



Dustcovery 2017 – The Garden of Good and Evil



Producer: Andrea Arnot aka Andi Candi
Date: November 11, 2017
Hours: 8:30pm – 3:30am

Venue: Cloverdale Rodeo and Exhibition Grounds - The Agriplex

Website: <http://dustcovery.gvias.org/>

Region: Vancouver, British Columbia

Organization: Greater Vancouver Interactive Arts Society

Report Prepared by: Andrea Arnot

History:

Dustcovery 2016 is the 6th Official Decompression event in Vancouver.

The previous years have been:

October 9th, 2010 - Micropolis Venue: W2 Storyum.

October 1st, 2011 - Dustoff! Venue: Cam Am Importique

November 17, 2012 – Afterglow Venue- West Coast Railway Association - CN Roundhouse

November 16, 2013 - Afterglow Venue- West Coast Railway Association - CN Roundhouse

October 17, 2015 - Dustcovery Venue - Cloverdale Rodeo

October 22, 2016 - Dustcovery Venue - Cloverdale Rodeo

Dustcovery Background:

In 2014, there wasn't a decompression event which prompted Andrea Arnot (aka Andi Candi) to approach the GVIAS board about taking on the production of a decompression event. Dustcovery 2015 sold out and was a huge success because of the amazing group of team leads and volunteers who created the space for community members, artists and performers to collaborate, connect and re-energize.

In 2015, before the first Dustcovery, the community was polled on public forums for input on choosing a name for the event. "Dustcovery" was chosen and anecdotally, people have reported that they think of it as a "recovery from the dusty playa" and when said aloud, it sounds like "Discovery" which conveyed a "sense of inquiry" or "uncovering surprises".

In her work life, Andi designs and implements large and small community engagement events, often using arts-based methods, around diversity and inclusion. The 10 Principles of Burning Man align with her personal ethics and work philosophies. This made it an easy choice for her to volunteer her skill set to produce Dustcovery in 2015, 2016 and 2017.

Overview:

Dustcovery 2017 - The Garden of Good and Evil

The production team brainstormed themes and landed on The Garden of Good and Evil because there are so many delightful and creepy interpretations as well as decor ideas for a very large barn!

The decor team really nailed it this year in a challenging space. They created an entrance way with a "garden path" where attendees could choose the dark, mysterious, evil path or the white, bright, pretty, good path. Both opened up to a myriad of choices including the "Garden Bar" complete with floral decorations and bartenders who would take your order and the evil "Vandango Bar" where one might get hit with a dildo and served whatever the bartender decided one needed.

There were 3 choices for attendees for music and dancing. Puck's Palace main stage provided opportunities for live performers early in the evening and non-stop DJs until



3:30am. The Angel Stage was outdoors and hosted DJs of all sorts - community beloved, new and from afar (all the way from Seattle). Vandango Bar provided event goers with a unique experience to sing along to the Back Street Boyz or Whitney Houston at the top of one's lungs.



The goals of Dustcovery are to bring together existing community members and to provide an opportunity for new people who have never attended a Burning Man event to experience it locally. For the second year in a row, the production team hosted a “newbie reception” near the beginning of the evening. This reception took place at an art installation called the “Pillars of Principles” which highlights the 10 Principles of Burning Man in art form. “Newbies” were introduced to some seasoned burners and given a brief orientation about the event. Given the rapid growth of the local Vancouver “burner” community, the hope was to increase levels of acculturation.

The Production team worked with the GVIAS Grants Committee to issue 2 rounds of art grants for participants to refurbish existing projects or create new art installations. Micro-grants were also offered. The total amount of art grant funding distributed was \$2500.

In amongst the many art installations, both indoors and out, participants had multiple areas to congregate, dance and eat. Given the length of the event and the fact that the local police wanted a no ins and outs policy, two food trucks were on site, giving out snacks for 4 hours.

Organization and Volunteers:

Andi Candi led the production team and relied on guidance from the GVIAS board as well as experienced team leads from Dustcovery 2015, and 2016, as well as other GVIAS events. We were pleased to have some new community members step into lead roles.

