

**Karkwa**

This Québécois quintet has been La Belle Province's best-kept secret for over a decade, producing its unique brand of atmospheric tunes under the radar since 1998. But the word is out: the band caught the ear of English Canada last year after they earned the Polaris Music Prize for their mellow, sweeping album *Les chemins de verre*, beating out favourites like Broken Social Scene and Tegan and Sara. Sept. 17. \$12. *Lee's Palace*, 529 Bloor St. W., 416-532-1598, [leespalace.com](http://leespalace.com).

**K-os**

The Toronto-born b-boy defies categorization; his eclectic discography falls somewhere along the alt-rap-electronic-reggae-trip-hop line. His latest release, *The Anchorman Mixtape*, is rife with hilarious samples from the 2004 Will Ferrell flick and features a collaboration with Drake called "Faith," rumoured to be remixed as the single for K-os's next album, *BLack and BLonde*. Sept. 2. \$16. *The CNE Bandshell*, 210 Princes' Blvd., 416-393-6300, [theex.com](http://theex.com).

**Pearl Jam**

Twenty years ago, these alt-rock gods released their hard-hitting debut, eventually becoming the biggest band of the '90s (Nirvana, eat your heart out). Pearl Jam helped propel grunge into the mainstream, furiously fusing post-punk grit with epic stadium rock-style riffs. With a new album in the works, the band is still a force to be reckoned with—if anyone has the guts. Sept. 11 and 12. \$59.50. *Air Canada Centre*, 50 Bay St., 1-855-985-5000, [theircanadacentre.com](http://theircanadacentre.com).

**Peter Bjorn and John**

In 2006, these Swedish sensations recorded "Young Folks," the catchiest tune with a whistled riff ever put to wax. Their new album, *Gimme Some*, marks a return to the hummable, cheerful indie pop that places PB&J in the same league as other Nordic crossover successes like The Hives and The Knife. Sept. 2 and 3. \$20. *Lee's Palace*, 529 Bloor St. W., 416-532-1598, [leespalace.com](http://leespalace.com).

**Roger Daltrey**

The Who invented the rock opera and captured the spirit of a generation with 1969's sensational *Tommy*. In this solo act, the band's charismatic frontman returns to his signature role (he played Tommy in the 1975 film version), belting out the story of the deaf, dumb and blind kid who overcomes his demons with the help of a little pinball wizardry and ample hard rockin'. Sept. 30. \$46–\$126. *Sony Centre for the Performing Arts*, 1 Front St. E., 1-855-872-7669, [sonycentre.ca](http://sonycentre.ca).

**JAZZ**

**Dan Weiss and Miles Okazaki Duo** New York-based percussionist Dan Weiss has expanded the traditional drum set to include the tabla and frame drum, and was rewarded for his efforts a few years ago when the *New York Times* chose him as one of five young drummers to watch. He's well paired here with Juilliard-educated guitarist Miles Okazaki, who seems to share Weiss's semi-mystical aesthetic.

Sept. 16 and 17. Cover charge applies.

*The Rex Hotel*, 194 Queen St. W., 416-598-2475, [therex.ca](http://therex.ca).

**Eric St-Laurent Trio**

In his early years, St-Laurent took the jazz musician's requisite grand tour, hopping from his home city of Montreal to New York, Berlin and the rest of Europe. Now settled in Toronto, he's picked up an ardent following devoted to his innovative Afro-Cuban blues sound. Jordan O'Connor plays double bass, while Michel DeQuevedo handles percussion. Sept. 15. \$20. *Hugh's Room*, 2261 Dundas St. W., 416-531-6604, [hughsroom.com](http://hughsroom.com).

**The Kira Callahan Quartet**

The Bata Shoe Museum is kicking it up a notch in honour of its current prohibition era-themed exhibit, *The Roaring '20s: Heels, Hemlines and High Spirits*. It has enlisted Toronto jazz kitten Kira Callahan to work her magic with some bathtub gin-inspired classics from the '20s and '30s—should be the bee's knees. Sept. 22. Pay what you can. *Bata Shoe Museum*, 327 Bloor St. W., 416-979-7799, [batashoemuseum.ca](http://batashoemuseum.ca).

**Rita Chiarelli**

This Hamilton native never settles into a routine. She may appear with a symphony one night and at a downtown bistro the next—or, as she did last year, perform with the inmates of Louisiana State Penitentiary (the resulting concert is the subject of *Music From the Big House*, a documentary directed by Bruce McDonald). Sept. 17. \$32.50. *Hugh's Room*, 2261 Dundas St. W., 416-531-6604, [hughsroom.com](http://hughsroom.com).

