
*"...there are things that happen at Eastern Edge and its annual summer festival that aren't a part of the normal dog and pony show. There's space there to forget about the sale, the pursuit of perfection, and really say something."
- Mary MacDonald (The Overcast, August 16, 2016)*

HOLD FAST: Thoughts from Behind the Scenes

facilitated by Tessa Graham

Part 4: Daniel Rumbolt – Assistant Director of Eastern Edge

7. What was your main role during the days of the festival?

Well, I think I was in a pretty unique situation when it came to HOLD FAST. I had just began working part-time at Eastern Edge at the beginning of July, and everything was completely new for me. I like to say it was certainly a "trial by fire" sort of situation—I started working right in the middle of the busiest time of the year for EE, but I don't think I would have it any other way. It was a whirlwind of learning new things, meeting new people, and having some incredible experiences during HOLD FAST. And of course, I got to see all of the tremendous behind-the-scenes work that goes into planning the festival—it really was inspiring to see it all come together.

8. Why do you think it's important to have a festival like this in Newfoundland?

I think Penny really summed it up perfectly in her interview – art brings people together, and our province needs to see the many talented, excited, and vibrant artists within our community. Newfoundland and Labrador doesn't always immediately evoke the idea of cutting edge contemporary art, but I think that as more people become aware of the quickly growing arts community here, that has the potential to change. HOLD FAST really highlights the potential for strong, sustainable connections between the arts and local businesses, organizations, and the general public who may not otherwise get a chance to experience this side of our province. HOLD FAST presents an important opportunity for artists not only from St. John's, but from across the province and across the country to come together and experience all that our little art world has to offer. St. John's has become somewhat of an artist hub in our province, and it is one of the reasons why I couldn't wait to move here and see for myself what new and innovative things were happening. And let me tell you, HOLD FAST did not disappoint!



Eastern Edge Assistant Director,
Daniel Rumbolt



Concept by Penelope Smart,
Artwork by Amery Sandford