

May 20, 2016  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **CiTR produces challenging historical docs to mark UBC Centennial**

### ***Local producers use archival content from newly digitized reel-to-reels***

Vancouver, BC — On Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, CiTR will be broadcasting a series of ten radio documentaries produced to mark UBC's 100 year legacy. Each documentary portrays a slice of Vancouver history, covering challenging topics relevant to the local community, including the rise of the UBC football, early hip hop battles in Vancouver, the fight for trans health care, accessibility and the media, and the Lady Godiva ride and rape culture at UBC. The documentaries use archival content from CiTR's history audio collection in addition to interviews with faculty, students, alumni and community members. Listen in for ten consecutive weeks to hear these documentaries air Fridays at 9 am starting on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

"Students cover what's happening on campus in a way that national or international media can't, because they are there and it impacts them differently," says documentary producer and UBC student Eleanor Wearing. "Things like the Lady Godiva ride and what happened with the Montreal massacre mattered to wider society, and the coverage that the student media gives is more grounded in lived, real experience. The rest of the media gets the most sensationalized story and leaves. In making the doc, I realized how important the student media is – both CiTR's archives and the Ubyssy archives – and the stories that were published there. People referenced it so often."

Over the past year, more than 890 reel-to-reel audio tapes from over sixty years of the Student Radio Society of UBC have been digitized, for a total of 406 hours of historic audio. Recordings include music programs, radio documentaries, public service announcements, and campus and community news and events broadcast on CYVR/CiTR and its affiliate stations from 1949 to the late 1990s. This collection has been uploaded to [UBC Library's Open Collections](#) portal, available to the public for streaming and download. Clips from the archive are used in the documentaries, to show an audio evolution of UBC.

"The personal opinions, stories and thoughts of our broadcasters are what have shaped the archives, and that's the same spirit of these documentaries," adds Madeline Taylor, CiTR's Spoken Word Coordinator responsible for supporting our documentary producers. "This project gives people a chance to tell the stories that speak to them rather than stories that are typically told about the history of an institution. We're telling a non-academic history of UBC, a grassroots history."

*Inclusion of the Underrepresented: The Beginning of Diverse-Ability in Media* by Deepi Leihl, Dama Correch & Estephania Solis is the first documentary to air, discussing the impact the production and consumption of media has on people with disabilities. Listen to the first of CiTR's UBC 100 Doc Series on Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, at 9 am on 101.9 FM, streamed at [citr.ca](#) and available as a podcast at 5 pm at [citr.ca/citrdocs](#). Ten documentaries have been produced for the UBC 100 Doc Series, with the first four previously broadcast in January, and the entire series airing over the next ten weeks.

This project was funded by [UBC's Centennial Initiatives Fund](#), with additional support from the BC History Digitization Program, UBC Library's Digitization Centre, UBC's University Archives, and CiTR donors.

**CiTR's UBC 100 Doc Series Broadcast Schedule:**

May 20<sup>th</sup> at 9 am: ***Inclusion of the Underrepresented: The Beginning of Diverse-Ability in Media*** by Deepi Leihl, Dama Correch & Estephania Solis

May 27<sup>th</sup> at 9 am: ***Obstacles and Outcomes*** by Vanessa Tara Colantonio

June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9 am: ***CiTR's DJ Sound Wars: Hip Hop Battles in the 90's*** by Rohit Joseph

June 10<sup>th</sup> at 9 am: ***Roadside Attractions*** by Jonathan Kew

June 17<sup>th</sup> at 9 am: ***Gentlemen and General: The Rise of the UBC Thunderbirds*** by Olamide Olaniyan

June 24<sup>th</sup> at 9 am: ***The Peace Movement*** by Christine Kim

July 1<sup>st</sup> at 9 am: ***Grunge*** by Roger Allen

July 8<sup>th</sup> at 9 am: ***Queer Decade*** by Heather Kitching

July 15<sup>th</sup> at 9 am: ***Waiting for Godiva: Conversations about Sexism at UBC, 1980-2013*** by Eleanor Wearing

July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9 am: TBA

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*For media enquiries, please contact Brenda Grunau, Station Manager, at 604-822-1242 or email [stationmanager@cittr.ca](mailto:stationmanager@cittr.ca).*

