



ARCTIC WINTER GAMES  
WHITEHORSE 2012

# UWU news

## The Culture Edition

Discover the 2012  
AWG Cultural Festival  
presented by

**ATCO**  
GROUP

The Northern Lights School of Dance, the Yukon's cultural contingent  
Photo Credit: Bruce Barrett



published by  
*Illegitimus Non Carborundum*  
**WHITEHORSE**  
**DAILY STAR**

Established 1900 ~ Yukon Territory



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Photo by YUKON GOVERNMENT

Photos by WHITEHORSE DAILY STAR

# Let's Celebrate What We Do in Winter

*This festival is about living in the North: about survival, longing, joyfulness, artistic expression, our attachment to the land and our affection for ancient voices*

by Laurel Parry, Vice President, Culture and Ceremonies, 2012 AWG Host Society



Since 1970 the Arctic Winter Games have captured the imagination of northerners. We gain inspiration from young athletes and artists who travel from the circumpolar north for competition and collaboration. What an ideal backdrop to showcase the world we live in, as expressed by artists whose work is rooted in the North, as well as artists from the South whose work resonates with our audiences.

Sensing the spirit that such a magnificent circumpolar event provokes, our artistic team has built a program of courageous, eclectic, imaginative and entertaining events to suit every audience. For those who like to plan ahead for a night

out at the theatre, we are presenting two concerts and two galas at the Yukon Arts Centre. Those who prefer to explore will find free stages or presentations at Baked Café, Arts Underground, the Canada Games Centre, Association franco-yukonnaise and the Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre. And the festival is book-ended by the opening and closing ceremonies, where Games traditions are positioned within a frenzy of athletic enthusiasm sparked by a digital song relay and animated by Yukon artists.

The Games feature sport competition in many venues, so residents, visitors and Games participants have many options as they seek their spe-

cial Games experience. My personal experience with the Arctic Winter Games harkens back to 1972, when I got caught up in the magic by attending the moonlit opening ceremony in Rotary Park. It culminated in a massive AWG logo illuminated on the hill across the Yukon River which for us kids was a very big deal. Since then I have been fortunate to attend or host other AWGs and I treasure many memories of seeing the North come alive, seeing folks who have travelled vast distances to meet and share.

Northern culture is about friendship, creativity and collaboration where arts disciplines collide, where established traditions are peppered

with innovation. When artists from the circumpolar north gather, there is magic and the results cannot be predicted. Our producers have set the stage to encourage creativity so that the audiences will be treated to those special "festival moments" that will create memories that last a lifetime. There is a strong storyline that, like the art exhibition *The Exquisite North*, creates a symbolic horizon line that circles the globe spanning Russia, Alaska, Yukon, Alberta, NWT, Nunavut, Nunavik, Greenland and the Sami nation.

This festival is about living in the North. It features stories of survival, longing, joyfulness, and our attachment to the land, our attrac-

tion to new forms of artistic expression and our affection for ancient voices. The North has the highest proportion of artists anywhere in Canada. In addition to the array of festival offerings, there is always music in the bars, arts and crafts in the stores, and many other activities to tempt anyone.

Sarah Johnston, Assistant Vice President for Culture and Ceremonies has been instrumental in planning our cultural offerings. She brings a wealth of experience and contacts throughout the Yukon and volunteering with her has been a pleasure. Sarah is also heading up the medal presentations which is an important aspect of the games and provides athletes with a memorable acknowledgment of achievement and drive.

We are very grateful to ATCO and to the Department of Canadian Heritage whose generous contributions have allowed us to dream up such a wonderful array of artistic offerings.

# The Story of the AWG Song Relay

*The final version, "Play Your Part", will be played at the opening ceremonies in a pivotal moment of music, image and fire*

by Daniel Ashley, Artistic Director, Arctic Winter Games Song Relay

Over the past year, a groundbreaking and uniquely northern project has taken shape as the Arctic Winter Games Song Relay. Many of you may be asking what is a song relay? The AWG Song Relay is similar to a torch relay in that the theme song travels to each region participating in the Games. Instead of sending a torch we sent a video camera and audio recorder so that participants from across the circumpolar north could capture video of their home communities and record audio of themselves singing the AWG Theme Song. The video and audio recorded by each region is being used to finish

the theme song and create a music video for the opening ceremonies at the 2012 Games.

The project began in Whitehorse last February with the composition of music and lyrics by my brother Galen, Chris Ermitinger and myself, who form the Root Sellers. The song and lyrics provided participants with a framework on which to add their voices and images. The official launch of the Song Relay was last March, exactly one year before the opening of the 2012 Games. Since that time, the Relay has travelled to all five countries and nine participating regions of the AWG. Participants uploaded their audio and video to our website, then we downloaded the files and added them to the theme song and video. The relay is currently completing its final leg, travelling to several communities in the Yukon.

The original basic theme song composed in Whitehorse was titled "Play Your Part". It consisted of some guitar riffs, drums and vocals. Throughout the relay, the song has grown to include many truly unique

sounds from around the Circumpolar North. Yamalo-Nenets translated the lyrics into Russian, adding an energetic beat boxer and choir to the mix. A Greenland vocalist created the song's second verse in Greenlandic. Traditional singing from the Sápmi region in Finland can now be heard in the introduction, along with tinkling reindeer bells on the tundra. Singers from Alaska and Alberta added their voices to the chorus as well. The resulting mix is an exciting blend of northern voices. The video images gathered along the way are truly awe inspiring – Arctic sports and dog sledding in Alaska, breathtaking Arctic landscapes from Nunavik, Nunavut and the NWT, plus diverse people and wildlife from every region have been captured in authentic moments of magic.

The culmination of the song relay will be at the AWG Opening Ceremonies. Athletes from every region will gather together at the Canada Games Centre. The final version of the theme song with sounds from every region will be showcased with the Root Sellers leading athletes and the crowd in a super circumpolar sing-along.



The AWG **Song Relay** is similar to a torch relay. Since March 2011, the Relay has travelled to all five countries and nine participating regions.

