So You Think You Can Clog?

By Evan James

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Every city gets the queer performance festival it deserves, and San Francisco is no exception. That is why there are highly skilled gay Appalachian clog dancers at the Fresh Meat Festival this year: We've been good. The festival brings together queer artists known as the best in their field and those known as the boldest, making for a long weekend of boundary-pushing and top-notch cultural experiences. A lot of creative movement will be featured this year -- along with the Barbary Coast Cloggers, you can expect to see North American Same-Sex Ballroom Competition champions (four years running) and first-class Bay Area hip hop crew Mind Over Matter (as seen on So You Think You Can Dance). Beyond such fine and fancy dancing, the lineup includes politically and sexually outspoken gay rapper Deadlee, Tamil-Sri-Lankan-American political theater artist D’Lo, and Ryka Aoki de la Cruz, a trans-dyke author honored with a University Award from the American Academy of Poets. All in all, it's a booty-shakin’, fast-talkin’, rigid-wooden-shoe-wearin’ smorgasbord only the nation’s largest transgender arts organization could provide. We've been so good.

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