

Buddies in Bad Times Theatre presents
QUEER PRIDE 2016
FESTIVAL SPONSOR TD BANK GROUP

JUNE 12 – JULY 3 | BUDDIESINBADTIMES.COM/PRIDE

Buddies in Bad Times Theatre is pleased to announce the line-up for **Queer Pride 2016** – a festival of queer theatre, comedy, art, music, and parties that showcases our community's unstoppable spirit. For four weeks, Buddies hosts a stellar line-up of Toronto's most exciting queer entertainers, while Buddies After Hours offers up some of the most outrageous clubbing in the Village.

FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Buddies and Pride Toronto celebrate the launch of the new theatre project *Black Boys* with **A Night of Spiritual Pride**
- New theatrical works from local Queer artists **Ray Helkio & David Bateman, Franny McCabe-Bennett, David DiGiovani & Amanda Cordner, Shaunga Tagore** and **Margo MacDonald**
- The gravity-defying **Flying Solo** returns after last summer's sold out show with an evening in this dirty circus of art, dance and aerial acrobatics in *Rough*.
- The best queer comedy in town, with perennial favourites **Bitch Salad** and **Homo Night in Canada** showcasing the talents of **Guy Branum, Jackie Pirico, Paul Hutcheson, Richard Ryder, Martha Chaves** & more. Plus, an all-girl comedy revue from **Dawn Whitwell** and a new show from **Elvira Kurt**.
- Musical offerings from the **Queer Songbook Orchestra** and **Girls Rock Camp TO**, plus a special showcase of Indigenous, Black, and People of Colour DJs, musicians, and performers at **Helix**.
- Late night fun including the city's runway sensations **House of Nuance**, a special pride edition of **Butch Femme Salon**, and our full facility **Buddies After Hours** events.

MEDIA INFO

INTERVIEWS – Listed artists are available for interviews in English. Contact Aidan Morishita-Miki at 416-975-9130 x35 or aidan@buddiesinbadtimes.com to arrange.

MEDIA PASSES – Members of the media are invited to all events at Queer Pride 2016. Contact Aidan Morishita-Miki at 416-975-9130 x35 or aidan@buddiesinbadtimes.com for accreditation.

ON-LINE RESOURCE – The Buddies website includes a Media Centre that will house press releases, images, b-roll, artist bios and other pertinent information for easy download.

www.buddiesinbadtimes.com/media

QUEER PRIDE 2016 PROGRAMMING

PLEASE ADD TO YOUR LISTINGS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

VINYL SUNDAYS – A BODY POLITIC TEA DANCE

June 12 at 4:00pm | The Cabaret | FREE

Our pride festivities kick off with a special *Body Politic* edition of our Vinyl Sunday Tea Dance. DJ CRSR spins classic disco, dance and R&B from the era of Canada's first gay newspaper. This edition of Vinyl Sundays also marks the final performance of Nick Green's play *Body Politic* and the end of our 2015-16 season – come early to catch the 2:30 performance and stick around all afternoon for the party.

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF MISS CONCEPTION

June 17 at 7:30pm | The Cabaret | Tickets \$25

Back by popular demand for one night only! Miss Conception brings your favourite cartoon and storybook characters to life in this hilarious, irreverent musical show, complete with ten full costume changes.

BIZARRE BALL 4: SHIPWRECK!

June 17 at 10:30pm | The Chamber | Tickets \$10

Washed ashore with barely an effect between them **Mother Trouble Nuance**, **Jazmyn Monroe**, and **Neutron Ebony** realized that the other survivors needed something to lift their spirits while they waited for rescue. These effervescent adventurers knew just what to do. The runway is ready, the rescue is coming, let's live for the moment! For its 4th instalment, The Bizarre Ball is serving yacht club disaster couture. Come slay the runway, or simply experience the wildest night this city has to offer.

GENDERPLAY: A SPECIAL PRESENTAION OF WE ARE HANGING OUT RIGHT NOW

June 18 at 2:00pm | The Cabaret | Tickets PWYC

A new performance work from **Aisha Sasha John & Julia Thomas** that combines dance, music, spoken word, and performance to create a system to interact with the person with whom you have great synergy in order to best demonstrate that connection.

BLACK BOYS: A NIGHT OF SPIRITUAL PRIDE

June 18 at 8:00pm | The Chamber | Tickets \$20

Artists and community come together to celebrate Black Boys, a new play celebrating and unleashing the possibilities of queer Blackness. Hosted by Saga Collectif (**Virgilia Griffith**, **Stephen Jackman-Torkoff**, **Tawiah M'Carthy**, **Thomas Olajide**, and **Jonathan Seinen**), this night of performances, art and music, plus excerpts from Black Boys, will unite our community in celebration of our Spiritual Pride. Stick around after the show for the official after party at Buddies After Hours, with special DJs and performances all night long.

