GLOBAL TORONTO

Music Conference and Showcases

Official 2026 Schedule

→ DISCOVER WHAT'S ON

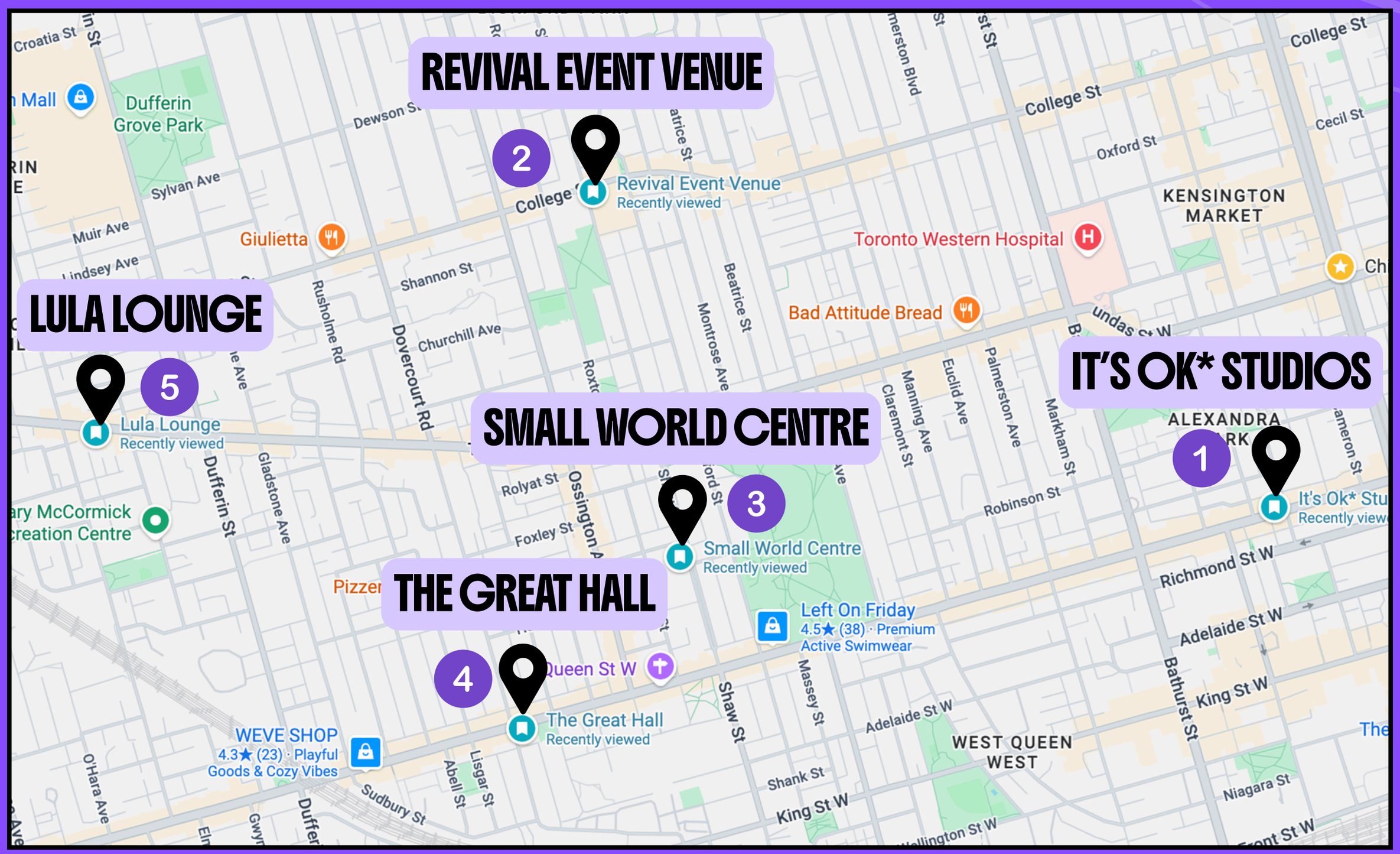
Global Toronto 2026 Schedule

Nov 8, 2026	Nov 9, 2026	Nov 10, 2026	Nov 11, 2026
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
It's Ok* Studios	Revival Event Venue	Revival Event Venue	Small World Centre, Great Hall, Lula Lounge
	Doors & Registration Opens 10:00 AM	Doors & Registration Opens 10:00 AM	Doors & Registration Opens 10:00 AM
	Morning Reset: Out of the Head into the Body 10:30 - 11:30 AM	Morning Reset: Rooted & Ready 10:30 - 11:30 AM	Creation in Times of Crisis 10:30 - 11:30 AM
	DO Talk to Strangers 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM	From Clickbait to Community 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM	What's your Take? 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM
	LUNCH (provided by Global Toronto) 12:45 - 1:45 PM	LUNCH (provided by Global Toronto) 12:45 - 1:45 PM	LUNCH (provided by Global Toronto) 12:45 - 1:45 PM
	Mentor Cafe 1:45 - 2:45 PM	Mentor Cafe 1:45 - 2:45 PM	The Road From Here 1:45 - 2:45 PM
Doors & Registration Opens 2:30 PM			
Opening Ceremony in partnership with Indigenous Music Summit 3:00 - 3:45 PM	Slow Touring: What it is and Why it Matters 3:00 - 4:00 PM	Authentic Stage Craft Workshop by Shakura S'Aida 3:00 - 4:30 PM	
Andrea Kuzmich's songSCAPIN' 4:00 - 4:20 PM	Dinner Break 4:00 - 6:00 PM		
Pachedub Collective 4:35 - 4:55 PM		Dinner Break 4:30 - 6:00 PM	
aniqa dear 5:10 - 5:30 PM			
Illarra and Hikaya Band 5:45 - 6:05 PM			
Just Prince and Friends 6:20 - 6:40 PM	Flip the Pitch 6:00 - 7:00 PM + Happy Hour Mixer 7:00 - 7:30 PM	Flip the Pitch 6:00 - 7:00 PM + Happy Hour Mixer 7:00 - 7:30 PM	WIN 20th Anniversary Celebration in partnership with Make It Music *Great Hall* 5:30 - 7:30 PM
Let's Eat! (provided by Global Toronto) 6:45 - 7:30 PM			
Meeting Musically 7:30 - 8:30 PM	Lapelúda 7:30 - 7:50 PM	Aerialists 7:30 - 7:50 PM	Happy Hour Mixer *Lula Lounge* 7:00 - 8:30 PM
	Sounds of Stories 8:05 - 8:25 PM	Fethi Nadjem 8:05 - 8:25 PM	
Sonic Sancocho 8:30 - 10:00 PM	Daughters of Donbas 8:40 - 9:00 PM	Kallisto 8:40 - 9:00 PM	Mimi O'Bonsawin 8:30 - 8:50 PM
	Eunice Keitan 9:15 - 9:35 PM	Kazdoura 9:15 - 9:35 PM	Kunlé 9:05 - 9:25 PM
	Jonathan Nvita 9:50 - 10:10 PM	Rup Magon 9:50 - 10:10 PM	Alysha Brilla 9:40 - 10:00 PM
			ten ten 10:15 - 10:35 PM
			Kobo Town 10:50 - 11:10 PM

LEGEND:

- Professional Development for Artists and Reps
- External Programming
- Networking and Showcases

GT26 VENUE MAP



SUNDAY NOV 8

1 IT'S OK* STUDIOS

MONDAY NOV 9

2 REVIVAL EVENT VENUE

TUESDAY NOV 10

2 REVIVAL EVENT VENUE

WEDNESDAY NOV 11

3 SMALL WORLD CENTRE

4 THE GREAT HALL

5 LULA LOUNGE

Sunday, November 8th

It’s OK* Studios

Opening Ceremony

3:00pm - 3:45pm @ It’s OK* Studios

