



WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE BLOOR ST. CULTURE CORRIDOR MARCH-APRIL 2015

TORONTO, Canada (February 19, 2015): The **Bloor St. Culture Corridor** – Toronto's most diverse arts and culture district – offers an impressive selection of special events, music concerts, art and museum exhibitions, film screenings, theatre, and culture talks in March and April.

Everyone can download the Bloor St. Culture Corridor **free mobile app** for exclusive special offers, event listings, and convenient access to the artistic and cultural richness of the **14 arts and culture destinations** located within an easily-walkable 1.5kms on Bloor St. W., between Bathurst and Bay, from The Annex to Yorkville Village, in downtown Toronto. The Bloor St. Culture Corridor mobile app is available from the Bloor St. Culture Corridor web site at www.bloorstculturecorridor.com, via the [iTunes App Store](#), [Google Play](#), and at m.bloorstculturecorridor.com.

Highlights of arts and culture events on the Bloor St. Culture Corridor in March and April include:

Special Events:

The **Native Canadian Centre of Toronto** invites the public to attend a variety of classes and events offered in March and April. Unique opportunities include **Mixed Hand Drumming** every Monday, 6pm-7:45pm, **Beading Class** Tuesday evenings, 6pm-7:45pm, and the **Big Drum Social**, Thursdays 6:30pm- 8:45pm.

BIG Weekends at the **Royal Ontario Museum (ROM)** continue on April 11-12 themed **Earth, Sea, & Sky**. The fun's on every month with special weekends jam-packed with programs, activities, and themed fun. Come on your own, or bring the family! Activities run Saturday and Sunday.

Music:

Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra & Chamber Choir presents **Bach St. John Passion**, directed by Ivars Taurins, March 19-21 at 8pm and March 22 at 3:30pm, at Trinity-St. Paul's Centre, Jeanne Lamon Hall, featuring soprano Julia Doyle, countertenor Daniel Taylor, tenor Charles Daniels, and baritone Peter Harvey. In April, **Baroque Misbehaving**, with violinist and guest director Aisslinn Nosky, offers an orchestral romp through the work of Purcell, Telemann, Charpentier, Farina, Torelli, and a new commission by Canadian composer Michael Oesterle entitled *Snow White*, about the life of The Imitation Game scientist Alan Turing. Performances April 23-25 at 8pm and April 26 at 3:30pm, at Trinity-St. Paul's Centre, Jeanne Lamon Hall. Tickets: 416.964.6337. The **Guest Artist Masterclass Series** continues March 21 at 1pm with Peter Harvey, voice, and April 25 at 1pm with Aisslinn Nosky, violin, at Trinity-St. Paul's Centre, Jeanne Lamon Hall. Admission is free, with suggested donation.

The **Talisker Players** present a double performance of ***On a Darkling Plain***, a celebration of music, poetry, and spoken word on March 10 and 11. Soprano Ilana Zarankin, baritone Joel Allison, and reader Stewart Arnott join the Talisker Players to perform works by some of the great artists of our time, including composers Samuel Barber, Juliet Hess, Dmitri Shostakovich, and John Tavener, and poets Matthew Arnold, W.B. Yeats, Robert Browning, and Anna Akhmatova. Pre-concert talks at 7:15pm and performances at 8pm, Trinity St. Paul's Centre. Tickets: 416.978.8849

On March 27 and 28, **The Toronto Consort** presents ***Dowland in Dublin*** with La Nef and Michael Slattery, an exploration of the life and music of famed English lute master John Dowland. Artistic direction by La Nef, vocal performance by rising star tenor Michael Slattery, and a guest ensemble will charm audiences. Pre-concert lecture with guest speaker Sylvain Bergeron and artistic director La Nef at 7pm, with performances at 8pm. Tickets: 416.964.6337

A four part series will take place Monday afternoons in March at the **Miles Nadal Jewish Community Centre** with ***Opera and Shakespeare***, an interpretation of Shakespearean theatre through works by **Verdi** and other major opera composers. ***Lovers, Fairies and Magicians*** on March 2; ***The Scottish Play in Opera*** on March 9; ***Othello and Otello*** on March 23; and ***Merry Wives and Falstaff*** on March 30. Programs 1:30pm-3:30pm. To register: 416.924.6211 x0

