



THE BRIDGE

A FESTIVAL OF IDEAS

2021: Art & (re)Conciliation

Curated By Kim Wheeler

March 18 – 21: all digital, all FREE

WINNIPEG, February 19, 2021 – Royal MTC announces the inaugural presentation of The Bridge. This annual festival invites audiences to go deeper, to engage in the issues of our time. This year, we explore how art moves the conversation forward around reconciliation. Registration for **THE BRIDGE** is free and is open starting today at royalmtc.ca.

“THE BRIDGE was conceived as an in-person event but because of the pandemic it was moved to a digital format. This allows all of Canada to see the amazing talent we have in the Indigenous entertainment community. And I can’t wait for people to see the festival line-up,” said Curator **Kim Wheeler**.

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

MARCH 18	MARCH 19	MARCH 20	MARCH 21
10am <i>Opening Prayer</i>	10am <i>From Script to Stage Panel</i>	10am <i>Dance Ogichidas Panel</i>	10am <i>Acimowin (To tell story) Panel</i>
10:15am <i>Land Acknowledgement Welcoming Message</i>	1pm <i>In Conversation with Rosanna Deerchild – Jesse Wente</i>	12pm <i>In Conversation with Rosanna Deerchild – Heather Igloliorte, Julie Nagam</i>	12pm <i>In Conversation with Rosanna Deerchild – Kent Monkman</i>
Elders Barb Nepinak, Clarence Nepinak	7pm <i>Excerpts from the Stage</i>	2pm <i>Keynote speech with Senator Murray Sinclair and Dr. Niigaanwewidam Sinclair</i>	2pm <i>Isitwendam (An Understanding)</i>
10:15am <i>Theatre Matriarchs Panel</i>		7pm <i>Music of the Land</i>	March 18 – 21 <i>A Mile in Our Moccasins Walking Tour</i>
1pm <i>In Conversation with Rosanna Deerchild – Tomson Highway</i>			

[FULL SCHEDULE](#) | [LIST OF PARTICIPANTS](#)

ISITWENDAM (AN UNDERSTANDING)

By **Meegwun Fairbrother**

Co-created by **Jack Grinhaus**

Sunday, March 21 at 2pm

“Both chilling and heartbreaking... A piece of theatre that is full of forgiveness, compassion, understanding, and grace. A terrific piece of theatre.” – Slotkin Letter

Isitwendam (An Understanding) is the story of a young man in search of a truth, whose journey leads to a discovery about the father he loathed and lost, and an awakening of himself and his generation.

A fusion of western and Indigenous storytelling that includes Plains Indigenous Sign Language, drumming, ceremony, and song, this powerful, heart-wrenching, yet humorous theatrical production explores various perspectives of atrocity and the steps we all need to take to find Isitwendam.

This full-length play is presented live from our Tom Hendry Warehouse Digital Studio.

A production by Bound to Create
Presented in association with Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre

The development of **Isitwendam** was supported in part by Native Earth Performing Arts and premiered in their 2018/19 season.

Isitwendam was workshopped at Theatre Northwest as part of their Innovation Series in their 2016/17 season and presented at TNW and the Full Circle Talking Stick Festival in 2020.

A selection of photos for THE BRIDGE are available for download on our website. To access these photos, visit the MEDIA CENTRE at royalmtc.ca/mediacentre. USERNAME: media PASSWORD: images.

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For more information, please contact:

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