



Talking Stick Festival 2018 Industry Series

SCHÁYILHEN - SALMON GOIN' UP! (S-ch-eye-yay-lh-un) February 16-19, 2018

In partnership with SFU Woodward's Cultural Programs



A 4-day forum which invites arts presenters, artists, scholars, funders and audience members together to further imagine and develop the strengths and significance of Indigenous performing arts.

Scháyilhen (S-ch-eye-yay-lh-un), which translates literally to "*Salmon Going Up River*"; and speaks to the journey the community is taking towards embracing and celebrating Indigenous art forms and practices.

Register at talkingstickfest.ca

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 16

Registration 9:00 AM, SFU Woodward's World Art Centre
149 W Hastings St, Vancouver

OPENING PRAYER/WELCOME

9:30 AM

SFU Woodward's World Art Centre, 149 W Hastings St, Vancouver

CHIYAXW - "PILLARS" OF OUR LONGHOUSE PART 1

Industry Series Opening

Led by **Rebecca Duncan (Tsitsayxemaat)**

10:00-11:00 AM

SFU Woodward's World Art Centre, 149 W Hastings St, Vancouver

A Witness will be called followed by an introduction and exploration of the first two of four Pillars which lie at the heart of Indigenous philosophies and worldviews:

- **Nexwniw** which translates to *Advice*
- **Sxenxen** which means *Family Tree*

11:00-11:15 COFFEE BREAK

ROUNDTABLE & REFLECTIONS

Led by **Kinwa Bluesky**

11:15 AM -12:45 PM

SFU Woodward's World Art Centre, 149 W Hastings St, Vancouver

This is the opportunity for participants to share their own experiences and teachings and discuss how they apply to their everyday life, their work and their interactions with others. How can these teachings help someone else in their life, work, art, family, relations, and profession?

The session will culminate with the Witness Response.

12:30-1:30 CATERED LUNCH

CHIYAXW - "PILLARS" OF OUR LONGHOUSE PART 2

Led by **Rebecca Duncan (Tsitsayxemaat)**

1:30 – 2:30 PM

SFU Woodward's World Art Centre, 149 W Hastings St, Vancouver

Following the calling of a Witness, this session will build on the earlier discussion by examining the last two Pillars of our Longhouse:

- **Sneweyalh** means *Teachings*
- **Chenchenstway** translates to *Supporting One Another*.

2:30-2:45 COFFEE BREAK

ROUNDTABLE /REFLECTIONS

Led by **Kinwa Bluesky**

2:45-4:15 PM

SFU Woodward's World Art Centre, 149 W Hastings St, Vancouver

This session is allocated to reflection and discussion around the values represented by the four Pillars: How does this relate to you? How can you apply any of this to your life? Will this help you find balance? Can you identify some teachings that tie specifically to you and your family or community?

The session will culminate with the Witness Response.

CLOSING SONG

4:30- 4:45 PM

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

KW'ACHMIXWTS CHEXW SMEN HAN (Show 'n Tell)

Performance - Traditional Dance Group

6:30-6:50 PM

Roundhouse Exhibition Hall, 181 Roundhouse Mews, Vancouver

Translated, "Kw'achmixwts Chexw Smen Hants" means "Show me, Tell me". Gather for a pre-show "Show 'n' Tell", a short performance accompanied by a sharing of its origins and meaning, featuring some of our region's most engaging performers.

SOKALO

Dance Performance & Reception

7:00-8:00 PM

Roundhouse Performance Centre, 181 Roundhouse Mews, Vancouver

*Brought to you by [\[ZOGMA\]](#), Artistic Direction by **Ian Yaworski**, Choreography by **Frédérique-Annie Robitaille**, **Philippe Meunier** and **Ian Yaworski** with the collaboration of the dancers*

Hailing from Quebec, [\[ZOGMA\]](#), is a percussive dance company who share their cultural diversity by combining music and choreography with a contemporary approach and aesthetic to folklore. *Sokalo* is a vibrant gathering place where memories are shared with friends -the simple things of life that we wish not to forget. Collaborating with Vancouver's own **Louis Riel Metis Dancers** *Sokalo* merges song and dance into a powerful rhythmic work. Followed by a catered Wine & Cheese reception. Cash Bar.

