

Schedule

** all events in Multi-Purpose Room unless otherwise noted*

9 am – 10 am	Sign-in Table Open
10 – 10:45 am	Welcome Remarks Keynote Conversation between Alex Bulmer & Judith Snow Art Burst featuring work by Alex Bulmer & Judith Snow
11 am – Noon	Session 1: The Artists' Experience – Roundtable Conversation moderated by Elizabeth Sweeney
Noon – 1 pm	Lunch <i>Lounge</i>
1 – 1:15 pm	Art Burst: Presentation from the creators of <i>Wolf Sounds</i> with Brooke Banning, Lindsey Chalmers & Victor Perriera
1:15 – 2:15 pm	Session 2: Being All Right With Getting It Wrong – Roundtable Conversation moderated by Rena Cohen
2:15 – 2:30 pm	Art Burst: Performance featuring Catherine MacKinnon
2:30 – 3 pm	Coffee Break
3 – 4 pm	Session 3: Facilitated Breakout Groups by Topic (<i>various rooms – see p. 3 & 4 in registration booklet</i>)
4:15 – 5 pm	Closing Conversation Art Burst featuring a short film by Jan Derbyshire and stand-up comedy from Alan Shain
5:30 – 6:30 pm	Light dinner available <i>Outside the Multi-purpose Room</i>
6:30 pm	Doors open for the performance of <i>The Book of Judith</i> <i>Performance tent</i>
7 pm	Performance begins in <i>The Book of Judith</i> tent
8:45 pm	Post-show reception

SESSION DETAILS

10 AM — Accessing the Arts: a conversation between artists Alex Bulmer & Judith Snow

The inclusion philosophy of longtime disability advocate and artist **Judith Snow**, who lives with quadriplegia, fuels the thinking in the theatrical production *The Book of Judith*. Artist, performer and playwright, **Alex Bulmer**, was part of the original production and returns to Canada to reprise her role as the Director of *The Book of Judith* choir. Bulmer, who lost her sight later in life, has been living in England, where there is a thriving inclusive arts scene. Snow and Bulmer will pose a series of key questions to each other to spark a dialogue and launch the day's program. Sharing examples of their work, they will explore questions related to advocacy and the arts, what is disability art, opportunities and challenges for disabled artists in Canada versus the United Kingdom, and where we need to go from here.

11 AM — Artists' Experience

A group of disabled-identified artists from various disciplines shares strengths and challenges of working as an artist in Ontario. The artists will be invited to share with the group what they come up against in their practice and navigating the arts community. This session will aim to lead into creative brainstorming with all present on how to address these challenges and how to build upon the success stories.

INCLUDING:

- Jan Derbyshire | Theatre Maker, Teacher, Comedian
- Catherine MacKinnon | Filmmaker, Performer, Director of Toronto International Deaf Film and Arts Festival
- Jes Sachse | Writer, Journalist, Artist, Curator
- Alan Shain | Actor, Comedian, Storyteller, Dancer
- Kazumi Tsuruoka | Performer, Speaker, Disability-Rights Activist
- moderated by Elizabeth Sweeney | Manager of Public Programs and ArtReach, The Robert McLaughlin Gallery

1 PM — Art Burst: Wolf Sounds

Wolf Sounds is a collectively-created dance show in which five actors present, with reckless transparency, a story about conformity, isolation, and desire. Wolf Sounds was devised by combining movement with found, improvised, and written text to create a surreal physical theatre experience. It is a coming of age story about one man's search for love as he struggles to communicate, earn an injured soul's trust, and understand physical boundaries. Wolf Sounds runs July 18 – 27 at The Box Toronto (89 Niagara

Street at Niagara and Bathurst)

Directed by Brooke Banning; Featuring: Nicole Flynn | Dylan Harman | Amelia MacAfee-Brunner | Lindsey Chalmers | Victor Perriera

1:15 PM — Being All Right with Getting it Wrong

This session offers an opportunity to hear from producers, playwrights and educators who have pursued greater inclusion of different stories, experiences, and ways of navigating this world in their creation and teaching practices. By sharing their experiences, the pitfalls and greatest strengths of this model of creation, they serve to remind us that moving forward an inclusive and accessible arts community means a change in practice being all right with sometimes getting it wrong along the way. What do we need to be doing in the performing arts scene to be more inclusive to diverse artists and audiences?

INCLUDING:

- Lynda Hill | Artistic Director of Theatre Direct
- Brendan Healy | Artistic Director of Buddies in Bad Times Theatre
- Leslie Lester | Producer, Executive Director of Soulpepper Theatre Company
- Sarah Garton Stanley | Associate Artistic Director of English Theatre at National Arts Centre, Co-Director of Selfconscious Theatre
- moderated by Rena Cohen | Managing Director, Realwheels Theatre, Vancouver

2:15 PM — Art Burst: Catherine MacKinnon

Catherine will present two ASL storytelling performances including "Noblest Gift" by George Veditz and "Halifax, 1917" about deaf children's experience with an explosion in Halifax.

3 PM — Break-out Discussion Groups

Accessing the Arts

With Alan Shain (Canada Council for the Arts), Pat Bradley (Ontario Arts Council) and Christian Mondor (Canada Council for the Arts)

Meet in the Multi-Purpose Room

Discover and share what opportunities are available for disabled artists to expand upon their artistic practice with funding support, residencies, mentorships and more. Come to ask questions or share pointers learned in your own work as an emerging or established artist. Topics explored may include building your brand, harnessing social media, networking and other best practices.

Access for Audiences

With Wanda Fitzgerald (Audio Description Consultant), Elizabeth Morris (ASL Consultant) and Rebecca Singh (Audio Description Consultant)

Meet in the Lounge

Learn from companies and individuals who have worked on making their venue and / or performances more accessible to audiences and performers including wheelchair access, audio description, sign language interpretation, providing a loop system and more. Ask questions, share suggestions & gain tools to becoming more inclusive.

Towards an Inclusive Stage & Classroom

With Alex Bulmer and Michael Achtman (United Kingdom)

Meet in the Music Room

What are the barriers to casting a disabled person in your show or to accepting a disabled student into your academic program? What are your unspoken questions and fears? What are the unrealized possibilities? Directors, voice teachers, movement teachers, choreographers – this conversation is for you!

Inclusive Curiosity

With Jeffrey Renn (Realwheels Theatre, Vancouver)

Meet in the Art Room

Let's come together to talk about bridging worlds and structural gaps in the field, building more inclusive productions and projects, and what community collaborative inclusion can look like. Who has the right to discuss the topic of disability, difference and the arts? How can we work together across various constituency groups? How do we foster collaboration and trust between people with very different experiences of the world? Is there a welcome place for allies at the table? What is the artist's responsibility towards building in inclusivity?

Impromptu Group 1

Meet in the Multi-Purpose Room

Impromptu Group 2

Meet in the Boardroom

Impromptu Group 3

Meet in the Lounge

4:45 PM —Art Burst

Screening of *Value Village*, a short film by Jan Derbyshire

Stand-up performance from Alan Shain