



MOUNTAIN TIME ARTS

MOUNTAIN TIME ARTS PRESENTS

CHERRY RIVER, WHERE THE RIVERS MIX
a temporal public art event at the Headwaters of the Missouri River

by Shane Doyle and Mary Ellen Strom

featuring the Fox Family Fiddlers, Jamie Fox and the Northern Cree Singers



August 23 and 24, 2018 at 6pm

at Missouri Headwaters State Park, 1585 Trident Rd, Three Forks, MT 59752

Released June 27, 2018

CHERRY RIVER, Where the Rivers Mix is the culminating event of Mountain Time Arts (MTA) three-year series of public art events *WaterWorks*. These projects have engaged internationally-known artists along with hundreds of local participants including ranchers, scientists, conservationists, engineers, ethnobotanists, Native American scholars and politicians to further understand our region's complex water systems and, more importantly, each other.

Mountain Time Arts is pleased to bring acclaimed musicians the Northern Cree Singers and Jamie Fox and the Fox Family Fiddlers to participate in our live music and art event **CHERRY RIVER, Where the Rivers Mix**, located at the glorious Missouri Headwaters State Park. The central scene of the work is a ceremony to rename the East Gallatin River, one of the three tributaries that join to form the Missouri River, to the Plains Indian name 'Cherry River.'

The Northern Cree Singers, a powwow and round-dance drum and singing group based in Maskwacis, Alberta, Canada have been nominated for six Grammy Awards. Métis fiddler Jamie Fox from Fort Belknap Reservation in Montana currently lives in Denmark. Jamie is one of the most celebrated young players of Métis fiddle music, a style grown out of a mixture of Celtic, French, and Native American cultures. She will be joined by her father Jim and her brother Vince.

The **CHERRY RIVER** public art project is a collaboration of Indigenous scholar and musician Shane Doyle and artist Mary Ellen Strom. Doyle and Strom's project examines the history and ecology of this significant site using the flow of the three rivers as a narrative structure and a cultural bridge. Live musicians will perform on drift boats floating on the three rivers toward the confluence of the Missouri or what Native Peoples called "Where the Rivers Mix". A choir of local singers, who both sing and speak, will be positioned on the river bank. The work will be composed and arranged by music director Ruby Fulton. Large-scale sculptures will feature the color of local chokecherries, a deep magenta, and red ochre, a pigment found in the region.

CHERRY RIVER is the Indigenous place name of the East Gallatin River. Lewis and Clark designated the river as the Gallatin in 1805. The name **CHERRY RIVER** honors and describes the prolific chokecherry bushes that grow on the river's banks. This shrub was an essential staple for numerous groups of Native Peoples and continues to provide crucial sustenance for bees, birds, small mammals and bears in the Rocky Mountain West. The name, **CHERRY RIVER**, helps raise awareness about the health of our river systems in Southwestern Montana and recognizes our Indigenous history. **CHERRY RIVER** venerates the culture and ecology of running water and riparian systems, while the plants, animals and micro-organisms that make up the ecosystem of this treasured river will be honored in its name.

CHERRY RIVER, Where the Rivers Mix understands collaborative inquiry as an authentic means to generate new knowledges of this region's most salient cultural and environmental issues. **CHERRY RIVER** puts a spotlight on the indigenous cultural and environmental narratives of *the Headwaters* location. At this historic moment, diverse knowledges are required to work toward comprehensive and informed solutions about our water resources.

There will be a celebration with Indigenous food and libations following the event.

About the Artists

SHANE DOYLE, Ed.D. is a Crow tribal member hailing from Crow Agency, Montana. Shane holds an MA in Native American Studies and completed a post-doctoral appointment at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, in 2016. With 30 years of experience as a singer of northern Plains style music and 20 years of teaching experience, Shane is currently an educational and cultural consultant. Most recently Shane has taught and designed curriculum for the Tribal Education Directors National Assembly, Yellowstone Forever, Montana OPI, the National Park Service, the University of Oregon, the University of Colorado, Boulder, and PBS NOVA. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Extreme History Project, the Montana Arts Council, and the Governors Parks in Focus Committee. Dr. Doyle was a founding member of the Montana Wilderness Association's Hold Our Ground Campaign in 2017 and provided consultation for PBS Nova's *The Great Human Odyssey*, and *The First Face of America* episodes. Shane also acted in the History Channel's recent production "Lost Treasure of the Little Big Horn Battle", set for premiere in the Fall of 2018. Shane and his wife Megkian are on The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Raising Places Grant Design Team, which is focused on the community of Lodge Grass.

