January 25
Justin McGrail, Art and Design
Heritage Graffiti: Conserving Victoria’s Anti-Preservationist Art
Graffiti is not meant to last. In the name of urban beautification and property rights, cities paint over graffiti and use fencing to make access to walls difficult. In the City of Victoria, fences have inadvertently preserved some graffiti in less visible places, creating a contemporary, urban paradox: heritage graffiti.

February 15
Ravindra Mohabeer, Media Studies
I Was Never Here: Stories about Media and Belonging
Our lives are increasingly digitized. Yet a wise elementary principal once told a gym full of parents, “for those whose focus is on recording the event, do not get in the way of those who want to actually be here.” An exercise in critical life-skills, this playful, visual storytelling experience considers what it means to be present while living with and through media.

March 15
Sasha Koerbler, Music
John Lepage, English
Mendelssohn’s Overture to A Midsummer Night’s Dream: Fantasy as the Bottom Line
A Midsummer Night’s Dream is Shakespeare’s most magical play. In 1826, it enchanted seventeen-year-old German composer Felix Mendelssohn and inspired him to compose a concert overture. Mendelssohn’s masterly crafted music infuses the narrative with fantasy and intrigue: it conjures up the kingdom of the fairies, while following humans, high and low, into the magic wood. Is there a donkey in this overture? Most definitely yes!