



powell street festival society

パウエル祭協会

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## For Immediate Release

Vancouver, B.C. (June 20, 2019) - The Powell Street Festival will return for its 43<sup>rd</sup> year on Saturday, August 3 and Sunday, August 4, 2019 from 11:30am - 7:00pm daily. The street festival takes place in the historic Japanese Canadian neighbourhood known as Paueru Gai (literally translated as Powell Street area) centred at Alexander Avenue and Jackson Street in Vancouver. The festival spans six city blocks with several participating venues including the **Firehall Arts Centre** (280 East Cordova Street), **Vancouver Japanese Language School** and **Japanese Hall** (475 Alexander Street), and **Vancouver Buddhist Temple** (220 Jackson Avenue).

This year's lineup of performing artists features a wide variety of international and local talent. Musical highlights include **Yuni Mori**, who will bring her original piano compositions and delicate voice from Yamanashi, Japan, **Teke::Teke**, a seven-piece band from Montreal who will rock their Takeshi Terauchi-inspired blend of shoe-gaze, post-rock and noise, and from Seattle, **Katrina Wolfe** will unveil a shape-shifting butoh experience.

Local artists include **Onibana Taiko**, who bring a punk aesthetic to their presentations drawing from Japanese folk rituals, all girl pop group **Seishun Youth Academy**, and **June Fukumura**, appearing as her dark humoured, clown alter-ego, Sumiko for a quirky interactive Japanese game show.

The Powell Street Festival's famous array of food vendors are back with favourites like yakisoba, takoyaki, sushi, matcha ice cream, ramen and Japanese style hot dogs. New additions include **WakWak Burger** and **Vegan Pudding**, serving up their vegan take on Spam masubi. Other options for vegetarians are vegetable okonomiyaki prepared by the **Vancouver Japanese Language School** and tofu teriyaki don from **Teriyaki Boys**.

Guests can enjoy the festival's interactive installations, children's activities, craft market, martial arts demonstrations, amateur sumo tournament, tea ceremonies, Ikebana and bonsai demonstrations. All events at the Powell Street Festival are free.

For press materials, including hi-res images, please visit:

<http://www.powellstreetfestival.com/festival/media/>

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### **About Powell Street Festival Society**

[Powell Street Festival Society](#)'s (PSFS) mission is to cultivate Japanese Canadian arts and culture to connect communities. Its main activity is producing the Powell Street Festival (PSF) in Vancouver's historic Japanese Canadian neighbourhood. In addition to the festival, PSFS engages in co-presentations with arts organizations and produces an annual season of cultural and artistic programming.

PSFS gratefully acknowledges the support of Canadian Heritage, Canada Council for the Arts, Province of British Columbia, City of Vancouver, British Columbia Arts Council, and Hapa Collaborative.