Simultaneously, video gathered from each region during the relay will play on screens at either side of the stage. Athletes will see their home region as they sing the theme song. The music and lyrics symbolize the spirit that each athlete and region carries to the Games to celebrate their sports, arts and cultures. Voices from many regions will unite as the AWG torch ignites the official flame of the Games in a pivotal moment of music, image and fire. What could be better on a northern winter day?! The final version of "Play Your Part" will be heard at many venues during the Games keeping our spirits firing until the closing ceremonies when the torch is extinguished.

The AWG Song Relay has gathered voices from many regions, showcasing the unique and beautiful diversity found in the people and places of the circumpolar north. Thank you – Merci – to all participants!

More information, maps, and videos from the AWG Song Relay can be found on the AWG website at [awg2012.org/en/SongRelay.aspx](http://awg2012.org/en/SongRelay.aspx).

The Games are coming up fast...

this your **LAST CHANCE** to sign up to volunteer

**VOLUNTEERS GET MAJOR PERKS!**

- a snappy blue volunteer jacket
- long-sleeved t-shirt
- exclusive volunteer events

*\*volunteers are asked to commit to a min. of three 4h shifts*

Whatever your experience or skill set is, there's a volunteer position for you!

We especially need volunteers for Security and Food Services.

register online at [awg2012.org](http://awg2012.org)

Together, Northwestel and Latitude Wireless are proud to support

## The 2012 Arctic Winter Games

We encourage everyone to Play Your Part - as a volunteer, sponsor, spectator or participant.

Stay connected [nwtel.ca](http://nwtel.ca)

The Arctic Winter Games bring together the people of the northern world. The Host Society is proud that Mark Preston's art will help to unite us as we all play our part in our sports, in our communities, in our world. The 2012 Arctic Winter Games Visual Identity and branding features Mark's Raven and Wolf artwork. Much of the Official Games Merchandise also showcases Mark's work. Official merchandise is available at Sportslife at 305 Main Street in Whitehorse.



**Mark Preston's Raven and Wolf**

Tradition has it that Raven is responsible for releasing the sun, moon and stars. He brings water and fish and he discovered mankind in a clamshell. He is known as transformer, trickster, hero and creator.

Wolf is another important family crest figure. Wolf was revered for his skills as a hunter and provider. In fact, to become a good hunter, one must acquire the spirit power associated with wolf.

Raven and Wolf represent the People to Yukon First Nations.

**Mark Preston**

Mark Preston (Tenna 'Tsa 'Teh) Master of Copper, was born in Dawson City, Yukon Territory. He is of Tlingit and Irish ancestry. Mark's art began when his mother put paper and pencil in front of him at age three, but it was meeting artist Edith Jerome when he was 17 that was the launching point of his life as an artist. Edith became his friend and started teaching him. Mark then worked as a graphic artist in Whitehorse and went to the Victoria School of Arts. Later, he went to the K'san School of Native Art in Hazelton, B.C. During the day he attended class and in the evening he trained with Master Carver Phil Janze.

Mark creates beautiful jewelry and he works in stone, glass, metals, clothing, computer and wood. He makes drums, dabbles in architecture and is even designing furniture.

To Mark, art is the magic, the glue that binds and brings us together. Art gives us reason to think, ponder and speak our minds.

**Where to find Mark's artwork**

Whitehorse: Pot O' Gold Jewelers, Murdoch's Gem Shop, Coast Mountain Sports, Arts Underground, North End Gallery, Yukon Gallery and Paradise Alley.

Also available in Inuvik, Vancouver, B.C., Whistler, B.C., Seattle, Germany, Dubai and Japan.

# 2012 AWG Visual Identity and Branding

Q & A with Mark Preston on the uniting role his artwork plays in bringing Northerners together for the Games

**Q** What were some of your earliest experiences with visual art?

**A** The earliest has to be when my mother put paper and pencil in front of me and showed me how to draw a swan. Another early experience is when I won a Smokey the Bear contest for all the Yukon.

**Q** And who/what have been your influences as you have developed as an artist?

**A** I used to think that the masters of art were my greatest influences... but that was when I was still young to art. Now, my best influences are people and ideas that conversations bring into my work.

**Q** You work in many different mediums: painting, carving, graphic design, jewelry. What are you most drawn to?

**A** To me, the medium is only the vehicle, it's the idea and how you use the materials that makes a difference. There is no favourite, there is only the ideas and how to best bring them out. You're using a certain material for a specific purpose or function.

**Q** How did your partnership with the 2012 Arctic Winter Games come to be?

**A** I had worked with Coast Mountain Sports on another winter project... they liked the fact that I was willing

and ready to work with their ideas. I'd like to think that my skills and ability had something to do with it as well!

**Q** Why is it something you wanted to do?

**A** As an artist, something like the Arctic Winter Games brings people together to serve and to help pull something like this together. With this kind of event, I will be expressing my best work for a very specific function. My role as an artist is to showcase the best that my culture and community has to offer.

**Q** What have you enjoyed most about this collaboration?

**A** I would have to say again, that it is about ideas and the sharing of ideas with people that I enjoy the most. With collaboration comes the opportunity to be with people who are excited and are interested in doing something as meaningful and purposeful as the Arctic Winter Games. I enjoy being a part of this interesting and unique mix of skills that each person brings to the table.

**Q** The visual identity of the 2012 AWGs features your artwork of Raven and Wolf. Can you tell us about their significance to you and the community?

**A** I think being in the North has its own set of uniqueness of cultures and ways of living. Part of that has to do with self identity. For hundreds of years, First Nations have identified with the animal world and what role they had to play in it to survive. Although we all share the land and the resources of today, we can appreciate the art forms that helped to shape people from the North. Many cultures now share their lives and their ideas and creativity together in a variety of ways such as in Games. For me personally, I'd have to say that the significance is really in expressing my appreciation for the art form that has also helped me to develop as an artist and as a person of the North.

