

The background is a surreal painting. It depicts a group of sheep, some white and some dark, floating in a turbulent sea of swirling blue and white waves. The sky is a deep, dark purple and blue, filled with swirling, storm-like patterns. Two large, pale, circular moons are visible in the sky, one on the left and one on the right. The overall mood is dreamlike and ethereal.

Burning Man Netherlands Presents:

# DREAMSCAPE

***DUTCH DECOMPRESSION 2022 - AFTERBURN REPORT***



## WELCOME HOME

Welcome to the official Afterburn Report of the Dutch Decompression 2022! It's absolutely amazing that you have taken the time to do a deep dive into the Dutch Burning Man DREAMSCAPE event, organized in our thriving capital Amsterdam.

This Afterburn Report is a communication tool to share our collective experiences and reflections with the Dutch Burner community, and also with Burners from around the world. Here, we can celebrate our successes, highlight our challenges, and acknowledge and thank the folks who helped to make our event so magical. It's an opportunity to create transparency and learn for the many years to come. It's a source of inspiration and a source for gratitude. It's so many things

- *what do you want it to be?*

Yes, it might take a few minutes to get through it all. We recommend a cup of *[insert favourite drink]* and a bite of *[anything, get creative!]* and a cozy seat somewhere among loved ones. Wherever you are, we are so glad you are here! So here we go...



Lucifer



*Dream Cloud*

OBE - Out of Body Experience



BURNING MAN  
NETHERLANDS

## ***DUTCH DECOMPRESSION 2022***

Dutch Decompression 2022 took place on November 12 in RADION Amsterdam. Having started in 2014, this was the eighth Dutch Decompression event administered by the non-profit Foundation Burning Man Netherlands.

The event, only accessible by ticket, took place from Saturday 20.00 till Sunday November 13, 06.00. There was no day program this year due to the inability of the venue to accommodate a day program.

With the Burning Man 2022 theme *Awaking Dreams* in the back of our minds, and with the dust still lingering in mysterious places, we shaped *DREAMSCAPE*, the Dutch Decompression theme. A magical ambiance where we could all learn, create and shape our dreams.

## ***ATMOSPHERE***

DREAMSCAPE was a vibrant night with a great mix of beautiful, chillaxing and caring burners. Our people were open hearted, curious and connected on so many different levels with both familiar and new faces.

The crowd was also absolutely pumped and hyped to dance their asses off on the thriving beats and to experience all the magical wonders of the burn. The veteran burners and virgins together made it all happen and the culture of the night was delightful.

Our team is absolutely thrilled and thankful that the whole organization and the night itself went amazingly smoothly, with no incidents reported. **A funny note** reported by the team: during the event, the leads checked in the portos every now and then, because the radio was so quiet ;)



## LOCATION

The event took place in RADION Amsterdam. This event space is situated in Amsterdam-West, and located on ACTA (Academische Centrum Tandheelkunde Amsterdam) creative breeding ground. It's a cultural haven where they are constantly exploring the boundaries and interfaces of experimental and established projects.

Their program, based on inclusive and diverse values, balances on the frayed edges of various cultural disciplines. Burning Man Netherlands finds a safe shelter at RADION, and we cherish the fruitful connection and collaboration that we have had with the venue for many years.



*'Giant Animal'*

## TICKETS

This year we increased the available tickets up to the maximum capacity of the venue of 1.250 tickets. This was a small increase of 6% compared to last year's event, the one and only event "*Renaissance*" in 2021, which at that time was bound by COVID Restrictions.

We SOLD OUT the event! From the 1.250 tickets, 985 tickets were sold during the main sale and 265 tickets were resold on Ticketswap. We ended up scanning 935 tickets at the gate, which is 75% of the tickets. The ticket price was € 37,50 for a regular ticket, up slightly by 3,7% compared to the previous year's Renaissance ticket. Keep in mind, inflation in the Netherlands was 10,9% in the year 2022.

The AID tickets (previously LIT: Low Income Tickets) were € 18,75 this year, and all prices included 9% VAT. 28 People applied for AID Tickets, and they were all granted one of these 50% discount tickets. 25 AID tickets were scanned, 89% of the tickets sold.