Every great gathering deserves a proper welcome. This opening brings us together before the four days of Global Toronto begin. Join us as we welcome our delegates and artists, set the tone for the days ahead, and open our shared space through Indigenous teachings.

In Partnership with Indigenous Music Summit
Lead by: Elder Duke Redbird, Aqua, Natasha Fisher

Showcases

4:00pm - 6:40pm @ It’s OK* Studios

- 4:00–4:20 PM — Andrea Kuzmich's songSCAPIN'
- 4:35–4:55 PM — Pachedub Collective
- 5:10–5:30 PM — aniqa dear
- 5:45–6:10 PM — Illarra and Hikaya Band
- 6:20–6:40 PM — Just Prince and Friends

Meeting Musically

7:30 pm - 8:30 pm @ It’s OK* Studios

A signature element of the SWM Incubator. It’s so popular, we’re bringing it to the Global Toronto Conference! Our curated jams are carefully curated selections of artists to give us a taste of Toronto's local yet global music scene. By selecting artists with a range of musical backgrounds to merge their sounds, traditions, and artistic voices, this space honours the diverse identities of instruments coming from different parts of the globe.

Sonic Sancocho

8:30pm - 10:00pm @ It’s OK* Studios

Join us for a special vinyl DJ set by Sonic Sancocho as we celebrate the opening of Global Toronto 2026! Connect with fellow delegates, artists, and music professionals as we kick off four days of music, connection, and discovery.

Sonic Sancocho brings a bubbling mix of Latin American rhythms, tropical psychedelia and dance-floor surprises to the party. Co-founded by Juana Go-Gó and Olasconola, the Toronto-based duo blends vinyl discoveries with diasporic sounds, serving up adventurous selections rooted in culture, community and a shared love of getting people moving.

Monday, November 9th

Revival Event Venue

Morning Reset: Out of the Head into the Body

10:30am - 11:30am @ Revival Event Venue

Start the day by stepping out of the day-to-day buzz and back into your body. Ori Chacon will guide us through a gentle embodiment practice using conscious movement, breathwork, and toning (humming) to help settle busy minds, move energy, and reconnect with ourselves before the day begins.

Come in comfortable clothes, with an open mind and ready to move, breathe, and make a little sound.

Facilitator: Ori Chacón

Do Talk to Strangers

11:45am - 12:45pm @ Revival Event Venue

Conferences can be exciting, but they can also be intimidating. Whether you're a conference pro or a newbie, this session is a reminder that behind badges and business cards, we want connection, we are allowed to connect beyond the usual questions... we're all human.

Conferencing doesn't have to be boring, stressful, or full of protocols. This session is an invitation to bring play, curiosity and our authentic selves to the room.