LOWDOWN DIRTY SHAME

June 19 at 8:00pm | The Cabaret | Tickets \$15

Lowdown Dirty Shame is a night of performance to make you hang your head into your special cocktail! Examinations of queer shame and shamelessness from diverse angles including dances, burlesques, rants, lip-synchs and dirty, shameful movies! Hosted by **Moe Angelos** and featuring **Miss Dainty Box, Tamyka Bullen, Keith Cole, CoCo La Crème, Scott Miller Barry** and **Alex Tigchelaar**. ASL Interpretation will be provided.

Queer Songbook Orchestra presents

ONE FOR THE AGES

June 19 at 8:00pm | The Chamber | Tickets \$13 - \$22

Pairing the personal narratives of queer elders alongside the songs that have defined them, this performance emphasizes LGBTQ lineage and makes space for voices who were witness to the evolution of our community. Proclaimed "Sensational, a superb pop ensemble" by NOW Magazine, Toronto's Queer Songbook Orchestra is an 11-piece ensemble of queer and allied musicians dedicated to unearthing the LGBTQ narratives in popular music and building a living archive of songs that have shaped the community.

FUNNY AF & FEARLESS

June 20-22 at 8:00pm | The Cabaret | Tickets \$10-\$20

Elvira Kurt gives an unflinching comedic performance of rare vulnerability in *Fearless* as she merges who she is offstage with who she is onstage. Resisting the urge to hide or cushion the truth in a persona, Elvira uncovers the rich comedy that lies buried in the raw, dark places deep within the human soul. Or maybe just hers. A new group of all-star queer comedians opens for Elvira every night in the *Funny AF* showcase.

Flying Solo presents

ROUGH

June 24 at 8:30pm | The Chamber | Tickets \$20-\$25

Back with an appetite, Flying Solo transforms Buddies into a sexy, steamy playground to explore the earth element - the Rough. Spend an evening in this dirty circus of art, dance and aerial acrobatics. Flying Solo returns to Buddies with their third of five installations exploring the natural elements.

Girls Rock Camp Toronto presents

CAMPY KARAOKE

June 24 at 8:00pm | The Cabaret | \$10-\$15

See some of the best bands GRCT has to offer! Girls Rock Camp Toronto brings a showcase of their kick-ass young rockers, followed by an evening of feminist anthems, top 40 tunes, and classic rock hits sung by YOU. Sign up early for your chance to be centre stage, backed up by an incredible band made up of GRCT staff!

TOO QUEER: A BI VISIBILITY CABARET

June 25 at 7:30pm | The Cabaret | Tickets \$10-\$20

Join us for a night of art and performance celebrating bisexuality and pansexuality. With a bill of extraordinary artists including vocal powerhouse **Olive-or-Oliver**, soul-shaking poet **Sharrae Lyon**, and crowd favourite **Sofí Gudiño** and the Inamorata dance collective, this is the night bisexuals, pansexuals and our allies tear the house down.

DAWN PATROL: GIRLS GIRLS GIRLS

June 25 at 8:00pm | The Chamber | Tickets \$15-\$20

Toronto's favourite Monday night show presents an all-girl comedy revue for Pride 2016, featuring Toronto's best queer lady comics, along with some sexy music and dance. Hosted by **Dawn Whitwell** and featuring **Meilssa Deleary, Andrya Duff, Adrienne Fish, Robby Hoffman, Channel Marostica, Regina, Courtney Skye, Carolyn Taylor, Zoe Whitall** and **JL Whitecrow**.

FREE JANE

June 26 at 8:00pm | The Cabaret | FREE

A pride tradition that turns the stage over to the artists, misfits, and rebels for an open mic night like no other. Hosted by Sky Gilbert's alter-ego Jane, and featuring a reading of *Smashes*, a new play by **Franny McCabe-Bennett** about homoromantic love in the 1880's and growing up in the 1990's.

The Canadian Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity presents

HELIX

June 28 at 8:00pm | The Chamber | FREE

Spiraling, connected and tightly bound, Helix is a night of live curatorial performance DJing where Indigenous, Black, and People of Colour musicians, dancers, and artists crossfade with one another, working together to blend their energies and artistry into new performances that point towards the future. Featuring **Lido Pimienta, Cris Derksen, Rodney Diverlus, Beany John, DJ Bambi, Fly Lady Di, Brian Solomon**, and more. ASL Interpretation will be provided.

