



## Government of Yukon

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**NEWS**release

FOR RELEASE #11-038  
March 10, 2011

### Touring Artist Fund enables Yukon artists to explore new audiences

WHITEHORSE—Three Yukon artists will share \$21,230 through the Touring Artist Fund to present their work at national and international venues.

"The Touring Artist Fund continues to support Yukon artists to showcase their talents and gain experiences that enrich their professional growth, while new audiences are enriched by exposure to northern culture," Tourism and Culture Minister Elaine Taylor said. "This combination helps to strengthen Yukon's brand and cultural identity, raising awareness about Yukon to others across Canada and overseas."

Doug Smarch Jr. receives \$1,230 for the exhibition of his work *Lucinations, 2005* as part of the *Close Encounters: The Next 500 Years International Exhibition of Contemporary Indigenous Art* at the Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art in Winnipeg. Smarch's work is on display from January to May 2011 with over 30 other Indigenous artists' work from Canada, the USA, South America, Europe, Australia and New Zealand.

Annie Lou receives \$10,000 to tour four major Canadian folk festivals this summer. The four-piece musical ensemble will visit Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Nova Scotia.

Gordie Tentrees receives \$10,000 for a showcase and international tour to six countries. Tentrees was the sole Canadian act selected to play the Germany Arts & Culture Festival in Bremen, which will be broadcast on live radio. He will also play with band member Ken Hermanson in Scandinavia and Italy as the opening act for Swedish folk singer, Sarah Macdougall.

"This kind of support is essential in leveling the playing field as artists can take advantage of opportunities which would not otherwise be feasible," Tentrees said. "This funding will help significantly in introducing my music to a broader European audience, allow me to perform at an international music festival in Germany and offset the massive cost of making a tour of this scope possible - 85 dates and 7 countries. This fund is incredible."

Applications to the Touring Artist Fund are accepted four times a year. The next intake deadline is March 15. Applications and guidelines are available at [www.tc.gov.yk.ca/arts\\_funding](http://www.tc.gov.yk.ca/arts_funding).

To speak with the fund administrator, call 867-667-8789 or toll-free 1-800-661-0408 ext. 8789 or email [artsfund@gov.yk.ca](mailto:artsfund@gov.yk.ca).

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See backgrounder attached.

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**TOURING ARTIST FUND – December 2010 RECIPIENTS**

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount Allocated</b>
Doug Smarch Jr.	Exhibition at Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art, Winnipeg	\$1,230
Annie Lou	Folk festival tour	\$10,000
Gordie Tentrees	Showcase and international tour	\$10,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>		\$21,230

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Musician Gordie Tentrees with Tourism and Culture Minister Elaine Taylor.

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