



vancouver new music

For immediate release

8 November 2007

**ART & ACTIVISM : WORLD AIDS DAY EVENTS : 30 NOV. – 2 DEC. 2007**

AIDS Vancouver and YouthCO in partnership with The Dance Centre

**Project Stitch : The Digital AIDS Quilt exhibition**

Opening November 30, 2pm (to December 9) at the Scotiabank Dance Centre; *free*

The Centre, Cineworks, Out on Screen and Vancouver New Music

**Zero Patience** : A film by John Greyson; artist Q&A and reception will follow

November 30, 8pm at VanCity Theatre, 1181 Seymour Street; *\$10/\$7*

Vancouver New Music

**Fig Trees** : A video-opera by John Greyson and David Wall

Opening December 1, 3pm at the Scotiabank Dance Centre, 677 Davie Street

Continues to December 9, noon – 8pm each day; *suggested donation \$5 - \$20*

**Art & Activism – artist panel** : moderated by Sadira Rodrigues (VAG)

December 1, 4:30pm at the Scotiabank Dance Centre; *free*

AIDS Vancouver and YouthCO present

**A youth focused World AIDS Day event!**

December 1, 7pm at Ironworks Studio, 235 Alexander Street; *free – all ages show*

Cineworks and Vancouver New Music

**The Queen's Sore Throat** : A lecture-presentation by John Greyson

December 2, 2pm at the Pacific Cinéma, 1131 Howe Street, *free*

For more information go to [www.newmusic.org](http://www.newmusic.org) or call 1.604.633.0861.

Art often becomes a creative conduit for raising awareness about important social and political issues. This year for World AIDS day a number of local arts and social service organizations have come together to present a variety of art events that highlight the ongoing need for awareness, action and education around the subject of AIDS.

On December 1<sup>st</sup>, 1989, the same year the UN announced the first World AIDS day, Visual AIDS organized a “day without art” as a national day of action and mourning in response to the AIDS crisis. Reflecting on the tremendous role that art can play in exploring and drawing attention to AIDS issues, AIDS Vancouver, The Centre, Cineworks, The Dance Centre, Out on Screen and Vancouver New Music partner to present a week with film screenings, discussions, a presentation, an exhibition and multi-media installation that all explore various aspects of AIDS awareness through artistic creation.

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*AIDS Vancouver and YouthCO in partnership with The Dance Centre*

**Project Stitch : The Digital AIDS Quilt exhibition**

**Friday, November 30, 2007 (runs to December 9, 2007)**

**Official opening 2pm, reception to follow**

**Scotiabank Dance Centre, 677 Davie Street – main lobby**

Project Stitch launches the display of its collaborative multi-media community art project– a Digital AIDS Quilt created by local and international youth.

*Project Stitch* is a youth focused, HIV-awareness initiative launched in 2006 by AIDS Vancouver with the support of local youth and community groups. *Project Stitch* consists of an interactive website, community-based workshops, mentoring opportunities, collaborative art project (the Digital AIDS Quilt) and a large-scale multi-media World AIDS Day event on December 1st.

*The Centre, Cineworks, Out on Screen and Vancouver New Music*

**Zero Patience**

**Friday November 30, 2007 doors at 7pm, show at 8pm, artist Q&A and reception to follow.**

**VanCity Theatre, 1181 Seymour Street**

**Tickets \$10/\$7 students/seniors available at the door.**

The Centre, Cineworks, Out on Screen and Vancouver New Music are pleased to present a screening of John Greyson's film *Zero Patience*. Greyson's award winning musical-comedy presents a unique refutation of the idea that AIDS was brought to North America by a single, traceable person – "Patient Zero".

In *Zero Patience* the ghost of Zero returns to haunt Sir Richard Burton, a museum curator who is intending to present the Patient Zero hypothesis as part of an exhibit in his Hall of Contagion.

*John Greyson will be present for a Q&A following the film*

*Vancouver New Music*

**Fig Trees** – a video-opera installation by John Greyson and David Wall

**Saturday, December 1; opening reception and performance 3pm**

**December 2 - 9; open noon – 8pm**

**Scotiabank Dance Centre, 677 Davie Street**

**Suggested donation \$5 - \$20**

Fig Trees is a multimedia opera installation that considers treatment and political issues in the story of Zackie Achmat, a South African man living with AIDS. Achmat's decision to refuse treatment until medication was available to all who needed it made international headlines.

*Special live performance Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> at 3pm featuring Melanie Adams, Olivia Kurth, Carman Price and David Wall.*

**Art & Activism: artist panel moderated by Sadira Rodrigues (Vancouver Art Gallery)**

**Saturday, December 1; 4:30pm**

**Scotiabank Dance Centre, 677 Davie Street**

Sadira Rodrigues moderates a panel discussion with sound, media and visual artists about art and political activism. Panelists include John Greyson, Tiko Kerr, David Wall and others.

*AIDS Vancouver and YouthCO present*  
**A youth focused World AIDS Day event!**  
**Saturday, December 1, 2007; 7pm**  
**Ironworks Studio, 235 Alexander Street**

Join us this December 1<sup>st</sup> for an evening of art, music, performance and exhibition of the 2007 Digital AIDS Quilt.

*Cineworks and Vancouver New Music*  
**The Queen's Sore Throat** – a lecture demonstration by John Greyson  
**Sunday, December 2, 2007; 2pm; reception to follow**  
**Pacific Cinematheque, 1131 Howe Street**

Spinning off the work of Wayne Koestenbaum, Douglas Crimp, Linda Hutcheon and others concerning notions of activism, the queer martyr, the operatic spectacle, and the rendering of the American and African AIDS pandemics in song, this lecture explores the use of voice, song and opera in John Greyson's work addressing AIDS. Throughout the lecture Greyson will reference clips from his films, including the agit-prop PSA *The ADS Epidemic*, a safer-sex remake of *Death in Venice*; excerpts from Greyson's AIDS musical *Zero Patience*; and scenes from his recent video-installation *Fig Trees*, which reimagines the treatment strike of South African AIDS activist Zackie Achmat.

Vancouver New Music gratefully acknowledges the support of The Canada Council for the Arts, Canadian Heritage through Arts Presentation Canada, Government of Canada's Youth Employment Strategy, The Province of British Columbia through the British Columbia Arts Council and BC Gaming, The City of Vancouver through the Office of Cultural Affairs, Xtra West, Holiday Inn Downtown and Tom Lee Music.

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