**RAVEN**  
is known as transformer, trickster, hero and creator.



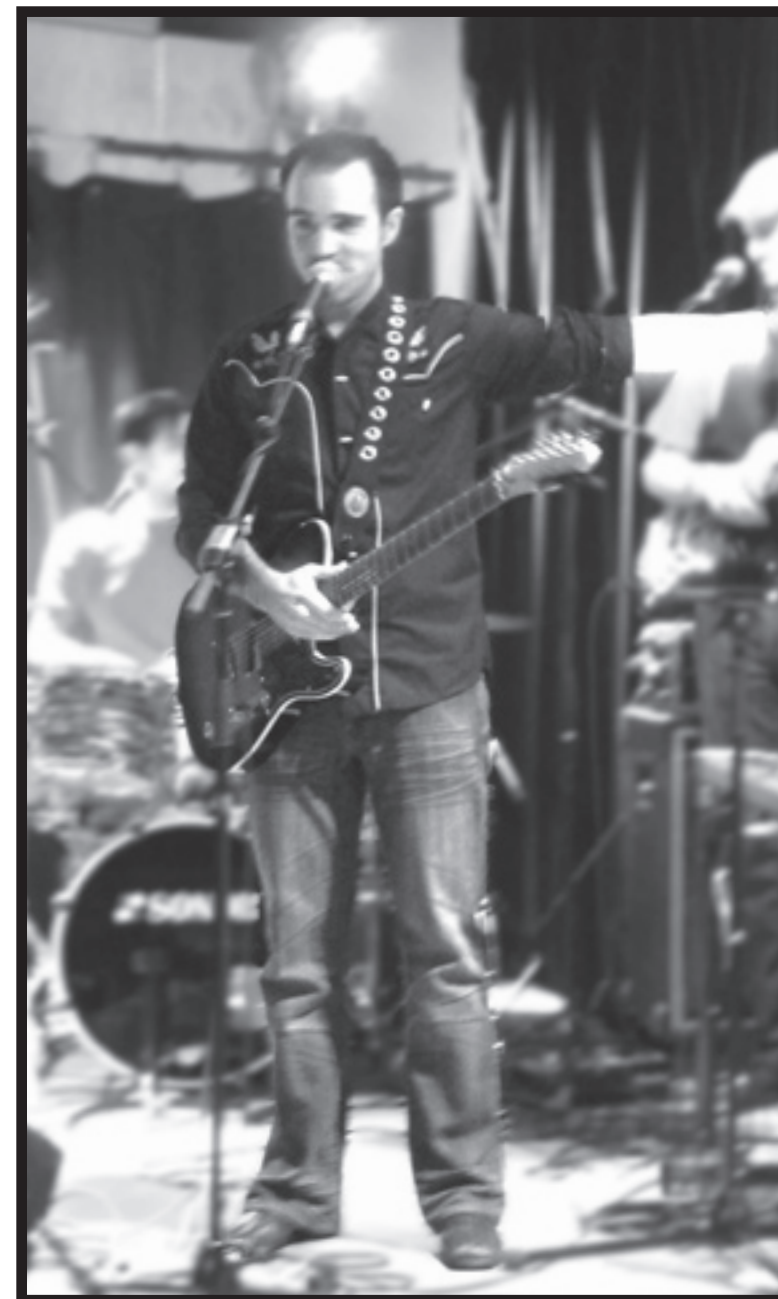
**WOLF**  
is revered for his skills as a hunter and provider



# Raphaël Freynet en concert

Raphaël Freynet fait parti de la jeune génération d'artistes francophones du Nord et de l'Ouest

par Dumaine, Project Manager, Arts & Culture, AFY



L'Association franco-yukonnaise (AFY) est heureuse de s'associer aux AWG afin de vous présenter un concert de Raphaël Freynet et d'artistes francophones locaux.

Originaire du Manitoba, basé en Alberta depuis plus de 8 ans, Raphaël Freynet fait parti de la jeune génération d'artistes francophones du Nord et de l'Ouest qui émergent depuis quelques années sur les scènes canadiennes.

Après une tournée au Québec puis en France, après le lancement de son premier album, *Le monde à voir*, en mars 2011, Raphaël s'est distingué dans le domaine de l'industrie musicale par les prix qui lui ont été décernés. Finaliste au concours *Ma Première Place des arts* à Montréal, gagnant du prix *RGE-Acadie au Contact Ouest* c'est cependant ici même, à Whitehorse, sur la scène du

Yukon Arts Centre qu'il s'est vu remettre le prix de l'enregistrement francophone de l'année au *Western Canadian Music Awards*, en septembre 2011. Notons que Raphaël avait déjà foulé le sol yukonnais lors du passage de la tournée Francoforce, en juin 2008.

Les chansons de Raphaël sont gorgées de la thématique du voyage sur un son pop-rock indie feutré, ornées de cuivres, intimistes et à la fois audacieuses. Avec une force de frappe enivrante, sa voix aux subtilités Brit-Rock est intrigante. Auteur, compositeur, interprète et musicien accompli au piano comme à la guitare, il sait charmer les foules avec un air fragile et une présence attachante.

Vous pourrez savourer ce spectacle le 8 mars, à 20 h au Centre de la francophonie, 302, rue Strickland. Entrée gratuite.

# Le monde à voir

Paroles et musique: Raphaël Freynet

Tu m'dis que t'en as assez de la pluie  
T'écris que tu t'ennuies,  
que tu comptes les heures  
Tu m'dis qu'il n'y a plus rien qui te tente dans la vie  
Et moi je t'entends quand tu pleures

Tu m'dis que t'en as assez de la nuit  
Que l'ombre qui t'opprime  
te garde prisonnière  
Tu m'écris que ton seul désir c'est de partir  
Et profiter de tes heures sur la terre

T'as le monde à voir,  
tu n'as pas la mer à boire  
C'est pas difficile d'écrire  
sa propre histoire  
T'as le monde à voir,  
tu n'as pas la mer à boire  
Parfois il s'agit simplement d'y croire

Il te reste des chapitres à écrire  
Mais rien à faire quand l'encre  
se dilue sous la pluie  
Ne reste pas muette quand t'as des choses à dire  
Les plus beaux récits ne sont pas encore écrits

T'as le monde à voir,  
tu n'as pas la mer à boire  
C'est pas difficile d'écrire  
sa propre histoire  
T'as le monde à voir,  
tu n'as pas la mer à boire  
Parfois il s'agit simplement de partir...