The Reading Salon presents

RAID: OPERATION SOAP

June 29 at 8:00pm | The Cabaret | Tickets \$20

An unconventional love story about two of the men that were arrested during the infamous 1981 Toronto Bathhouse Raids and how their horrific experience changed history. Written by **Raymond Helkio** and **David Bateman** and starring **Keith Cole**

LETTERS TO THE UNIVERSE

June 29 at 8:00pm | The Chamber | Tickets \$10 - \$20

The story of Shaunga, and her alter ego Scorpio Rising, on a journey of growth and self discovery as she learns about madness, magic, survival, healing, and connection with the universe. Incorporating dance, text and projection, we meet spirit guides, invisible friends who come to life, and a community of superqueeros who band together to bring forth the QTBIPOCalypse. Written by **Shaunga Tagore** and starring **Anabel Khoo, Robin Akimbo, Sage Willow, Shadrack Jackman, Sze Yang Ade-Lam**, and more.

THE ELEPHANT GIRLS

June 30 at 7:30pm | The Cabaret | Tickets \$15

Without doubt, they were the most notorious girl gang Britain's ever seen. Clever, organized, devious & daring; they stole from the rich and gave to themselves. This is the riveting story of the all-woman gang that terrorized London for over 100 years. Once you meet Maggie Hale – the gang's suit-wearing, bloody-knuckled, girl-chasing enforcer – you won't be able to look away. Written and performed by **Margo MacDonald** and winner of Best of the Fest, Outstanding Production at the 2015 Ottawa Fringe.

BUTCH FEMME SALON PRIDE EDITION: SOMEWHERE OVER THE RAINBOW

June 30 at 9:00pm | The Chamber | Tickets \$10

Belle Jumelles and **Titus Androgynous** host an inclusive night of performances and partying where the dreams that you dare to dream really do come true. Come early to mix and mingle in the Rainbow Salon, and stick around for an amazing lineup of queer performers and an all night dance party with **DJ Johnny B Goode**.

THE WOW PROJECT: UNMASKED

July 1 at 8:00pm | The Cabaret | Tickets \$10

Do you wear a mask to find your way in the world? Join curator **Mel Hague** and a powerful group of queer femme performers in a revealing evening of storytelling and performance. Featuring a special guest performance of the Rhubarb Festival hit *body so florescent* by **David di Giovanni** and **Amanda Corder**.

BITCH SALAD

July 1 at 8:00pm | The Chamber | Tickets \$15-\$25

Canada's first and foremost showcase of funny women is back again for its annual Pride gala! Hosted by **Andrew Johnston**, featuring **Heidi Brander, Sara Hennessey, Aisha Brown, Jackie Pirico, Shirley Whalen** and special guest headliner **Guy Branum!**

HOMO NIGHT IN CANADA

July 2 at 8:00pm | The Chamber | Tickets \$25

With over 15 years of sold-out shows, Homo Night in Canada showcases some of North America's best gay and lesbian comics for one hilarious night of fun! Hosted by the **B-Girlz** and featuring **Martha Chaves, Paul Hutcheson, Catherine McCormick, Ashley Moffatt, Ted Morris, Caitlin Langelier, Gareth Lloyd, Ian Lynch, Richard Ryder** and **Dawn Whitwell**.

THE LADY OIYE'S TEA DANCE

July 3 at 3:00pm | The Cabaret | FREE

Buddies provides cool respite for the weary and thirsty on Pride Day afternoon, spreading out the welcome mat for a friendly gathering just off the parade route.

BUDDIES AFTER HOURS

The best party on the block takes over the whole building for Queer Pride. Featuring amazing DJs spinning top-40 tunes and Toronto's hottest queens dominating the stage.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

10:30pm | Full Facility | \$10

the official after party for *A Night of Spiritual Pride*

SATURDAY, JUNE 25

10:30pm | Full Facility | \$10

with DJs Regina & Orange Pekoe

FRIDAY, JULY 1

10:30pm | Full Facility | \$15

Pride weekend kick-off

with DJs Regina & Orange Pekoe

SATURDAY, JULY 2

10:30pm | Full Facility | \$15

featuring Fay Slift

with DJ Regina

SUNDAY, JULY 3

10:00pm | The Cabaret | \$10

with DJs Regina & Orange Pekoe

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Established in 1979, Buddies in Bad Times Theatre is a professional Canadian theatre company dedicated to the development and presentation of queer theatre. The largest and longest running queer theatre in the world, Buddies has made an unparalleled contribution to the recognition and acceptance of queer lives in Canada and is Toronto's leading destination for artistically rigorous alternative theatre.