



For Immediate Release: Sept 25, 2007
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Weesageechak Dances for the 20th time

Let the music begin. We have a lot of excitement to pack into four days. Expect to see electrifying new works by emerging Native artists and surprising creations by trailblazing favourites. Expect to be amazed by our Young Voices and Rhymekeepers. Expect the unexpected. Care to dance?

Weesageechak Begins to Dance XX is a festival of new works by multidisciplinary Aboriginal artists across the nation and beyond. Out of the 111 pieces workshopped over the festival's twenty years, 47 have gone onto full production.

Here are the history makers this year:

Confessions of an Indian Cowboy

Created and performed by Margo Kane

OCT 10, 8pm, Berkeley Street Theatre

A probing, endearing look at the history of contact between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people, this one-woman show tells stories of the Métis.

Evening in Paris

Created by Muriel Miguel and Michelle Olson

Performed by Michelle Olson

OCT 11, 8pm, Berkeley Street Theatre

An unforgettable look at the forgotten life of dance artist Molly Spotted Elk

Young Voices Presentation

Featuring the latest work by Candace Brunette, Meegwun Fairbrother, Waawaate Fobister, Cara Gee, Christian Goulet, Falen Johnson, Jeff Legacy, Tyler Pennock, Lena Recollet, Spy Dénommé-Welch, Jennifer Williams

OCT 12, 8pm, Berkeley Street Theatre

Now in its third year, the Young Voices Program gives a group of First Nations Youth the chance to develop their new work with established performing arts professionals through workshops and writing sessions.

Chasing Honey

By Laura Shamas

OCT13, 4pm, Dancemakers Centre for Creation

As Colony Collapse Disorder threatens the livelihood of Len and his father, so is Sandy's life with her father thrown into upheaval.

more...

Woman in White

Created by Santee Smith

Performed by Santee Smith

OCT 13, 8pm, Berkeley Street Theatre

The tragic life of the “Other Woman” is unveiled in a multi-media dance exploration.

God and the Indian

By Drew Hayden Taylor

OCT 13, 8pm, Berkeley Street Theatre

A reverend and a former student of a residential school finally meet again. Anyone up for a game of Truth and Reconciliation?

But wait! Weesageechak doesn't just dance...he...

...Makes music

Join us for the launch of the **Rhymekeepers** album. Rhymekeepers are keepers of story in rhyme; the old school made new. These urban artists carry forward traditional values in contemporary vehicles.

OCT 12, 8pm, Berkley Street Theatre, concurrent with the Young Voices Presentation

...Makes friends

The Indigenous Performing Arts Alliance and **Native Earth Performing Arts** partner to host a caucus (As in the Algonquin word *caucasu*, which refers to a usually circular meeting of chiefs of tribes, where no one person dominated) of Aboriginal artistic leaders to discuss the future.

RUNNING CONCURRENT WITH THE FESTIVAL

Please add to listings immediately:

Weesageechak Begins to Dance XX

Oct 10-13 2007, Berkeley Street Theatre Upstairs, 26 Berkeley Street

For times and dates, go to www.nativeearth.ca

\$10/night, \$30/festival pass, \$10/passes for groups of 10 or more

To buy tickets/passes, call 416.531.1402