MARY ELLEN STROM is an artist, curator and educator. Her installations and site-specific projects unearth submerged narratives within art, history and cultural discourse. Her work has been exhibited in a wide range of contexts including museums, galleries, passenger trains, cattle ranches, large-scale video projections onto industrial sites and mountain rock faces, in empty retail stores and horse arenas. Recent awards include an International Fulbright Scholar Fellowship, a Bogliasco Fellowship to the Liguria Study Center for the Arts and Humanities, The MAP Fund, a Rockefeller Fellowship, Artadia The Fund for Art and Dialogue, Art Matters and Creative Capital. Her work has been exhibited at the

Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles, Museum of Modern Art, NYC, the ICA Philadelphia, The Contemporary Art Museum Houston, The Museum of Fine Arts Boston, the Walker Art Center, Mpls., the Wexner Center in Columbus, OH, the Pompidou Centre-Metz, Paris, the Satouchi Triennial in Japan, the Hayward Gallery, London, Nagoya Museum of Fine Arts, Nagoya, Japan, Fundacion Union-Espacio Cultural Contemporaneo, Montevideo, Uruguay and the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne, Australia. Strom's central projects are Mountain Time Arts and the Center for Art, Design and Social Research. She is a professor at Tufts University in Boston, MA.

THE NORTHERN CREE SINGERS are a powwow and round dance drum and singing group, based in Maskwacis, Alberta, Canada. Formed in 1980 by Steve Wood with brothers Charlie and Earl Wood, members originate from the Treaty 6 area. These include Ferlin McGillvary, Randy Wood, Joel Wood, as well as Conan Yellowbird. They have been nominated for seven Grammy Awards and nominated for two Juno Awards. They have released over 20 albums. In 2017, the Singers, along with founder Steve Wood and Tanya Tagaq, won a Juno Award for Classical Album of the Year – Large Ensemble for the album *Going Home Star*. The group and their music has been described as, "passionate", "energizing," and "remarkably unified and powerful." They are regarded as one of the best music groups in modern Native American powwow music and are one of the most respected pow-wow groups in North America, or in the world.

JAMIE FOX AND THE FOX FAMILY FIDDLERS: Jamie Fox is one of the most coveted and well-known young players of Métis fiddle music, which grew out of a mixture of Celtic, French, and Native American cultures. Jamie has been fortunate to play with master traditional Métis fiddlers Jimmie LaRocque and Mike Page of the Turtle Mountain reservation, Johnny Arcand of Saskatoon, and Fatty Morin in Montana. Those old-style, traditional-lineage players firmly root Jamie, her father and brother in the Métis tradition deep into the 19th century. Coming from within the tradition themselves, Jamie represents the continuance of this generation maintaining a style and repertoire that dates back to the fur trade era of the 17th century and the first generation of European and Aboriginal mixing in the upper reaches of the North American continent. The Fox family is from Fort Belknap, Montana.

RUBY FULTON is a composer and musician. Fulton's music compositions have been performed by the Boulder Philharmonic, the Cabrillo Festival Orchestra, the American Composers Orchestra, the Holland Symfonia, Volti and Newspeak; and programmed on the Bang on a Can Marathon, the Guadeamus New Music Festival and the SONiC Festival. She teaches composition and music theory at the University of Idaho Lionel Hampton School of Music and holds a doctorate from the Peabody Conservatory of Music. In addition to composing, Fulton works as co-artistic director of the experimental vocal collective Rhymes with Opera, a 5-piece vocal/composer ensemble based in New York City.

MOUNTAIN TIME ARTS

Located in Bozeman, Montana, Mountain Time Arts produces temporal public art projects that enliven our relationships to the history, culture and environment of the Rocky Mountain West. MTA's projects foster dialogue, open critical conversations and serve as speculative spaces for new ways to inhabit our community.

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