C'est vivre un peu  
Partir pour avoir tout ce que tu veux  
Partir avant que ton âme ne saigne  
Pars avant que ta flamme ne s'éteigne

*On behalf of Mayor and Council, I'd like to welcome all athletes, coaches and visitors to Whitehorse for the 2012 Arctic Winter Games.*

*We wish you all the best in your competitions and hope you enjoy your time in our city.*

Sincerely,

Bev Buckway  
Mayor  
City of Whitehorse



ARCTIC WINTER GAMES  
WHITEHORSE 2012






## OFFICIAL sportslife MERCHANDISE STORE

2012 Arctic Winter Games Merchandise is available now at Sportslife in The Hougen Centre • 3rd & Main Street • Ph. 668-6848

# A Circumpolar Soundscape

Four female Aboriginal artists from NWT, Yukon, Nunavut and Greenland join creative hands in this quintessential northern project  
by Debbie Peters, Producer, A Circumpolar Soundscape



**A Circumpolar Soundscape**  
March 5, 2012  
Yukon Arts Centre

This quintessential northern Canadian project brings together four distinct and highly creative female Aboriginal artists in a collaboration that resonates with vibrant musical imagery as each brings their cultural heritage to the project as seen through a contemporary lens. The collaboration features Leela Gilday from the Northwest Territories, Diyet from Yukon, Nive Nielsen from Greenland and Nunavut-based throat singer and drummer, Sylvia Cloutier.

Produced by Debbie Peters of Magnum Opus Management, together with co-artistic producer Leela Gilday, this gala concert is for Peters, "a dream come true." Over the years, Peters has worked with some very talented artists from Canada's North and long had a vision to seek out opportunities for them to work together creatively and reach a broader audi-

ence. This collaboration does that and is generating a great deal of interest nationally and internationally. *A Circumpolar Soundscape* premiered at the first annual Adäka Cultural Festival held in Whitehorse in July 2011.

Leela Gilday hails from Yellowknife and her latest recording, *Calling All Warriors*, netted her a Juno, a Western Canadian Music Award and, most recently, she received the award for 2011 Female Entertainer of the Year at the Aboriginal People's Choice Awards. Her heritage is Dene.

Diyet is from the Kluane First Nation and is Southern Tutchone. Her debut album, *The Breaking Point* rose to number one on the National Aboriginal Music Charts and netted her a feature performance at the 2010 Canadian Aboriginal Music Awards.

Nive Nielsen is an official cultural ambassador for Greenland who is proudly Inuk. Nive and her band The Deer Children tour extensively in Europe and increasingly in North America, including a performance last spring at the United Nations.

Originally from Nunavik, now living in Nunavut, Sylvia Cloutier is a well-known Inuit throat singer and drum dancer. Sylvia is a motivational speaker for youth and an internationally renowned touring artist.

Along with Leela, Diyet, Nive and Sylvia, the performance will have a stellar supporting band of four musicians: Greenland's multi-instrumentalist Jan de Vroede; Vancouver-based drummer Elliot Polsky; guitarist Jordy Walker and bassist Micah Smith, both from Whitehorse.

Listeners will agree with Adäka Cultural Festival's Charlene Alexander: "The creative talent of these women is a force to be reckoned with. I was awe-struck." An Arctic Winter Games must-see, *A Circumpolar Soundscape* is a rare opportunity for these artists to connect on a creative level by sharing their broader Aboriginal heritage and experience in the form of contemporary song.

*A Circumpolar Soundscape* will kick off several gala events at the Whitehorse 2012 Arctic Winter Games Cultural Festival.



Photo by VINCE FEDOROFF



# Sewing Our Traditions: Dolls of Canada's North

Over 50 handmade dolls showcase historical and contemporary perspectives on northern traditions, fashion and culture  
by Mary Bradshaw, Gallery Director, Yukon Arts Centre



LIZZIE ITTINUAR

Yukon Arts Centre Presents  
**Sewing Our Traditions: Dolls of Canada's North**  
March 5 - 10, 2012  
Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre  
Free Admission



DOLORES ANDERSON

"Observers of children know that, for a child, anything can become a doll: a stick, a leaf, a bit of ragged leather, a peculiarly shaped stone, or tuft of fur. Beneath the delights of doll play is a more seri-

ous adult purpose: teaching children the skills required when they grow up. By imitating their mothers, little girls learn how to feed, dress and care for a baby. They also learn the technical skills needed to make clothes for the family, an art that is for the most part a woman's responsibility." Jennifer Allen, curator of *Sewing our Traditions: Dolls of Canada's North*.

*Sewing our Traditions: Dolls of Canada's North* is a collection of over 50 handmade dolls created by Inuit and First Nations from across

the Canadian North. The dolls represent historical and contemporary perspectives on northern traditions, fashion and culture. Brought together by the Yukon Arts Centre for the Vancouver 2010 Cultural Olympiad with the generous support of Yukon Government, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, the exhibition is the first of its kind to highlight this Inuit and First Nations art form and northern garment design.

For this special Arctic Winter Games exhibition we also are includ-

ing dolls from the Circumpolar North. Each doll has its own character and individuality that reflects the doll-maker's personality and community landscape. Together the dolls tell a story and provide a testimony of our unique culture of the North. From a brightly coloured cloth doll from Yamal Russia to painted Greenlandic dolls, to tiny intricate details like beaded moccasins and locally trapped fur and home-tanned hide, come experience these truly exceptional examples of fine craft from the across the North!

# Time Travel with MacBride to 1950

MacBride Museum celebrates six decades of collecting, preserving and presenting Yukon's history  
by Leighann Chalykoff, MacBride Museum of Yukon History



Photo: MacBride Museum of Yukon History collection, 1989-4-826

It began in the early 1950s with a group of people who were dedicated to making Yukon's history exciting and accessible to Yukoners. Over the past 60 years MacBride Museum has grown into the most visited attraction in the territory.

Join us as MacBride Museum celebrates six decades of collecting, preserving and presenting Yukon's history with a photo show called *Bill MacBride's Yukon: Images of Yukon in the 1950s from MacBride's collection*.

These images tell the story of a changing territory. The Second World War was over but its fallout was still being felt with the ongoing military presence and the opening of the Alaska Highway linking Yukon communities to southern Canada and the U.S. And Whitehorse, increasing in

population and importance, became Yukon's capital city.

The opening reception for *Bill MacBride's Yukon* will be held on March 8 in the Hougén Heritage Gallery, in conjunction with the Yukon Art Society's *Exquisite North* show opening at Arts Underground (305 Main Street).