Facilitators: Janice Jo Lee, Ksenia Khan

Mentor Cafe

1:45pm - 2:45pm @ Revival Event Venue

Pull up a chair, bring your questions, and join us for an hour of conversation with music industry professionals.

From grants and royalties to sync placements, creative processes, booking, and international development, each table will explore a different area of expertise. Choose the topic that speaks to you, grab a seat, and join a small group of fellow artists for an open conversation with an industry mentor.

No sign-ups required. Seating is limited to 4–5 artists per table and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Slow Touring: What it is and Why it Matters

3:00pm - 4:00pm @ Revival Event Venue

What might touring look like if we slowed it down?
Join us to continue the conversation around Slow Touring. A conversation currently taking place across the sector. This session brings together the lead of Ontario Presents' Slow Touring Project, Ceilidh Wood, and artists who have taken part in the project to reflect on what they've learned, what they're still navigating, and what slow touring can look like in real practice.
We'll explore approaches to touring that prioritize meaningful relationships with local communities, artist wellbeing, and creative risk-taking, while imagining a more intentional and sustainable future for the live music sector.

Moderator: Ceilidh Wood
Panelists: Tania Joy, Kaitlin Milroy, Veronica Jonnhy

Flip the Pitch

6:00pm - 7:00pm @ Revival Event Venue

We're used to artists introducing themselves to presenters and talent buyers, but this time, we're flipping the script. Hear directly from festivals, venues, and organizations about who they are, what they're looking for, and the opportunities they offer. Are they right for you? Are you right for them?
Then stick around for a cocktail to connect with the presenters, ask questions, and continue the conversation.

Showcases

7:30pm - 10:10pm @ Revival Event Venue

- 7:30–7:50 PM — Lapelúda
- 8:05–8:25 PM — Sounds of Stories
- 8:40–9:00 PM — Daughters of Donbas
- 9:15–9:35 PM — Eunice Keitan
- 9:50–10:10 PM — Jonathan Nvita

Tuesday, November 10th

Revival Event Venue

Morning Reset: Rooted & Ready

10:30am - 11:30am @ Revival Event Venue

Take an hour to catch your breath with Second Wind & Co. Led by singer-songwriter and therapeutic arts practitioner Yarro and former professional athlete turned mindfulness coach Wumi Agunbiade, this session uses mindfulness and creative reflection to invite you out of the conference rush and into the present moment. Make space to ground yourself and choose how you want to step into the day ahead.

Facilitators: Wumi Agunbiade, Eliza Bulchak-Healy (Yarro)

Panel: From Clickbait to Community

11:45am - 12:45pm @ Revival Event Venue

Caught somewhere between in-person connection and social media strategy lies the real work of building an audience. But how do you turn a listener, follower, or concertgoer into a lasting relationship?
Whether you're an artist or a presenter, this panel explores what genuine audience engagement looks like onstage, online, and in the community. What approaches help build trust and deepen connection? What hasn't worked? And how can we nurture an audience in ways that feel authentic, sustainable, and aligned with the work we do?

Moderator: Jaclyn Tam
Panelists: Tanika Charles, Mohsin uz Zaman, Said Yassin

Mentor Cafe

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No sign-ups required. Seating is limited to 4–5 artists per table and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Authentic Stage Craft Workshop by Shakura S’Aida

3:00pm - 4:30pm @ Revival Event Venue

The Authentic Stage Craft Workshop will help artists become skilled in staying focused, grounded, and authentic on stage, while also delivering a dynamic performance. The session will focus on: lyrical interpretation, connecting with audiences, stage presence, vocal power and expression, and teamwork. The workshop series is ideal for emerging and mid-career artists, business professionals, and all curious bystanders.

Facilitator: Shakura S’Aida

Flip the Pitch

6:00pm - 7:00pm @ Revival Event Venue

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Showcases

7:30pm - 10:10pm @ Revival Event Venue

- 7:30–7:50 PM — Aerialists
- 8:05–8:25 PM — Fethi Nadjem
- 8:40–9:00 PM — Kallisto
- 9:15–9:35 PM — Kazdoura
- 9:50–10:10 PM — Rup Magon

Wednesday, November 11th

Small World Centre

Panel: Creation in Times of Crisis

10:30am - 11:30am @ Small World Centre

What happens to creation when the places, people, and traditions that shape it are going through a crisis?
When the threads connecting us to our land, communities, and sources of inspiration are shaken or broken by natural disasters, conflict, or political instability, how does that affect what we create? How do artists navigate these realities through their work? And how can presenters and cultural organizations support them, bring audiences together, and make space for different perspectives during difficult times?

Moderator: Ann Mackeigan
Panelists: Neda Mohamadpour, Leen Hamo, Alina Kuzma, Krystin Gelfand

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Panel: What’s your Take?

11:45am - 12:45pm @ Small World Centre

Being part of the music ecosystem can be quite a roller coaster, whether you're an artist, booker, agent, or presenter. Sometimes everything falls perfectly into place, other times… not so much.
Inspired by Subway Takes, we're passing the floor (and a PRESTO card!) between artists and industry professionals to share their pet peeves, worst experiences, and some popular or unpopular opinions about the music ecosystem.