INDIGIFEMME

Burlesque Performance

8:30-9:30 PM

Roundhouse Exhibition Hall, 181 Roundhouse Mews, Vancouver

Members of **Virago Nation** invite you to take a journey into the world of Indigenous sexuality through unapologetic and empowered burlesque performances. Through humour, seduction, pop culture and politics they will show that Aboriginal women will not be confined to the colonial virgin-whore dichotomy but will design a new dynamic and multi-faceted sexual identity rooted in their own desires. Emceed by poet & spoken word artist **Taran Kootenhayoo**. (*Note: 19+ event; sexually suggestive content; no full nudity*)

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 17

THE CYCLE OF INDIGENOUS CREATION

Facilitated by **France Trépanier & Chris Creighton-Kelly**

09:00 - 11:30 AM

SFU Woodward's World Art Centre, 149 W Hastings St, Vancouver

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

How is Indigenous performance created? What are the traditional influences? What are the current working conditions for performing artists? What are best practices for community engagement? This creation cycle does have overlapping connections to the mainstream process of: research/creation; production; presentation and dissemination. Yet it is crucial to recognize that there are factors that are not well understood by mainstream organizations - presenters, theatre or dance companies, arts funding bodies. These factors include: Aboriginal worldview in relation to art; protocols; artistic sovereignty, countering cultural appropriation, just to name a few.

Using presentations, exercises and small group discussions, participants will explore the cycle of Indigenous creation; elaborate the current working conditions, methodologies and values and finally, discover ways to locate themselves within the shifting 2018 Canadian arts environment.

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

CHOOSE FROM THE FOLLOWING!

TH'OWXIYA -THE HUNGRY FEAST DISH

An **Axis Theatre** Production

Theatre for Young Audiences

NOON-1 PM

Roundhouse Performance Centre, 181 Roundhouse Mews, Vancouver

"When you take something from the earth, you must give something back."

Th'owxiya: The Hungry Feast Dish, tells the story of Th'owxiya, whose mouth holds the most delicious foods, but if you steal from her, she'll eat you and your family. A young mouse has made that mistake, but with the help of two young bears, Raven, and Sasquatch, the creature takes a journey to earn her forgiveness. Recommended for Grades K-6.

OR

HOW AND WHEN I ENTER: DECOLONIZING OUR WORK

Workshop with **Pangea World Theatre – Dipankar Mukherjee & Meena Natarajan**

1:30-4:30 PM

SFU Woodward's - World Art Centre, 149 W Hastings St, Vancouver

We are in a space where social justice movements have led to a strong effort to decolonize. How do we as cultural workers who are invested in practices of equity enter spaces that are indigenous? How do we build genuine inter and intracultural spaces? How do our practices help us become better allies? How can people of color, immigrants, settlers build mindful theatre practices and processes that acknowledge indigenous land and space and build sustained relationships? What does it mean to step forward and step back in such spaces? Using the best practices collected over

two decades of Pangea World Theater's work, Dipankar Mukherjee and Meena Natarajan will lead a practice based session that will explore these questions. Participatory workshop, wear loose clothes.

OR

TH'OWXIYA -THE HUNGRY FEAST DISH

An **Axis Theatre** Production

Theatre for Young Audiences

3:00 – 4:00 PM

Roundhouse Performance Centre, 181 Roundhouse Mews, Vancouver

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

HEARTBEATZ

Music and more!