Call outs and personal invitations for team leads were conducted. The production team included the following committed and dedicated individuals:

Kristen Huskins & Yvonne Calder	Art Liaison
Kate Ferguson	Décor
Lori Watt	Performer and Angel Stage Lead
Yvonne Tink	Door
Danielle Doucette	Bar
Arthur Goldsmith	Technology/Ticketing
Constantin Khait	Power and Light
Elizabeth Dent	Transportation/Shuttle
Krystal Murley & Adeline Thuillez	Volunteer Coordination

Ty Elmore
Denise Kerr & Mitch Brown
Jennie Hayes
Peter Blitz
Rangers
Tones Magones
Squishelle

Fire Performance
Fire Safety
Signage
Puck's Palace Main Stage
Megan Will
RV Park
Burning Man RC/Communications

Andi Candi would like to thank each of the above individuals for taking on a leadership role and being part of a fantastic team!

Venue:

The Agriplex at Cloverdale Rodeo and Exhibition Grounds is a large rectangle, newer, but still rustic barn that is currently used for trade shows and events. Cloverdale Rodeo and Exhibition Grounds are located just off of 176th Street in Surrey BC, about 40 minutes drive from downtown Vancouver and 20 minutes from the King George skytrain station. The Agriplex is in the middle of the large rodeo grounds and is fairly isolated from residential areas making it a good location to have an event with both indoor and outdoor activities.



The outdoor space for Dustcovery was a fenced in area behind the Agriplex.



There was free parking for all attendees as well as the ability to have an “RV Park”. RV’s, trailers and vans were welcome to park overnight for a fee of \$10.

The indoor space was 22,000 square feet with ample power outlets (set up for trade shows), a space available for First Aid and Rangers if they needed privacy and adequate washrooms. The ceiling was 45 feet high and therefore difficult to hang art, lighting or decor from without the costly rental of a crane. There were also bleachers that were permanent and needed to be blocked out as our events are not “spectator sports” events.

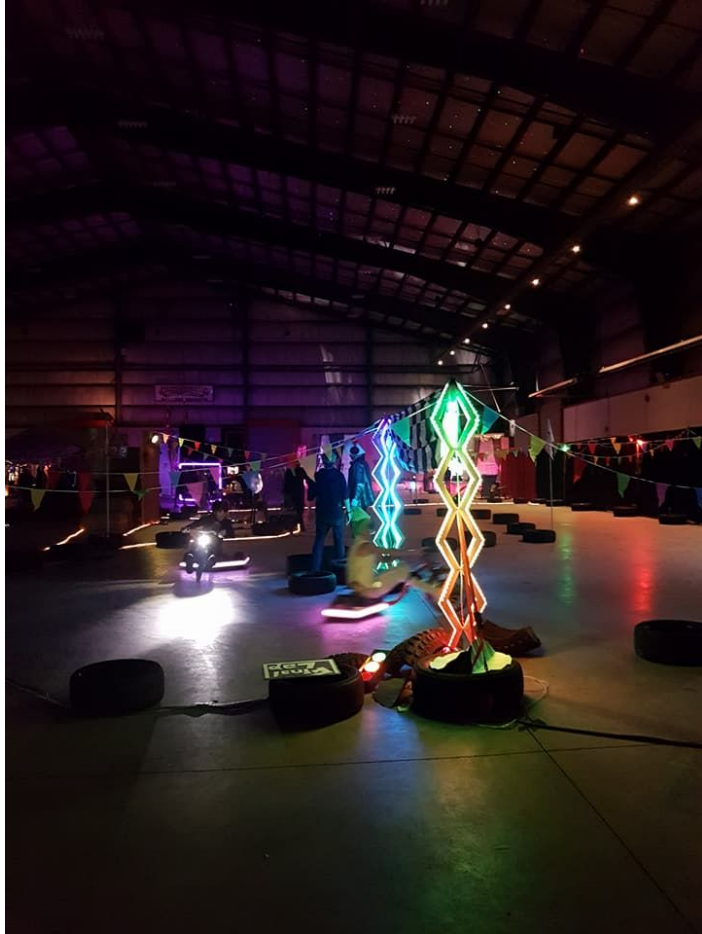
The Agriplex Before:





