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## UNDERGROUND MUSIC: MINE MUSEUM PLAYED AS MUSICAL INSTRUMENT IN NEWMATICA

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**An Industrial Concert of Percussion, New Music and Dance** *Featuring an eclectic slate of percussive scores by iconic composers John Cage, R. Murray Schafer, André Cormier, and Jocelyn Morlock*

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Rio Thea  
May 15, 20

CATEGOR

Co-produced by **Astrolabe Musik Theatre** and the **Britannia Mine Museum** on **Saturday, May 25, 7:30pm, NEWmatica** is a riveting, site-specific, and interdisciplinary concert of new music and modern tap dance, where the venue itself is played as a musical instrument.

Held in the towering 26-storey Mill at the Britannia Mine Museum (a National Historic Site), *NEWmatica* celebrates the power of percussion. Vancouver-based musicians **Fringe Percussion** (Jonathan Bernard, Martin Fisk, Brian Nesselroad and Daniel Tones), soprano **Heather Pawsey**, and contemporary tap dancers **Danny Nielsen** and **Dayna Szyndrowski** showcase their individual musical expressions – and where they intersect – through rhythm, melody, harmony, text, and audience participation.

“Whenever possible, we love to engage our audiences through active participation in our concerts,” says Heather Pawsey, Artistic Director of Astrolabe Musik Theatre. “For *NEWmatica*, we’ve invited members of the public, through a series of workshops, to join us and literally play the Mill as a musical instrument itself in a series of musical motives used as transitions throughout the evening.”

This one-of-a-kind presentation will feature the music of iconic American composer **John Cage** (*Third Construction; forever and sunsmell*) as well as Canadian composers **André Cormier** (*Tableau de Backyard*), **Jocelyn Morlock** (*Darwin’s Walken Fish; Train*), and internationally acclaimed Canadian composer **R. Murray Schafer** (*Tantrika*), in celebration of his 80th birthday.

The Britannia Mine Museum’s Mill (one of the last remaining gravity-fed concentrator mills in North America) was chosen as a venue because of its cathedral-like height, soaring into the air with 14,416 window panes. Its long and reverberant acoustic, punctuated by splashes of water trickling down its rock face walls, allows for spatial placement that enables unamplified voice and tap to seamlessly integrate with the larger forces of a percussion quartet. Steel beams and girders, round wooden platforms, concrete floors, and found objects provide ample and varied opportunities for the public workshop participants to play the Mill as a percussive instrument itself.

Dress Advisory: As the Mill is unheated, please dress warmly, with footwear suitable for uneven terrain.

#### About Astrolabe Musik Theatre

Astrolabe Musik Theatre was founded by Artistic Director, soprano Heather Pawsey. The company is committed to presenting multi- and interdisciplinary collaborations, particularly with Canadian creators and performers. Astrolabe is passionate about commissioning and performing new works by Canadian artists in non-traditional venues, and dedicated to the dynamic and active engagement of audiences through innovative programming and the creation of new experiences through site-specific venues.

#### LISTING INFORMATION Astrolabe Musik Theatre & Britannia Mine Museum present *NEWmatica*

Date: May 25, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

Ticket prices: \$25 / \$18 Students and Seniors

Address: Britannia Mine Museum

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	Highway 99 (Sea to Sky Highway)
	Britannia Beach, B.C. (45 min. north of Vancouver)
Box Office:	<a href="http://brownpapertickets.com">brownpapertickets.com</a>
	Or in person at the Britannia Mine Museum
Website:	<a href="http://astrolabemusiktheatre.com">astrolabemusiktheatre.com</a>

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