

**POP Montreal** is an international music festival celebrating its 10th anniversary from September 21st to the 25th, 2011. POP is now recognized as an important multidisciplinary taste-making event, expanding its mission through various components: Puces POP, Art POP, Film POP, Kids POP and the Symposium.

***Making sense of music-making.  
Welcome to the Symposium.***

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Since 2004, POP Montreal has held an important place for music-oriented discussions in its programming, bringing together the more inspiring elements from other conferences to create a unique industry event. The Symposium is a FREE daytime event during the festival featuring panel discussions, *how to's*, DIY projects, workshops and, of course, open-concept conferences, all taking place in a down-to-earth environment. It sheds light on key themes and important issues faced by young artists, who in turn are invited to join in for more animated and interactive discussions.

Presenters are music industry legends and artists specially curated by the festival. The discussions are led by important members of the music industry and Montreal's diverse creative community. In the past, the Symposium has featured great names such as Patti Smith, Van Dyke Park, John Simon, Buffy Sainte-Marie, Irma Thomas, Lydia Lunch, Kenneth Goldsmith, and many other luminaries.

But don't expect to hear the same old discourse! The Symposium highlights informative, evocative and untold personal and professional accounts creating a more intimate experience, giving audience members unique access to creators and creative minds. The Symposium also allows for spectators and lecturers to meet and greet, which reflects the openness of Montreal's artistic scene.

With a full 5 days of programming throughout the festival, the Symposium attracts several hundred festival-goers and curious minds on a daily basis.

POP Montreal's days have never been so inspiring.

***Symposium Team***

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## Important Events...

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### 2010

- Conversation with **Van Dyke Parks**
- Conversation with **Carole Pope**
- Master class and conversation with **John Simon**
- *Bounce* workshop with **Big Freedia**
- Conversation with **Koudlam**

### 2009

- *Jam* workshop with **Faust**
- Conversation with **Vincent Moon**
- Conversation with **Buffy Sainte-Marie**
- Conversation with **Diamanda Galas**
- Conversation with **Roxanne Shante**

### 2008

- Conversation with **Irma Thomas**
- Conversation with **Lydia Lunch**
- Panel discussion **Jem Cohen**

### 2007

- Panel discussions with **Sandy Perlman, Dan Levitan et Steve Albini**
- Conversation with **Patti Smith**
- Panel discussion with **Buck 65 et Skratch Bastid**

### 2006

- Conversation with **David Byrne\***  
*\*Special partnership with the Future of Music Policy Summit at McGill*

### 2004

- Conversation with **Ian Mackaye**
- Conversation with **Saul Williams**
- Panel discussion with **Busdriver**

## Important Points

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- Created in 2004, the Symposium's mission is to create a musical conference reflecting a **democratic** and **open spirit** that also underlines some of the local culture. The activities are **FREE** and run throughout the day.
- In 2010, the Symposium had an attendance of 1662 people
- Since its inception, the Symposium presents local and international authors, composers, film directors, sound engineers, artists and influential community leaders.
- During the festival the Symposium presents over **twenty** different events during the daytime including:
  - Workshops: dance, music, songwriting
  - Discussion panels
  - Q & A sessions



Improvisation with the Mahala Rai Banda



Making it in Montreal Panel



Discussion with music legend Van Dyke Parks



Ucpluse and personal with Big Freedia



Bounce class with Big Freedia

## What people are saying about us...

“This section of POP Montreal has teamed up with experienced, fascinating speakers”

— **The Link**

“The POP Montreal Symposium has become one of the most important parts of the fest ”

— **Tourisme-Montreal.org**

“The always interesting Symposium”

— **Citeeze.com**

“It’s one of POP’s most exceptional [...] components”

— **Said the Gramophone**

“All pops are created equal ”

— **Bang Bang**

“a music conference like no other ”