The guestlist was fully packed with the Decom team, performers, artist, DJs and the RADION team. Of the 124 guestlist tickets reserved, we scanned 81 tickets. The number of people who attended the party is probably a little higher, because some of the team members and crew who were on site all day preparing for the event didn't scan their tickets.

In total over 1.100 burners, aged 18 years and older, participated in the Decompression 2022. No children were allowed due to the regulations for night time events at the venue.

## PRODUCTION TEAM

The production team maintained the same size as last year, with 26 core team members. Give a BIG, BIGGER, the BIGGEST APPLAUSE for these bright stars:

Hans - Hansai - Board	Bas - PAS - Strike lead
Rene - Board	Warren - Transport lead
Annelien - Rainbow Pony - Event lead	Sander - Build lead
Thijs - Tiger - Event co-lead	Marijke - Dancing Queen - Volunteer lead
Robin - Wolf - Ticket lead	Sjoukje - Suki - Sign-up lead
Bart - Bunnyman - Gate lead	Milena - Consent lead
Wendy - Queen of Sheeba - Deco lead	Sharon - Consent co-lead
Nance - Deco co-lead	Remco - Puppy - Lead Live Music, Ceremony
Lars - Deco co-lead	Stephan - Felix - Lead Performance, Workshop
Obbe - Deco co-lead	Musa - Welfare lead
Floriaan - Chill-out lead	Aaron - Lovebird - Comms
Tamara - DJ lead	Emily - Flyfit - Fluff lead
Diego - DJ co-lead	Johan - Tech lead
Erik - DJ co-lead	Jurgen - Bos - Art Lead







Backstage team | Fix-It, Fluffer & Tiger

## ***VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION***

Despite the short amount of time to organize the event, 85% of all the shifts were filled. 141 shifts, 674 hours were filled by participants this year, with roles including Build, Strike, Gate/Tickets, Greeters, Welfare, Consent, Decoration & Fluff. In total 133 volunteers participated, more volunteers just showed up at the venue to help.

Special thanks to Dancing Queen (Marijke) who made sure that all volunteers were received with open arms. We worked with the online platform Sign Up to fill shifts, which worked well and efficiently. Thank you Suki (Sjoukje) for fixing this, see the complete report in the appendix.



## **PROGRAM**

Via online application forms, artists, performers, VJs, DJs, workshops, and live musicians could apply to participate at Decompression.

2 weeks before the event the forms closed, and BOY OOOOH BOY... the number of enthusiastic participants was super high!

In RADION, we programmed all 5 areas: the Main, the College, the Cafe, the Chill Out & the Basement. At least 59 performers offered us music, dance, workshops and much more:



## **NIGHT CEREMONY**

Remco Visker - Guitar

Mike Seaver - DJ

Janneke van Rossum - Singer

Carly-E - Cello

Markus Mann - Violin

## **PERFORMERS**

Dancing the Rainbow Dream

Dancing water/light fairy

Cosmic Traveller

Lightscares

Flow artists | Fire / Led spinning

Ginger Shibari

Light Bird

Giant Animal

Sheyma

Nadia Burlesque



## **MUSIC PERFORMERS**

Temple of us

Moonsong Band

A-String

Bas Dobbelaer B2B Will Oirson

Mazoes & Friends

Navid Divana

Christiaan Lippmann

## **ACTIVITIES**

Yoga Flow workshop

Nature & Spirituality

Hysterical Literature!

Pink Barbie Tank / Barbie Canon

Sado Bar [Kinky edition]

MxEzentric





## MIDNIGHT CEREMONY


An absolute highlight of the Dutch Decompression was the Midnight Ceremony at Mainstage. Various artists & performers co-created a mesmerizing show of 60 minutes that was witnessed by at least 500 participants.

Remco Visker, the Puppy, orchestrated the Midnight Ceremony together with DJ Mike Seaver, singer Janneke van Rosseum and live musicians Carly-E on cello & Markus Mann on Violin. In the Dreamscape theme, they kicked off with Insomnia of Faithless.

To WOW the crowd, creative cross-pollinations were organized by Felix (Stephan) and multiple performers followed each other up on stage. VJ Hans Bijloo uplifted the moment with video projections of Burning Man USA 2022 and the 10 principles. To top it off, a delicate laser show by Martin Chambon was given.

The magical one-hour ceremony pumped up the community to release all the pent-up energy from more than two years of pandemic-related separation.



