



COHORT 2021 - 2022



A creative and business development program for equity-deserving newcomer and emerging musicians

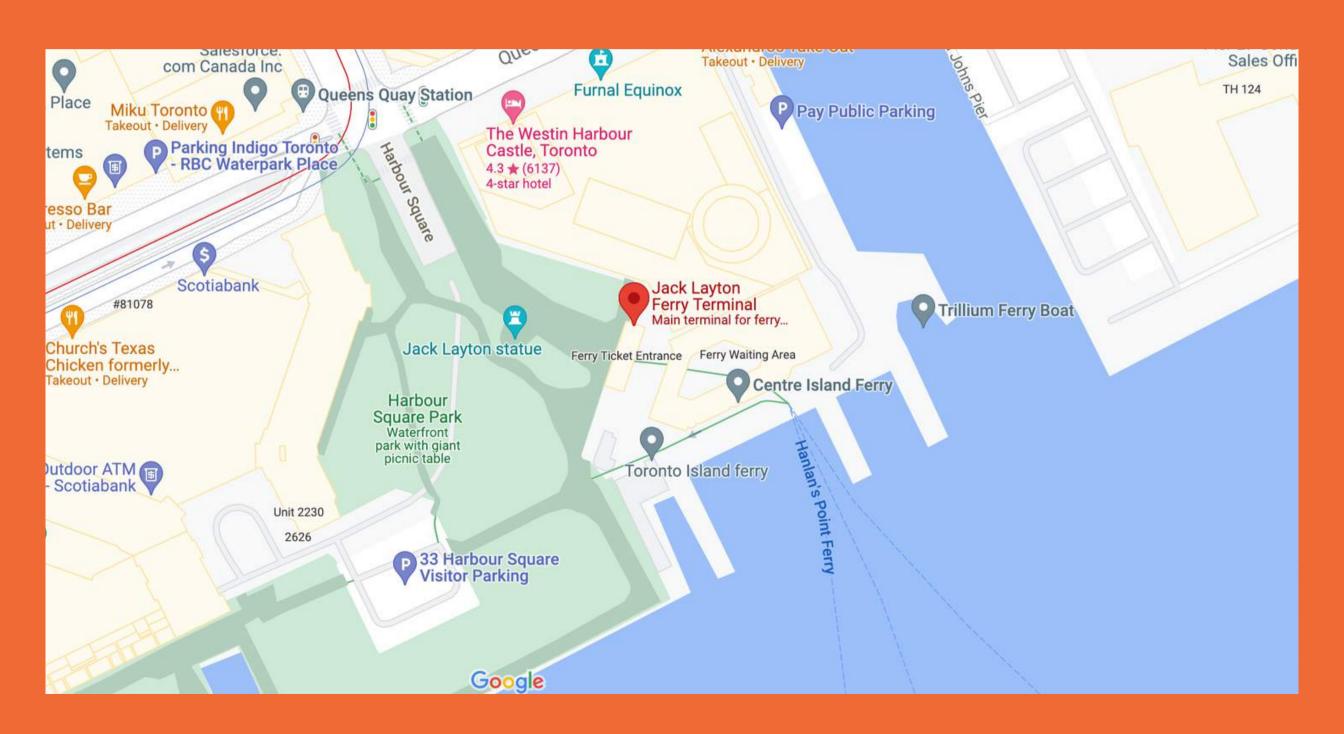


ITINERARY





ARTISTS' RETREAT: ARTSCAPE GIBRALTAR SEPTEMBER 10-13, OVERNIGHT





DAY 1 - SEPTEMBER 10



DAY 2 - SEPTEMBER 11



DAY 3 - SEPTEMBER 12



DAY 4 - SEPTEMBER 13



WHAT TO BRING?

- Your clothes and toiletries (towel and bedding are provided; warm clothes at night)
- Your instrument(s)! [Let us know ASAP if you need some additional gear/accommodations)
- Beach towel, bathing suit, sunscreen

BE PREPARED TO SHARE:

- Your background story
- Prepare 2-3 meaningful songs (each member will have a dedicated presentation time)
- Your favourite rhythms and music during ensemble and group work
- A positive attitude and collaborative mentality







emergence music incubator Workshop Series





What You Need to Get the Gig (Bio, Image, Rider) + What You Need to Afford the Gig: Funding Landscape



Jonathan Campbell,
Small World Music's Head of
Outreach & Strategic Initiatives,
leads a session on creating the
materials you need to find
performance opportunities.