Alliance Française de Toronto offers 5 concerts during March and April. Presentations include a classical performance by virtuoso guitarist **Thibault Cauvin** on March 10 at 8pm; Violinist Jacques Israelievitch and conductor Uri Mayer lead a classical presentation of ***The Soldier's Tale – Igor Stravinsky*** on March 22 at 3pm; and an innovative jazz concert by the **Maxime Bender Quartet**, with soprano and tenor saxophonist Maxime Bender, pianist Simon Seidl, double bassist Oliver Lutz, and drummer Silvio Morger on March 26 at 8pm. ***Sous le soleil***, a unique performance by led by Andrew Downing (cello), and featuring artists Kevin Turcotte (trumpet), William Carn (trombone), Peter Lutek (bass flute/clarinet), Joe Phillips (double bass), Aleksandar Gajic (violin), and David Occhipinti (guitar) on April 17 at 8pm, and a classical program will be performed by the **Cambini Quartet Friendship: influence and dissonances** with violinists Julien Chauvinviolin and violists Karine Crocquenoy and Pierre-Eric Nimyłowycz, and cellist Atsushi Sakaï on April 30. Tickets: 416.922.201 x37

In March and April, **The Royal Conservatory of Music** presents more than 15 performances taking place at Koerner Hall, in an array of genres including classical, jazz, and world music. Classical performances include pianist **Marc-André Hamelin** on March 1; trio **KahaneSwensenBrey** on March 8; violin and piano duo **Lisa Batiashvili & Paul Lewis** on March 27; a presentation by the **Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center** on April 8; pianist **Hélène Grimaud** on April 19; **Chilly Gonzales & Kaiser Quartett** on April 21; and **Yannick Nézet-Séguin** conducting the **Orchestre Métropolitain** and **Stéphane Tétreault** on April 24. Jazz performances by **Jon Batiste and Stay Human** on March 7, **Ryan Truesdell's Gil Evans Project** on March 28, and **Max Raabe and the Palast Orchester** on April 11 will showcase jazz's great diversity. The special **Music of the America Series** continues with performances by celebrated musician **Gil Gilberto** with **Gilberto's Samba** on April 7 and a special presentation of **Monty Alexander's Harlem-Kingston Express** April 25.

The Royal Conservatory's **Koerner Hall Family Concerts** for children ages 6 to continues on March 7 at 2pm with a performance by New Orleans ensemble **Jon Batiste and Stay Human** that explores funk, rhythm, the blues, and spirituals; and **Monty Alexander's Harlem-Kingston Express** family-friendly concert on April 25 connects the roots of reggae and jazz. On April 18, the ongoing **World Music** series features a performance by **Oliver Mtukudzi and the Black Spirits** with special guest **Kinobe**. The Conservatory presents additional performances at the Mazzoleni Concert Hall in Ihnatowycz Hall, as the **Mazzoleni Masters** series continues on March 15 with a performance by cellist **Andrés Díaz & Friends** and on April 26 with a harpsichord and violin performance by **David Louie & Véronique Mathieu**.

The **University of Toronto Faculty of Music** Early Music performances include ***Purcell: Dido and Aeneas*** on March 24, with Daniel Taylor conducting a consort of the Theatre of Early Music, and ***Come Ye Sons of Art - Purcell Odes*** on March 26, with vocalists Michael Chance and Charles Daniels accompanying the Theatre of Early Music and students of the Schola Cantorum. On March 23, the Monday Evening Concert Series at Walter Hall features a performance of ***Humour, Play and the Canadian Art Song*** by tenor Lawrence Wiliford, baritone Geoffrey Sirett, soprano Mary Lou Fallis, and pianist Steven Philcox.

Film:

Nineteenth Century Literature in Classic Film, the **Bata Shoe Museum's** ongoing film series, continues on March 26 with *Hound of the Baskervilles (1939)*, starring Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce; April 16 with *Madame Bovary (1949)*, starring Jennifer Jones and Van Heflin. Screenings at 6pm, pay what you can admission. Seats are first come, first served.