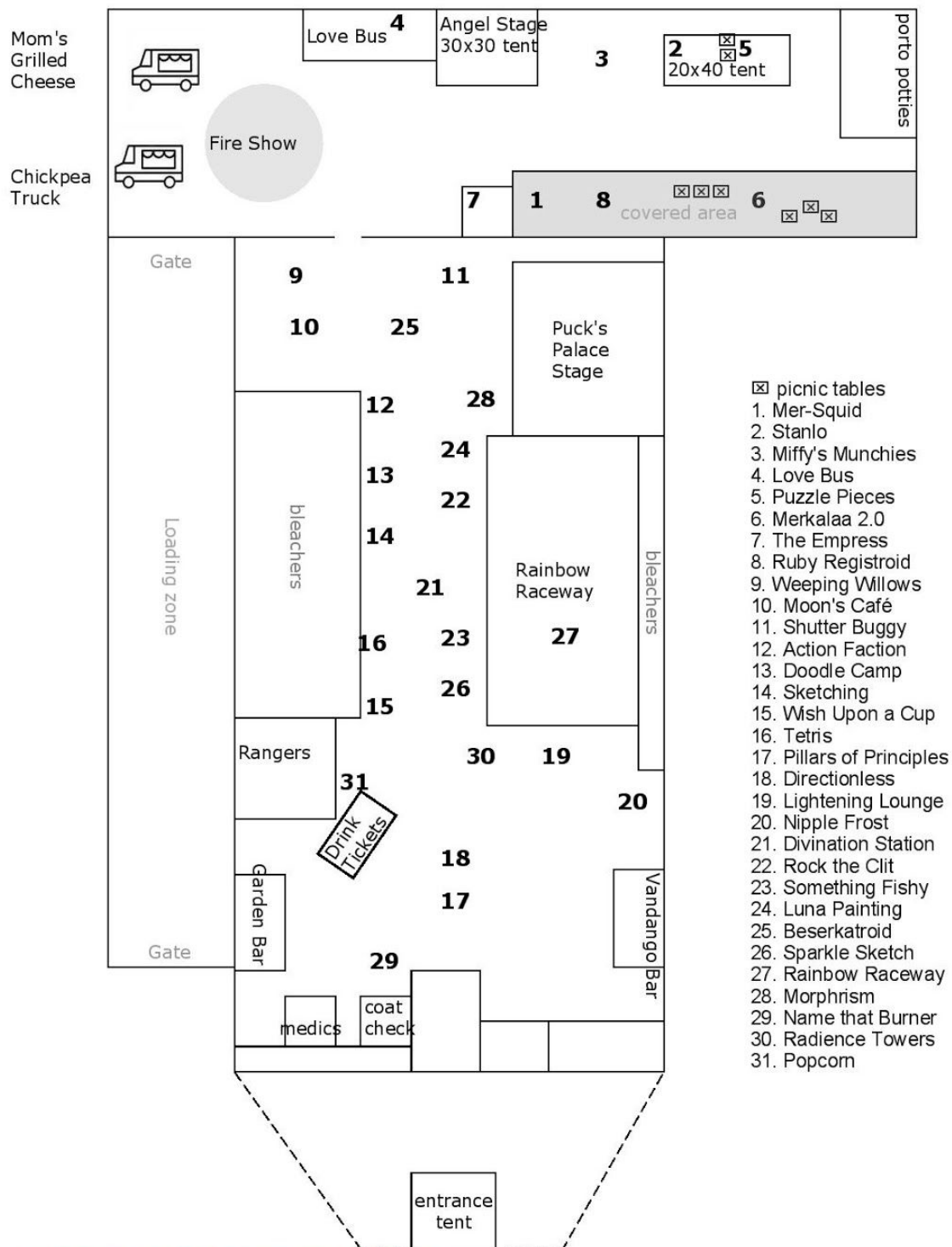
The Agriplex during the event:







Following are the placement map for the indoor and outdoor spaces:



DUSTCOVERY 2017
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 11TH, 2017
 CLOVERDALE RODEO AND EXHIBITION GROUNDS, SURREY, BC

Ticket Sales:

Tickets were sold through Quicket. This is the ticketing system that GVIAS used for Burn in the Forest 2016 and 2017. There were only minor ticketing issues which were all able to be solved easily.

1012 tickets were sold at \$32.50 each. In order to purchase tickets, people were required to agree to and sign a waiver of liability.

There were no tickets available at the door.



Shuttle Service:

Because the venue was in the suburbs with less transit accessibility, the producer built the cost of shuttle service into the infrastructure budget in order to provide free shuttle service. The shuttle team lead organized multiple shuttle times to pick attendees up from the nearest skytrain station as well as back to the skytrain station in time for the last ride into Vancouver. She also arranged for 2 shuttle runs back into Vancouver at 2:30am and 3:15am. There were also shuttle drop-offs and pick-ups from the 2 event hotels.

124 people signed up for the shuttle service to get to the event. 125 people signed up for the shuttle service to get back to the skytrain or into Vancouver. It is believed that more than this number actually used the shuttle.

There were about 10% more shuttle sign-ups than in 2016.