7:30 PM Doors / 8:00 PM show - Midnight

Russian Hall - 600 Campbell Avenue, Vancouver

Get your finger on the pulse of the best Indigenous music around! Hailing from the Yukon, headliner Diyet (Southern Tutchone/Tlingit) invites you into a soundscape of rhythm, melody and storytelling. She will be joined by a roster of some of the brightest up and coming musical stars - guaranteed to rock the house! Suitable for 19+.Cash Bar

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18

POWER BREAKFAST

9:00 -9:45 AM

Holiday Inn Columbia Room, 1110 Howe St, Vancouver

Advance registration required by Friday February 16 industry@fullcircle.ca

WORKING WITH CEREMONY AND ANCESTORS IN THE PERFORMING ARTS

Panel Discussion / Talking Circle

09:45 AM - 12:00 NOON

Holiday Inn Columbia Room, 1110 Howe St, Vancouver

This session hosts artists and scholars who discuss how they incorporate ceremony, protocol, language and spirituality into artistic work. The participants will discuss the necessity of including cultural specific practices into their work and the boundaries they may face along the way. Funders, producers and arts presenters will find this gathering useful as they can learn how some Indigenous artistic processes require alternative frameworks to develop and produce new work. We explore how ceremony and ancestral relationships are used in collaborative and creation processes.

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

METIS KITCHEN PARTY

Gathering / Performance

1:00 – 4:00 PM

Roundhouse Exhibition Centre, 181 Roundhouse Mews, Vancouver

For the whole family! Stop by for some soup and bannock, tap your feet to the sound of the fiddle while the jiggers showcase some "fancy steps". Learn some traditional Métis crafts with hands-on, interactive workshops or browse the vendors' displays for Métis arts and crafts. Our fiddlers and live

band keep the atmosphere lively the whole afternoon. A hand-clapping, foot-stomping fun-filled celebration of Métis culture.

POP-UPS

Breakout groups / various meetings as need arise!

12:30-5:00 PM

Holiday Inn & Suites & other spaces TBA

POP-UPS! Room for impulsive meetings and networking! Keep your eyes peeled and your ears to the ground for additions to the schedule.

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

CHOOSE FROM THE FOLLOWING!

SOKALO

Dance Performance

7:00-8:00 PM

Roundhouse Performance Centre, 181 Roundhouse Mews, Vancouver

Your 2nd chance to *Sokalo* -a vibrant urban work by **[ZØGMA]** from Quebec and special guests **V'ni Dansi**.

OR

CATCH YOUR BREATH

Delegate Choice Night!

7:00 PM – Late

Is there someone you want to meet with or a conversation you simply must have? Maybe you want to check out the city at night or simply chill out and reflect on your own!

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18

IN SEARCH OF A NEW WAMPUM - DEVELOPING SHARED VALUES

Facilitated by **Lindsay Lachance**

9:00-10:15 AM

Holiday Inn & Suites Columbia Ballroom, 1110 Howe St, Vancouver

During the week of June 15-20 2017, selected members of the Indigenous performing arts community gathered as a part of “Canada Scene” at The National Arts Centre and began to create a Statement of Values. Some values emerged: *Diversity, Self-determination, Reciprocity, Traditional Knowledges, Community Benefit and Accountability*. In recognizing the diverse modes of self-determination and protocol embedded in various Indigenous Performing Arts practices, Lindsay Lachance is being called to witness and summarize the 2018 TSF events and facilitate a conversation on how the community can develop a collective statement of values. Witnessing and collaborating in conversations helps further the goal of creating a collective shared value statement.

10:15-10:30 COFFEE BREAK

CREATING AN INDIGENOUS ARTS ACTION PLAN

Facilitated by **France Trépanier & Chris Creighton-Kelly**

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Holiday Inn & Suites Columbia Ballroom, 1110 Howe St, Vancouver

Following many discussions - both at previous Talking Stick Festivals and in other locations across the territory now known as Canada - an Action Plan for Developing the Indigenous Performing Arts is essential. This document will provide a blueprint for strengthening the Indigenous performing arts infrastructure. This will encourage new voices, new stories and new works from Indigenous artists in every stage of development.

This session will build on the issues identified in both the 2017 and during the current 2018 Talking Stick festivals. Participants will speak from their historical engagement with the issues in order to identify present-day resources and successes but also to elaborate weak links and gaps. From there, they will imagine proposed solutions. Finally, in small working groups, participants will formulate the recommendations which will become part of the action plan.