*Interviews are available from CiTR staff and documentary producers. Descriptions of the documentaries and bios of producers are attached.*



## CiTR's UBC 100 Doc Series

### ***Inclusion of the Underrepresented: The Beginning of Diverse-Ability in Media***

**Broadcast date: Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 9 am**

**Podcast available May 20<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm at [www.citr.ca/citrdocs](http://www.citr.ca/citrdocs)**

This documentary follows the story of three radio producers who use CiTR 101.9FM to make radio about accessibility and disability. Snippets from a 1985 radio piece made for CiTR, "Media Effects on Youth - Youth Focus Doc," are woven into the narrative. These clips are used to delve into the impact the production and consumption of media has on people with disabilities. Deepi, has a rare disability called Metatropic Dwarfism. Mollie and Katie, both UBC students, produce the weekly program *All Access Pass*. The documentary explores what brought these producers to where they are and the impact they have been able to make through CiTR, as well as the impact their experiences have had on them.

#### **Producers: Deepi Leihl, Dama Correch & Estephania Solis**

Deepi Leihl has been a community member at CiTR for 4 years. She started off as a News Reporter for CiTR's weekly current affairs program – News 101. She has covered stories on her passions: disability, accessibility and animal rights. Her second radio documentary, *We Are All Equal*, earned her and co-producer Morgan Yee a National Campus Radio Association Community Radio Award in 2015. Deepi is a member of CiTR's Accessibility Committee and a co-producer for CiTR's Accessibility Collective's weekly show, *All Access Pass*, airing every Thursday 5-6 PM. This marks Deepi's third radio documentary.



Dama Correch is a UBC student in Cognitive Systems as well as a radio producer at CiTR 101.9FM. She co-hosts the UBC Film Society's radio show *The Reel Whirled* and is an executive at the Film Society. Dama has volunteered at two hospitals for children with physical and cognitive disabilities, which sparked her interest in the topic of accessibility. This is her first radio documentary.

Estephania was born and raised between Mexico and the United States. She loves the opportunity to connect by making people laugh. She has taken classes in acting, improvisation and is pursuing a degree in Media Studies at UBC. Estephania has experience in the commercial acting industry and is currently working to gain experience in radio and voice-over narration. This is her first radio documentary.



## ***Obstacles and Outcomes***

**Broadcast date: Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 9 am**

**Podcast available May 27<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm at [www.citr.ca/citrdocs](http://www.citr.ca/citrdocs)**

*Obstacles and Outcomes* is about producer Vanessa Colantonio's journey through the Canadian health care system as a transwoman of colour. Her story is set against a back drop of archival radio clips from Queer FM documenting the trans experience in the health care system. As smooth as it has been, Vanessa's own transition is contrasted with the pitfalls and struggles of trans activists to get trans healthcare to where it is today. Her narration is interspersed with interview clips and live recordings aired on CiTR's long-running LGBTQ issues and current affairs program 'Queer FM', recorded and hosted by Heather Kitching.

### **Producer: Vanessa Tara Colantonio**

Vanessa Tara Colantonio is a librarian and writer based in Vancouver. She has written for radio and television, and from 2006 to 2013 hosted a weekly music program called *Shake a Tail Feather* on CiTR 101.9FM. She also has a blog on her life, transition, and interests called "La Dolce Vanessa". *Obstacles and Outcomes* is her first radio documentary feature.



*Photo: R. Mark Desjardins*

*Obstacles and Outcomes* is her first radio documentary feature.





CiTR Radio 101.9 FM | 233-6138 SUB Blvd. Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1  
tel: 604.822.1242 | fax: 604.822.9364 | email: [info@ctr.ca](mailto:info@ctr.ca) | [www.ctr.ca](http://www.ctr.ca)

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## ***CiTR's DJ Sound Wars: Hip Hop Battles in the 90's***

**Broadcast date: Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9 am**

**Podcast available Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5 pm at [www.ctr.ca/citrdocs](http://www.ctr.ca/citrdocs)**

This documentary tells a story about the early days of hip hop in Vancouver. One of the biggest hip hop events in Canadian history took place on September 7th and 8th, 1990 at UBC. Around 900 people came to the ballroom in UBC's Student Union Building to watch rappers, dancers, street artists and DJs, duke it out at DJ Sound War.