A male DJ with a beard and long hair is performing at a DJ booth. He is wearing a shiny, sequined white shirt over a black tank top and has headphones around his neck. He is smiling and has his hands raised in the air. The DJ booth is equipped with two Pioneer DJ turntables and a mixer. In the background, there are people dancing and a large, illuminated, abstract sculpture. The scene is lit with vibrant blue and red lights.

***“A dream you dream  
alone is only a dream.  
A dream you dream  
together is reality.”***

~ John Lennon





## *DJs*

DJ A Ka  
Kiwilba  
Andre Zeldenrust  
Hightower  
Clay  
G.a.b.y.  
DeBodhi  
Harnomia  
Dansor  
Cosmic Goblin  
Faestos  
Lisa & Max  
Beard2Beard  
RONJA  
Ra\_Nuit  
Khas  
SEIUN  
Arsen Ibragimov  
DTripleJ  
DRK  
Deep gosh



## **ART**

Over 20 art pieces were brought to the Dutch Decompression 2022 by various artists. The artworks were spread around the venue, and in the Chill Out area you could find an exhibition of the art works. In total, 8 of the following artists were supported by BMNL with an Art Grant, with a total of € 1.839 in funds granted:

### **ARTIST GRANTS**

Adrian Luz (DE) | *OBE - Out of Body Experience*  
Daniel Rakish (NL) | *“be love now”*  
Dixie Barbie | Pink Tank and Co2 BB's  
Katrien Simons (NL) | Innervisions  
Astrid 2.0 (NL) | The Totem “The Nanny”  
Thijs Mikx (NL) | Lucifer,  
Samurai, Punk ain't dead, Rabbit  
Emanuel van der Ven (NL) | Dream Swivelers  
Eliska Slovakova (DK) | Dream Cloud

## **ARTIST**

Daniella Rubinovitz | Fish Dreams  
Peter | Tree of Life  
Derin Evcim | '007  
Pixel Lab | Pixel Lab

## **VJ VIDEO & LIGHT ARTISTS**

Hans Bijloo | Decompression of the mind  
Martijn Noodle | VJ  
Anton Boutkam |  
Martin Chambon | Wicked lasers, Lights & Fire

## **VJ / VIDEO COLLAB:**

Astrid 2.0 | Interactive video Totem: “The Nanny”  
Irma Joanne | Video art work | Women bathing in fire





Dream Swivelers

## ***BUILD & STRI-STRA-STRIKE***

Drum roll please..... This year we had our first Strike lead in Dutch Burning Man history, Bas Domsdorf. This resulted in a well oiled machine with build and strike. Our Build master, Sander van Bemmelen, created an excellent and sustainable system with colored and shaped stickers made to categorize all the props of BM NL and the participants! Gotta love spreadsheets :) The only challenge were some props left over after cleanup. It took about a week before we could return the props to the storage container

In previous years, strike was an absolute burden, so our goal was.... ***How can we make it most appealing and fun to help out Leaving No Trace?*** To engage more people to help with the strike we offered a 50% refund after a full (4 hour) shift on Sunday or Tuesday. Of the 15 people who subscribed for a strike shift, 11 people participated and received a refund.

The participants of the strike also received a 50% discount from the organisers of the "Awakenings", (not a Burning Man event) that took place just around the corner from Decompression and started at 07.00h. You are all wondering now, how did strike go? Within 2,5 hours we cleaned up the whole location and our team was dancing at the afterparty! What a bliss, excellent work peeps!!





## COMMUNICATION

Our kick ass communication team Cauliflower & Koala took a break from comms after years of loyal service to Burning Man Netherlands. So actually, for the Decompression this year, comms was a big challenge due insufficient time and hands. Lovebird (Aaron) together with the whole team, picked up the most essential communications and shared it with the community. Luckily, when we were in need, these two rockstars helped the team out with the event page on the website and communicating last minute information of the event on socials. We learned this year that it is massively important to have a stable comms group ready to support the organizing team!



## ***DREAMSCAPE DECO***

The theme DREAMSCAPE was sensible in every area of the location, and a humongous team of creative souls helped us out with decorating. Leading up to the event, 2 crafternoons were organized in the atelier of De Fik on the property of the venue, and over 45 people contributed with their craft. Queen of Sheeba (Wendy) was the deco lead and under her watch an eclectic and creative neon explosion was created, including a massive streaker wall, neon mannequins and uplighting dream catchers by our Nance.



