

9th annual Festival Voix d'Amériques: Feb. 5–12, 2010 With Special Guest Ursula Rucker



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The Festival Voix d'Amériques is wired as usual, up to its old tricks with surprises galore, including its **special guest for 2010, American poet and performer Ursula Rucker**.

Anyone who saw Ursula Rucker perform at the 2004 FVA will understand why D. Kimm has been simmering the idea of making her the FVA Guest of Honour ever since. Rucker, who hails from Philadelphia, came to fame collaborating with The Roots. Beginning in spoken word, urban music and hip-hop, she has emerged as an artist engaged with her society who has a genuine concern for the community. Sensual, mysterious, Ursula Rucker is a unique presence in a generation of strong women who deliver an incisive message with intelligence and sensitivity.

The FVA classics are back, along with bold new shows in our 9th year!

The two events everyone waits for are the high-voltage French-language soapbox ***Combat contre la langue de bois*** and the ***DADA Cabaret***, which takes a QUEER turn in 2010 hosted by none other than Stéphane (Brad Spitfire) Crête. As usual, the FVA antennae have been scanning for the new and the atypical, voices from the fringe and at the edge that stay in the memory a long time. This year, they picked up **Sky de Sela** (sister of our darling Lhasa) and **Fred Fortin**, along with a deeply mysterious two-night happening called ***Dans la forêt*** (In the Forest) featuring ten electric girls with their own specific schematics.

Got the economy blues? Forget about them at free FVA shows at the Casa del Popolo. News there too: the Night Shifts will be hosted by the sleekly rambunctious Alexis O'Hara, backed by the ever gentle men in the FVA house band, Bernard Falaise and Michel F Côté.

More details on our alluring 2010 festival program and the artists taking part will be released at the **FVA press conference Tuesday, January 19, 2010!**