

CHAN CENTRE

*presents*

SAT MAR 5 2022 / 8PM

# Leonard Sumner

DECOLONIZE THE CHAN

Canada





“I think it's about time that native people, Indigenous people across the world... take ownership of our stories and our experiences. We're capable of telling it from our perspective. We've been storytellers for thousands of years, it's in our blood to be able to tell stories.”

– Leonard Sumner



# Leonard Sumner

Anishinaabe MC/Singer/Songwriter Leonard Sumner's storytelling flows directly from the shores of Little Saskatchewan First Nation, located in the heart of the Interlake of Manitoba.

Sumner's self-determined sound is evidence of his ability to simultaneously occupy landscapes of multiple musical genres including; Hip-Hop, Spoken Word, Country, and Rhythm and Blues.

With every vibration of the strings on his guitar, Leonard rattles the dust off truths that have been buried for far too long. On stage he poetically sings awake the consciousness of audiences that may have been unaware of their slumber.

In this era of unsettling history and healing wounds of the past, Sumner's music is an expression of medicine that walks the line between fortitude and fragility.





## Pre-show Talk with Dallas Hunt

7:15pm: RBC Cinema

This talk is preoccupied with the role of Indigenous aesthetics in the creation and nurturing of complex Indigenous lifeworlds. It aims to honour the encounters that everyday Indigenous economies enable, and the words that try—and ultimately fail—to articulate them. Hunt will gesture to the movements, speech acts and relations that exceed available vocabularies and that are vital in the context of a colonial aesthetic designed to perpetually foreclose on Indigenous futures and erase Indigenous existence.

Dallas Hunt is Cree and a member of Wapsewsiipi (Swan River First Nation) in Treaty Eight territory in northern Alberta. He has had creative works published in *Contemporary Verse 2*, *Prairie Fire*, *PRISM international* and *Arc Poetry*. His first children's book, *Awâsis and the World-famous Bannock*, was published through Highwater Press in 2018. His new book, *CREELAND*, is out through Nightwood Editions. Hunt is an assistant professor of Indigenous literatures at the University of British Columbia.





## Film Screenings at The Cinematheque

In conjunction with the Decolonize the Chan series, the Chan Centre is partnering with The Cinematheque in Vancouver for a screening of *Deer Woman* on March 10th. The film features Lila, a proud Blackfoot woman, on the path of righteous vengeance. This solo-warrior-woman story is adapted from Ntlaka'pamux playwright Tara Beagan's one-performer drama and created by ARTICLE 11, an Indigenous-run arts and activist organization based in Calgary.

When Lila's baby sister goes missing, Lila refuses to stand idly by. She's ex-army and the daughter of a hunter who taught her all he knew. When circumstances converge, Lila finds the perfect opportunity to avenge her sister's murder while exercising the skills taught by the Canadian government. Starring Blackfoot performer Cherish Violet Blood.

For more information about upcoming talks, films and other Chan Centre connects events visit [chancentre.com/connects](http://chancentre.com/connects).

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