1:30pm. Tickets: 416.922.2014 ext. 37.

The **Talisker Players** kick off 2015 with *Puttin' On The Ritz*, a celebration of Irving Berlin's music, from "Top Hat" to "Anything You Can Do," at Trinity St. Paul's Centre, Jeanne Lamon Hall, January 11, 3:30pm and January 13, 8pm. There will be pre-concert talks at 3pm Sunday and 7:15pm Tuesday. Tickets: 416.978.8849

The **University of Toronto Faculty of Music** presents Canadian string stars **New Orford String Quartet** on January 6, at 7pm. The Monday Evening Concerts series continues January 19, 2015 with **Susan Hoepfner** (flute), **Teng Li** (viola), **Shauna Rolston** (cello), and **Lydia Wong** (piano), perform works by George Crumb, Eduardo Angelo, and Christos Hatzis, on January 19, at 7pm; and **Russell Braun** (baritone), **Monica Whicher** (soprano), and **Carolyn Maule & Steven Philcox** (pianists) performing Wolf: *Italienisches Liederbuch* on February 9. February concerts continue with Lorand Fenyves Resident Artist, **Atar Arad**, performing a recital of original compositions for viola on February 12. All concerts take place at Walter Hall. Tickets: 416.408.0208

The Royal Conservatory of Music presents eleven different concerts, ranging from classical to blues, on the Koerner Hall stage in January and February. Swedish mezzo-soprano **Anne Sofie von Otter with pianist Angela Hewitt** on **January 9**; **Danny Marks** hosts the 18th **Maple Blues Awards** on January 19; and powerhouse duo violinist **Gidon Kremer and pianist Daniil Trifonov** perform on January 20. In February, **Pavlo** returns home to Toronto for an evening of Mediterranean guitar music on February 6; Afrobeat band **Antibalas** joins forces with **Zap Mama** on February 7; the Koerner Hall stage will become a *Pianopalooza* on February 8, a free afternoon of mini performances from classical through jazz and pop, by **Emanuel Ax, Robi Botos, Anagnoson & Kinton**, and many more. Violinist **Sarah Chang** and pianist **Julio Elizalde** make their Koerner Hall debuts on February 20; February 26 marks the return of German baritone **Christian Gerhaher**, accompanied by pianist **Gerold Huber**; and **Hugh Masekala** and **Vusi Mahlasela** come together to honour 20 years of democracy in South Africa and the official end of apartheid on February 28. Tickets: 416.408.0208

Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra & Chamber Choir presents **Beethoven Symphony no. 5 with Guest Conductor Kent Nagano** January 22 - 25 at Koerner Hall. Tickets: 416.408.0208 Then, in February, don't miss *House of Dreams* Directed by **Jeanne Lamon**, a magical journey to the meeting places of baroque art and music where exquisite works by Bach, Handel, Vivaldi, and Marais are played against a backdrop of paintings by Vermeer, Canaletto, and Watteau. *House of Dreams* takes place at Trinity-St. Paul's Centre, Jeanne Lamon Hall, February 11-15. Tickets: 416.964.6337.

The Toronto Consort will present *Splendours of the Emperor's Chapel*, a lavish concert of rarely-heard music from the Viennese court and chapel of Holy Roman Emperor Leopold I, February 6 and 7 at 8pm, Trinity-St. Paul's Centre, Jeanne Lamon Hall. Tickets: 416-964-6337

Exhibitions:

Ryoji Ikeda and Walter Jule: Threshold, an exhibition featuring the artwork of two pioneers in the field of printmaking and photography, co-presented by University of Alberta and The Japan Foundation, continues at **The Japan Foundation, Toronto**, until January 29. Admission is free.

Alliance Française de Toronto presents **Peter Sramek : Piercing Time Paris after Marville and Atget - 1865 – 2012**, in the gallery January 7 - January 31. By juxtaposing Peter Sramek's contemporary photographs to those made by Charles Marville or Eugène Atget, this exhibition tells Paris' urban change from the 19th century to now. An opening reception will take place January 7 at 7pm. Admission is free. In **Toronto versus New York**, two North American cities become the playing field of French photographer Antoine Bruneau, disciple of street photography. An opening reception will take place on February 4 at 6:30pm.