The **Toronto Jewish Film Society** 2015 Season continues at the **Miles Nadal Jewish Community Centre** with a screening of *Tinghir-Jerusalem: Echoes From the Mellah*, directed by Kamal Hachkar, with guest speaker Yigal S. Nizri. The film follows Hachkar's personal journey as he explores the history of Jewish Berbers in Morocco. Screenings on March 29, 4pm and 7:30pm, at the Al Green Theatre.

Alliance Française de Toronto's Movie Thursday series offers an entertaining selection in March and April including *The Names of Love (2010)* directed by Michel Leclerc on March 12; *Captain Conan (1996)* directed by Bertrand Tavernier on March 19; director Jean Renoir's *The Grand Illusion (1937)* on April 2; *Avis de mistral (2014)* starring Jean Reno on April 9; a special **Short Films** Movie Thursday presented by Labo, Fric and Cinéfranco including films by Franco-Ontarian directors on April 16; and *Rust and Bone (2012)* starring Marion Cotillard on April 23. Screenings at 7pm. Admission is pay what you can. *Balanchine/Millepied*, a special afternoon screening of a Paris National Opera 2014-2015 ballet will be presented on April 18 at 1:30pm, featuring *Palais de Cristal* choreographed by Georges Balanchine and performed by dancer Benjamin Millepied.

The **Bloor Hot Docs Cinema** presents a selection of celebrated documentary films in March. Highlights include *Ballet 422*, a behind the scenes look at the New York City Ballet; Official Hot Docs 2014 selection *Concerning Violence*, an archive-driven survey of the most daring moments in Africa's liberation struggle, and an exploration of the mechanisms of decolonization; Official Tribeca Film Festival 2014 selection *1971*, the story of eight ordinary citizens who formed The Citizens' Commission to investigate the FBI; and *Merchants of Doubt*, a critical examination of the American spin industry. Screenings extending into April include *Marinoni*, a study of 75 year old cyclist Giuseppe Marinoni as he attempts to set a world record. **Doc Soup**: Hot Docs' monthly screening series continues March 4-5 with *Doc Soup: The Hunting Ground*, an Official Sundance 2015 selection which exposes sexual assault on U.S. campuses, institutional cover-ups and the brutal social toll on victims and their families.

Presented by **The Royal Conservatory of Music** and **Hot Docs**, the **Music on Film** series continues on March 31, with *This Ain't No Mouse Music*, chronicling the travels of Roots music icon Chris Strachwitz, founder of Arhoolie Records, as Strachwitz searches for America's musical soul. Screening at 6:30pm, with post-screening Q&A with special guest, moderated by Mervon Mehta, The Royal Conservatory of Music's Executive Director of Performing Arts.

Exhibitions:

Douglas Coupland: everywhere is anywhere is anything is everything, is on display at the **Royal Ontario Museum (ROM)**, until April 26. Through diverse media ranging from Lego to found materials, painting to installation, Coupland examines the 21st-century condition, Canadian cultural identity, the power of language, and the pervasive presence of technology in modern life. Presented concurrently at two Toronto venues: the ROM and the **Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art (MOCCA)**, the exhibition is the first major survey of Coupland's work since 2000. Other exciting exhibitions on display at the ROM through March and April include: **Wildlife Photographer of the Year** from the Natural History Museum of London, an internationally renowned photography competition that celebrates nature and wildlife through 100 breathtaking images, until March 22; and **New Dino Discovered**, a new dinosaur has been discovered with a strange feature never seen before – and we need your help to give it a nickname! Come to the ROM to get a look, and then enter the "Name* Our Dino" contest at www.dinohuntcanada.ca (* The "Name Our Dino" contest seeks a nickname, not the species name.)

In March and April, four exhibitions are on display at The **Bata Shoe Museum**. **Fashion Victims: The Pleasures and Perils of Dress in the 19th Century** provides thought provoking insight into the concept of fashion victim; **Collected in the Field: Shoemaking Traditions From Around the World** highlights the origins of the Museum through Mrs. Sonja Bata's global travel and early artefact collection; **Beauty, Identity, Pride: Native North American Footwear** offers one of the world's most extensive collections of Native footwear; and **All About Shoes: Footwear Through the Ages**, the Museum's flagship collection, details 4,500 years of footwear history.