**Now on at MacBride Museum**  
Before you check out the show at the Hougén Heritage Gallery, visit us at the museum. We are located just one block from Main Street, on First Avenue between Steele and Wood streets in downtown Whitehorse.

MacBride Museum is the best place to start your Yukon adventure. From gold rush fever to the birth of Whitehorse, MacBride Museum tells stories of the colourful characters and groundbreaking events that built Canada's Yukon.

# ???

## AWG ARTEFACT ARTEFUNCTION



It's rumoured that this skate was:

- A. Used by a Klondike Gold Rush stamper to skate into his mining claim during the cold Yukon winters
- B. Used by Yuki, a husky dog who was well known for wearing skates and skating beside his master on the frozen Yukon River
- C. Used in a Stanley Cup playoff game
- D. None of the above.

Find out at the MacBride Museum!

# Cold Spell: How We Winter

A warm cabaret of music and comedy featuring local favourites and exciting outside talent. Original songs, comic confessions, woodsmoke, mukluks and cabin fever. Pull up a stump!  
by Emily Farrell, Producer & Claire Ness, Artistic Director, Cold Spell



**Cold Spell: How We Winter**  
March 6, 2012, 8pm  
Yukon Arts Centre

Living in this land of darkness, getting through the long nights and cold winter spells.... Is the winter what we weather just to be rewarded with a short summer of long bright days? Or do we love how we winter?

The upcoming gala concert *Cold Spell: How We Winter* offers a wide array of comedic, musical, and downright honest ideas about getting through the colder months in the North from a fantastic lineup of local and visiting artists.

Packing their parkas, guest artists will travel to the territory from across Canada. Cris Derksen, queen of the cello and loop pedals, will join us from Vancouver and was recently enjoyed in Whitehorse by those lucky enough to catch her amazing set during BreakOut West.

Kathryn Calder will leave Victoria behind to share her guitar, voice and famous songwriting skills that have paved the way for

her successful solo career. She is also well-known for her band The New Pornographers, as well as her former role in Victoria's own Immaculate Machine.

Jen Georgopoulos will swing in all the way from Toronto, bringing with her an amazing set of aerial silks and the physicality and skill to match!

Tim Jeffery, a favourite with many local musicians already, joins us from Water Valley, Alberta and definitely knows his way around the pedal steel and dobro.

The local band will showcase Ryan McNally (guitar, steel guitar, banjo, vocals), Rob Bergman (stand-up bass, backing vocals), Andrea McColeman (keys, accordion, backing vocals), Lonnie Powell (drums, backing vocals), and will be led by the capable and crowd-pleasing leader of the pack, Dave Haddock (guitar, vocals).

*Cold Spell: How We Winter* will also feature the comedic style of Roy Ness, original puppetry by Brian Fidler and a unique and northern short film by Moira Sauer.

Co-produced by Emily Farrell and Claire Ness, *Cold Spell: How*

*We Winter* is a tribute to cabin fever, below zero temperatures and beautiful northern nights. Both are born-and-raised Yukoners who first met riding the school bus together in kindergarten. Although they attended different elementary schools, both grew up on the Hot Springs Road and looked forward to seeing each other (and likely getting in a spot of trouble) after school every day on the ride home. Both pursued post-secondary training in the arts, and attended Humber College in Toronto. Claire was in the Comedy Writing and Performance program, while Emily took Theatre Arts Performance, and despite busy school schedules they were comforted to occasionally cross paths in the Big Smoke.

Living in the Yukon again and trying to get through this long winter, Claire and Emily are glad to be entrenched in the arts community and fending off cabin fever. They are honoured to be part of the Arctic Winter Games cultural team and excited to (finally!) work together on this one-of-a-kind show.



## yukon energy keeping tradition in play

ARCTIC WINTER GAMES  
WHITEHORSE 2012

ARCTIC AND DENE SPORTS  
presented by YUKON ENERGY

YUKON ENERGY



Photo by GLENDA BOLT

Photos by NORTHERN LIGHTS SCHOOL OF DANCE

## Planning for Excellence

Alejandro Ronceria and Katie Johnson are organizing a week of rehearsals, workshops, performances and two showcase gala shows for the AWG Cultural Festival

by Katie Johnson, Producer, Cultural Galas



### Cultural Gala shows

Thurs, March 8  
& Fri, March 9  
Starting at 8 pm  
Yukon Arts Centre

While athletes and competitive games are the major focus of the 2012 Arctic Winter Games, the cultural festival team is gearing up to work with more than 45 artists from the nine participating regions to perform during the games.

The cultural contingent program

will be lead by internationally acclaimed director/choreographer Alejandro Ronceria along with local producer Katie Johnson, who is also the co-founder of the Adäka Cultural Festival.

Ronceria is no stranger to the North; his most recent work was with Johnson as the artistic director of the YFN2010 Showcase *What the Land Remembers* performance, featuring 42 Yukon First Nation performing artists presented at the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver. He was the choreographer for the

First Nations fusion piece in the *One Word: The Yukon Experience* production, commissioned by the Yukon Government, also presented at several venues during the Olympics. The highlight of his Vancouver experience was participating in the artistic team, as the choreographer for the First Nations Youth Welcoming at the 2012 Olympic Games Opening Ceremonies.

Together Johnson and Ronceria are organizing a week of rehearsals, workshops, performances at Canada

Games Centre and two showcase gala shows for the Arctic Winter Games Cultural Festival. "Our goals are to create an extraordinary cultural gala for visitors and Yukoners alike while providing once-in-a-lifetime opportunities for the cultural artist delegation," says Johnson.

The cultural program will feature the best and brightest youth performing artists from across the North, between the ages of 14 and 21, representing Yamal, Greenland; Sapmi, Alberta; Nunavut, NWT; Nunavik, Alaska; and Yukon's Northern Lights School of Dance.

These youth performers will also have the opportunity to enhance their leadership and collaboration skills while participating in a variety of activities during the one week cultural program. The highlight will involve them in mentoring workshops with northern recording art-

ists like Diyet, Leela Giday, Nive Nelson and Sylvia Cloutier.

The pinnacle of the entire week will be the two Cultural Gala shows being presented at the Yukon Arts Centre on Thursday, March 8 and Friday, March 9 starting at 8 pm.