The Gallery at the J at the **Miles Nadal Jewish Community Centre** is showing the work of **Aba Bayefsky**, including pieces from his *Tattoo Series*, *Legends*, and *Kensington Market*, until January 26. An exhibition reception takes place on January 6, 7-9 pm. The Second Floor Exhibit at the Miles Nadal Jewish Community Centre is **Toronto's First Synagogues, Photographs by Robert Burley**; and the Third Floor Exhibit on view currently is **The Ontario Jewish Archives at 40: Four Decades of Collecting and Sharing our Community's History**. Admission is free.

Five exhibitions are on display at the **Bata Shoe Museum**, including **Fashion Victims: The Pleasures and Perils of Dress in the 19th Century**; **Collected in the Field: Shoemaking Traditions From Around the World**; **Beauty, Identity, Pride: Native North American Footwear**; and **All About Shoes** with **Footprints on the World Stage**, a special feature exhibition of extraordinary footwear worn in moments of triumph on the world's stage, worn by icons like Pierre Trudeau, Madonna, Roger Federer, Napoleon and Marilyn Monroe.

At the **Royal Ontario Museum (ROM)**, **Douglas Coupland: everywhere is anywhere is anything is everything** opens on January 31, wherein one of Canada's most provocative artists and cultural thinkers questions what our future holds. Through diverse media ranging from Lego to found materials, painting to installation, he explores issues which affect us all: the 21st-century condition, Canadian cultural identity, the power of language and the pervasive presence of technology in modern life. Organized and circulated by the Vancouver Art Gallery, the 6-part exhibition is presented in Toronto concurrently across two venues; the Royal Ontario Museum and the Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art. Continuing exhibitions also on view at the ROM include **Wildlife Photographer of the Year**, an internationally renowned photography competition from Natural History Museum in London celebrating nature and wildlife through 100 breathtaking photos by photographers of all ages around the world. Other exhibits include **Maps, Borders & Mobility in Africa**, **Cairo Under Wraps: Early Islamic Textiles**, **Genizot: Repositories of Memory** as well as **Toronto Underfoot** and many more fascinating thematic exhibitions!

The **Istituto Italiano di Cultura** presents **Milan, a Place to Read**, an exhibition revealing the wonders of Milan. The undisputed capital of publishing in Italy, an undiscovered Milan, made up of authors, publishers and above all readers, a city to be read and for the reader. The exhibition, presented in collaboration with Fondazione Arnaldo e Alberto Mondadori, will be on view February 5 through April 23, 2015. Opening reception: February 5, 2015, 6:30–8:30pm.

The Gardiner Museum presents the Smithsonian exhibition **Women, Art, & Social Change: The Newcomb Pottery Enterprise**, opening February 5 and running through May 18. The exhibition tells the story of how the arts and crafts movement empowered the lives of a group of women in the Deep South, and how they created one of America's premiere art pottery enterprises of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Set against a backdrop of social change and women's rights, the show features the largest, most comprehensive Newcomb Pottery collection to tour North America in nearly three decades.

Theatre/Storytelling:

Alliance Française de Toronto presents *Kabaret Karaibe* on February 6 at 8pm where Franck Sylvestre, French Canadian storyteller of Caribbean tradition, conveys his passion for arts and culture through his adventure tales; *Fear and Trembling* (English Subtitles) on February 11 at 8pm is the superb theatrical adaptation of the eponymous novel by Amelie Nothomb, 1999 Grand Prix du Roman from Académie Française. For kids, *Le Retour d'Etienne Brûlé* takes a fantastical journey from 17th century Wendake in Huronia to 21st century Toronto on January 17 at 4pm; on February 7 at 4pm, *Pirates des Caraïbes* is a journey among pirates; and on February 28 at 4pm *L'Apprenti Sorcier – Paul Dukas* features Olivier Chauzu playing and providing commentary on the masterwork adapted for film in famous Walt Disney's *Fantasia*. Tickets: 416.922.2014 ext. 37.

Culture Talks/Lectures:

The **Istituto Italiano di Cultura** presents *Greek Inspiration in Roman Naples*, a talk by writer Jordan Lancaster, on February 11 at 6:30pm. This talk will examine the Greek way of life in Naples and Pompei in order to understand the fascination it exerted in Roman times. Free admission.