Alan Davis,
Founder of Small World Music
leads a basic introduction to
granting opportunities
available locally, provincially,
and federally.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 23, 6:00PM AT SMALL WORLD CENTRE





emergence music incubator Jam Session



Alex Tibbitts - The Bionic Harpist

California-born, Montréal-based Alex Tibbitts is The Bionic Harpist. Classically trained, Tibbitts has since been dedicated to new forms of gestural and digital augmentation of the harp. Through real-time processing, she joins her instrument in a symbiotic dance, a metaphorical image made even more relevant by the fact that half of her body contains metal. Tibbitts holds a Masters in Interpretation as well as a Diploma in Orchestral Repertoire from l'Université de Montréal. She is a member of McGill University's Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Music Media and Technology (CIRMMT) (2016). Her augmented concert harp, designed in collaboration with John Sullivan, a digital luthier and music technology researcher, lends itself for enriching haptic and audio/visual exploration. Together, they have published academic articles dedicated to their shared research, such as Gestural Control of Augmented Instrumental Performance: A Case Study of the Concert Harp (2018). Tibbitts is an active musician and arts organizer in Montréal. She is a founding member of Ensemble ILÉA, an electroacoustic improvisation ensemble (2016). With her experimental techno group Porto Porto, she performed in MUTEK Japan 2020, MUTEK Mexico 2020, and MUTEK Montréal 2021. She is an organizing member of the Montréal Contemporary Music Lab (2017) and Artistic Operations Coordinator for Orchestre de l'Agora (2018).

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2021 AT 6:00PM, AT SMALL WORLD CENTRE







Music Managers Forum of Canada

A panel discussion and case study featuring Amie Therrien and speakers to show both sides of management, as well as the importance of having a team.

Amie Therrien, leads MMF Canada,

which supports managers and self-managed artists with educational programming and networking opportunities and advocacy. Prior to MMF Canada, Amie was the owner of Balsam Pier Music, managing folk, roots, and Americana artists, and was the Programming Coordinator at FAI 2019. She is also the president of the Board of Folk Music Ontario.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 20, 2021 AT 6:00PM







A workshop led by Rebecca Webster.

Learn about collecting songwriter royalties from

Canada's leading mechanical licensing agency.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2021 AT 6:00PM, AT SMALL WORLD CENTRE



Rebecca Webster,

Director of Industry Relations & Communications at the Canadian Musical Reproduction Rights Agency (CMRRA), a SoundExchange company. Known for her roster of award-winning artists, she helmed the Canadian publicity campaigns forArcade Fire's 'The Suburbs', French-Canadian rock band Karkwa, Netflix docu-series Hip Hop Evolution host Shad, Children's music entertainers Splash'N Boots as well asNick Cave & The Bad Seeds and Third Man Records' Margo Price, among others.









Relationships Are Everything: Networking for Creative Entrepreneurs

Nora Rahimian joins us virtually for a session on how to build relationships and how relationships help shift power so that independent or less mainstream artists can still compete with some of the so-called bigger players.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2021 AT 6:00PM (VIRTUAL)



Nora Rahimian,

Founder of #CultureFix,

is a creative consultant who helps entrepreneurs achieve success on their terms, without giving up creative control, financial freedom, or personal integrity. #CultureFix is a global network of artists, activists, and entrepreneurs who use their platforms for social impact, and she produces an annual hip hop festival dedicated to giving independent musicians a meaningful platform.







WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2022 AT 11AM (VIRTUAL)

Stories motivate, persuade, educate and inspire. When we tell them well, they can swell national pride, unite diverse people to a common goal and generally have magical properties to move even the most cynical among us. Stories are cathartic. They change our beliefs, attitudes and behaviours.



Franca Miraglia, Facilitator

Franca Miraglia has over 25 years of professional communication counselling experience working with a wide range of companies across consumer, technology and corporate sectors on both the agency and client sides. Franca has worked with hundreds of executives helping to hone their storytelling skills. For over 15 years, she has provided media training, storytelling, and presentation training to Olympic athletes, recording artists, television personalities and business executives.