"Working again in the Yukon and with northern artists is very exhilarating, as is working with talented young artists bringing them together to collaborate and create the show," Ronceria says. "The show will present the best of traditional and contemporary arts and artists, interweaving music, dance and storytelling creating a powerful visual and sound experience for all to enjoy and be proud of being northerners."

For more information, contact Katie Johnson by telephone (867) 332-5285 or email: tutchone2000@yahoo.com.



## The ATCO Play Your Part Art Contest

ATCO engages Yukon youth in art contest, showcasing Northern spirit

The Arctic Winter Games brings together young athletes and cultural performers to participate in friendly competition and share cultural values from countries and regions across the Circumpolar North.

As a Legacy Sponsor of the 2012 Arctic Winter Games, ATCO Group is pleased to be the presenting sponsor of the Cultural Festival which includes the Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

Residents and visitors to Whitehorse will be able to enjoy an eclectic display of visual and performing arts exhibits and activities from the nine circumpolar communities participating in the games. From daily live performances on the ATCO Stage at the Canada Games Centre to snow sculptures created live at the White Pass Station, the Cultural Festival offers something for everyone.

ATCO has a long history of supporting organizations dedicated to enriching the cultural landscape of the local community by presenting educational programs of great diversity, interest and enduring value.

The ATCO Play Your Part Art Contest will showcase just a glimpse of the cultural diversity and Northern spirit that has been captured on paper by the next generation of Yukoners.

"In addition to supporting great sporting competitions from across the circumpolar communities, ATCO is excited to share the artistic talents of our youth in the Yukon as they capture the spirit of the Arctic Winter Games and their pride of Northern culture," said Nancy Southern, President & Chief Executive Officer, ATCO Group. "The people of ATCO, who live and work in the North, are pleased to once again sponsor the Arctic Winter Games as we celebrate athletic competition and the diverse culture and heritage in our Northern communities."

With enthusiastic participation from every school in the Yukon Territory – from Old Crow to Whitehorse, Beaver Creek to Watson Lake – Yukon Electrical, an ATCO company, received submissions from children in grades one through 12.

The contest was divided into two divisions with 12 winners selected in each division – one division representing grades one to 12 for schools in Whitehorse and one communities division for grades one to 12 outside of the capital.

The 24 winners each receive an ATCO / Arctic Winter Games gift basket valued at \$100. In addition, the winner's classroom will receive \$1000 to be used toward any one of the following activities: a classroom field trip; a cultural performer that can share song, dance or art with the classroom; or a gift certificate to purchase art supplies for future art projects. The esteemed judges are representatives from the Yukon Government, the Arts community, the media, the Arctic Winter Games Host Society and Yukon Electrical.

ATCO's commitment to excellence aligns with the Arctic Winter Games guiding principle to



Working on her ATCO Play Your Part Art Contest project is Maddie Carlson, a grade six student from Takhini Elementary in Whitehorse.

provide motivation for young athletes to: develop active and healthy lifestyles; make choices that could lead to the pursuit of personal excellence; provide the opportunity for participants to develop socially and culturally; and the promotion of cultural understanding and harmony.

The ATCO Play Your Part Art Contest winning entries will be on display at the Yukon Arts Centre during the 2012 Arctic Winter Games from March 4 – 10, 2012. For more detailed information on any of the Cultural Festival activities, please visit [www.awg2012.org/en/Culture.aspx](http://www.awg2012.org/en/Culture.aspx)



Standard Bus Contracting is proud to be a sponsor of the 2012 Arctic Winter Games



The staff and management of Standard Bus Contracting Yukon would like to wish one and all a true Yukon experience while competing in the 2012 Arctic Winter Games



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# ARCTIC WINTER GAMES



## CULTURAL FESTIVAL

### OPENING CEREMONY

Sunday, March 4, 2012  
6:00 pm  
Canada Games Centre  
Tickets: \$40 / \$35

The Opening Ceremony is an international celebration of northern sport, culture and the unparalleled friendship of the peoples of the arctic region as expressed by youth performers. Music, dance and sport come together in a youthful celebration to welcome guests from the circumpolar region.

### CONCERT #1

A Circumpolar Soundscape  
Monday, March 5, 2012  
8:00 pm (Doors open 7:00 pm)  
Yukon Arts Centre  
Tickets: \$35 / \$30

A musical collaboration featuring four distinct and creative female Aboriginal artists of the circumpolar regions. The collaboration features Leela

Gilday from the Northwest Territories; Diyet from Yukon, Nive Nielsen from Greenland, and Nunavut-based throat singer and drummer, Sylvia Cloutier.

### CONCERT #2

Cold Spell: How we Winter  
Tuesday, March 6, 2012  
8:00 pm (Doors open 7:00 pm)  
Yukon Arts Centre  
Tickets: \$35 / \$30

A warm cabaret of music and comedy featuring local favorites and exciting outside talents: original songs, comic confessions, wood smoke, mukluks and cabin fever. Pull up a stump!

### KWANLIN DUN FIRST NATIONS CULTURAL SHOWCASE

Wednesday, March 7, 2012 (time TBD)  
Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre  
The new Kwanlin Dun First Na-

tions Cultural Centre, the site of Dene Games competitions for the AWG, hosts an evening of traditional song and dance, visual arts and crafts and food.

### EXHIBIT OPENING:

Sewing our Traditions  
Wednesday, March 7, 2012  
7:00 pm  
Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre

The Pan-Northern Doll Exhibit is a collection of hand-made dolls created by First Nations and Inuit across the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut presented at the 2010 Vancouver Olympics. The dolls represent the historical and contemporary perspective of Northern fashion, culture, and sport. Dolls from AWG contingent regions will also be part of the exhibit.

### EXHIBIT OPENING

The Exquisite North  
Thursday, March 8, 2012

### 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm Arts Underground

Reveal of the assembled artistic creation The Exquisite North.

Group exhibition in the Yukon Art Society Gallery by students from YUKON SOVA - the Yukon School of Visual Arts up in Dawson City.

In the Hougen Heritage Gallery at Arts Underground, an exhibit from MacBride Museum entitled Bill MacBride's Yukon: Images from W.D. MacBride's collection, circa 1952.