Decompression of the mind





Image credit: wernative.org

## DREAMSCAPE pays tribute to the DREAMCATCHER

In honour of the dreamy theme of the 2022 Dutch Deco, we have many dreamcatchers - created by the burner community - in our space. We want to highlight this opportunity to educate about potential cultural appropriation. We contacted the Lead of the Indigenous Camp at Burning Man USA and we connected with other (indigenous) people to get insight into dreamcatchers and create a chance for learning and appreciation within our (non Native American) community.

The dreamcatcher (a sacred handmade object) originates from several indigenous tribes in North America and Canada. These tribes believe dreams are messages sent to help guide you through life.

Traditional dreamcatchers are made by elders within their communities. To create them they use natural materials and symbolism like;

- Dried red willow: to create a sacred hoop of life that has no beginning and no end
- Feathers: so the dreamcatcher can fly true in the wind at nighttime over the place where you sleep
- Shells: to represent life in the ocean

Later, red, white, black and yellow beads were added to represent all races of mankind. Meaning, that in this circle of life, we are all related - there is no separation between us. In the middle of the dreamcatcher, the spider's web catches all evil spirits and bad dreams. The bad dreams are contained in the web and the feather's filter good dreams down into your mind throughout the night.

If you want to buy or make a dreamcatcher, please respectfully be conscious of its origin. Consider how you can educate yourself and others, celebrate its indigenous source and give tribute where it is due.

## DREAMSCAPE DECO

Our deco team wanted to include dream catchers at the event, and wanted to ensure we were being culturally sensitive. So the team made contact with some Native American Burners to learn about the background of dream catchers. They then created a one page informational sheet to share what we learned with the Deco participants. This was shared through our communications channels and at the event.





## **WELFARE**

We had a strong and responsible medical team this year, lead by Tiger (Thijs) & Musa. Due to the resources and knowledge of our medical team, we decided our own team would handle Welfare this year, without bringing in EMS, Event Medical Service. No incidents were reported at the event. The Welfare dome in the Chill Out area provided a safe environment as it was intended to, including serving as an educational and empathetic escape during the event.

The Welfare team shifted the vibe of the space this year, working to transform any possibility of stigma (mental health) into an attractive and exciting space where volunteers could sign up and contribute creatively to the overall event experience. Welfare was dearly appreciated by those who used it, constantly busy, and supplies were used up. For the next event, a separate area with a couple of extra beds in an isolated setting would be ideal for some people needing a quieter or safer space.

