

## The 6<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Mixed Arts Festival 3 days dedicated to the voices of the Nations.

**Montreal, June 6, 2018** - From June 15 to 17, in the heart of Old Montreal, will be held the **6th edition of Mixed Arts Festival organized by Sacred Fire Productions**. More than 50 Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal artists will gather in the "circle of change". Thus, all cultures will come together to exchange in the spirit of renewal through a pooling of knowledge of their teachings and their contemporary and traditional cultures.

In addition to fostering the development of inclusive societies and highlighting the teachings and values of Aboriginal communities, **Mixed Arts Festival** also aims to promote Aboriginal culture. As well, the event aims to position indigenous voices at the heart of the conversation and perhaps rewrite history so that its narrative fits into a contemporary context.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Edition is built around three spaces, which are the **Ephemeral Gallery**, the **Ashukan Cultural Space** and a **Cultural Exchange Stage** by Place Jacques Cartier in Old Montreal. The Ephemeral Gallery is dedicated to exhibitions and collective creations, the Ashukan Cultural Space is a gathering place for Exhibition and will also serve as a literary space (stories and meetings) and the Cultural Exchange Stage will be the place where visitors can attend concerts, dance classes and Inuit throat singing.

These are the activities not to be missed during these three days dedicated to the voices of Nations

### Day 1

Friday, June 15 at 10 am, will kick off this 6th Edition with the Siquah Family Dance Troupe. The family trio formed by **Montee Siquah** and his two sons Sampson and Scott who will present Hoop Dancing, Fancy Dance and Grass Dance and will introduce the public to the different styles of Indigenous traditional dances. Not to be missed!

Subsequently, **Sylvain Rivard**, a multidisciplinary artist of French-Canadian and Abenaki origins will give explanations to festivalgoers about the meaning of the

cultural presentation. The Sinquah Family Dance Troupe will continue with an honor song!

Afterwards, it will be the opening of the Ephemeral Gallery, with initiation to the Innu language and Atikamekw Nehirononin. creations and demonstrations of Aboriginal and Maori traditional dances.

At 4:30 pm, Inuit artist **Nina Segalowitz** will perform Inuit throatsinging with participation of a few audience members. For more than 20 years, she has presented exciting and moving performances in many countries (France, Belgium, Luxembourg, United States) as well as being internationally recognized by her fellow artistic colleagues.

In addition to a literary 5 a 7, this first day will finish up with a long-awaited performance by multi-disciplinary Métis artist, **Moe Clark**, a virtuoso of superimposed guitar tracks that, for the occasion, will unite her talents with those of Nina Segalowitz. A magical moment to behold!

## Day 2

Starting at noon, Abenaki Artist **Nicole Obomsawin** will offer **W8banaki Story** which will entertain young and old. As well, **Tahatie Montour** and visual artist **Angel Horn**, will build a Haudenosaunee Headress (Iroquois)

At 2:00 pm, the installation of the **exhibition Pîkiskwe-speak** will be open to the general public. Pîkiskwe-speak is an invitation to the Conversations of Reconciliation through art: exchange of ideas that will explore the deep rooted effects of Indian Residential Schools in the hope and goal of writing a new chapter. A new vision of Indigenous / non-Indigenous and diversity relations in Canada is one of the highlights of this 6th Edition.

Multidisciplinary artist **Sylvain Rivard** will participate throughout the whole festival. This talented creator has written and illustrated several books for young people in addition to publishing essays, ethnographic books and a collection of poetry published by Hannenorak. Entitled *Les Poupées*, this work denounces violence against Indigenous women and children. An engaged artist, it goes without saying! The night will take off with a gathering at the sound of *maracatu* with **Flavia Nascimento**, a group of influenced Brazilian percussionist style musicians from Brazil, Quebec and elsewhere. Afterward, the traditional woodworker making noise and music beating down on the black ash will precede **Shauit** the singer songwriter on stage. Originally from Maliotenam, a village in northeastern Quebec, Shauit sings

in Creole, in French, but especially in his native language, Innu. This one-of-a-kind artist offers engaging pop, reggae and dancehall songs. To discover, if it is not already done!

### Day 3

Our last day will start with the return of Abenaki artist **Nicole Obomsawin** with W8benaki stories alongside the event “Talking Stick “ , hosted by sculptor **Tahatie Montour** and visual artist **Angel Horn**. In addition to the return of **Montee Siquah** and Inuit Throatsinger **Nina Segalowitz**, the 6th edition of the Mixed Art Festival will close with a presentation by Mikw8bait, a traditional dance troupe from Odanak.

The mission of Sacred Fire Productions is to build bridges between Quebec's Indigenous artists and audiences of all ages from all walks of life. By creating opportunities for Indigenous artists to express themselves, Sacred Fire Productions believes in the revitalization and re-appropriation of Indigenous arts and cultural practices. Through an approach that promotes Indigenization, the organization aims to provide a positive understanding of Inuit, Métis and First Nations cultures.

The Mixed Arts Festival perfectly fits in with the goal of building bridges between all cultures.

For programming details, visit [rvam.ca](http://rvam.ca) and the Ashukan Cultural Space Facebook page.

### Opening and Closing hours of the site:

June 15th: from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm

June 16th: from 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

June 17th: from 12:00 pm-6:00 pm

For more information, please contact:

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