Moderator: Jonathan Bunce
Panelists: Berk Hendricks, Luisa Maria Gonzalez, Juliana Carlevaris, pHoenix Pagliacci

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The Road From Here

1:45pm - 2:45pm @ Small World Centre

If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together. A final gathering to reflect on what we’ve learned, shared, and built over these four days. What are we taking with us, and where do we go from here?

Facilitator: Paula Sofía, Neda Mohamadpour

Great Hall

WIN 20th Anniversary Celebration in partnership with Make It Music

5:00pm - 7:30pm @ Great Hall

Lula Lounge

Showcases

8:30pm - 11:10pm @ Lula Lounge

- 8:30–8:50 PM — Mimi O'Bonsawin
- 9:05–9:25 PM — Kunlé
- 9:40–10:00 PM — Alysha Brilla
- 10:15–10:35 PM — ten ten
- 10:50–11:10 PM — Kobo Town

SHOWCASING ARTISTS

20 showcasing artists • profiles, stories and sounds

→ DISCOVER THEIR STORIES

SHOWCASING ARTISTS

Sunday, November 8th, 4:00pm – 6:40pm • It’s OK* Studios



ANDREA KUZMICH'S SONGSCAPIN'

4:00 - 4:20 PM

Andrea Kuzmich’s songSCAPIN’ flips the script on folk polyphony. Bringing jazz improvisation and groove into dialogue with more than two decades of engagement with the rich vocal traditions of Georgia and Ukraine, Kuzmich creates bold, immersive performances where visceral vocal textures, spontaneous interplay, and the spirit of collective music-making converge.



PACHEDUB COLLECTIVE

4:35 - 4:55 PM

Pachedub Collective is a Latin Reggae–Funky–Dub band based between Toronto, Canada and Queretaro, México. Founded nearly 15 years ago, the project has built a solid international path, performing across Mexico, Europe, and Canada over the last decade.



ANIQA DEAR

5:10 - 5:30 PM

aniqa dear is a Toronto-based experimental art pop project rooted in queerness, diasporic identity, grief, and the eternal interplay between belonging and isolation. She is currently crafting her second, intimate, genre-bending full-length album with a 12-piece semi-orchestral ensemble, to be released in early 2027.



ILLARRA AND HIKAYA BAND

5:45 - 6:10 PM

Illarra is a Toronto based singer-songwriter who is deeply invested in Classical Arabic, Sufi music, and the music of Arabia. Since 2022, he has co-led Hikaya Project with the vision of reimagining that heritage in newer contexts of jazz and fusion, creating bold ideas that amplify underrepresented queer Arab voices.



JUST PRINCE AND FRIENDS

6:20 - 6:40 PM

Toronto-based singer-songwriter, Just Prince, is known for seamlessly blending Western and Eastern sounds into a harmonious tapestry. With a captivating style that defies genre constraints, his music weaves elements of folk, rock, blues, and Hindustani classical music, crafting a musical landscape that bridges worlds with the intention of genuine songwriting and experimental expression

SHOWCASING ARTISTS

Monday, November 9th, 7:30pm – 10:10pm • Revival Event Venue



LAPELÚDA

7:30 - 7:50 PM

Nominated for Album of the Year at the Latin Awards Canada for her debut “Caídas” (2022), and recently chosen as MUZ 2025 cohort, Lapelúda is a rising voice in the latin indie-folk scene. Her recently released EP entre cielo y tierra (Fall 2025) deepens her exploration of life’s fragility and resilience.



SOUNDS OF STORIES

8:05 - 8:25 PM

Sounds of Stories is a multidisciplinary performance project by Toronto-based drummer, tabla player, and composer Dhaivat Jani. Blending multilingual spoken stories and poetry with live improvised music, the project creates an evolving conversation between words and sound. Each performance reveals new possibilities within the same stories through improvisation, listening, and musical dialogue.



DAUGHTERS OF DONBAS

8:40 - 9:00 PM

Daughters of Donbas is a Ukrainian-Canadian all-female and non-binary ensemble blending Ukrainian folk polyphony, indie pop, and neo-classical music. Led by singer and ethnomusicologist Marichka, the project amplifies the stories of Ukrainian children abducted by Russia, transforming testimony into powerful contemporary music rooted in tradition, resistance, and hope.



EUNICE KEITAN

9:15 - 9:35 PM

Malaysian-Canadian artist Eunice Keitan blends Neo-Soul with ancestral Asian soundscapes, exploring themes of identity and belonging. Whether performing with a full band or as a solo loop-pedal artist, her genre-bending sound combines rich musicianship with evocative storytelling. With support from BBC Radio and CBC Music, and nominations from the Toronto Indie Music Awards, Eunice continues to captivate audiences across Canada, Europe, and Asia.



JONATHAN NVITA

9:50 - 10:10 PM

Jonathan Nvita is a Congolese singer, composer, and guitarist whose music blends African musical traditions, jazz, soul, and improvisation. Born in Kinshasa, his artistry draws from Congolese roots, spirituality, and storytelling. His debut album Mosisa explores heritage, identity, resilience, and connection, establishing a distinctive voice in contemporary African jazz.

SHOWCASING ARTISTS

Tuesday, November 10th, 7:30pm – 10:10pm • Revival Event Venue



AERIALISTS

7:30 - 7:50 PM

JUNO-nominated neo-trad quintet Aerialists alchemize their deep roots in Scottish, Irish, and Nordic folk traditions with post rock influences into a sound that's ethereal yet precise, technical yet visceral. On fiddle, harp, guitar, bass, and drums, their adventurous reimaginings of traditional music spiral outward into progressive, electrified soundscapes.



