

Ancestors AND Elders

The logo for 'Ancestors AND Elders' is rendered in a golden-brown, cursive script. The word 'Ancestors' is at the top, 'AND' is in the middle in a smaller, all-caps sans-serif font, and 'Elders' is at the bottom. A stylized branch with three leaves extends from the left side, passing behind the word 'Elders'.

Media Release

For Immediate Release

January 17, 2018

Two cultures. Different legacies. New connections.

Edmonton - **Ukrainian Shumka Dancers** present the world premiere performance of **Ancestors and Elders**... exploring the power of tradition and truth, at the **Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium** (11455 87 Ave), **April 27 & 28, 2018, 7:30 pm.**

In a world premiere production featuring a cast of Shumka Dancers and multidisciplinary Indigenous artists, we share a story of the first Ukrainian newcomers to Canada, exploring the shared values and respected differences between these hopeful settlers and the First Nations people they encounter in a new land.

Survival, for both Indigenous and Ukrainian immigrant people in Alberta, often meant silence: lost stories and connections between our communities help us all survive tremendous loss and struggle. We use dance to begin to break that silence; to remember those who came before us, the traditions they instilled, and the truths they endured.



Ancestors and Elders Trailer - Video by Blue Toque Productions

Ancestors and Elders is directed by Indigenous theatre artist **Barry Bilinsky**, and Shumka's **Joseph Hoffman**. The production features a creative team of over 40 Alberta-based designers, artists, story-tellers, musicians and dancers including: story consultation and poetry by **Anna Marie Sewell**; music by **Carissa Klopoushak** (TYT I TAM; National Arts Centre Orchestra), **Mike Romaniak** (Lemon Bucket Orchestra) and **Anders Hunter** (Eya Hey Nakoda); visual art by **Lana Whiskeyjack** and **Svitlana Kravchuk**; costume design by **Megan Koshka**, with consultation by **Melissa-Jo (MJ) Belcourt Moses**, **Trinity Chopyk** and **MaryAnn Baziuk**; lighting design by **Jeff Osterlin**; projection design by **Elijah Lindenberger**; along with guest performances by **Running Thunder Dancers**, **Darlene Auger** and more.

Tickets for ***Ancestors and Elders*** are **\$15 - \$60** (plus applicable service & facility fees) and go on sale **Monday, January 22 at 10 am** through [Ticketmaster.ca](https://www.ticketmaster.ca). Student, senior and group discounts are available. Visit [shumka.com](https://www.shumka.com) for more information.

Ancestors & Elders Images

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Media Contact

Kate Hamblin, Bottom Line Productions

kate@bottomlinepro.com | 780.257.6931



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