The **Gardiner Museum** presents the Smithsonian exhibition **Women, Art, & Social Change: The Newcomb Pottery Enterprise**, ongoing until May 18. The exhibition tells the story of a group of women in the Deep South who established Newcomb Pottery, the late 19th and early 20th century iconic arts and crafts brand. By making and selling pottery, the women of the Newcomb Pottery enterprise achieved economic independence, resulting in profound social change.

Ongoing until April 30, **The Japan Foundation, Toronto** presents a **Byobu Screen Exhibition by Alejandro Bertolo**. Introduced to the making of Japanese folding screens (*byobu*) by **Akihiro Kato**, Conservator of the Japanese Art Collection of the Freer and Sackler Galleries, Bertolo's origins in Japanese art began with the study of painting techniques at the age of 19. Screens by Bertolo are displayed in conjunction with work by **Hiroshi Yamamoto**, Bertolo's friend and former teacher. Admission is free.

The Gallery at the J at the **Miles Nadal Jewish Community Centre** displays its **10th Anniversary Exhibition** from March 12 – April 6. Opening reception on March 12th from 7-9pm. Featured artists: Aaron Vincent Elkaim, Bernice Eisenstein, David Trautrimas, Esther Simmonds-MacAdam, Harry Enchin, Harry Tiefenbach, Irit Epstein, Jason Schwartz, Judy Singer, Mark Loren Freedman, Myriam Nafte, Rafael Goldchain, Rob Croxford, Roman Elinson, Shelly Grimson, Sheree Rasmussen.

Alliance Française de Toronto, presents **The Nature of Spirit**, an exhibition featuring the work of Ontario painter **Ritchie Sinclair**, in collaboration with **Brona Wingell**, in the Galerie Pierre Léon March 4-31. The public is invited to attend the opening reception on March 4 at 6:30pm. Opening April 8, the exhibition **Cuba: 50 years of Revolution** presents the work of Toronto-based, French-Swiss photographer **Aurélien Muller**. The dynamic portraiture and street scenes of Muller's photographic project speak to the 50th anniversary of the Cuban revolution in a universal language. All are invited to attend the opening reception on April 8 at 6:30pm in the Galerie Pierre Léon.

Theatre/Storytelling:

On March 21, **The Japan Foundation, Toronto's Katari Japanese Storytellers** present ***All Aboard! On the Katari Story Time Machine***. Enjoy an afternoon of storytelling, song, and dance. Programs from 3pm-5pm. Admission is Free. English with some Japanese. Program reservations required.

The **Bloor Hot Docs Cinema** proudly presents ***Coming Home: The Moth in Toronto***, March 12, the first Canadian performance of The Moth, a renowned organization dedicated to the art and craft of storytelling. Hosted by Ophira Eisenberg, with the five performing Toronto storytellers to be announced, the special event includes a VIP reception for VIP ticketholders at 6pm, with the performance at 7:30pm.

The **Miles Nadal Jewish Community Centre** presents ***This is Not a Megillah Reading*** on March 5, 11am-12:30pm, for an interactive performance that reimagines the Scroll of Esther through improvisational games, storytelling, and a thematic exploration of the Purim story. Program recommended for adults. Admission is free.

On March 13 at 8pm, **Alliance Française de Toronto** features ***Ovid and Homer: the great myths revisited*** performed by Stéphanie Bénéteau. Program presented in the Galerie Pierre Léon. Tickets: 416.922.2014 x37. Stéphanie Bénéteau returns March 14 for ***Stories from the Middle Ages***, an installment of the entertaining children's costume party series. The program dress code is princes and princesses. The costume party begins at 4pm, and the storytelling starts at 5pm. Admission is free for children ages 6 and under. Pierre Léon and Monique Maury-Léon's drama ***La nuit la plus courte: Story about the Normandy invasion***, featuring artistic direction by Guy Mignault from Théâtre français de Toronto, explores the very first hours of D-Day, April 10 at 8pm. Tickets: 416.922.2014 x37

Culture Talks/Lectures:

The **Gardiner Museum's Women, Art, & Social Change: The Newcomb Pottery Enterprise Programming** continues with lectures ***Justice for Women & Girls with Disabilities***, by speaker Shantha Rau Barriga, Director of Disability Rights, Human Rights Watch, on March 11 and ***The Arts & Crafts of Newcomb Pottery***, by speaker Martin Eidelberg, Professor Emeritus of Art History, Rutgers University, on April 16. Lectures are 6:30pm-8pm.

