



## MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release: July 6, 2017

### STREETFEST: Fun Times From Eh? To Zed!

**Q: What's the most 'EH'mazing event in Edmonton this summer?**  
**A: The Edmonton International Street Performers Festival, of course!**

Edmonton International Street Performer's Festival is back for its 33<sup>rd</sup> year, with **Fun Times from Eh? To Zed, July 7- 16 on Sir Winston Churchill Square**. With over 40 acts from Canada and around the globe, there's something for everyone. For 10 days, Edmonton's downtown core is magically transformed into the ultimate playground for the young and young-at-heart with professional street acts, rovers, musicians, dancers, clowns, live statues, balloon twisters and more!

For artist info and daily schedules please visit [www.edmontonstreetfest.com](http://www.edmontonstreetfest.com) or download our **new festival App**, available for both iOS and Android.

From returning festival favourites to brand new acts, patrons will explore a variety of entertainment to let the fun times roll!

#### Artists from Eh? to Zed!

- Formerly Hip Flick Hoops, **Amanda Syryda** returns in The Hula Hoop Circus. This Hula Hoop Circus has been providing Alberta with family-friendly entertainment and hoop dance instruction since 2010.
- **Aytahn Ross AKA The Great Balanzo!** With a silly elegance, the Great Balanzo turns the everyday into an adventure with amazing and unforgettable stunts. This contemporary circus & comedy show has a classic old time feeling that harkens back to a bygone era and guarantees fun times.
- **Bob and Betty's World Dance Party!** Join tacky tourist Bob and Betty (Bob Rasko & Andrea House) in Kids' World as they take your toddlers on a trip around the World of Dance! Celebrate Canada's 150 with this Multicultural exploration of movement and music.
- **Chanel Panas** is happy to be returning for her third year at Kids' World.
- **Cindy Lou** has delighted children of all ages across Western Canada with her vast repertoire of face and body art.

- **Dan the Balloon Man** has been entertaining the young and old for 16 years and is happy to return to StreetFest. Check out his spectacular creations on the Square. Dan boasts “one of the best balloon animals you have ever seen or I will eat a bug!”
- **Fraser Hooper’s** shows takes audience participation to a new level, his routines are hilarious, clowning classics with elements of mime and knockabout comedy that pay homage to his heroes, the great silent clowns.
- **Harvey Anderson** is a choreographer, costume designer, teacher and child caregiver, to mention a few. He is thrilled to be back in Kids’ World.
- **Heather D. Swain** is leading the wave of awareness on the quantitative importance of humour in the workplace as *Dr. Auntie Dote* in [HumourHealthCare.com](http://HumourHealthCare.com) that has toured about Alberta for the past 10 years.
- **James Jordon** achieved his life-long dream to create his own one-man Vaudeville variety show.
- **Jason Kodie AKA The Mellifluous Mr. Bimbo** returns to StreetFest as the roving minstrel, aboard his Piano Bike. The mobile melody maker will be seen and heard daily throughout the Square.
- **Kamikaze Fireflies** is a two-person whirlwind of comedy and variety. Rob Williams and Casey Martin are a globe-trotting couple from Los Angeles that have four Guinness World Records and received a standing ovation on America’s Got Talent.
- **Laugh with Liz** - Party lover that she is, when "The Queen" heard it's Canada's 150th Anniversary, she dropped everything to come over and celebrate with us at StreetFest. Come welcome Her Majesty and catch up on the latest from the palace.
- **Leah Ozum** is thrilled to be sharing her love of the circus arts and juggling at the Edmonton International Street Performers Festival this year as part of the Be Your Own Busker Program.
- **Mat Ricardo**, the gentleman juggler, is one of the most unique, critically-acclaimed and reliably-crowd-pleasing variety performers in the world. He’s the first man in history to learn to put the tablecloth back on the table – but that’s just one of his incredible feats!
- **Mike Wood** is a natural-born comedian. He does dumb things the smart way, and smart things the dumb way. If he’s not catching a catapulted cabbage on a spike on his head, he’s probably riding around on a bicycle that steers in reverse.
- **Miranda Allen AKA Tianna the Traveller** travels the world collecting unusual stories and stunts. Cracking whips and cracking wise, she dares to face every challenge and seek adventure. Her skills include whip cracking, hand-balancing, and an original ratchet strap escape.
- **Miyako** - From intricate oriental calligraphy to full face transformation, watch Miyako create colourful and beautiful body art.
- **Pancho Libre’s** highly energetic, skilled acrobatic show will have you hooked with impossible feats of strength and danger.