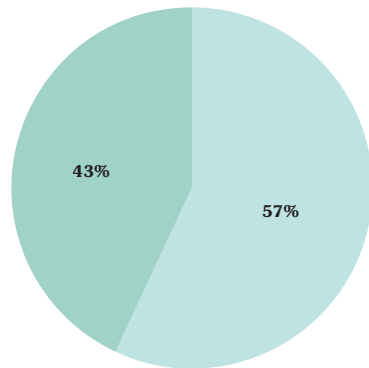
— **Motorcityblog.com**

“the best curated panel ever ”

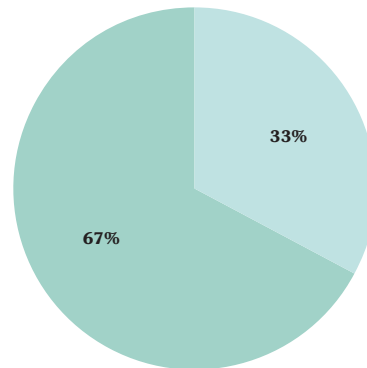
— **Future of Music**



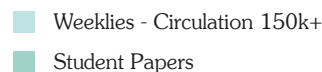
## Who is talking about us...

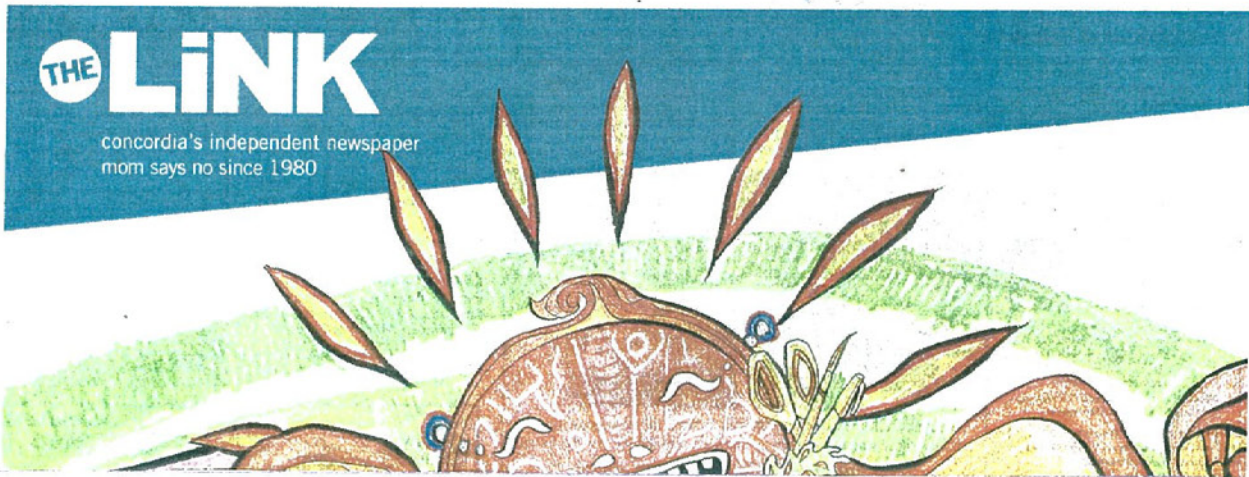


### Media Type



### Print Type





# We Need to Talk...

## Symposium, A Fun and Educational Space

• OLIVIA DUMAS

When it comes to choosing an event to attend at POP Montreal, it can often be difficult to sift through the bible-thick program.

The musical performances of the festival are such a large aspect that often smaller, low-key events—like the mysterious Symposium—are overlooked. This free, five day part of the festival is the ideal starting point for aspiring musicians, professionals in search of new ideas or simply curious show-goers looking for a more interactive experience.

The Symposium is a space where professional or budding

artists and members of the musical community share their knowledge through workshops and discussions. This guide will walk you through the more promising events of this underrated part of POP Montreal.