Music:



Dustcovery 2017 had two sound stages available for participants to utilize: Puck's Palace Main Stage and the outdoor Angel Stage.

Puck's Palace Main Stage was directed by Peter Blitz and brought to the event as a BitF theme camp. This sound stage was inside the venue with space for 500+ people to dance in and was open for the duration of the event. There were live performances on this stage earlier in the evening before the fire show.

Puck's Palace Main Stage DJ Schedule

10:30pm	Phenom Don
11:30pm	Smoothie
12:30pm	Sex Traffic Panda
1:30am	Aaron de la Funk
2:30am	Mykey

The Angel Stage was located outside in a 30x30 tent complete with heaters and massive amounts of fun! This stage ran from 8:30pm - 1:00am.

Angel Sound Stage DJ Schedule

8:30pm	Steve M
10:00pm	(Fire Show (outside)
10:30pm	Khan
11:20pm	Tango
12:10am	Diem



The two sound stages had two very distinct styles of music and there was a variety of DJ's, each with their distinct sound. This provided opportunities for event attendees to encounter music that they enjoyed in different spaces.

Art and Art Grants:

The following art installations and theme camps were part of Dustcovery 2017.

Art	Theme Camps
Berserkatroid	Action Faction
Directionless	Doodle Camp
Hardly Hear	Lightning Lounge
Mer-Squid	Miffy's Munchies
Merkaba 2.0	Moon's Cafe
Morphrism	Nipple Frost
Name that Burner	The Empress

Pillars of Principles	Wish Upon a Cup
Puzzle Pieces	
Radiance Towers	
Rainbow Raceway	
Rock the Clit	
Ruby Registroid	
Shutterbuggy	
Something Fishy	
Sparkle Sketch	
Staulo Wishing Well	
Tetris	
The Divination Station	
The Love Bus	
Weeping Willows	



GVIAS offered arts grants for artists to refurbish or create new art installations. They also offered micro-grants.

There was a total of 30 art installations and theme camps at Dustcovery 2017.

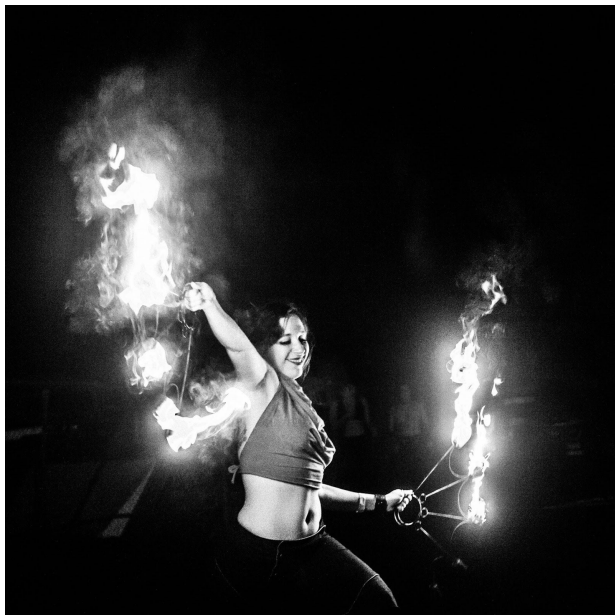


Performances:

Several bands and live musicians were booked for this event and backed out. We had Sara Garber perform and there were go-go dancers, hula hoopers and live models at the sketching station.



From 10:00-10:30pm, there was a fire performance with a dozen fire performers showcasing their skills in small groups one after another and then in one big "chaos" performance at the end.



Health and Safety:

The venue and City of Surrey required 1 security person per 100 people and insisted that GVIAS choose one of their preferred security companies. Since Genesis Security were contracted for Dustcovery 2015 and 2016 and familiar with the event, they were hired again. The security staff were responsive to suggestions, however, the police presence was very onerous this year and the RCMP asked security to patrol and monitor things that normally we would not have them do.

The City of Surrey also required Surrey police to be present at the event. Two officers were present for a pre-event inspection as well as on site for the duration of the event. They checked in with the producer frequently, roamed the event site, indoors and out, and checked behind the bar regularly. Verbal feedback at the end of the evening indicated that they had virtually no concerns with the event. However, they marched around the venue very authoritatively and were quite off putting. This did incur a significant cost to the event.

Ranger leads reported that there were no major incidents.

We had a First Aid station as well as roaming medics. They had no major incidents other than one person passing out.