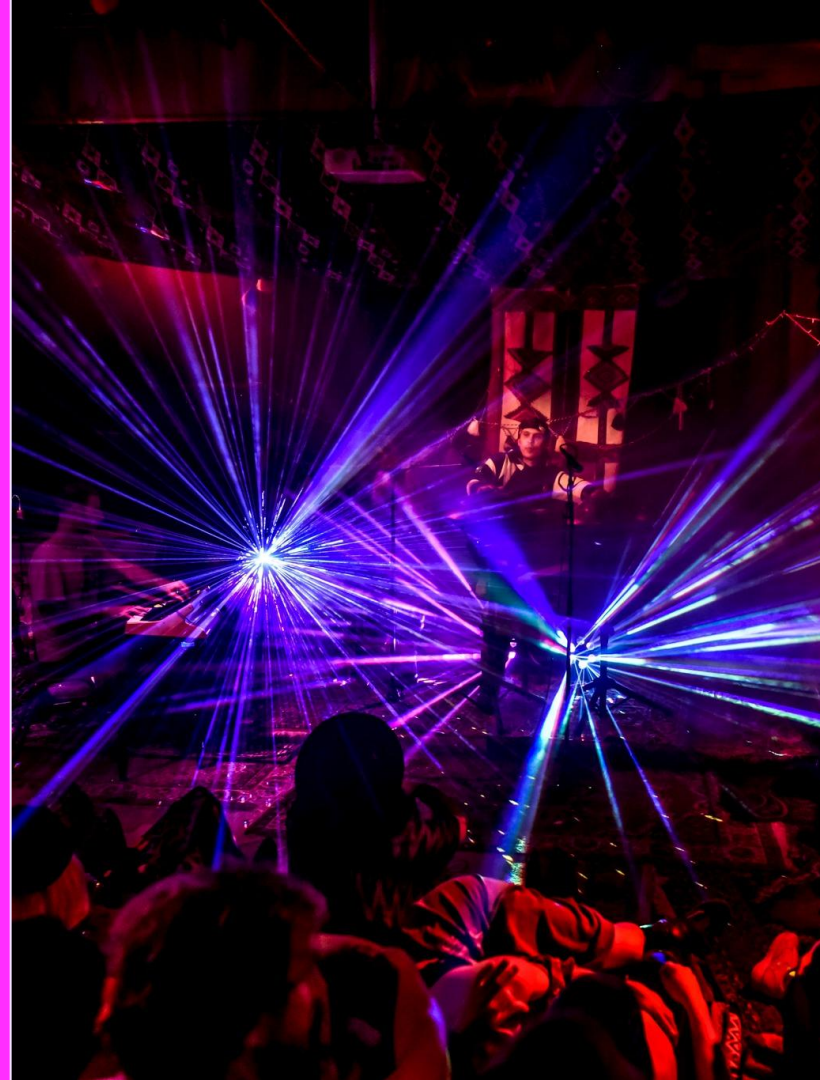


## CONSENT

Consent angels had a recognisable consent booth next to the lockers in the venue and posters in every toilet stall to raise awareness and help let people know what to do if they needed support or wanted to report an incident. Having the consent angels flying around wearing wings, dancing and having a good time while on their shift changed the perspective of what the role is about, hence we had a high volunteer turnout. To prepare the angels for their shifts, a pre-recorded training video was created which allowed volunteers to watch it in their own time.

For future events, the Decom team would like to align a bit more on understanding, implementing and carrying out the 10 Principles and Consent; before, during and after the event.

During the night there was one incident reported regarding non-consensual touch. After the event, another incident was reported that involved both consent as well as the principle of commodification. Our team is continuing to reflect on these events and actively exploring how we can create a safer environment for participants.



## ***PHOTO & VIDEO***

BIG APPLAUSE for Brenda & Huybert who captured the night in a most delicate way. See them shine on this picture!

We are also extremely thankful that David, Diego in collaboration with Tamara created a spot on aftermovie. Caution: you could get blown away!!

