



FOR RELEASE
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Yukon artists will make a Scene in nation's capital

WHITEHORSE—Yukon performing, visual, literary, culinary and fashion arts will be showcased at Northern Scene, a 10-day festival in Ottawa running from April 25 to May 4 and featuring 250 established and emerging artists from the North.

"Northern Scene will showcase some of Yukon's finest artists to a national audience," Tourism and Culture Minister Mike Nixon said. "This unique festival will increase awareness of the North's diverse culture and inspire audiences to discover more of this region of Canada."

Northern Scene is the sixth in a series of biennial festivals called *Scenes* produced by the National Arts Centre to celebrate the artistic excellence of Canada's regions. It is the largest gathering of Northern artists ever staged outside the North.

"Northern Scene offers great exposure and career development opportunities for participating artists," Nixon added.

Yukon theatre artist Brian Fidler will be at the festival presenting Ramshackle Theatre's *Sci-Fi Double Feature*.

"I'm excited and honoured to be part of Yukon's cultural contingent at Northern Scene," Fidler said. "I'm looking forward to sharing Ramshackle's science fiction puppet show with a broader Canadian audience as well as seeing the work of other northern artists participating in the festival."

Northern Scene includes performances, exhibitions as well as pan-northern collaborative productions such as *A Circumpolar Soundscape* which features four aboriginal singers from Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Greenland. The festival also provides opportunities for artists to meet agents and presenters from national and international festivals and institutions.

Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut each contributed \$200,000 to the festival this year.

For information about Yukon artists participating at Northern Scene visit www.tc.gov.yk.ca/northern_scene.html.

Yukon audiences can preview Ramshackle Theatre's *Sci-Fi Double Feature* at the Yukon Arts Centre March 8 and 9.

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