### SPECTACLE RAPHAEL FREYNET & Local Artists

Wednesday, March 7, 2012  
8:00 pm  
Centre de la francophonie

In partnership with the Association franco-yukonnaise, we are welcoming back Raphael Freynet who was just in Whitehorse this past October for the BreakOut West and Western Canadian Music Awards. Freynet was awarded the Francophone Recording of the

Year for his album "Le monde à voir".

The evening also features Hélène Beaulieu on guitar, uku-lele and banjo with her friends.

### GALA #1 & GALA #2

Thursday, March 8, 2012 & Friday, March 9, 2012  
8:00 pm  
Yukon Arts Centre  
Tickets: \$35 / \$30

The cultural contingent program features the best and brightest youth performing artists from across the north, between the ages of 14 and 21, representing the nine regions. Note: Gala 1 & 2 are the same both nights.

### CLOSING CEREMONY

Saturday, March 10, 2012  
6:00 pm  
Canada Games Centre  
Tickets: \$40 / \$35

This is the closing of an international celebration of friendship and achievement.

### & 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm (Sat)

Also open for theatre performances

### RECENT ACQUISITIONS TO YUKON PERMANENT ART COLLECTION

Curated by Garnet Muething, the Community Gallery will feature the Yukon Permanent Collection's newest pieces of art.

UNTRUE NORTH Works depicting the romantic beauty of the North, asking whether the North can be truthfully represented in art, free of media and our historical mythology.

ATCO EXHIBIT Youth from across the Yukon Territory share their artistic talents by participating in the ATCO Play Your Part Art Contest.

### EXHIBIT

Sewing our Traditions  
Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre  
March 5 - March 10, 2012  
10:00 am - 5:00 pm

This display is a collection of hand-made dolls created by First Nations and Inuit across the Circumpolar World.

### SNOW CARVING

Canada Games Centre & White Pass Building (2nd & Main St)  
One sculpture will be completed in time for the AWG opening ceremony at the Canada Games Centre, and a second will be created during the games on Main Street in front of the White Pass Building by the Yukon snow carving team.



## DAILY EVENTS

### PERFORMANCES

Canada Games Centre  
ATCO Stage  
March 5 - March 9, 2012  
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm  
Performances showcasing the acts of participating contingents.  
Daniel Ashley from the group Root Sellers and artistic director of the Song Relay is the host.

### PERFORMANCES

Arts Underground  
March 5, 6, 8 & 9, 2012  
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm  
Performances showcasing local and guest artists.

### ARTISTIC CREATION

The Exquisite North  
Arts Underground  
March 3, 5 & 6, 2012  
11:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Six visual artists from Yukon will

### PERFORMANCES

Baked Café  
March 5 - March 9, 2012  
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
Performances showcasing lo-



# CULTURAL FESTIVAL 2012



The 2012 AWG Cultural Festival is presented by



TIME	SUN, MARCH 4	MON, MARCH 5	TUES, MARCH 6	WED, MARCH 7	THURS, MARCH 8	FRI, MARCH 9	SAT, MARCH 10
9AM - 5PM	ARTS UNDERGROUND EXHIBITS						
10AM - 5PM	KWANLIN DUN CULTURAL CENTRE EXHIBIT <i>Sewing Our Traditions</i>						
10AM - 5PM	YUKON ARTS CENTRE EXHIBITS • Recent YT Permanent Art Collection • Untrue North • ATCO Youth Exhibit						
11AM - 5PM	ARTS UNDERGROUND <i>Artistic Creation, The Exquisite North</i>						ARTS UNDERGROUND EXHIBITS
11AM - 5PM	SNOW SCULPTURE • Main Street & First Avenue						
12PM - 1PM	ARTS UNDERGROUND <i>Artistic Performances 12 - 1pm</i>			ARTS UNDERGROUND <i>Artistic Performances 12 - 1pm</i>			YUKON ARTS CENTRE EXHIBITS 12 - 5pm
12PM - 2PM	CANADA GAMES CENTRE, ATCO STAGE • Cultural Contingent & Local Performances						
5PM - 7:30PM					ARTS UNDERGROUND <i>Project Unveil, The Exquisite North 5 - 7:30pm</i>		
5PM - 7PM	BAKED CAFE • Artist Performances • 5 - 7pm						
6PM	OPENING CEREMONY						CLOSING CEREMONY
EVENING		8PM YUKON ARTS CENTRE <i>A Circumpolar Soundscape</i>	8PM YUKON ARTS CENTRE <i>ColdSpell: How We Winter</i>	7PM KWANLIN DUN CULTURAL CENTRE <i>Performance Showcase and Opening Exhibit of Sewing Our Traditions</i>	8PM YUKON ARTS CENTRE <i>Gala #1 (Cultural Contingent Participants)</i>	8PM YUKON ARTS CENTRE <i>Gala #2 (Cultural Contingent Participants)</i>	
				8PM CENTRE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE Raphaël Freynet & Local Artists			

# Discover the Yukon Permanent Art Collection

This year's 10 new acquisitions represent various styles and media while revealing the influence of the Yukon and the North on artistic development

by Garnet Muething, Curator, Yukon Permanent Art Collection



**New acquisitions to YPAC**  
February 28 – March 31  
Open Mon–Fri, 10am–5 pm  
& during performances  
Yukon Arts Centre's  
Community Gallery  
300 College Drive

After traveling to a new destination, it is often the most unexpected discoveries that stay with us. They form memories, fondly revisited and passed on through our interpretation of the experiences.

Perhaps it is these experiences that make Yukon such an inspiring place to artists who choose to call this home and to those who leave, but take with them influences that continue to inform their work.

Exciting new acquisitions to the Yukon Permanent Art Collection will be displayed in the Yukon Art Centre's Community Gallery during the Arctic Winter Games. Since 1981, the Yukon Permanent Art Collection has grown to include

over 340 pieces. Each year, the Friends of the Gallery Society selects new works. This year's 10 new acquisitions represent various styles and media, from portrait painting to mixed media sculpture, and add another chapter to the visual record of artistic development in the Yukon.