***Important learning for next year:*** take a picture of the whole team, we missed that opportunity!!





## THANK YOU ALL

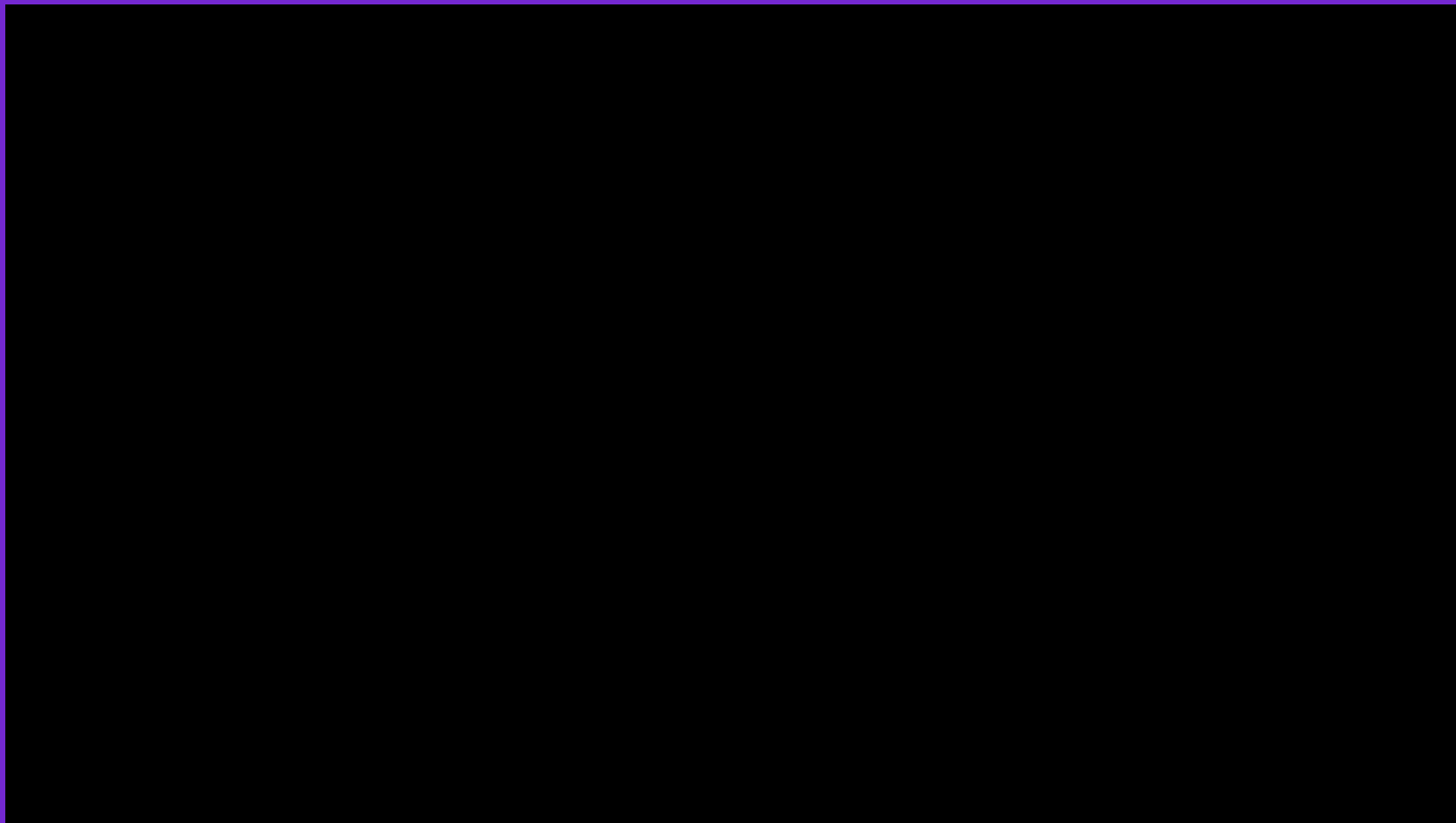
We are so grateful to each of you for all the gifts of time, magic, love and creativity to this event to make it so special. We simply could not have done this without all of you, and we want to thank you from the bottom of our dreamy loving souls for helping to pull off this beautiful burn. Whether you were a performer, a volunteer, an artist, an organizer, a builder, a helping hand here and there - whatever it is that you did, we see you and we honor you. We are so proud of the diverse and thriving family we are building together, and excited to imagine what the future holds for our collective Burner community.

If you've ever wondered how you can help create even more magic at the Decompression or Where the Sheep Sleep, this is it! Stay tuned and reach out to ORG, because you – yes YOU! – can help make Burning Man Netherlands the most magical, wild, creative, wacky, transformative, regional cultural experiment ever!

BIG Dusty hugs,  
Burning Man Netherlands  
Rainbow Pony (Annelien) Event Lead



## ***DREAMSCAPE AFTER MOVIE***





A vibrant Burning Man festival scene. A large crowd of people is silhouetted against a bright blue background, with many arms raised in the air. The scene is illuminated by numerous green and blue laser beams that crisscross the sky. On the right side, a person is holding a large, dark, fringed umbrella. The overall atmosphere is energetic and celebratory.

**NEXT  
YEAR  
WAS  
BETTER?!**

## APPENDIX: VOLUNTEERS

<i>Activity name</i>	<i>Start Date</i>	<i>End Date</i>	<i>Total Hours</i>	<i>Hours Filled</i>	<i>Total Spots</i>	<i>Spots Filled</i>	<i>%</i>	<i># Volunteers</i>
Build / Deco	11-11-2022	12-11-2022	385	378	55	54	98%	49
Fluffers	11-11-2022	13-11-2022	90	66	10	7	70%	7
Greeters and Tickets scanners	12-11-2022	13-11-2022	98	97	31	30	97%	27
Welfare	12-11-2022	13-11-2022	30	24	15	12	80%	12
Consent Angel	12-11-2022	13-11-2022	60	48	30	24	80%	24
Strike	13-11-2022	15-11-2022	110	61	25	14	56%	14
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>773</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>133</b>

Source: Sign up