



Culture Matrix: Black Arts Festival

Get to know our Celebration Headliners!



Prince Manny Dingo ([@princemannydingo](https://www.instagram.com/princemannydingo))

"Manny Dingo is a Drag King that hails from Haliwood, Nova Scotia. He has been performing since 2015 and started taking up space in Toronto in 2019. He is an powerhouse performer, shy boi, and amature DJ. He serves you a mixture of Prince, Lil Nas X and your favorite fashionable gay uncle. He incorporates gymnastics with voguing, waacking and smooth dance moves across the floor"



Naya Ali ([@nayaalitheoriginal](https://www.instagram.com/nayaalitheoriginal))

"Montreal-based Ethiopian rapper Naya Ali has been making waves. In 2020, she released her debut, Godspeed: Baptism, in 2021 she became one of the inaugural winners of the SOCAN Foundation's SiriusXM Black Canadian Music Awards. Now she's back with her sophomore release, Godspeed: Elevated, and it explores everything that's happened throughout this time as she's honed in on who she is, living her life with purpose and chasing her goal of adding light to the universe. She opens up about her Ethiopian heritage while also honouring the different cultures of Montreal that have shaped her, and where her art fits in with her community."



Haviah Mighty (@haviahmighty)

"Haviah Mighty didn't need to change her birth name when she decided to dedicate her career to music. Mighty could not better describe Haviah's craft of provocative challenges and uncompromising truths. Based out of Brampton via Toronto, Haviah has spent a lifetime developing her skills as a songwriter, vocalist, producer, and performer, culminating in a style of profound introspection and incisive socio-political critique. Her dynamic combinations of rap, song, and instrumental transition seamlessly from hip-hop to soul to afrobeats with a meticulous flow and cadence that transcends any traditional expectation of genre.

2019 saw Haviah earn break-out success with her album, *13th Floor*, making her the first hip-hop artist and the first Black woman to win the Polaris Music Prize, celebrating the "Best Canadian Album of the Year" - but Mighty didn't stop there. With her JUNO Award-winning mixtape, *Stock Exchange* (Nov. 2021), Haviah made history once again as the first woman to ever win within the Rap Album of the Year category. Recognition has spread internationally, garnering praise from the likes of Rolling Stone, Pitchfork, GRM Daily, FADER, Hot New Hip Hop, and so many more.

From performance invitations by massive European tastemaker, COLORSxSTUDIOS, to BBC 1's Jack Saunders proclaiming "I just cannot find anything as good as Haviah Mighty", to crushing the 5 Fingers of Death on the legendary show, *Sway in the Morning* - Haviah Mighty is unstoppable.

Mighty pushes forward continuing to carve out spaces that boldly defy gendered expectations for women in hip-hop. Unyielding and irresistible – Haviah Mighty will be heard"