Permits, Insurance, Licenses and Inspections:

City of Surrey FEST Application

In order to hold an event in Surrey, a FEST application has to be completed and reviewed by the FEST Committee at City Hall. The application asked for logistical details, a description of the event and its purpose, a brief security plan, a medical assistance plan, parking plans and how our event would be sustainable.

All of this information was submitted and even with the change in venue, the plans were similar to previous years. There were numerous requests for changes right up until the event which caused issues with suppliers. (i.e. fencing supplier) The producer liaised with police and City staff multiple times to meet all of their requests. These staff were different to previous years and were quite demanding.

Liquor License

The FEST committee insisted that GVIAS obtain a liquor license. The producer had to submit multiple versions of the security plan and other details in order to obtain the license. Conditions of receiving the license would be that we managed any drinking or substance use even in the parking lot. We had to have no ins and outs at all. The police patrolled the parking lots and accosted people arriving. They also forced security to do invasive bag checks.

Police were satisfied with how we managed the bars and liquor inventory.

Fire Permits

The City of Surrey has quite strict fire by-laws and restrictions.

The fire performance lead and fire safety leads submitted a similar plan to previous years and this was approved by the fire department.

The inspector that came to do a site visit was extremely litigious and not very flexible about the type of event we have. Previous fire inspectors haven't had any issues with what we have planned. He threatened to not let us move forward with the event. He mentioned that next year he would not approve carports or pop-up tents that weren't fireproof.

This inspection had a cost attached to it.

Liability Insurance

GVIAS Board Treasurer took on the role of obtaining insurance for the event. Beacon Underwriting Ltd finally issued insurance for the event.

Electrical Inspection

The venue required an electrical inspection prior to the event start time. This inspection had a cost attached to it.

who attended brought their ALL!

Great work! I kinda wish I'd volunteered, but had some other life commitments that kept me from making the effort this time around. I was really impressed with the amount of variety in experiences I could have within a single venue - like a mini BiTF. It was also really cool that there were three dance floors (to start), and each one didn't overlap the other. Thank you all so much for your hard work! <3 <3 <3

I would greatly appreciate not having next year's event (or any GVIAS events) on a "long" weekend

Financials

	Dustcovery 2017	
	Revenues	
	1300 Tickets Available	
		Budget
	Tickets Sold	1012
	Ticket Cost	\$32.50
	Ticket Revenue	\$34,697.14
	Donations	
	Bar Sales	\$11,384.50
	Total Revenues	\$46,081.64
Cost Code	Expenses	
	8.02 Producer honorarium 1 x \$500	\$500.00
	1.01 Venue + liquor de-license	\$5,560.00
	1.01 Pipe and Drape	\$715.68
	1.01 Stage Rental	\$0.00
	1.01 Forklift + power boxes + tables	\$600.00
	50700 Alcohol	\$4,643.78
	50700 Bar Supplies - supplies, no alcohol drinks	\$697.39
	3.03 Police	\$1,984.50
	1.08 Insurance	\$2,300.00
	2.04 Random supplies -art supplies, bathroom supplies	\$555.01
	3.04 First Aid	\$1,360.00
	3.03 Security	\$3,022.69
	1.02 Fencing	\$900.00
	1.01 Fire Inspection	\$419.21
	1.01 Electrical Inspection	\$530.00

1.06	Porta-potties + handwashing station	\$905.33
7.02	Outside sound stage - equipment	\$474.88
1.04	Truck rental + gas	\$294.22
2.05	Wrist Bands	\$151.65
1.04	Shuttle (+\$150 cash tip)	\$1,673.41
2.04	Signage/printing	\$400.38
50700	Ice	\$150.00
7.01	popcorn maker and supplies, coat racks/hangers	\$293.27
7.01	Photo Booth	\$0.00
1.02	Tent Rental	\$2,310.56
	Fuel for fire show	\$129.55
7.01	Travel bursaries	\$398.10
1.05	Radios/headsets	\$406.00
5.04	Volunteer Appreciation Food	\$839.94
3.02	Rangers food/tea/coffee	\$0.00
7.01	Décor	\$3,764.67
7.01	Extra Seating (supplies or rentals)	\$0.00
7.01	gaffe tape, fabric	\$197.58
5.04	Food trucks	\$3,000.00
	Quicket Fees	\$1,671.25
	Stripe Fees	\$1,309.82
	Total Expenses	\$42,158.87
	Net Profit	\$3,922.77
	Grants	
	Returned to GVIAS	\$3,922.77