

JENN'S LIST FOR JULY AND AUGUST

I know there are lots of typos and always check event pages for the real facts.

QUICK REFERENCE FOR JULY

July 1 All Day: Canada Day celebrations at Simms/Courtenay
July 1 at 8pm: Trooper at Ostler Park in Campbell River
July 2 at 7pm: Jenn Forsland at 40 Knots (GSJS)
July 4 at 7:30pm: Iron Kingdom and W.M.D. at the Waverley
July 7 at 1pm: V.I.S. at 40 Knots (Tango)*
July 8 at 5pm: What's Next at 40 Knots
July 9 at 1:30pm: Sarah Hagen Goldberg Variations at Denman Hall*
July 9-11: Ramble Festival at the Merville Hall*
July 11 at 12-8pm: Abstract Audio at CUB space
July 11 at 4:30pm: Anemara at a house concert in Cumberland
July 11 at 8pm: The FOmites, We are not a Cult and others at Masonic Hall
July 14-18: CYMC Come From Away at Sid*
July 15 at 6pm: Caraluna, Marrow Bones and others at the Green Room
July 16 at 7pm: Marc Atkinson at 40 Knots
July 21 at 1pm: V.I.S. at 40 Knots (Call of the wild, horns)
July 22 at 5pm: Tidelines Jazz at 40 Knots
July 22 at 7:30pm: John Smith at Regier Theatre
July 23 at 6pm: Jazz Jam at Mex
July 23 at 7pm: Sarah Hagen Of Water I Sing at Comox United*
July 24 at 5pm: Pulse in the Plaza with Collective Echoes and Sourdope*
July 24 at 6:30pm: Destroyer at Curling Club
July 24 at 7pm: Mean Bikini, Presidia, Gorilla Flip and Vicious Cycles at Masonic Hall*
July 25 All Day: Courtenay Market Day*
July 25 at 7:30pm: Long and McQuade Teachers Concert at Regier Theatre
July 29 at 7pm: Big Little Lions at a house concert in Cumberland
July 30 at 7pm: Connor Stewart at 40 Knots
July 30-August 8: Hornby Festival
July 31- Aug 2: Filberg Festival*

QUICK REFERENCE FOR AUGUST

August 1 to 3: Nautical Days at Comox Marina*

August 4 at 1pm: V.I.S. at 40 Knots (From the deep, bass and cellos)*

August 6 at 7pm: Ralph Barrat at 40 Knots

August 6 at 9pm: Grunge and Glitter tour at the Waverley

August 7 at 8pm: WiL at Ash Berry Farm

August 7-9 on Denman and August 11-13 at Comox United: Kaimeraata

August 15 at 12:30-8:30pm: Abstract Audio at CUB space

August 15 at 4pm Harry Manx at Weird Church

August 15 at 5pm: Rock the Block w/ Drama Queen and Five Alarm Funk

August 20 at 7pm: Nebula project at 40 Knots*

August 21 at 9pm: Snak the Rapper at Waverley

August 22 at 7pm: Nameless King, Thirteen Goats and Butcher at Masonic*

August 27 at 6pm: Jazz Jam at the Mex

August 27 at 7:30pm: High Bar Gang at Regier

August 28 at 5pm: Pulse on the Plaza: Devours, Mean Bikini, Queer as Funk*

August 30 at 6:30pm: Bayonet Dismemberment and Angelamaker at the Curling club*

WEEKLY SUMMER SERIES

++Every Sunday at 7pm Free Concert at Simms Park in Courtenay

Sometimes tribute acts, often local acts. Probably the best one will be the kids from Exit 30 on June 28. courtenay.ca/simms

++Every Tuesday at 12pm Free Concert at Spirit Square in Campbell River

Both local and touring musicians play a quiet lunch time concert. The list of July and August's concerts has not been posted yet. They have a FB event page.

++Nearly every Wednesday (July and August) at 7pm Free Concert on Shopper's Row in Campbell River

Some REALLY great acts and theme nights including Reggae night on July 9, Bow and Bass with Kytami on July 22, and Yukon Blonde on August 19. Info found on FB.

++Nearly every Thursday (July and August) at 7pm Free Concert at Village Square in Cumberland

They've announced a couple of the weeks already including Phonosonics on July 9 and Semiah on July 16. More to come! elevatethearts.com/

++Every Friday at 12pm Free Concert and Market in downtown Comox

This is a new venture in Comox, an artisan market at the marina from 11:30-5pm with live music at noon on the former Lorne Hotel site. Some acts include the Naden band and Fred Penner. Check out the schedule here: downtowncomox.com/float-your-boat-fridays-2026/

++Nearly Every Friday at 7pm Free Concert at Spirit Square in Campbell River

Usually these are really impressive ensemble acts. It's a new booker this year and they haven't released who is playing in July and August but most of the acts in June were locals. Event page on FB.