Rohit spoke with organizers and participants of the very first DJ Sound War, who shared their stories of this historic event. From the CiTR alumnus who organized the whole event, to the only woman to compete in the rap battle portion of the competition and win first place, the stories of the people behind DJ Sound War provide a glimpse into the beginning of the hip hop movement in Vancouver and the crucial role that CiTR played.

### **Producer: Rohit Joseph**

Rohit fell in love with journalism through volunteering at UBC's campus radio station – CiTR 101.9FM. He serves as the News Director, is an on-air host for *News 101* and *Soul Sandwich*, and is pursuing a Masters of Journalism at UBC. You can follow him on Twitter [@RoTomJo](https://twitter.com/RoTomJo).



## ***Roadside Attractions***

**Broadcast date: Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 9 am**

**Podcast available June 10<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm at [www.ctr.ca/citrdocs](http://www.ctr.ca/citrdocs)**

In oral history and aural travelogue, broach the radio psyche! At any given time, you can conceive CiTR's identity according to the audio-production it airs. Inextricable from the station's programming are its "carts" -- PSAs, promotions, advertisements -- churned out by a rotating body of programmers, volunteers, and hobbyists. Host to accessible equipment and subcultural cache, CiTR has been a lightning rod, collecting the effulgence and psychic-runoff of UBC and Vancouver's finest.



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The “carts” are a rich text, what Nardwuar the Human Serviette once called the “the life, the blood, the sweat, and the real expression of CiTR”. In montage, collage, and close listening, we can tease out a dialogue between CiTR and the outside world, encompassing satire, punk, noise art, and more. Featuring interviews with CiTR alumni, production professionals, artists, theorists, and the peanut gallery, this is but a brief adventure into the unfolding lineage of amateur radio art that is CiTR production. Brought to you in living stereophonic sound.

**Producer: Jonathan Kew**

Jonathan Kew is a section editor at Discorder Magazine, and hosts *Kew it Up*, Wednesdays 3-4PM on CiTR 101.9FM. He enjoys techno.



## **Gentlemen and General: The Rise of the UBC Thunderbirds**

**Broadcast date: Friday, June 17<sup>st</sup> at 9 am**

**Podcast available June 17<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm at [www.citr.ca/citrdocs](http://www.citr.ca/citrdocs)**

The UBC Thunderbirds are arguably the most decorated sports program in Canada. Last year, Blake Bill, former football coach for the Calgary Dinosaurs, led the 'Birds to a thrilling Vanier Cup victory to bring the team back to relevance. But 33 years before that, coach Frank Smith developed the football program and built the team into a Western Canadian hegemon. This documentary explores his team's rise from perennial boxing bags to 1982 and 1986 Vanier cup champions using audio from CiTR archives, interviews with key players, and coverage by the Ubyssy in the 80's.



**Producer: Olamide Olaniyan**

Olamide is a third year UBC student double majoring in Economics and Political Science. He got involved at the station when he started his show, *Soul Sandwich*, and has since fallen in love. He is interested in the ways that we can tell sports stories and the ability athletics has to affect culture. This is his first dive into radio documentary.

## ***The Peace Movement: The Beginning and End of Nuclear Disarmament Campaigning in Vancouver***

**Broadcast date: Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm**  
**Podcast available Jan 15 at [www.citr.ca/citrdocs](http://www.citr.ca/citrdocs)**

The peace movement was an active campaign promoting total nuclear disarmament during a period in history where the two most powerful nations in the world seemed to be just one step away from blowing each other up, and subsequently the rest of the world. In the last decade of the Cold War, during the 1980s, the peace movement in Vancouver, BC, gained an unprecedented amount of traction. However, support for the movement was short-lived as peace activists dwindled in numbers moving into the 1990s and beyond. In fact, sentiments ferociously opposed to the existence of nuclear weapons today are far and few between. What were the factors that caused the peace movement in Vancouver to fail? Is the legacy it leaves behind one that supports the value of political activism as a powerful agent for change?

### **Producer: Christine Kim**

Christine Kim is a 3rd year International Relations student at UBC. She began broadcasting at CiTR in her first year at UBC as a News Reporter for CiTR weekly current affairs program - *News 101*. After discovering a passion for different forms of artistic expression, Christine started volunteering for CiTR's arts and culture program. She is currently the director of the *Arts Report* and broadcasts live every Wednesday at 5pm on CiTR 101.9 FM.