FETHI NADJEM

8:05 - 8:25 PM

Algerian-born and Toronto-based, violinist Fethi Nadjem gives chaabi and gnawa a modern twist. Switching between violin, mandole and gumbri, he brings the sounds of North Africa to the stage with musicians who keep the energy high from the first note to the last.



KALLISTO

8:40 - 9:00 PM

Kallisto is a Montreal-based quintet creating clarinet-led progressive rock rooted in klezmer and Anatolian modal traditions. Led by composer and clarinetist Jossée MacInnis, the band combines through-composed structures, heavy textures, and psychedelic intensity to create a distinctive instrumental sound where folk-derived musical languages meet contemporary rock.



KAZDOURA

9:15 - 9:35 PM

Kazdoura is a Toronto-based band blending Arabic music with psychedelia, trip-hop, and funkl. Led by Syrian vocalist Leen Hamo and Lebanese multi-instrumentalist John Abou Chacra, JUNO winners and Canadian Folk Music Award recipients, captivating audiences across international festival stages around the world today.



RUP MAGON

9:50 - 10:10 PM

Rup Magon has been performing on stage for the past 25 years. He is beginning his brand new solo journey at Global Toronto. As the co-founder and lead singer of the multi-platinum band JoSH, Rup has captivated audiences worldwide with his fusion of Punjabi folk, Bhangra, pop, and hip-hop. With his debut solo album Disrupt!, he embraces a new chapter of creative freedom, exploring fresh sounds and a deeply personal artistic expression.

SHOWCASING ARTISTS

Wednesday, November 11th, 8:30pm – 11:10pm • Lula Lounge



MIMI O'BONSAWIN

8:30 - 8:50 PM

Award-winning alt-folk singer-songwriter Mimi O'Bonsawin creates music rooted in nature, storytelling, and connection. French Canadian and W8banaki (Abénaki), and a member of the Odanak First Nation, she blends folk traditions with groove and playful experimentation into a sound all her own.



KUNLÉ

9:05 - 9:25 PM

A Dora Award-winning artist, Kunlé is a Toronto-based Nigerian singer-songwriter, composer, multi-instrumentalist and producer whose music draws from the deep well of West African storytelling. Moving between Yoruba, Pidgin and English, Kunlé brings together rich vocals, traditional talking drums, piano and contemporary fingerstyle guitar, bridging acoustic traditions and Yoruba proverbs with a soulful, contemporary sensibility.



ALYSHA BRILLA

9:40 - 10:00 PM

Alysha Brilla is a 3× JUNO Award nominated songwriter, producer and electrifying live performer, as well as the 2025 Women in Music International Leadership Honouree and a 2024 Canadian Screen Award nominee. Sounds of earth, songs of stars. Rooted in her Indo-Tanzanian heritage and shaped by the Great Lakes in Canada, Brilla’s sound is distinctly unique.



TEN TEN

10:15 - 10:35 PM

ten ten is an evolving art experiment with its roots in the Japanese folk tradition in the Japanese alphabet, “ten ten” refers to two dots used to change the sound of a syllable. in the same spirit, ten ten strives to create its own unique voice for Japanese folk music breathing new life into this traditional art form



KOBO TOWN

10:50 - 11:10 PM

Since their founding in 2005, Kobo Town has brought their distinct calypso and ska-inspired sound to audiences across the world. Fronted by Drew Gonsalves, who moved from Trinidad to Canada as a teenager, the band draws inspiration from old calypso, ska and roots reggae. A songwriter, singer and multi-instrumentalist, his music has been covered by artists including Carlos Santana, Manu Chao and Calypso Rose. At once brooding and joyous, intensely poetic and highly danceable, Kobo Town's songs are rooted in the Caribbean's rich tradition of musical storytelling, delivered with an indomitable energy that has had audiences jumping from Montreal to Malaysia and from Havana to Berlin.

SPEAKERS & FACILITATORS

moderations, panelists, and facilitators

→ DISCOVER THEIR STORIES

SPEAKERS & FACILITATORS

Sunday, November 8th @ It's OK* Studios



ELDER DUKE REDBIRD

Opening Ceremony | 3:00pm -3:45pm | In partnership With Indigenous Music Summit

Dr. Duke Redbird, a recent recipient of the Order of Canada, is an Elder from the Saugeen Ojibway Nation, on the shores of Lake Huron. A celebrated Indigenous Visionary as well as an established public intellectual, poet, broadcaster, and filmmaker, Dr. Redbird is also a highly sought after keynote speaker. He is an Elder and Advisor to various public and private organizations, and his online presence brings his breadth of cultural knowledge and artistic practice to the benefit of a global audience.



AQUA

Opening Ceremony | 3:00pm -3:45pm | In partnership With Indigenous Music Summit

Aqua, just as their name suggests, is an elemental force. Their lyrics and melodies flow out of them like the crystal clear medicine water that they are. Embracing their Indigenous ancestry, they proudly walk with the heartbeat of their hand drum. They bring a unique take on Blues music and have created their own genre, IndigiBlues; inspired by their life stories of overcoming intergenerational trauma, mental health, addictions, homelessness, and violence as an IndigiQueer person of mixed ancestry.



