## ARTS alive

## Under the Volcano Festival

Mortal Coil at the 1994 Under the Volcano Festival in Cates Park

Photo: Willie Cackette



he ever evolving Under the Volcano Festival is heating up for another successful season. In it's five-year history the event has gone from having 14 volunteers and a budget of \$1,400 to boasting over 160 volunteers and a budget of \$49,000 in 1994. Not just another music festival—Under the Volcano continues to seek out a blend of events to satisfy everyone.

Featuring over 100 artists and performers, music, poetry, theatre and performance art will be presented on the three outdoor stages. There will be art installations in the woods, workshops, an artisan's market, children's activities and entertainment and a traditional First Nation's welcome ceremony.

One new festival feature is the Eco-Fair which will draw attention to the extensive logging in the North Shore watersheds and the resultant concern over its impact on water quality in the Lower Mainland. So far the GVRD has barred environmentalists access to the watershed to assess the problem first hand. The Eco-Fair will also address First Nations' concerns and other environmental issues of interest to the community.

Unique programming and the fact

that the event has no ticket price and operates on a pay-what-you-can donation policy makes it truly accessible—a community festival in the old sense of the word.

On the performance end "Grrrlapalooza" adds a new element to the mix, featuring some of the best West Coast women performers in hiphop, hard-core, and folk music. And some tried and true acts will be back: the Pyrodezyacks who will perform a new choreographed dance with fire this year.

An artisan market with on-site demonstrations will be there along with a children's entertainment area and Evelyn Roth's popular inflatable volcano.

Last but definitely not least, Irwin Oostindie, a festival organizer and dedicated volunteer, is in Europe to curate international experimental film and video. He'll be bringing back some of these films for the festival's grand finale: Vancouver's first international outdoor film and video festival.

North Vancouver's largest arts festival will take place on August 13, 1995 at Cates Park. Festival organizers are expecting to exceed last year's attendance of 8,000 people. △