This interactive session will provide participants with information and experience in the following areas:

- What is your personal brand story?
- Where to find good stories and how to build a "bank" of effective stories to support your personal brand
- How to make good stories great (greater)
- How to enhance a story by adding performance flair
- Telling your story with an authentic voice







WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2022 AT 3PM (VIRTUAL)

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Jen McKerral,

Program officer in Explore and

Create at the Canada Council

for the Arts.



Philippe Lafreniere,
Program Officer at Canada
Council for the Arts in the Arts
Across Canada and Arts
Abroad Programs.



Meet the Funders

- Canada Council for the Arts

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2022 AT 7PM,

(VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON AT THE SMALL WORLD CENTRE)







Meet the Funders

- FACTOR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2022 AT 7PM (IN-PERSON AT THE SMALL WORLD CENTRE)



Eryka MacLean

Assistant Manager, Client Services, FACTOR

Growing up in Scarborough has led to Eryka having a deep appreciation for culture and the impact it brings to our societies. She's passionate about music and homegrown talent. That passion drove her to FACTOR, and she's been a part of their team since the summer of 2009. She carries her love of culture and music with her in all that she does. She's invested in helping artists see success and bringing them onto a stage where they can show the world their unique art.







New-York based Mehmet Dede, Artistic Director at Drom NYC, and author of Make It Live: The Handbook for Getting Gigs hosts a one-hour session distilling his experience and insights into the live-music ecosystem, from booking and planning to pitching and performing and more. He'll share practical tips and next steps for artists looking to build careers rooted in live performance, and share, from the perspective of his many years running one of New York City's most exciting venues:

- How to get booked into clubs
- How much to get paid for gigs
- The elements that go into creating an Electronic Press Kit
- The do's and don'ts of playing venues

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2022 AT 7PM (VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM)



Mehmet Dede

Artistic Director at Drom NYC

Mehmet Dede is an internationally-recognized, award-winning music curator, festival producer, and tour promoter who PollStar Magazine called an "Ambassador of World Music". Dede has produced concerts and event series in collaboration with Lincoln Center, Central Park SummerStage, the Town Hall, the Kennedy Center and many more. Since 2010, he has served as Director of Programming at Manhattan club Drom, "New York's premiere venue for world music" (Wall St. Journal). He is the curator of the annual NY Gypsy Fest, a grassroots festival now in its 17th season, and previously worked at concert promoter Giant Step and at Universal Music Group. He also works with international artists to introduce them to American audiences and is a sought-after consultant for various cultural organizations around the world.







Music Law with Edwards Creative Law

Join Burt Gidaro and Michael Duboff from Edwards Creative Law for a look across the musical landscape from the perspective of entertainment lawyers. Subjects include how to engage with representatives, producers, and lawyers; Copyright issues; contracting with bands, presenters, labels; and more. An essential overview to prepare you for dealing with legal issues that will inevitably be a part of your development as an artist, and an opportunity to ask the questions you may not realize you had.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2022 AT 7PM (IN-PERSON AT THE SMALL WORLD CENTRE)



Burt Gidaro

Burt is a passionate entertainment lawyer with extensive music industry, film, television, OTT, and agency/marketing law experience. He began his entertainment career in the business affairs department of Breakthrough Films & Television. He was then recruited by EMI Music Canada to serve as the Head of Business Affairs. He subsequently served in the business affairs department of Universal Music (Canada) and later served as General Counsel to PolyGram Entertainment's Canadian affiliate ("Once Were Brothers, Robbie Robertson and The Band"), as well as Head of Operations for New Metric Media ("Letterkenny").



Michael Duboff

Michael Duboff is a Canadian entertainment lawyer with a professional focus on music, film and television, publishing, and corporate matters. He has worked with a variety of artists and creative businesses helping to facilitate projects, performance opportunities locally and across borders, and organizational matters. Born and raised in Winnipeg, Michael's practice spans across Manitoba where he carries on clients and representation in addition to the firm's primary residence in Ontario.