ROM 100 Speaks, the **Royal Ontario Museum's** Centennial Lecture Series, continues on February 24 with *Cocktails & Helvetica* with Douglas Coupland. Join writer, designer and artist, Douglas Coupland in a studio setting and create your own slogan posters using the Helvetica font. Lounge reception adjacent to and during event.

The Miles Nadal Jewish Community Centre presents two fascinating film lecture series. The Film Studies series includes **2 Winter Pop-Up Film Lectures in Nayman's Terms** featuring Adam Nayman in discussion of movies, illustrated with film clips: on January 19 Nayman discusses David Fincher's *Zodiac*, and on January 26 the focus is on Paul Thomas Anderson's *The Master*. Registration: 416.924.6211 ext. 0. **Forbidden Desires: The Films of Alfred Hitchcock**, a 5-part lecture series with popular film critic Kevin Courrier examines how master filmmaker Hitchcock took the taboo subject of voyeurism and made it into an acceptable dramatic strategy. Includes film clips from such classics as *Shadow of a Doubt*, *Rear Window* and *Psycho*. Mondays: January 26, February 2, and February 9, 1-3pm. Drop-in: \$12+HST/lecture.

Alliance Française de Toronto presents *Les perspectives littéraires de la Grande Guerre* on January 14 at 7pm where Pierre Schoentjes revisits WWI through French and international novels written about the conflict; *Discussion avec Champlain sur l'Ontario d'aujourd'hui* on January 21 at 7pm with lecturer François Boileau, French Language Services Commissioner; and at *Akhénaton et le culte du dieu solaire Aton* on January 28 at 7pm, Egyptologist **Jean Révez** tells the story of Akhenaten's reign, a one-of-a-kind Pharaoh who revolutionized religious beliefs and art during his time.

The Bloor St. Culture Corridor arts and culture destinations include:

Alliance Française de Toronto: 24 Spadina Road www.alliance-francaise.ca

Bata Shoe Museum: 327 Bloor Street West www.batashoemuseum.ca

Bloor Hot Docs Cinema: 506 Bloor Street West www.bloorcinema.com

Gardiner Museum: 111 Queen's Park www.gardinermuseum.on.ca

Istituto Italiano di Cultura: 496 Huron Street www.iictoronto.esteri.it/IIC_Toronto

The Japan Foundation, Toronto: 131 Bloor Street West www.jftor.org

Miles Nadal Jewish Community Centre: 750 Spadina Ave. www.mnjcc.org

Native Canadian Centre of Toronto: 16 Spadina Road www.ncct.on.ca

Royal Ontario Museum (ROM): 100 Queen's Park (Entrance on Bloor Street W.) www.rom.on.ca

The Royal Conservatory of Music / Koerner Hall: 273 Bloor Street West www.performance.rcmusic.ca

Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra & Chamber Choir: 427 Bloor Street West www.tafelmusik.org

Talisker Players: 427 Bloor Street West www.taliskerplayers.ca

The Toronto Consort: 427 Bloor Street West www.torontoconsort.org

University of Toronto Faculty of Music: 80 Queen's Park www.music.utoronto.ca

Bloor St. Culture Corridor: Arts and culture organizations along Bloor St. West have come together in partnership to create the Bloor St. Culture Corridor, a uniquely Torontonians arts and culture district. The Bloor St. Culture Corridor's 14 partnering arts and culture destinations are all located in almost exactly one mile (1.6 kms), along a vibrant stretch of Bloor Street, from Bathurst to Bay, connecting three major Toronto neighbourhoods: the Annex, University of Toronto, and Bloor-Yorkville. The Bloor St. Culture Corridor offers a wide variety of arts genres, from museum experiences to films, art exhibitions to music concerts, and it offers opportunities to experience some of Toronto's cultural diversity, including French, Jewish, Italian, Japanese and Aboriginal arts and culture. Torontonians and visitors to the City can easily take public transit to get to the Bloor St. Culture Corridor - there are 5 major subway stations along the Corridor - and walk from a museum to an afternoon art talk or exhibition, shop, have lunch or dinner, and enjoy an inspiring concert or film -- all within just a few blocks along Toronto's most diverse arts and culture corridor.

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MEDIA CONTACT:

Heather Kelly

Founder/Director, Bloor St. Culture Corridor: info@bloorstculturecorridor.com

Director of Marketing, Performing Arts, The Royal Conservatory: heather.kelly@rcmusic.ca, C: 416.879.0283