The **Royal Ontario Museum (ROM)** offers **ROM Speaks**, a unique and provocative lecture series in March. Highlights include ***The Dino Hunters***, March 3; join renowned Canadian palaeontologists Drs. Phil Currie and David Evans and learn about the newest discoveries and groundbreaking research happening in our backyard. The Series continues on March 24, with ***Storytelling Without Borders***, presented in collaboration with the 2015 Toronto Storytelling Festival, for readings by internationally featured artists, and on March 27, ***Beyond Our Contemporary World***, featuring artist Douglas Coupland along with a panel of astute observers as they deliberate our cultural identity, the power of language, and the pervasive presence of technology in modern life. The ROM Daytime Series presents ***Traces of the Last 10,000 years in Toronto*** on March 26, 11am-1pm, and ***Big Blue Whale Bones: How to Get Them Home*** on April 30, 11am-1pm.

Alliance Française de Toronto presents ***Writers and artists during the Great War***, a lecture by French historian Annette Becker, for a review of the trauma caused by the first worldwide conflict on artists and their work, April 1 at 7pm. Additional talks include lecturer Christian Bode and the Société d'Histoire de Toronto's presentation of ***Brûlé-Wendats expedition***, April 15 at 7pm.

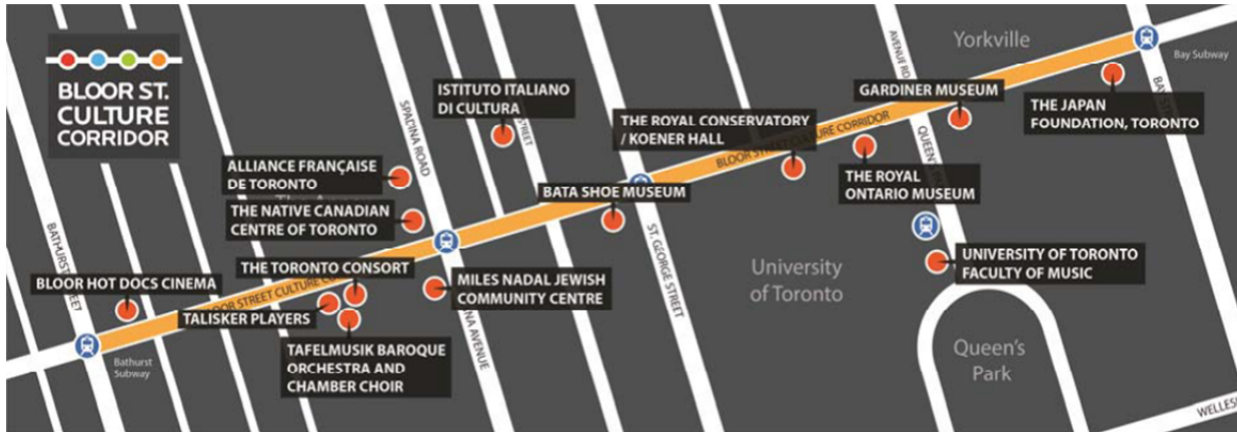
On March 2 at 2 pm, the **University of Toronto Faculty of Music** presents a free workshop with soprano Barbara Hannigan, Danish composer Hans Abrahamsen, and music critic and writer Paul Griffiths, discussing ***Let me tell you***, a new work by Abrahamsen based on Griffiths' novel by the same name. The work was commissioned and premiered by the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra with soprano Barbara Hannigan, to whom the work was dedicated. On March 3, Paul Griffiths will present a lecture ***Contemporary Music: A Plurality of Worlds?*** at 7:30pm. Admission is free.

More information about the **Bloor St. Culture Corridor**, upcoming events, and the arts district's 14 partnering arts and culture destinations, can be found at:

www.bloorstculturecorridor.com

Twitter: [@bloorstculture](https://twitter.com/bloorstculture)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/bloorstculturecorridor



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

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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