

APRIL 2016
CELEBRATING 80 YEARS OF TRAVEL

Philadelphia

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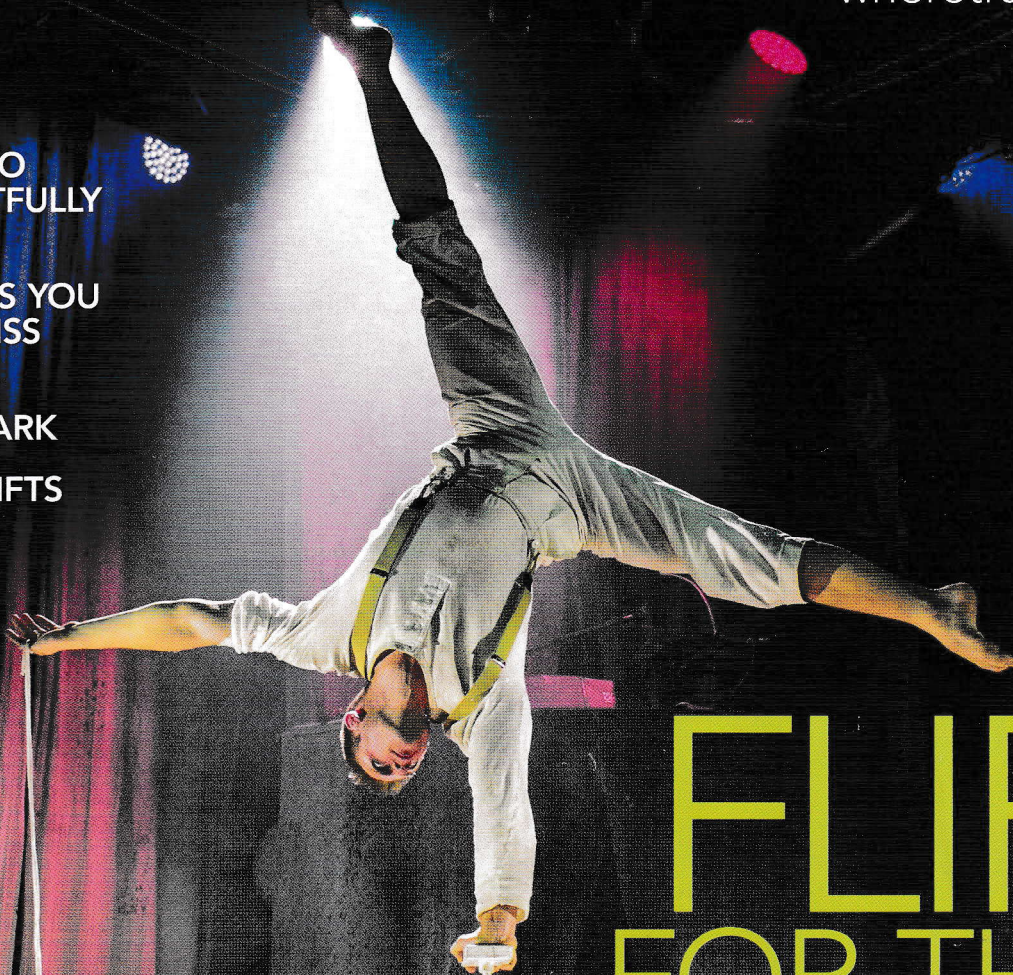
INSIDE

WHERE TO
DINE ARTFULLY

3 SPRING
FESTIVALS YOU
CAN'T MISS

PHILLY
AFTER DARK

LOCAL GIFTS



FLIP FOR THIS

Philadelphia International
Festival of the Arts launches
16 days of creative expression
at the Kimmel Center

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→ Philadelphia where now

The savvy traveler's guide to finding fun in Philadelphia

ART+CULTURE

Festival of Art

From April 8-23, the city will come to life with a spectacular series of jaw-dropping, genre-bending, thought-provoking artistic installations at the 2016 Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts.

Fluid 17, Fluid Infinities
by Diavolo Architecture in
Motion for PIFA.



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Philadelphia



Returning for the third time since its inception in 2011, the 16-day Philadelphia Festival of the Arts presents a carefully curated array of artistic displays from visionaries and performers around the world. From a maze of sand and fire to gravity-defying acrobatic feats, the experiences that comprise PIFA are one-of-a-kind. While the media employed in each piece vary greatly, all of the inclusions share one important commonality: they adhere to this year's chosen theme, "We Are What We Make," which addresses the many ways that artists ask interesting questions through their work.

To find the best mix of content for PIFA 2016, the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts team, who produces the show, consulted with several local arts organizations and

"To see our local arts organizations coming together... is sure to be an extraordinary experience for the hundreds of thousands touched by PIFA."

prominent art figures. The result is a festival that includes troupes hailing from Sweden to Brooklyn. "To see our local arts organizations coming together in collaboration

with one another, as well as with the renowned international artists joining us from around the world, is sure to be an extraordinary experience for the hundreds of thousands touched by PIFA," says Anne Ewers, president and CEO of the Kimmel Center.

