

**BRITANNIA
MINE MUSEUM**

For immediate release

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**The Ninth Annual Copper & Fire Arts Festival Returns to
Britannia Mine Museum***Family-friendly arts fair features dozens of local artists showcasing crafts relating to copper, fire and mined minerals*

Britannia Beach, BC – The Britannia Mine Museum will be filled with the sights and sounds of local artists and artisans, musicians and performers at the **Ninth Annual Copper & Fire Arts Festival**. The Copper & Fire festival is the museum's premiere summer event showcasing musicians and the crafts of local artists with themes of copper, fire, and mined materials "of the earth."

As the saying goes, "If you can't grow it, it must be mined," a statement the museum embraces to create awareness and understanding that mining is integral to our lives. The goal of the event is to create an enjoyable and enriching experience for visitors while helping make connections between the artist's vision and the materials required to achieve them.

The **Copper & Fire Arts Festival** begins on **Saturday, August 6th at 7:30pm** with an evening concert in the Mill Building with world musician Joseph 'Pepe' Danza, an award-winning multi-instrumentalist and percussion music artist. Originally from Montevideo, Uruguay, Pepe travelled the world and learned to play Shakuhachi in Japan (an end-blown flute), Indian music while he was in India and Sri Lanka, Samba and Bossa Nova music in Brazil, and gamelan while in Indonesia. Pepe will also be accompanied by fire dancers all performed in the Historic Mill building.

Then on **Sunday, August 7th from 10am to 4pm**, the Britannia Mine Museum will host its signature summer arts event with local artists showcasing their arts and crafts throughout the museum. There will be live music and lots of fun arts and crafts activities for kids. The event features local artists such as metal workers using copper and bronze, ceramic artists using a number of different mediums, and jewelers, including:

- Amber Butler, gunpowder painter from Squamish, www.amberbutler.ca
- Sandra Bars, a jewelry artist/designer from Squamish, www.barsidesign.com
- Marty Ryan, a copper and bronze sculptor/artist and painter from Golden, www.parsonart.ca
- Mark Mentipty, a metal sculptor from North Vancouver, www.gowestmetalart.com
- Sarah Groves, a metalsmith /jeweller from Vancouver, www.blueboxdesign.ca
- Ania Kyte, a glass lampwork bead artisan and jewelry artist from Mission, www.turtlebeads.ca
- and many more.

In addition, beginning **August 7th till October 2nd**, the museum will be featuring an "**Extreme Fabric Art Exhibit**" presenting the works of Patricia Chauncey, an extreme textile artist. The exhibit has been designed and made specifically for the Britannia Mine Museum with fabric pieces manipulated with fire and rocks.

Located 10 minutes south of Squamish on the picturesque Sea-to-Sky highway, the reinvented Museum was recently transformed from a mining legacy site into a vibrant internationally recognized destination. The museum provides an unforgettable visitor experience with the new Beaty-Lundin Visitor Centre, the Britannia A-Z heritage hall, the historic 20-storey Mill building, the underground mine train and outdoor gold panning.

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

BRITANNIA MINE MUSEUM

The Museum celebrates the contributions of mining and minerals to society, the history of the storied Britannia Beach community and the ideas and practices of environmental renewal and sustainability.

About the Britannia Mine Museum:

The Britannia Mine Museum, which is both a National Historic Site and a BC Historic Landmark, was established in 1971 to preserve the material and social history of mining in British Columbia, and to educate the public about mining. It is a premier, non-profit organization that promotes mining awareness through fun experiential education programs. Governed by the Britannia Beach Historical Society, the museum provides important historic collection preservation and insightful public engagement regarding environmental and sustainability issues. www.britanniamuseum.ca

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