++Every Friday (July and August) at 7pm Free Concert at Comox Lake Picnic Shelter

I have always enjoyed a dip at the lake followed by some FREE live music. The schedule for this year can be found at:

cumberlandlakepark.ca/programs/#park-program-2071

FULL COMMENTARY

July 1 All Day: Canada Day celebrations at Simms/Courtenay

A parade, cake and some live music. Free

courtenay.ca/community-and-culture/events-calendar/canada-day-celebrations

July 1 at 8pm: Trooper at Ostler Park in Campbell River

Classic Canadian Rockers who apparently are “Here for a good time...and a long time”. They’ve been rocking it since the ‘70s. Free

campbellriver.ca/government/news/2026-06-15-cr-live-streets-presents-trooper-canada-day

July 2 at 7pm: Jennifer Forsland at 40 Knots (GSJS)

Once a CV resident, now living in Thailand, Jenn’s voice can only be described as a powerhouse. She’ll likely be singing from the American Songbook. georgiastraightjazz.com

July 4 at 7:30pm: Iron Kingdom and W.M.D. at the Waverley

So, I’m out of town that night...but I am so excited about this tour that I will be going to the show in Victoria the night before. Lovers of classic heavy metal and thrash will LOVE this show and these two Vancouver bands. I can’t stop listening to Iron Kingdom’s new album *Shadows and Dust*.

waverley.tickit.ca

July 7 at 1pm: VIS at 40 Knots (Tango)

This is the first of three concerts in this series. These ensemble and intimate concerts are a perfect way to spend an hour on a Tuesday afternoon. The Vancouver Island Symphony is a professional symphony and their tango concert is fantastic.

vancouverislandsymphony.com/symphony-sizzle-festival/

July 8 at 5pm: What's Next at 40 Knots

This is one of 40 Knots Wine Wednesday events. If anyone has attended any of these events let me know what they are like. Is there food? Is it the full 4 hrs? Are the bands good? 40knotswinery.com/visit-us/calendar/

July 9 at 1:30pm: Sarah Hagen Goldberg Variations at Denman Hall

Seeing Sarah Hagen play the Goldberg Variations would be a dream come true! Added bonus, it is in conjunction with an art exhibit at the Denman Gallery of some of Sarah's visual art. sarahhagen.tickit.ca

July 9-11: Ramble Festival at the Merville Hall

J. Plank (former Nashville guitarist) and his band host these Levon Helm inspired nights at the Merville Hall. This summer edition features three special nights. Thursday is a songwriter circle for 10 lucky local songwriters. Friday will include bad ass Lindi Ortega and Saturday will include bluesman Brandon Isaak. tidemarktheatre.com/

July 11 at 12:30-8:30pm: Abstract Audio at CUB space

Come enjoy some free DJ sets in the former CUB space in Cumberland. These are extended sets which allows everyone to really get into the groove. I don't know who is on the line up this month but it is always a good group. There is a bar onsite but it is all ages and FREE! abstractaudio.ca/

July 11 at 4:30pm: Anemara at a house concert in Cumberland

Enjoy a folky backyard concert that supports the Cumberland Food Share. amara-manville-house-concerts.tickit.ca

July 11 at 8pm: The Fomites, We are not a Cult and others at Masonic Hall

There are some shows that make me reconsider my travel plans. This is one of them. The last time I saw We are Not A Cult the guitarist played the entire show while standing on a cocktail table. And I have always wanted to see the Fomites. Cumberland's own Bad State plus Victoria's Dead Rights will add support. I believe it is \$20 at the door.

July 14-18: CYMC Summer Series and Come From Away at Sid

Ever since I started going to these youth performances I have been blown away by their abilities and talent. Having never seen *Come From Away* but have heard all the hype I am looking forward to it. sidwilliamstheatre.com
Also check out the various showcases and faculty concerts throughout July at cymc.ca/2026-festival-of-summer-sounds/

July 15 at 6pm: Caraluna, Marrow Bones and others at the Green Room

These outdoor side yard concerts are a lot of fun. Caraluna are a delightful multi-lingual band. Marrow Bones is an eastern Canada hodge podge talented trio and support will come from Shelder the Electric Clamfish, a multi-instrumentalist from Mayne Island. A \$15 cover charge is appreciated. The Green Room is located beside the Riding Fool in Cumberland.