### Improvising with Mahala Rai Banda

Mahala Rai, a Romanian nine-piece band, has played over 200 shows in 26 countries. They will be doing a jam with whoever has an instrument and wants to play. This should be fun and interesting, considering the language barrier that will force all to communicate through the inter-

national language of music.

### Songwriting and Arrangements with Van Dyke Parks

This world renowned musician has composed, produced, arranged, sung and acted with the likes of The Beach Boys, Joanna Newsom, Grace Kelly and Ringo Starr. Van Dyke Parks will give the privilege of accessing his musical knowledge and experience.

### Making it Montreal

This workshop is aimed specifically at anglophone artists trying to "make it" in their field within the dominant francophone com-

munity. Helpful tips are supplied from bands like Godspeed You! Black Emperor, The Luyas and Sebastian Cowan. Louis Rastelli, the creator of Distroboto/Expozine, will moderate the discussion.

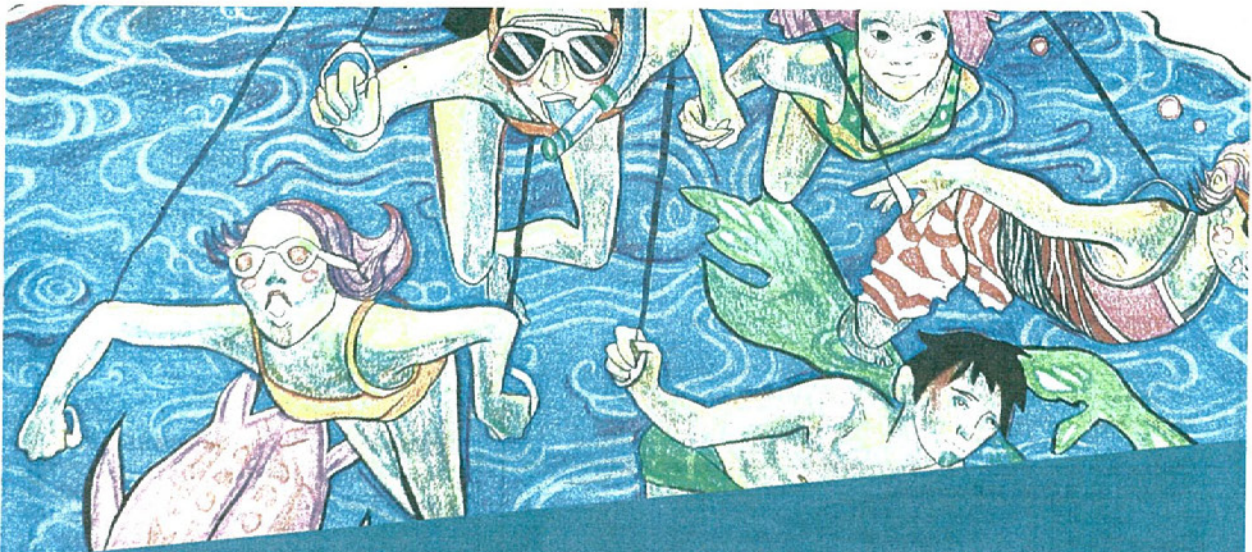
### DIY Day Lives On

This interactive workshop with Philly-based Maximilian Lawrence explores the sounds and construction of synthesizers and trigger-toys. Not only will you get to experiment with sound, but you can leave this workshop with your very own instruments. Bring a little money to pitch in for the materials and learn how to build the

toy that will shape your new band.

Other workshops to check out are musician-oriented—ideal when searching for tools to promote, distribute, tour and create new art. This section of POP Montreal has teamed up with experienced, fascinating speakers and, given that almost all events are free, is accessible to all.

Symposium events are mostly held at the Agora Hydro-Québec (175 President Kennedy Ave.) Visit [popmontreal.com](http://popmontreal.com) for other venues.



Your Guide to Pop Montreal • Special Insert