

imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival, Urban Shaman Gallery and the Institute for Contemporary Culture (ICC) Presents:

A Return to the Place Where God Outstretched his Hand

A Special Performance by Peter Morin

Hyacinth Gloria Chen Crystal Court, Royal Ontario Museum

October 5, 2007 7PM

As part of the public preview of the exhibition ***Shapeshifters, Time Travellers and Storytellers*** Vancouver-based artist Peter Morin performs *A Return to the Place Where God Outstretched his Hand*. The performance references a Tahltan transformation story as told by the artist's grandmother.

Two stories about *A Return to the Place Where God Outstretched his Hand*

1.

A young Tahltan person gets sent to residential school. Has his hair cut. Isn't allowed to speak his language. Gets hit for being Tahltan.

The spirit tells the Tahltan boy to practice the ceremonies in secret. When everyone is asleep. So in the night the Tahltan boy practices the ceremonies. He practices with purpose, as is the way he was taught. He was taught to carefully consider his words and actions. This is his way to keep his spirit alive, and to keep his connection to his home territory. It is his secret. It is his heartbeat.

2.

A young Tahltan person makes a return to the Tahltan boy's story. This is a ceremony of connecting to the stories, of connecting to the makers of culture.

Peter Morin is of the Crow clan of the Tahltan Nation of Telegraph Creek, BC. Peter spent four years working with Redwire Magazine in Vancouver, as a community educator and advocate for First Nations youth, through media, writing and art. As a practicing visual artist, Peter's work looks deeply into issues of First Nations identity, family and healing. His most recent work includes "Team Diversity Bannock, the World's Largest Bannock attempt", "7 Suits for 7 Days of Colonialism", and "Stop, Drop and Bingo".