- **Peter Jarvis AKA Silver Elvis**, in a world of over 58,000 Elvis impersonators there is only one Elvis simulator that is "Silver Elvis". Head-to-toe in silver, this cash activated robo E, dances into your heart with classic Elvis moves.
- **P'Wan's** first visit to StreetFest in 1996 inspired her to transform her passion for Thai art into a talent for face painting. She is delighted to bring her unique artistry to the festival once again.
- **Phizzlewit AKA Phileas Flash**, has been capturing hearts worldwide with his brilliant brand of balloon art, charming comedy and crazy magic for over thirteen years.
- **Rhythm Speaks** is a collective of artists that have come together. The group's diversity strives from learning from one another and passing on the knowledge. Each member's story is told through their dance which provides not only entertainment for the audience, but a one of a kind experience.
- **Rick Kunst** began his professional career in Florida, performing street theatre at Epcot Center in the early 1980's. Today he runs his own company, Men in Tights, where he performs Shakespearean improvisation and can be seen in commercials and television.
- **Sampler Café** was an initiative started by locals Matthew Wood and Brett McKenzie in January of 2016 as a way to facilitate the development of Edmonton's electronic music production community.
- **Sharon Mahoney** is an actor, stand-up comic and has been street performing since 1999. Her show is a highly theatrical variety comedy show with two central characters; the passive aggressive 'Sharon from Canada' and her more domineering counterpart, 'Tallulah'.
- Cartoonist and producer **Simon Glassman** has been drawing his entire life and is once again pleased to be a part of StreetFest. Perfect for singles, groups, couples and kids of all ages, Simon's caricatures are the ultimate memento after a long day in the sun.
- It's a fish! It's an alien! It's a perfectly posh pair out for a kite-flying adventure! **Something Fishy** is mixing up some serious street side silliness this year with Amber Borotsik, Zoe Glassman, Jesse Gervais and maybe even some extra special guests.
- Let **Pretzel** lead you on a balloon expedition with a catalogue of creatures as-long-as the alphabet. From intricate balloon animals to large-scale balloon installations, **Stephen Dubetz** – The Kingpin of the Balloon Gang – is back at StreetFest to deprive himself of oxygen for your amusement.
- **The Hockey Circus Show** - Paz is an internationally acclaimed, award-winning circus artist and hockey ambassador that spreads the love of the game around the world. He has been entertaining audiences for over 20 years.

**Troupe du Jour** shows offer audiences the best of the fest with nightly performances at **10pm** at the steps on the Square. Showcasing a different cast of performers each night, the hour-long variety shows are suitable for the whole family and honour the Pass-the-Hat tradition. This year, StreetFest welcomes **Mariachi Borealis**, **Jeon's Traditional Taekwondo Ltd**, and **The Prairie Dolls** as special guests. Special thanks to Global Television for their sponsorship and to Midwest Property Management for their generous matching of all Troupe donations up to \$5000.

Located on the north-east corner of Churchill Square, **Kids' World** offers non-ticketed, accessible

performances, activities, and interactive playtime catered specifically to our little patrons. Join **Bob Rasko & Andrea House** for a fun dance party in “**Bob and Betty’s World Dance Party**”. Also keep an eye out for **Phizzelwit** giving daily **Fairy Tours** throughout Kids’ World. We welcome City of Edmonton as our Kids’ World Equipment Sponsor.

Festival patrons are invited to try out the **Be Your Own Busker** workshops which take place daily from 11:30am to 4:30pm (July 16: 11:30am to 2:30pm). Learn to Hula Hoop, breakdance or play a new game. This year’s Equipment Sponsors for Be Your Own Busker are Edmonton Community Foundation, Civic Service Union 52 and City of Edmonton

StreetFest is once again proud to present **Comedy Cares**, an award-winning outreach initiative delivering healing smiles and chuckles to hospitals and care facilities – including the Stollery and Glenrose - in the Edmonton area. Visits at the Glenrose and during the year are generously sponsored by Dr. Diane and Irv Kipnes.

**StreetFest Info:** [www.edmontonstreetfest.com](http://www.edmontonstreetfest.com) or download the new App!

**Android:** <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.bf.app07b3f1&hl=en>

**iOS:** <https://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/edmonton-streetfest/id1252152982?mt=8>

-30-

**Media Contact:** Kate Hamblin, Bottom Line Productions  
C: 780.257.6931 | E: [kate@bottomlinepro.com](mailto:kate@bottomlinepro.com)

**Onsite Media Contact:** Allyson Froland, Bottom Line Productions  
C: 780-882-4553 | E: [ally@bottomlinepro.com](mailto:ally@bottomlinepro.com)

[2017 Artist Photos](#)

[2017 Artist Bios](#)

[2016 Festival Photos, Photo Credit: Epic Photography](#)