COHORT MEMBERS 2021 - 2022





Armen Matosyan

Sar Kamler is a Toronto-based Armenian musician whose sound pivots around the duduk, a double-reeded woodwind instrument native to Armenia. Enchanting, soulful and beautifully evocative, Sar believes that the sound of the duduk is deeply intertwined with the DNA of every Armenian. His music encompasses love, life and light, themes that he invites into our world through his idyllic style of music. Sar is currently working on his next musical project entitled Café Duduk - a musical journey that will feature contemporary interpretations of Armenian and popular music from around the world performed by duduk and piano in the style of acoustic lounge and chill out jazz.



Billie Rogue

Billie Rogue is the eponymous solo project by singer, songwriter, musician and producer, Billie Roa. She is known for her deep vocal range, stage presence and genre-fluid style; exploring the realms of industrial, dark electronica and metal. Rogue considers her work to be a vessel for her inspirations like Nine Inch Nails, Depeche Mode and Bjork. These influences manifested as her debut EP, Eclectric. Other musical influences include Korn, Slipknot, A Perfect Circle, Puscifer and various other metal acts.





Fethi Nadjem

Fethi Nadjem was born in 1983 in Algeria where he grew up in a family of musicians. He began playing the guitar and oud at the age of 13, and developed his skills within the Fine Arts Association in Algiers, learning Andalusian music, and playing violin and mandole. At the age of 21, he co-founded Djmawi Africa, a fusion band that still, over a dozen years later, performs around the world, and in which he began playing the kora. Soon after arriving in Toronto, he began playing with several bands and musicians, including Moskitto Bar, Moneka Arabic Jazz, Jesse Cook, Maryem Hassan Tollar, his own fusion music project, and more.



Grace Scheele

American-Canadian Grace Scheele is a contemporary harpist, composer, and improviser dually based in Kitchener and Toronto. Her music hones minimalistic textures within noise landscapes – creating a sound that is "a pliable, fluid, continuum...that's as beautiful as it is unconventional" (Canadian Music Centre). Grace interweaves electronics, structured improvisation, and sampling: reimagining the pedal harp as an electroacoustic instrument. Recently, she premiered 12 Layers at the Canadian Music Centre's 2021 Multilocation Festival and performed her film score "How Do Clowns Say I Love You" during TIFF's 2020 Next Wave Film Festival.





Hamid Mohammed

From the heart of the African continent to the world, Hamid Mohammed, better known as M.H. - a Chadian male artist based in Toronto, Canada. A fresh talent with dreams beyond reality & ambitions towards music. He is solo as an artist, a very sensitive soul, now he'd rather share his music, feelings, ambition, and his culture with the world. He does not specify himself under a particular genre but rather considers himself as an afro-futurism artist, combining the Toubou culture and the urban music.



Jan Raydán Bastidas

Jan Raydán Bastidas was born in San Tomé, Venezuela. He had what could be called a "syncretist childhood" in the eastern plains of the Mesa de Guanipa. A "sound remix" of adolescence in Barquisimeto, Caracas, and Mérida and a "multichannel youth/adulthood" between Madrid and Toronto where he is based right now. Jan has been involved in many different artistic and musical projects where he has sung, played drums, guitar, bass, cuatro, loopers...





Jerusa Leão

Jer is a Brazilian alternative rock singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist. Beginning her musical career at a young age, Jer grew up around the semi-arid cities of Bahia, the magical Brazilian state known for music and celebration. Jer is a champion who survives off her own skill and faith. Over the course of a decade she has cultivated several impressive musical projects that span different genres and across continents. Her participation in Toronto's musical scene is something continuous and wide reaching. Her sound is a mix of electronic, ska, reggae, rock, dub, and ijexá.



João Leão

Toronto based Brazilian musician and producer, João Leão has creatively participated in over 30 albums of independent Brazilian artists and toured with two times Latin Grammy Award Winner singer/songwriter Céu. His first solo album, Bilis Negra (2018), explores an atmosphere of introspection and melancholy with laid back funky-bossa grooves, electric piano mantras and a touch of psychedelia.





Kavita Mishra

Kavita Mishra is an classical-Indian singer and vocalist from Kolkata, India and is now based in Toronto since October 2020. Kavita is Indian President awardee (Gold Medalist). She sings Indian Classical vocal, Ghazal, Bhajan, Old Bollywood Songs, Folk of UP & Bihar.