July 16 at 7pm: Marc Atkinson at 40 Knots (GSJS)

Juno nominated jazz guitarist who was also a member of The Bills. Marc has toured all over the world. He is inspired by gypsy jazz, classical guitar and blues so you can expect all of that and more. georgiastraightjazz.com

July 21 at 1pm: VIS at 40 Knots (Call of the wild, horns)

This is the second of three concerts in this series. This time we have the pleasure of hearing from the horn section. You know me and weird instruments. They say this concert will explore the history of the horn using different instruments including natural horns, post horns and an Alphorn. vancouverislandsymphony.com/symphony-sizzle-festival/

July 22 at 5pm: Tidelines Jazz at 40 Knots

This is one of 40 Knots Wine Wednesday events. 40knotswinery.com/visit-us/calendar/

July 22 at 7:30pm: John Smith at Regier Theatre

Folk fans, especially UK folk fans, will want to catch John. This is his only Vancouver Island stop on a short Canadian tour. Some say he is the next Nick Drake. oldchurch.tickit.ca

July 23 at 7pm: Sarah Hagen Of Water I Sing at Comox United

I love it when Sarah puts together a themed concert. This one will celebrate water and it promises to include interesting pieces like Ravel's Jeux d'eau and Debussy's Reflections in the Water. sarahhagen.tickit.ca

July 23 at 6pm: Jazz Jam at Mex

Local jazz musicians jam while the audience talks. I haven't been for awhile so hopefully it has improved now that there is a suggested cover donation (\$5-20).

July 24 at 5pm: Pulse in the Plaza with Collective Echoes and Sourdope

This is the second Pulse event of the summer and this time it will blur the lines between imagination and reality. They have all kinds of interactive things to do but also some great music including Vancouver's experimental jazz group Sourdope and psychpop group Neighbourly is rumoured to also be performing. FREE

July 24 at 6:30pm: Destroyer at Curling Club

You know how much I love CVGBs shows. So it kills me that I can't be at this one. Dan Bejar has been performing with his project Destroyer since 1995 but he has also been in New Pornographers and Swan Lake. This is Indie-art rock at its finest. cvgbs.tickit.ca

July 24 at 7pm: Mean Bikini, Presidia, Gorilla Flip and Vicious Cycles at Masonic Hall

We have local and localish favourite punks Mean Bikini, Presidia and Gorilla Flip joining one of Vancouver's most beloved punk rockers Vicious Cycles, who play the old school kind of punk that sings about life, love, laughter and bikes! I think it is \$20 at the door.

July 25 all day: Courtenay Market Day

While it isn't publicized as a live music event usually there are at least 2 stages with some pretty exceptional touring bands. FREE!

July 25: Long and McQuade Teachers Concert at Regier Theatre

This ain't your average recital, this one is in celebration of the teachers so it will be a very talented group. oldchurch.tickit.ca

July 29 at 7pm: Big Little Lions house concert in Cumberland

A sweet intimate house concert with a sweet duo.

amara-manville-house-concerts.tickit.ca

July 30 at 7pm: Connor Stewart at 40 Knots

GSJS hosts former Vancouver Islander now New Orleans based Connor Stewart. Last time I saw him, he brought some of his band mates from the south and it was pretty spectacular. georgiastraightjazz.com/

July 30-August 8: Horny Festival

Most nights throughout the 10 days they have some spectacular musicians. This year includes The Wailing Jennys, Freddy V and the Foundation, Adonis Puentes, and Elisabeth Pion. hornbyfest.com

July 31- Aug 2: Filberg Festival

Anyone who complains about how expensive Filberg is hasn't been to a concert in decades. This festival is the best bang for your buck with entire festival passes currently selling for \$52.50. They have two of the most beautiful stages and this year one of my favourite U.S. bands of all time is playing, Dirtwire. They also have some Canadian favourites, Dear Rouge, Beau Nectar, Son De Metal and I just saw TK the Artist and he blew the crowd away. filbergfestival.com

AUGUST

August 1 to 3: Nautical Days at Comox Marina

Ever since a new booker took over, the local acts at Nautical Days have been far better than who they used to get (although they usually still have an Elvis impersonator and magician). This year's schedule hasn't been released yet but there's always a couple bands I enjoy. comox.ca/nauticaldays

August 4 at 1pm: VIS at 40 Knots (From the deep, bass and cellos)

The third and final concert in this series. This one will explore low strings with a bass and 3 cellos. I'm sure it will include some classic cello ensemble pieces but also some pieces you never knew you needed to hear.

vancouverislandsymphony.com/symphony-sizzle-festival/

August 6 at 7pm: Ralph Barrat at 40 Knots (GSJS)