The 2016 edition includes more than 60 performances at venues all over Philadelphia. "We look for a lot of different art forms that will appeal to all age groups and audiences," says Jay Wahl, artistic director at the Kimmel Center. PIFA will fill the city with large-scale installations that many people can experience at once, creating a sense of community.

While it will come and go in just 16 days, PIFA 2016 has been years in the making. "We look for things that are unique to Philly and might engage the city in new and different ways," says Wahl. As part of Concerto in Sea Major, for example, three musicians will play homemade aqua-instruments while standing waist-deep in some of the city's most impressive fountains and The PIFA Street Fair, which closes the festival, will shut down six blocks of Broad Street with art, music, food and vendors.

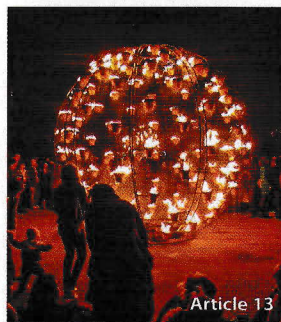
Regardless of the venue, performance or medium, PIFA organizers hope that the festival shows the positive effects that art can have on attendees and on Philadelphia. "Nothing teaches us empathy more than the arts," says Wahl. "I hope that's what PIFA can give to the city." Performances are on view from April 8-23. www.pifa.org. —Amy Gordon

Our PIFA Picks

OPENING ACT

ARTICLE 13

Penn's Landing sets the stage for the festival's opener. Become part of the experience and walk through a maze of fire, sound and performance, all of which highlight the struggles of immigrants and migrants. *April 8-10 at 9 pm*



Article 13

ART IMITATES LIFE

THE KINETIC TREE

Artist Mimi Lien designed this massive installation specifically for PIFA 2016. Throughout the entire festival, this site-specific creation will be on display in the Kimmel Center's Commonwealth Plaza. During free performances twice each evening, the tree transforms into something utterly different, which you'll have to see to believe. *April 8-23 at 7 pm and 10 pm*

HANDS ON

STAND

Two local art centers, The Clay Studio and The Center for Art in Wood, collaborated with artist Shay Church to create "Stand," an interactive piece in the lobby of the Kimmel Center. Members of the public are encouraged to apply wet clay to the installation, transforming raw elements into shapes and figures. *April 8-23*

FOR THE KIDS

PAPER PLANET

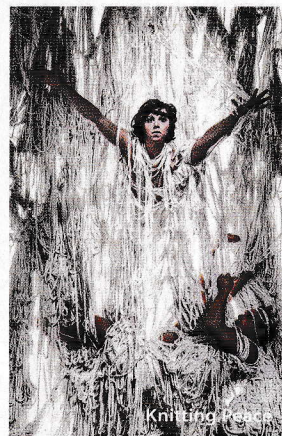
Creative kids will love Paper Planet, which takes place in the Hamilton Garden at the

Kimmel Center. After wandering through an unusual landscape of tall cardboard trees and structures, youngsters can use tape, paper and cardboard to create their own vines, costumes, plants and animals, which become part of the installation as it evolves. *Several performances throughout PIFA 2016*

ACROBATIC FEATS

KNITTING PEACE

In "Knitting Peace," the unlikely pairing of the knitting and circus arts results in a completely unique theatrical experience. Clad all in white, a troupe of Swedish circus artists glide, soar and dance through the air in a series of acrobatic routines performed on a set that's 75 percent yarn. *April 8-9 at 8 pm; April 10 at 2 pm*



Knitting Peace

CIRCUS ACTS

ARCHITECTURE IN MOTION

Diavolo presents the Philadelphia premiere of "Architecture in Motion," which explores the relationships between the dangers of the environment and the human body. During two performances in the 1,800-seat Merriam Theater, the company dances, glides, jumps, flies and hangs on a set that resembles a giant white dome. *April 13 and 14 at 8 pm*

POETRY LOVERS

MY SOUL'S SHADOW

Head to the Barnes Foundation to see Manual Cinema interpret the poetry of



PIFA Street Fair

Federico Garcia Lorca in "My Soul's Shadow." This imaginative performance includes overhead projection, puppets and original live music set against the backdrop of one of the city's most impressive museums. *April 15-16 at 6 pm*

MUSICALLY INCLINED

CONCERTO IN SEA MAJOR

Watering cans become horns and snorkel masks become flutes during Aquacoustique's "Concerto in Sea Major." Standing waist-deep in water, three imaginative musicians will play their homemade aqua-instruments in fountains at the Rodin Museum, the Penn Museum and Independence National Historic Park. *April 15-17, several performances each day*

AMERICAN HEROES

HOLDING IT DOWN: THE VETERAN'S DREAM PROJECT

Spotlights minority veterans from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The group communicates its message using music, poetry, song, video and visual elements, which together offer a moving and thought-provoking look at the veteran experience. *April 22 at 8 pm*

FUN FOR EVERYONE

PIFA STREET FAIR

The festival concludes with the PIFA Street Fair that shuts down one of the busiest areas in Philadelphia. On Broad Street between Chestnut and South Streets, tens of thousands of attendees enjoy a fun-filled day of art, food, vendors, live entertainment and more. *April 23*