



For Immediate Release

Transcendent Auditory Journey, *Echoes of the Land*, Returns to Werklund Centre in Celebration of National Indigenous History Month

May 25, 2026 – CALGARY, AB, CANADA

Immersing audiences in a deeply reflective meditative experience, *Echoes of the Land* is back by popular demand as part of Werklund Centre's National Indigenous History Month celebrations. Werklund Centre invites you to sink into this sound bath and enter a textural auditory world layered with traditional drumming, spoken word, and an all-star ensemble of local musicians. ***Echoes of the Land* runs June 25 - June 28** with four performances in the **Big Secret Theatre** at **Werklund Centre**. Learn more at werklundcentre.ca/echoes.

Called "a creative earthquake" by the Calgary Guardian, *Echoes of the Land* originally premiered at the 2025 High Performance Rodeo, produced by Ghost River Theatre. It brings together the creative team of Cedric Lightning along with Alanna Bluebird, Kenna Burima, Kris Demeanor, Jennie Esdale, Eric Rose, and Skip Wolfleg for a unique performance soundscape. Designed to engage deeply through sound, audiences lie blindfolded or with their eyes closed, fully immersed in a meditative realm of discovery and deep reflection on the land.

"What people will experience is something they've probably never done before," said Eric Rose, Artistic Director. "They're going to lie down on the floor and be bathed in music, sound, and poetry. They'll feel the vibration, because sound isn't just about what you hear, it's how you feel it. At the heart of the piece is a focus on Indigenous people, stories, and presence on this land."

Echoes of the Land is presented by Werklund Centre as part of a host of cultural activities surrounding National Indigenous History Month. As part of the grass roots Calgary Culture Coalition for Truth and Reconciliation, Werklund Centre, along with the Calgary Public Library, The Confluence, Heritage Park, and National Music Centre are working to expand community access to cultural experiences that help in building stronger understanding, respect, accountability to, and compassion for Indigenous peoples.

"Werklund Centre is proud to partner with Ghost River Theatre and this remarkable group of artists in celebrating Indigenous culture and storytelling. A collective commitment to reconciliation asks all of us not only to listen, but to remain open to Indigenous ways of knowing and understanding the world around us," says Alex Sarian, President and CEO of



Werklund Centre. “*Echoes of the Land* is an invitation into a deeply personal and profoundly human experience, and we are honoured to share it with Calgarians.”

Echoes of the Land

June 25 - June 28, 2026

7:30pm (Thurs, Fri, Sat) and 3:00pm (Sunday only)

Big Secret Theatre at Werklund Centre

Audience Advisory: Performance is 60 minutes in length with NO LATE ENTRY. Audiences are asked to bring their own yoga mat and arrive at least 15 minutes early. Optional blindfolds will be supplied.

Tickets available by calling 403-294-9494 or visit werklundcentre.ca/echoes. For a complete list of cultural activities curated by Calgary Culture Coalition for Truth and Reconciliation, please visit werklundcentre.ca/nihm.

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The **Calgary Culture Coalition for Truth and Reconciliation (CCCTR)** is a collaboration between five Calgary cultural institutions who are committed to elevating Indigenous voices, sharing Indigenous cultures, and advancing Truth and Reconciliation. Our mission is to ensure that citizens of Calgary and area have access to a variety of learning and engagement experiences that complement and extend community access, creating opportunities to grow, learn, and participate in active Reconciliation, helping to build stronger understanding, respect, accountability to, and compassion for Indigenous peoples. The founding members of the CCCTR are Calgary Public Library, The Confluence, Heritage Park, the National Music Centre, and Werklund Centre. Each organization is supported by Elders and Knowledge Keepers from Treaty 7 nations.

National Indigenous History Month (NIHM) is a celebration of Indigenous ways of knowing, being, and doing that takes place throughout the month of June. NIHM celebrates the contributions of Indigenous communities and honours the history, heritage,



Werklund Centre

resilience, and diversity of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. It is a time for all Canadians to learn and an opportunity to participate in Indigenous-led and Indigenous-supported cultural events. It is also a time for Indigenous peoples to celebrate, with the intention of growing their cultures and instilling a sense of pride in their Indigenous identity.

Led by Artistic Director Eric Rose and Assistant Director Jennie Esdale, **Ghost River Theatre** is a devised theatre company that creates, develops, and produces live performance experiences through a significant investment in imaginative research and experimentation. Ghost River Theatre is a catalyst for enriching Calgary's thriving arts community. Our mission is to drive boundary-pushing and immersive creative experiences in original live performance.

Werklund Centre (formerly Arts Commons) is the steward of Western Canada's largest arts centre and the artistic and civic cornerstone of Calgary's downtown core that fosters the arts through live performance, educational opportunities, and artist development programs. For 40 years, it has been a key contributor to the social, economic, cultural, and intellectual life and well-being of Calgarians—a commitment that is being renewed through the Werklund Centre Transformation project, the largest cultural infrastructure project in Canadian history. It is home to five resident companies, including Alberta Theatre Projects, Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, Downstage, Theatre Calgary, and One Yellow Rabbit. It houses six gallery spaces, five theatres, a concert hall, rehearsal and education spaces, costume and scene shops, and a restaurant.