NATASHA FISHER

Opening Ceremony | 3:00pm -3:45pm | In partnership With Indigenous Music Summit

Natasha Fisher is an Indigenous alternative singer, songwriter, and producer based in Toronto, Ontario. Originally from Thunder Bay and a proud member of Long Lake #58 First Nation, Fisher creates emotionally charged alternative pop and pop rock. Her work reflects both her lived experience and creative evolution, balancing emotional honesty with strength and empowerment.



MISHA ARTEBYAKIN

Host / MC for all GT26 Showcases

Sunday 4:00pm - 10:00pm
Monday 7:30pm - 10:10pm
Tuesday 7:30pm - 10:10pm
Wednesday 8:30pm - 11:10pm

From the dorms of U of T to the outskirts of Moscow, Misha has thrived as an entertainer in every place they've lived. After opening Drom Taberna in 2018 with a merry band of misfits and now running close to 100 shows a month, Misha stepped up as Master of Ceremonies for Toronto's most cherished/chaotic live music living room.

SPEAKERS & FACILITATORS

Monday, November 9th @ Revival Event Venue



ORI CHACÓN

Morning Reset: Out of the Head Into the Body | 10:30am - 11:30am

Ori Chacón is a singer/songwriter, wellness explorer, and lifelong curious human who believes we spend way too much time in our heads. Her journey through health, music, and wellness has taught her the power of sound, movement, and grounding to clear the mental clutter. Come ready to shake things up, through embodiment practices, and start the day centered in your beautiful self.



JANICE JO LEE

DO Talk with Strangers | 11:45am - 12:45pm

Janice Jo Lee is a musician, sound designer, spoken word poet, actor-clown, director, facilitator and educator born and based in Toronto. Her artwork explores climate grief, antiracism, loneliness, workers rights, anticapitalism, queer joy, and her Korean heritage. She has 16 years experience as an arts and anti-oppression educator and works as the DEIA Coordinator for Folk Alliance International.



KSENIA KHAN

DO Talk with Strangers | 11:45am - 12:45pm

Ksenia Khan is a program specialist with over 10 years of experience in arts development in Canada and internationally. Throughout her career, she has developed and led initiatives in creative entrepreneurship, community development, and arts education. She holds a Master of Education and a Diploma in Arts Management.



CEILIDH WOOD

Slow Touring: What it is and Why it Matters | 3:00pm - 4:00pm

Ceilidh Wood (she/her) leads Ontario Presents' Slow Touring Project, which explores ways to make touring & presenting more sustainable, healthier, and more relationship-focused. Ceilidh has a complex chronic illness and is interested in incorporating themes of crip time and resistance to urgency culture into her work and art. She sits on the board of the More Co-operative Housing Collective.



TANIA JOY

Slow Touring: What it is and Why it Matters | 3:00pm - 4:00pm

Award winning Folk-Roots artist Tania Joy is the Co-founder, Executive Director/Artistic Director of Springtide Music Festival, a non-profit organization led by a team of business leaders and local musicians which draws over multiple acts to an annual multi-venue festival, and multiple events throughout the year in downtown Uxbridge, Ontario.



KAITLIN MILROY

Slow Touring: What it is and Why it Matters | 3:00pm - 4:00pm

Kaitlin Milroy is a Canadian musician and songwriter, and co-founder of bilingual contemporary folk band Moonfruits. Living on the unceded territory of the Algonquin Anaishnaabe nation (Ottawa, ON), she is also a mother, friend, partner, neighbour, daughter, sister, aunt, home cook, soccer player, musical collaborator, and believer that everyone can sing.



THE DELLA KIT

Slow Touring: What it is and Why it Matters | 3:00pm - 4:00pm

Born in Boston and raised in Nelson, BC, the della kit is a Vancouver-based artist, producer, DJ, educator and music curator with over 20 years of experience working across music, culture and community.
Having experienced touring from both the artist and curator perspectives, she is passionate about reimagining how we move through the music industry. For her, touring is about more than performing in new places. It's about building connections, learning from the communities we visit, supporting local ecosystems, travelling with intention and leaving something meaningful behind.

SPEAKERS & FACILITATORS

Tuesday, November 10th @ Revival Event Venue



ELIZA BULCHAK-HEALY

Morning Reset: Rooted & Ready | 10:30am - 11:30am

Eliza AKA Yarro is a multidisciplinary artist, certified therapeutic arts practitioner, and co-founder of Second Wind & Co. Rooted in self-expression, her work explores the intersection of creativity, curiosity, and connection. Through music and therapeutic arts, she creates spaces that invite reflection, authentic expression, and a deeper connection to self and community.



WUMI AGUNBIADE

Morning Reset: Rooted & Ready | 10:30am - 11:30am

Wumi Agunbiade is a mindfulness and performance coach, former professional basketball player, and co-founder of Second Wind & Co. Drawing on her experience in high-performance environments and mindfulness practices, she supports individuals in cultivating self-awareness, resilience, and a more intentional approach to personal and professional growth.



JACLYN TAM

Panel: From Clickbait to Community | 11:45am - 12:45pm

Jaclyn Tam is a collaborative leader in Toronto's music and cultural sectors. She brings people together—artists, grassroots organizations, for-profit businesses and policymakers—to build a more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable creative ecosystem.