Cruise ship jazz. georgiastraightjazz.com

August 6 at 9pm: Grunge and Glitter tour at the Waverley

Female led punk, grunge and rock. Yes please! I'm out of town but you all need to attend this concert with Altered by Mom, Hyaenas and Cold Fame!

cumberlandvillageworks.com

August 7-9 on Denman and August 11-13 at Comox United: Kaimerata

This is a beautiful classical summer series. You can purchase single tickets for each evening or series tickets. This year the theme is 'Beethoven meets Schubert'. Kai Gleusteen was born in Canada but since 2000 has been the concert master for the Gran Teatre del Liceu Symphony in Barcelona. Every year he brings his partner Catherine Ordroneau (professor of piano at the Conservatorio Superior del Liceu) and friends from around the world to perform in this series. kaimerata.tickit.ca/

August 15 12:30-8:30: Abstract Audio at CUB space

This Saturday is going to be one of the busiest Saturdays Cumberland has ever seen. Start it off right with another free dance party courtesy of Abstract Audio. abstractaudio.ca/

August 15 at 4pm Harry Manx at Weird Church

The evening show sold out quickly so they added an extra afternoon show. Harry Manx is an impressive multi-instrumentalist, including on the Mohan Veena. His concerts are expansive and transformative—and I don't use those words lightly.

events.humanitix.com/harry-manx-live-at-weird-church-or-cumberland-4pm-concert

August 15 at 5pm: Rock the Block with Drama Queen and Five Alarm Funk

For the last couple of years Rock the Block has been a wonderful way to spend a Saturday evening. This year it will be bumpin' with great dance grooves from groups like La Delirio Cumbia, Drama Queen and Five Alarm Funk. cumberlandvillageworks.com

August 20 at 7pm: Nebula project at 40 Knots

I was pretty surprised to see that the GSJS was able to book Ben Rosenblum's Nebula Project. This is a 6 piece ensemble from NYC and they are incredibly talented world musicians. This will be the best GSJS show of the season. georgiastraightjazz.com

August 21 at 9pm: Snak the Ripper at Waverley

I honestly don't know anything about Snak. But that's an oversight on my part because this guy has been on the scene since 2006. In fact he was one of the first rappers in Canada to use YouTube to showcase content. He has won 3 Western Canadian Music Awards and performed at SXSW. I'm definitely interested enough to consider checking it out.

snaktheripper.com/event/

August 22 at 7pm: Nameless King, Thirteen Goats and Butcher at Masonic

I have been wanting to see Vancouver's thrashers Thirteen Goats for a couple of years now. It's a bonus to have death metalers Nameless King and Butcher also on the bill. This show will be loud and ragey with some good theatrics thrown in. ARE YOU READY?!! orangetickets.ca/

August 27 at 6pm: Jazz Jam at the Mex

Another jazz jam with great musicians and a less than great audience.

August 27 at 7:30pm: High Bar Gang at Regier

Shari Ulrich, Barney Bentall, and numerous other folk rock BC legends formed a band. I think this show might be sold out. oldchurch.tickit.ca/

August 28 at 5pm: Pulse on the Plaza: Devours, Mean Bikini and Queer as Funk

The last of the Pulse events and this one is going to be great. Many of you know how much I love electro-pop performer Devours!!! Plus local favs Mean Bikini join Vancouver's Queer as Funk. I am so happy to kick off CV Pride weekend with this all ages and free event!

August 28 at 7pm: Fiver with the Fiver Trois and Ashley Shadow at Curling Club

Both acts are new to me but I trust CVGBs. They have introduced me to some of my favourite acts (including aforementioned Devours) so I have no doubt that this too will be a great show. Ashley reminds me of Neko Case meets Charlotte Cornfield meets Frazey Ford? cvgbs.tickit.ca/

August 30 at 6:30pm: Bayonet Dismemberment and Angelmaker at the Curling club

Nothing says the end of summer more than a doom metal show at the curling club! I am so glad that CVBGs is bringing multiple Deathcore Award nominees Angelmaker. cvgbs.tickit.ca

THE USUAL MONTHLY INFO AND REMINDERS:

- ❖ There are bound to be events that I've missed. I'm always happy to receive info from you all!
- ❖ There are a few open mic nights around town including my favourite Wednesdays at Gladstones.
- ❖ There are numerous bars/pubs that have house or local bands. Some really good ones are Roy's Towne Pub (Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays), Gladstone's (days vary) and Heritage House (days vary)
- ❖ As always you are welcome to use my Concert Prep Spotify playlist to listen to some of the acts I plan on seeing, but please, support artists by buying tickets to shows and buying their music directly. [Jenn's Concert Prep](#)