



VIRTUAL GOLD

LOOK! LISTEN! LEARN!

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH

In partnership with
Full Circle: First Nations Performance



MARGO KANE - CURATOR

Cree-Saulteaux Metis performing artist Margo Kane is the Founder and Artistic Managing Director of *Full Circle: First Nations Performance*. For over 45 years she has been active as an actor, performing artist, and community cultural worker. Her desire to share artistic performance that has meaning for her people is the catalyst for her extensive work, travels, and consultation within Indigenous communities across Canada and abroad.

Moonlodge, Margo's acclaimed one-woman show, an Indigenous Canadian classic, toured for over 10 years nationally and internationally. The Sydney Press (AU) during *The Festival of the Dreaming* praised it as being "in the top echelon of solo performance."

Margo developed and runs the annual *Talking Stick Festival*, celebrating its 20th Anniversary this year, and numerous programs including *Moccasin Trek: Arts on the Move!*, *Indian Acts*, and an Indigenous Ensemble Performing Arts Program in Vancouver.

Margo has received numerous awards and honors including an Honorary Doctorate of Letters from the University of the Fraser Valley, the Order of Canada from the Governor-General, an International Citation of Merit from ISPA – International Society for the Performing Arts, and, most recently, an Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts from SFU – Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, BC, Canada.

FULL CIRCLE: FIRST NATIONS PERFORMANCE

Founded in 1992 by Margo Kane (OC) and based in Vancouver, Full Circle: First Nations Performance is the leading non-profit performing arts organization in British Columbia devoted solely to pioneering, amplifying, and celebrating opportunities for Indigenous artists, writers, and performers. Our dynamic programming activities take place on the unceded territories of the Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish), Səl̓ílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nations.

This work includes production of *The Talking Stick Festival*, the only annual Indigenous multi-disciplinary festival on Turtle Island featuring a roster of invited artists that reflect the local, regional, national, and international communities; the annual Industry Series; Muyuntsut ta Slulum music programming; the creation of original performance works and workshops for both local presentation and touring; professional development activities for artists in the FC Ensemble; and other year-round programming that includes *Indian Acts*, our traveling community engagement series *Moccasin Trek: Arts on the Move*, a comprehensive Mentorship Program for Indigenous arts professionals along with other creative projects & productions.



T'UY'T'TANAT-CEASE WYSS

T'uy't'tanat-Cease Wyss' diverse heritage includes Skwxwu7mesh, Sto:lo, Irish-Métis, Hawaiian, and Swiss. An artist, she has extensive experience producing various formats of media art for almost 30 years and works as an ethnobotanist with traditional training by Indigenous elders. Wyss combines culturally focused teaching with storytelling as a means to share knowledge.

She recently co-authored *Journey to Kaho'olawe*, covering more than two centuries of the Kanaka family's migration to the Pacific Northwest coast, and was also a recipient of the City of Vancouver Mayor's Arts Award for film and new media in 2010.

Among her long list of artist residencies and presentations is the Stanley Park Environmental Art Project, where she helped create public artworks after a storm devastated Stanley Park in 2006.



THE HITCHHIKERS

Jamie Thomson (Haida Nation) Dennis Joseph (Squamish Nation) have joined forces to form "The Hitchhikers," performing original music inspired by the blues, their lives, and culture.

Jamie leads the way on guitar with Dennis adding melodic highlights on harmonica. The duo has years of performance experience in bands like *Bitterly Divine*, *White Feather*, and *Intellifunk*. They debuted "The Hitchhikers" during the summer 2019 festival circuit.



Lee Maracle

Lee Maracle is an Elder and Siem and a member of the Stó:lō Nation, in British Columbia. Lee is one of Canada's most prolific and celebrated authors having fostered a tremendous career as an internationally renowned author, writer, spoken word performer, and poet. Among other recognitions, Lee is an Order of Canada award recipient, and is currently a Professor within the Indigenous Studies Department at the University of Toronto, in addition to being a Traditional Teacher and Elder at First Nations House, and member of the Elders' Circle. Lee is the granddaughter of Tsleil-Waututh Chief Dan George.



Columpa C. Bobb

Columpa is a playwright, actor, educator, and activist of Tseil Waututh and Nlaka'pamux heritage. She has been a theatre practitioner for over 33 years now. She has worked across Canada and the globe. *Jumping Mouse* (co-written with Marion deVries), a play for young audiences, was nominated for a Dora Mavor Moore Award and a James Buller Award. She's also an award-winning actor, known for both stage and television work

She is the founding Artistic Director of the Aboriginal Arts Training and Mentorship program as well as Urban Indigenous Theatre Company, a multi-generational troupe creating positive, multi-disciplinary expressions of cultural self-determination.



Tania Carter

Tania has a Master's degree in theatre, which was written in poetry and dance. She was guided by the late Leonard George. She has a BA in World Literature and is a part author of *Hope Matters*. Her poetry has been published in several reviews and anthologies, and she attended Enowkin International School of Writing and Spirit Song theatre School.



Xwechtaal Dennis Joseph

Xwechtaal Dennis Joseph is a traditionally trained speaker in the Coast Salish Longhouse. He is deeply involved in many Traditional Cultural and Spiritual activities including Tribal Journeys and supporting families in times of loss. Among others, he attributes his teachings primarily to Coast Salish Elders. He worked for Squamish Nation for 40 years, 28 of them as an elected representative.

Dennis is an accomplished musician. He is co-founding member of the rock and blues group Bitterly Divine. A few years ago, he joined the rocking group Whyte Feather, formed in 1968 who currently have a documentary on them in the works. More recently, he formed a group with his Haida Gwaii brother

Jamie Thomson whose music is based on their respective Cultures.