**Southside Shuffle**

This 13-year-old festival once again takes over Memorial Park, even colonizing nearby Lakeshore Road for Street Shuffle (Sept. 10), which will see the street, patios and doorsteps transformed into performance spaces. The main stage's packed schedule includes appearances by the Blind Boys of Alabama and Motor City Women, as well as a tribute to The Supremes. Sept. 9 to 11. \$13–\$25. *Memorial Park, Port Credit*, 905-271-9449, [southsideshuffle.com](http://southsideshuffle.com).

**Trevor Watts**

This largely self-taught British saxophonist is noted for his adaptive approach to styles that extend beyond jazz—he has collaborated with traditional musicians from countries like Venezuela and Ghana. Here he performs with British improv master Vervan Weston on piano and Toronto-based Paolo Scatozza on drums. Sept. 8. Cover charge applies. *The Rex Hotel*, 194 Queen St. W., 416-598-2475, [therex.ca](http://therex.ca).

**Tribute to John Coltrane**

Every year The Rex pays homage to the jazz world's most influential sax player, a groundbreaking composer who died at the age of 40. Local saxophonists Pat LaBarbera and Kirk MacDonald take on the challenge of saluting the giant, leading a program of some of Coltrane's most iconic works. Sept. 22 to 24. Cover charge applies. *The Rex Hotel*, 194 Queen St. W., 416-598-2475, [therex.ca](http://therex.ca).

**Art****free Sleepy Eyes**

Those who find dewy-eyed baby dolls unsettling—and who doesn't, really?—will meet a kindred spirit in photographer Fausta Facciponte. Her jarring close-ups of vintage dolls' heads, with their glassy stares and incorruptible rosebud mouths, are a captivating exploration of the sinister side of cute. Sept. 22 to Oct. 29. *Stephen Bulger Gallery*, 1026 Queen St. W., 416-504-0575, [bulgergallery.com](http://bulgergallery.com).

**free Ben Rivers: Slow Action**

This work by mid-career British filmmaker Ben Rivers, presented in collaboration with TIFF, delicately balances travelogue and post-apocalyptic speculation. Inspired by ethnographies from the '60s, it was shot in exotic locations like Tuvalu and moves from present to future in its investigations of our planet and ourselves. Sept. 8 to Oct. 1. *Gallery TPW*, 56 Ossington Ave., 416-645-1066, [gallerytpw.ca](http://gallerytpw.ca).

**Douglas Walker: Other Worlds**

A formal constraint can often be just the thing that sets an artist free. Walker has limited his palette to hues of blue, but in every other way, his imagination is fluid, drifting from fanciful landscapes to portraits that blossom into floral patterns (with occasional excursions into Erté-style tweeness). This new series will be created on-site, painted onto the walls of the gallery. Sept. 10 to Nov. 6. Pay what you can. *Robert McLaughlin Gallery*, 72 Queen St., Oshawa, 905-576-3000, [rmg.on.ca](http://rmg.on.ca).

**free Gregory Hardy**

Everything about Saskatoon artist Hardy's work is big: big canvases, big brush strokes and, very frequently, big skies. He can take a prairie sky and render it alternately vast, embracing or terrifyingly on the verge of cataclysm. Sept. 8 to Oct. 1. *Nicholas Metivier Gallery*, 451 King St. W., 416-205-9000, [metiviergallery.com](http://metiviergallery.com).

**free Gullivers' Rehearsal: Drawing Into Performance**

Albanian-born performance artists Flutura and Besnik Haxhillari make their solo Toronto debut with this show. Surreal figurative drawings will be reinterpreted as performances as the pair examines the relationship between the two art forms. As Facebook might say, it's complicated—especially when there's more than one ego involved. Sept. 28 to Oct. 9. *Loop Gallery*, 1273 Dundas St. W., 416-516-2581, [loopgallery.ca](http://loopgallery.ca).

**free GV and the Glorious Bird**

The paintings of Xtra's compulsively readable art critic Sholem Krishtalka are as gripping as his words. His new series, which he calls a "sweeping historical epic," is based on the friendship between American writers Tennessee Williams and Gore Vidal. Sept. 15 to Oct. 27. *Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives*, 34 Isabella St., 416-777-2755, [clga.ca/exhibitions](http://clga.ca/exhibitions).

**¡Patria o Libertad!**

This show—named, ironically, after a Chilean authoritarian group from the '70s—uses video to investigate the meaning of patriotism and its often ugly manifestations on the world stage. It features the work of 22 international artists, including Pakistan's Shahzia Sikander and the Netherlands' Marc Bijl. Sept. 9 to Oct. 30. Pay what you can. *Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art*, 952 Queen St. W., 416-395-0067, [mocca.ca](http://mocca.ca).