12:30-1:30 CATERED LUNCH

CREATING AN INDIGENOUS ARTS ACTION PLAN CONTINUED

Facilitated by **France Trépanier & Chris Creighton-Kelly**

1:30-5:00 PM

Holiday Inn & Suites Columbia Ballroom, 1110 Howe St, Vancouver

SCHÁYILHEN POP-UP MUSICAL BISTRO

Gathering and Feast

7:00 PM

Roundhouse Exhibition Centre, 181 Roundhouse Mews, Vancouver

CATERED DINNER

Gather with us at our mid festival social and Industry Series Wrap. Fill your plate (and your glasses) mingle and share your memories of the last 4 days. Accompanied by a live band and eclectic pop-up programming showcasing poets, musicians and visiting artists. Cash Bar.

BIOGRAPHIES

Meena Natarajan is a playwright and director and the Executive and Literary Director of Pangea World Theater, a progressive, international ensemble space for arts and dialogue. She has led the theater's growth since its founding in 1995. As a playwright, her scripts have been professionally produced both in India and the U.S. She adapted Farid Ud-din Attar's 12th-century poem, *Conference of the Birds* into a dramatic script for Pangea World Theater for its founding production in 1996 and again in 2009 and 2016. A staged reading of the play was produced by Silk Road Theatre in Chicago in 2013. An excerpt of her play *Without My Country* received a reading at the Women Playwrights International Festival in Greece in 2000. Other plays include *The Inner World* based on 2000-year old Tamil poems of love and war, *Rashomon* based on Akutagawa's short stories with playwright Luu Pham, *Etchings In the Sand* with choreographer Ananya Chatterjea and plays commissioned by the Advocates of Human Rights, Amnesty International and Praxis International. Her work *From The Ashes* toured to the first National Asian-American Theatre Festival in New York, 2007. She was commissioned to write a play *No Expiration Date* on Aging, Sexuality and Mindfulness by the Program of Human Sexuality at the University of Minnesota. She has also directed and dramaturged several original theater and performance art pieces – *Draw Two Circles* for Naked Stages at Intermedia Arts and The Illusion Theater, *The Body Project* for Exposed Brick Theater, *American As Curry Pie* at the History Theater and *Hmong Bollywood* and *Isla Tuliro* at Pangea. Meena received a Twin Cities International Citizen's Award in 2001 for her work in Pangea. She has been awarded grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board, Theatre Communications Group and the Playwrights Center. Meena was awarded a Visionary Leadership

Award from the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits in 2013.

Dipankar Mukherjee is a professional director originally from Calcutta, India with a 25-year history of directing. He is the Artistic Director of Pangea World Theater, an international theater in Minneapolis that is a progressive space for arts and dialogue. As a director, he has worked in India, England, Canada and the United States. Dipankar has worked at the Guthrie Theater, Great Lakes Shakespeare Festival, New World Theater, Alliance Theater and at the Young Vic in London. Dipankar has worked with dancers to create cross-cultural work using his knowledge of Kalaripayattu, an Indian martial arts form. He has worked with choreographer/dancers Hema Rajagopalan and Krithika Rajagopalan of Natya Dance Theater, Hari Krishnan of InDance, Rita Mustaphi of Katha Dance Theater, Ananya Chatterjea of Ananya Dance Theater, Anita Ratnam of Arangam Trust and Susana di Palma of Zorongo Flamenco in the capacity of a director. He has co-curated and designed many of Pangea World Theater's multi-year programs such as *Bridges*, an artist exchange program with artists from multiple disciplines and backgrounds, *Indigenous Voices*, a program to develop and showcase voices of international, national and local First Nation artists, *The Lake Street Arts* among others. His aesthetics have evolved through his commitment to social justice, equity and deep spirituality and these factors, along with a response to relevant politics, forms the basis of his work. Dipankar has been awarded the Twin Cities International Citizens Award by the Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul for contributions in the area of human rights and international co-operation. Dipankar has received the Humphrey Institute Fellowship to Salzburg and has been a Ford Foundation delegate to India and Lebanon. He is a recipient of the Bush Leadership Fellowship award to study non-violence and peace methodologies in India and South Africa and a Doris Duke Fellowship at Shangri-La.