TANIKA CHARLES

Panel: From Clickbait to Community | 11:45am - 12:45pm

Multiple Juno Award, Polaris Prize nominee, and a recent recipient of the Black Canadian Music Award, Tanika Charles is synonymous with Canadian Soul music. Her music revels in honesty and attitude, her live show is high energy and endearing, and she continues to organically win audiences over one album, one stream, and one encore at a time.



MOHSIN ZAMAN

Panel: From Clickbait to Community | 11:45am - 12:45pm

Mohsin Zaman is a Pakistani-Canadian singer-songwriter blending intimate folk and indie songwriting with atmospheric textures and influences from his Pakistani roots. His music explores love, loss, longing and belonging, bringing together different cultural and musical worlds through soulful vocals and acoustic guitar.



SAID YASSIN

Panel: From Clickbait to Community | 11:45am - 12:45pm

Said Yassin is the Founder and Executive Director of It's Ok*, exploring the intersection of art and community. With over a decade of experience producing events in unconventional spaces, he has worked with Manifesto, Small World Music, the Aga Khan Museum, and The Royal Conservatory of Music. His thoughtful programming transforms venues into spaces for connection, dialogue, and shared experience.



SHAKURA S'AIDA

Authentic Stage Craft Workshop by Shakura S'Aida | 3:00pm - 4:30pm

Shakura S'Aida is an acclaimed Americana roots-soul singer/songwriter, three-time Juno Award nominee, and Schitt's Creek recurring actor. Known for her powerful voice and dynamic live shows, she also curates concerts through Shakura S'Aida Presents, building community and connection through music.

SPEAKERS & FACILITATORS

Wednesday, November 11th @ Small World Music



ANN MACKEIGAN

Panel: Creation in Times of Crisis | 10:30am - 11:30am

Ann MacKeigan is a media consultant and performance coach based in Toronto. She is the founder of CompassMedia.For more than three decades, Ann worked with the CBC, leading teams, developing national programs, and coaching on-air talent across news, arts, and entertainment. Ann helps professionals speak with confidence, clarity, and connection—on mic, on stage, and in the moments that matter.



NEDA MOHAMADPOUR

Panel: Creation in Times of Crisis | 10:30am - 11:30am

Neda Mohamadpour is a Tehran-born vocalist, educator, and arts administrator whose work bridges Persian folk traditions and contemporary music. At Small World Music, she works in artist development, connecting the artists with resources, industry networks, and meaningful opportunities, helping ensure their work is seen, heard, and supported.



LEEN HAMO

Panel: Creation in Times of Crisis | 10:30am - 11:30am

Leen is a Syrian-Canadian artist, singer, and songwriter based in Toronto. Her music explores identity, home, nostalgia, loss, love, and social barriers. Her latest project, Kazdoura, blends Arabic music with jazz, funk, synth-pop, and disco. Its debut album won the 2026 Juno and CFMA awards for Global Album of the Year.



ALINA KUZMA

Panel: Creation in Times of Crisis | 10:30am - 11:30am

Singer, folklorist and fourth-generation bandura player Alina Kuzma is sought after for her soulful vocals, versatility across languages and genres, and her fervent curiosity in Ukrainian traditions. Based in southern Ontario, she performs internationally as a soloist, as half of bandura-viola global sounds duo, DIVKA, and in award-winning musical human rights project, Daughters of Donbas.



KRYSTIN GELFAND

Panel: Creation in Times of Crisis | 10:30am - 11:30am

Kristyn Gelfand is a Toronto-based curator, producer, and cultural activator with 20+ years of experience creating spaces for music, art, and connection. Since 2012, she has worked with Uma Nota Culture, producing events that bring together live music, DJs, and diverse communities. Her work centres inclusion, social justice, and representation.



JONATHAN BUNCE

Panel: What's your Take? | 11:45am - 12:45pm

Jonathan Bunce (aka Jonny Dovercourt) is a Toronto-based writer, presenter, and organizer and and co-founder and Artistic/Executive Director of non-profit indie institution Wavelength Music. He is also the author of the book Any Night of Week: A DIY History of Toronto 1957-2001, and co-wrote the acclaimed 2023 industry study, Reimagining Music Venues.



BERK HENDRICKS

Panel: What's your Take? | 11:45am - 12:45pm

Former Chair of the Board for Waveland Canada, Artist Relations and Community Partnerships for Polaris Music Prize, and Administration support for Midnight Agency. He started his own booking agency Repertoire Artists in 2024, works as an agent, currently representing 5 acts and is the Venue Booking Manager for MRG's Toronto Venues. Adelaide Hall, Annabel's Music Hall and Queen Elizabeth Theatre.

SPEAKERS & FACILITATORS

Wednesday, November 11th @ Small World Centre



LUISA MARIA GONZALEZ

Panel: What's your Take? | 11:45am - 12:45pm

Hailing from Colombia and inspired by the voice of women in both film and music, Luisa has evolved from a filmmaker into a versatile figure within the entertainment industry. She has taken on multiple roles, including booking agent, tour manager, and music video director. Aligning her passion for audiovisual aesthetics with her dedication to supporting emerging musicians.