## ***Grunge***

**Broadcast date: Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 4 pm**  
**Podcast available Jan 22 at [www.citr.ca/citrdocs](http://www.citr.ca/citrdocs)**

Grunge... was identified as a mixing of heavy metal and punk to create a slower and more complicated sound than earlier versions of punk but retained the same lyrical themes. Vancouver in the early to mid-eighties was hugely influential with bands like D.O.A. and the Young Canadians. By the early nineties the focus had shifted to Seattle's new grunge scene. Vancouver punks and non punks identified with grunge, experiencing a city is similar to Seattle in geography, climate and size. CiTR presented many big concerts in Vancouver. The digitized promos and interviews in the CiTR archive for grunge bands tell the story of Vancouver during this influential period.

**Producer: Roger Allen**

Roger Allen is a designer with a Bachelor of Communication Design degree from ECUAD, and has worked over ten years in graphic design and marketing. With extensive experience in branding, as well as strong illustration and photography skills, Roger also runs an online image gallery and art direction site at [rager1.com](http://rager1.com). Roger has guested on *Nardwuar the Human Serviette Presents* to discuss the history of punk rock in Vancouver, and has been an avid follower of the local music scene since the mid '80s.



## ***Queer Decade***

**Broadcast date: Wednesday, January 28<sup>st</sup> at 4 pm**

**Podcast available Jan 29 at [www.citr.ca/citrdocs](http://www.citr.ca/citrdocs)**

1995-2005 is the story of the queer rights movement in Vancouver, during the era when queers finally started winning their rights. From the 1995 Supreme Court of Canada decision that ruled that lesbians, gays and bisexuals were entitled to equality under the law to the 2005 House of Commons vote to legalize same sex marriage nationwide, *Queer Decade* touches on key events in B.C.'s queer activist history, such as the Little Sister's court case and the Surrey School Board book ban. It also comments on the queer community's growth from a relatively white, middle class movement, to a more diverse and spiritually mature collective. The documentary features interviews with key activists and politicians who helped move queer rights forward. It also includes queer anthems from the era, and archived recordings from CiTR's *Queer FM*, including tape from British Columbia's first legal same-sex wedding.

**Producer: Heather Kitching**

Heather Kitching produced and hosted *Queer FM* on CiTR from 1993-2010, earning a National Campus Radio Association Community Radio Award in 2006. She was also a regular contributor to *This Way Out*, the syndicated LGTB radio magazine out of Los Angeles, and a Canadian news stringer for SiriusXM OutQ, the LGBT talk station on SiriusXM Satellite Radio. During the 90s, she was an activist with the December 9th Coalition on LGBT issues, an organizer with BiNet BC, and a board member of Egale Canada. Heather currently lives in Thunder Bay, where she is finishing a degree in journalism through Carleton University and filling in as a reporter for the CBC.







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## ***Waiting for Godiva: Conversations about Sexism at UBC, 1980-2013***

**Broadcast date: Wednesday, February 4<sup>st</sup> at 4 pm**

**Podcast available Feb 5 at [www.citr.ca/citrdocs](http://www.citr.ca/citrdocs)**

Throughout history, the university campus has served as a major site of controversy and discussion on topics of sexism. At UBC, student media such as CiTR Radio and the Ubysey newspaper have provided essential coverage of these issues. This documentary uses this coverage to investigate how conversations about sexism and sexual violence have changed at UBC in the past thirty years, from 1980-2015. The first half of the documentary explores the history of the UBC Engineers' "Lady Godiva Ride" in the 1980s, using historical audio from CiTR's archives and interviews with UBC alumni. Following this, the documentary examines the Sauder frosh chant incident that happened at UBC in 2013, drawing on perspectives of UBC students, the AMS Sexual Assault Support Centre (SASC), and archives from the student newspaper the Ubysey.

### **Producer: Eleanor Wearing**

Eleanor is a UBC student double majoring in Human Geography and CiTR. She is the co-host of the show *Femconcept*, Fridays 1-2PM on CiTR, and is interested in exploring issues of gender and the representation of women in arts and the media. She became interested in discussing issues of sexual violence on campus after working as a Research Assistant at the AMS Sexual Assault Support Centre (SASC) in the summer of 2015. This is her first radio documentary.