France Trépanier is a visual artist, curator and researcher of Kanien'kéha:ka and French ancestry. She is the Aboriginal Curator at Open Space Arts in Victoria, BC.

Chris Creighton-Kelly is an interdisciplinary artist, writer and cultural critic. He was born in the U.K. of South Asian and British heritage. He is also a consultant for government agencies and arts organizations – both small and large.

France and Chris were the co-recipients of the 2012 **Audain Aboriginal Curatorial Fellowship** by the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria. Together, they co-authored ***Understanding Aboriginal Art in Canada Today: a Knowledge and Literature Review*** for the Canada Council for the Arts. France and Chris are directing by ***Primary Colours/Couleurs Primaires***, a 3-year initiative, which seeks to place Indigenous art practices at the centre of the Canadian art system.

Kinwa Bluesky is Anishinaabe-kwe from the Sandy Lake First Nation and the Kitigan Zibi Anishinaabeg. She holds two legal degrees, a Juris Doctorate and a Master of Laws, from the University of Victoria. Kinwa is currently finishing her Ph.D. at their Faculty of Law. Her dissertation "The Art of Indigenous Law: The Law of Indigenous Art" speaks to the dynamic relationship between Indigenous art and law.

The true significance of Kinwa's legal theoretical work lies in the empowerment of Indigenous legal traditions to become active law. Indigenous communities are actively participating in understanding and applying Indigenous norms to reconcile current legislation and policies in all areas of the law, including health. As her supervisor John Borrows says, "Law is a practice." Through her own interest and practice in leading Indigenous initiatives, Kinwa upholds the commitment to continuously improve governance through respectful partnership, collaboration, and socio-legal innovation. She is an active agent in the broadening of our interpretive legal communities. Professionally, Kinwa works as an Indigenous community-based consultant, who provides facilitation and strategic engagement, development, and management services to non-profits, charities, and all-

levels of government. Her recent research in Aboriginal Health, Healing, and Wellness in the DTES supported the development of grants for Elder Services Programs in promoting traditional, spiritual, and cultural health and healing supports in Vancouver. Kinwa is marathon runner, endurance cyclist, and Anishinaabe storyteller and visual artist.

Lindsay Lachance is an Anishinaabe PhD candidate at the University of British Columbia and has a Masters in Theatre Theory and Dramaturgy from the University of Ottawa. She is a sessional instructor First Nations & Indigenous Studies at UBC. Lindsay is an active theatre professional, reviewer and scholar and has presented her research at five international conferences. Her areas of interest include performance as politics, the physicalization of spirituality in time and space, and the multiple creation processes of Indigenous dramaturgies. Lindsay is a member of Full Circle First Nations Performance and Indigenous Performing Arts Alliance.

Tsitsayxemaat Rebecca Duncan is of Squamish and Musqueam descent of the Coast Salish Peoples. Rebecca has devoted her life to preserve the Squamish Language, Salish weaving and Cultural teachings that have been handed down to her from her late Papa and his Papa and so on and so on since the beginning of time.

Rebecca applies her sacred language to any and all cultural activities including Language Games (TPR), Traditional song & Dance, Traditional Cooking, Storytelling and Weaving. She specializes in yellow cedar capes, tunics, aprons and designs them with meaningful old and contemporary styles of geometric Salish designs. Rebecca is an intermediate level speaker and her goal is to be fully immersed to become fluent. Today we are 4200 strong however, only 7 fluent speakers remain with approximately 90 eager learners.

Rebecca has performed worldwide promoting Language and Culture, representing Coast Salish people and practicing protocols with Song and Dance and sharing history with storytelling and weaving workshops.

No matter where you are from, it is so important to know your history, your ties to the land, and your culture.

Welcome to unceded Coast Salish Territory, Our history is your history!!!

HUY CHEXW | THANK YOU



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VANCOUVER DOWNTOWN



ROUNDHOUSE



FIRST PEOPLES'
CULTURAL COUNCIL

Full Circle: First Nations Performance is proudly located on the traditional, unceded territories of Coast Salish peoples