Leen Hamo

Leen is a newcomer artist from Syria. Over the past four years, music provided her a safe space and strength. Singing gave her the power she needed to express her identity. Her passion for classical Arabic led her to the Canadian Arabic Orchestra, where she has been performing as a choir singer. Leen was the lead vocalist of Diar band, that presented Arabic music mixed with a flamenco touch. Her last project is Kazdoura, it presents classical Arabic music, infused with different influences such as jazz and funk. Leen was also a vocalist for different projects and collaborations around Toronto. Her latest collaboration was with established artists Sultans of String and she was featured in their latest album.



Matias Recharte

Matias Recharte was born in Lima, Peru. He built his first drum set out of cans and buckets at age 11 and later studied Afro-Peruvian music, eventually moving to Afro-Cuban folklore. He completed a Bachelor of Music at the Rotterdam Conservatorium. In 2013 he arrived in Toronto where he completed an MA in ethnomusicology and is currently pursuing a Phd in Music Education. As a performer he is a touring member of Jesse Cook's band and member and educational programming director for Kune, a Toronto-based global music ensemble.



Pankaj Mishra

Pankaj Mishra is a Saranagi player from Kolkata, India and is now based in Toronto since October 2020. He created a distinct style of playing & has performed both as a solo artist and accompanist at several prestigious events in India, including the Dover Lane Music Conference, ITC Festival, Indo Occidental Symbiosis, Swar Samrat Festival, The Salt Lake Music Festival, and more. He has toured extensively in all over US, Canada, Japan, Europe, including Spain, Germany, Netherland, Austria, and more.





Patrick O'Reilly

Patrick O'Reilly is a composer, guitarist, and sonic explorer. A community-driven fixture in the Toronto creative music scene, Patrick's open-minded approach embraces both beauty and brashness; he is Co-curator of the Furniture Music and Ornate Presents concert/workshop series and operates the W/DRWN record label. His most recent release is For Laika the debut album by Cosmic Homeostasis, an eighteen-piece electro-acoustic drone ensemble. The album features Patrick's thirty minute extended composition from which the album takes its name alongside group Improvisation.



Paula Sofía

Paula Sofía is a singer-songwriter from Guatemala, who came to Canada to pursue her artistic career. She is grateful to have studied Performing Arts as well as Arts Administration at Randolph College and Humber College. During her time here, she had the opportunity to produce her debut album along with Alysha Brilla, a Kitchener-based singer-songwriter and producer. "Quinto de Hora", an album with 12 one-minute songs marked her first steps in the music industry. Currently residing in the GTA, Paula Sofía hopes she can successfully represent her country in the artistic field.



Roa Lee

Roa (HyunYoung) Lee is a Gayageum musician from Korea, and she has studied music both of Asian traditions and Western. She has appeared as soloist with Daegu Municipal Korean Music Orchestra and Daejeon Municipal Korean Music Orchestra. A passionate explorer of fusion music and new music, she has collaborated with Emerging Young Artists, the Aga Khan Museum, Harbourfront Centre, and Korean Traditional Music Association of Canada, among other organizations. Not being limited within a certain genre, she has been trying various style of music.



Selcuk Suna

Born in Istanbul, and now based in Toronto, Selcuk comes from a family of musicians. By the time Selcuk was 18, he was performing on numerous television programs, and with countless Turkish pop, jazz stars. He has also played on stage with internationally known artists such as Shakira. While in Turkey, Selcuk also performed weekly on the popular late-night show, Beyaz Show, for 13 years. He recorded his last album, "Turkish Standards / Non-standard", with both Canadian and Turkish musicians. His upcoming concert, with Joey Alexander, nominated for a Grammy Award in a jazz category, is scheduled for 2022 at Koerner Hall.





Shalini Agarwal

SHA is a film sound mixer, singer-songwriter, and producer who loves making dance-pop in her home-studio. She recently moved to Canada from Mumbai, India and currently resides in Toronto. Her sound has influences of house & 80s disco with groovy rhythms, funky basslines, hooky lyrics and melodies with lush vocal harmonies. She also plays the guitar and writes acoustic songs with folk, blues and rock influences. SHA is shy & awkward but hopes to connect with people through her music which she plans to release next year.