While unique in style and approach, each new work reveals the influence of the Yukon and the North. Valerie Hodgson's exceptional group of 25 portraits, *Yukon Women*, reflects the discovery of relationships and community, and gives a sense of the artist's journey through the creation process. Sylvie Martin, an artist from Chicoutimi, Quebec, interprets her own experiences in northern communities in *Face to Face with Gaia*. Echoes of semi-recognizable forms and intriguing textures invite us to discover hidden details within.

Experiences are translated through the veil of dream and memory in three striking but very different landscapes. Meghan

Hildebrand's *Firewalking in the South Seas* explores a combination of imagined and dreamt realities, creating a world that is both unnerving and comforting. Northern imagery, painted in minute detail and contrasted with the vast backdrop of a dark northern sky, produces a fantastic atmosphere in Rosemary Scanlon's triptych *Glacial Magic*. Manu Keggenhoff's *Water, Change of Moods* has the appearance of a dreamscape but is the result of an amazing natural winter scene captured in a photograph.

Drawing on historical fur trade imagery and research, Belinda Harrow's drawings and sculpture question how we value animals in the north. Cultural and historical traditions are honoured and transformed by emerging carvers Ben Gribben (*Diving Shark*) and Blake Lepine (*Listening for the Ancestors*) as traditional styles and techniques form contemporary imagery. Memory and tradition both inform Jean Taylor's



**Working With Grandmothers**  
Photo by JEAN TAYLOR

painting, *Working with Grandmothers*, in which the artist recreates the calm she felt as a child being taught to sew by her elders. Karen Rhebergen's batik *I Will Build You a Home* celebrates the innocence of a child's inten-

tion to solve a problem through the creation of a simple gift.

I hope that through the eyes of these artists you will find both familiar and unexpected discoveries that remain as memories long after you leave.



# The Exquisite North Project

Arts Underground hosts *The Exquisite North* project, a game of artistic co-creation; artists work independently to create a group body of work  
by Janelle Hardy, Director, Arts Underground



**The Exquisite North**  
Project Unveiling  
Thurs, March 8, 5 – 7:30 pm  
Arts Underground  
Artists working onsite  
March 3, 5 & 6 from 11am – 5pm

It's playtime at Arts Underground and we're delighted to be sharing the results of creative play in a number of different ways.

Here at Arts Underground, the Yukon Art Society has invited artists to participate in a game based on the Exquisite Corpse game. In

that game, a group of people gather around and fold a piece of paper into thirds. The top is head and shoulders, middle is shoulders to hips, and the bottom is the legs. Starting at the top, each person draws something without letting the other see. Then they pass their paper to the right, and they all draw the torso, finally the legs. At the end of it, letting go of all expectations, the group opens up the sheets of paper and are delighted by weird, alien, beautiful creatures, each created by three people.

In sports, fostering a playful spirit develops into games, which eventually turns into more intense forms of competition and gatherings such as the Arctic Winter Games. A spirit of play is also integral to the arts, so we're joining in on the fun.

Following the same theme, Arts Underground is hosting *The Exquisite North* project. This is all about co-creation within the secretive parameters of the game. Six to seven artists will work independently to create a group body of

work that is tied together by the common themes of a horizon line, secret cues for the left and right sides of the paintings and the theme of 'what we do in the winter.' These individual pieces will, when hung in the gallery together, flow into a larger body of work that will look planned. After setting up the rules of engagement, the most delightful part of this spirit of creative play is an inability to control the end result.

All will be revealed at the final opening reception on Thursday March 8th from 5–7:30pm at Arts Underground. We know we'll be impressed.

Other events happening at Arts Underground: two *Exquisite North* artists will be onsite at Arts Underground making art from 11am – 5pm on each of these days: Saturday, March 3rd, Monday,

A 'spirit of play' is as integral to the arts as it is to sports

March 5th and Tuesday, March 6th.

The opening reception on Thursday March 8th for *The Exquisite North* is a triple billing. It will also feature a group exhibition in the Yukon Art Society Gallery by students from YUKON SOVA (the Yukon School of Visual Arts up in Dawson City) and, in the Hougou Heritage Gallery at Arts Underground, an exhibit from MacBride Museum entitled *Bill MacBride's Yukon: Images from W.D. MacBride's collection, circa 1952*.

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PHOTO CREDIT: ARCHBOULD.COM

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Bobby Orr

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## Snow Sculptors Save Best for Last

Members of Canada's snow sculpting team are busy creating sculptures on four continents as part of their 2012 World Tour  
by Don Watt, Snow Carver



Michael Lane and Donald Watt, members of Canada's snow sculpting team, are having a busy winter creating sculptures on four continents as part of their 2012 World Tour. But they are saving the best for last. In late February, the team will be coming home to

Whitehorse where they will begin work on two large sculptures to be featured as part of the 2012 Arctic Winter Games.

The team of Yukoners, which also includes Terry Gunderson and Adam Green, will be participating in the cultural component of the

games. They will complete one sculpture before the Games begin. A second sculpture will be created during the Games themselves while the many visitors and competitors are in town. The sculptures will be in two locations: one up at the Canada Games Centre and the second one down on Main Street in front of the White Pass Building.

The designs for these two original sculptures are being formulated as Michael and Donald travel. As usual, their snow sculpture designs will highlight the diverse cultural identities of the North.

To follow the Team Canada's World Tour, visit [www.snowcarver.ca](http://www.snowcarver.ca). The team will post sketches of the AWG snow sculptures on the website once they have finalized the designs.

???

### Q&A WITH CANADIAN SNOW SCULPTING TEAM

**Q.** What does being a participant in the Arctic Winter Games cultural program mean to you (and your team)?

**A.** It is a privilege to be able to participate in the Arctic Winter Games cultural program and produce snow sculptures for both the athletes and the spectators to enjoy.

**Q.** I'm also curious about your thoughts on your medium (snow/ice) and its use in an artistic program highlighting northern culture.

**A.** We use a recyclable material (snow) and produce a sculpture that captures one moment in time of our northern culture for people to enjoy and then nature reclaims it back to the land.

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Cultural tickets are also available at The Yukon Arts Centre. Out-of-town? Call the Games office at 867.393.2012 for tickets.



ARCTIC WINTER GAMES  
WHITEHORSE 2012



AWG Office: 308 Wood Street, Whitehorse, Yukon, ph. 867.393.2012