JULIANA CARLEVARIS

Panel: What's your Take? | 11:45am - 12:45pm

Juliana Carlevaris is the Festival & Artistic Director of Project Nowhere (est. 2023) which has brought artists such as DEATH, Lightning Bolt, Lee Ranaldo, Water From Your Eyes, and more to venues across Toronto's buzzing west end. She also manages the booking calendar for The Garrison, a 300 capacity venue.



PHOENIX PAGLIACCI

Panel: What's your Take? | 11:45am - 12:45pm

pHoenix Pagliacci is an R&B/Hip-Hop artist, producer, songwriter and advocate. Born and raised in Toronto, pHoenix inherited her love of music from her family and began her artistic journey at the age of six, playing the piano and singing. As a founding member of Canadian Hip-Hop group The Sorority, and one half of R&B duo TRP.P, pHoenix has honed her songwriting craft and shown her versatility with both rapping and singing. A recent participant of the Women in the Studio program, pHoenix has also began to sharpen her production skills, vowing to be "one of this country's greats". Her business, Pagliacci Studios, also provides a safe space for young women to learn and grow creatively.



PAULA SOFIA

The Road From Here | 1:45pm - 2:45pm

Paula Sofía is a Guatemalan singer-songwriter and arts administrator based in Toronto. Through her music, she explores the human experience through storytelling rooted in Latin American folk traditions. As Program Lead at Small World Music, she works on professional development and industry engagement for artists, including the Incubator and Global Toronto. Across both roles, she is interested in how creativity, collaboration, and shared experiences can bring people together.



NEDA MOHAMADPOUR

The Road From Here | 1:45pm - 2:45pm

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MENTOR CAFÉ

Tuesday and Wednesday, November 11th @ Small World Centre



MERCEDES CAXAJ

Monday's Mentor Café | 1:45 - 2:45 pm

Mercedes Caxaj is the Artistic Co-Director for Sunfest-London Committee for Cross Cultural Arts, which presents thoughtful, innovative global arts programming in London, Ontario, and works collectively with national and international organizations. Mercedes has served as a jury member and panellist for both national and international music meetings, conferences and major granting agencies, where she discusses artistic programming, community program development, cultural advocacy and strategy, and prioritizing representation.



TINA WROBLEWSKI

Monday's Mentor Café | 1:45 - 2:45 pm

Tina Wroblewski is a Colombian-born, Toronto-based producer and cultural promoter. She coordinates international initiatives for IIMS and the Export Development Program at Folk Canada. Curator, and artist liaison, she co-leads Eagle Meets the Condor, serves her second term on Folk Alliance International's Board, and sits on the CARAS/JUNO Awards advisory committee.



MICHELLE ALLMAN-ESDAILLE

Monday and Tuesday's Mentor Café | 1:45 - 2:45 pm

Michelle Allman-Esdaille is a music industry executive and sync entrepreneur building connections and opportunities across Canada, the United States, and Africa through sync representation, industry partnerships, and creative education.



TRACY JENKINS

Monday and Tuesday's Mentor Café | 1:45 - 2:45 pm

Tracy Jenkins is Executive and Co-Artistic Director of Lula Music and Arts Centre, which provides Latin, Brazilian and global roots music programming for the Toronto venue Lula Lounge. Also a board member of the Canadian Live Music Association and a member of the Toronto Arts Council Music Committee, Tracy oversees the educational programming at Lula and works with Co-Artistic Director Jose Ortega to produce the annual Lulaworld festival which has spawned the Lulaworld label.



DAVID ARIZA

Monday and Tuesday's Mentor Café | 1:45 - 2:45 pm

Jonathan Bunce (aka Jonny Dovercourt) is a Toronto-based writer, presenter, and organizer and and co-founder and Artistic/Executive Director of non-profit indie institution Wavelength Music. He is also the author of the book Any Night of Week: A DIY History of Toronto 1957-2001, and co-wrote the acclaimed 2023 industry study, Reimagining Music Venues.



ZARA ABBASI

Tuesday's Mentor Café | 1:45 - 2:45 pm

Zara Abbasi is a seasoned music industry professional specializing in rights and royalties with experience across management, record labels, publishing, and administration. She is dedicated to ensuring rights holders are compensated fairly. Currently, Zara consults with industry partners to demystify the music business, helping rights holders stay organized and maximize global royalty collections.



REZA MOGHADDAS

Tuesday's Mentor Café | 1:45 - 2:45 pm

Reza Moghaddas is a Toronto-based record producer, sound engineer, musician, and educator with nearly three decades of experience. His musical journey began at age eight, evolving from classical and Persian music to jazz and world music. At 19, he entered audio engineering and built Iran's first digital recording studio, working with iconic Iranian artists. In the 1990s, Reza played a pivotal role in Iran's underground music scene. He moved to Canada in 2005, bringing his Bamahang Studios with him, and became a key figure in Toronto's music community. He has collaborated with international artists like Zakir Hussain, Angelique Kidjo, and Tory Lanez, and contributed to over 50 film and theatre projects.

YOUR GT26 BADGE GUIDE

FULL ACCESS BADGE

Daytime professional development sessions

Evening showcases & networking

WIN 20th Anniversary Celebration*

SHOWCASE BADGE

Evening showcases & networking

WIN 20th Anniversary Celebration*

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT BADGE

Daytime professional development sessions

*Subject to capacity.
In partnership with MAKE IT MUSIC.