

PSA
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SHUMKA

UKRAINIAN SHUMKA DANCERS

Shumka Dancers Invited to Perform in Toronto's FALL FOR DANCE NORTH FESTIVAL

Edmonton's Ukrainian Shumka Dancers have been invited to perform in Toronto, Ontario, as one of the featured guests of the Fall For Dance North festival.

Co-presented by The Sony Centre for the Performing Arts, Shumka is included amongst "10 acclaimed Canadian and international dance companies" as noted on the Festival's website at www.ffdnorth.com. Shumka will close three of the four Festival mainstage performances, present a Master Class, and participate in numerous Artist Talks.

"I am absolutely thrilled that the Shumka dancers will be performing at Fall for Dance North in Toronto on the Sony Centre stage," says Fall For Dance North Festival Artistic Director Ilter Ibrahimof. "The company's fantastic dancers and their classic *Hopak* will be the perfect closer to our festival. It's been too long since we saw Shumka perform in Toronto with a full cast, and we can't wait to share this exciting moment with our audience".

"Shumka is excited to be invited to the prestigious Fall For Dance North Festival," says Shumka Dancers Executive Director Darka Tarnawsky. "To be listed alongside dance artists including Les Grand Ballets Canadiens De Montreal, Natasha Bakht, Aszure Barton, Company and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, is a great honour."

The Festival runs from October 5 to 7, 2016 in Toronto at The Sony Centre for the Performing Arts.

Shumka means "whirlwind," a powerful display of artistry, energy and passion, and for over 55 years of performance history that word has shaped the Ukrainian Shumka Dancers' signature dance style. While maintaining deep respect for their heritage, Shumka continually challenges conventional boundaries to define the Ukrainian Canadian experience in a current context.

Edmonton's oldest dance company, Shumka has been seen by millions on international television broadcasts; presented command performances for Queens, Prime Ministers, and Presidents; and performed around the world.

In addition to the performing company, Shumka operates the Shumka School of Dance in Edmonton and Sherwood Park, providing high-level multidisciplinary dance instruction to hundreds of youth from 3 to 63 years of age annually. The School utilizes the only recognized Ukrainian Dance Syllabus in North America, developed by Shumka over the past two decades.

Shumka is honoured to be a resident company of the Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium in Edmonton. Shumka operates and rehearses in Edmonton's Shumka Dance Centre, located near the Ice District, the Brewery District, and the Heart of Downtown Edmonton.

"Canada's National Treasure." The Globe and Mail

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