

Nov 13, 2025  
Screening & Talk



# Archives Access: Warren Arcand

Western Front and grunt gallery are pleased to present *Archives Access: Warren Arcand*, an evening of archival excerpts showcasing the performance-based works of artist, writer, and educator Warren Arcand.

Arcand was a Cree artist from the Muskeg Lake and Big River First Nations. His multidisciplinary practice spanned performance art, film and video, theatre, and text-based projects. He taught at the Emily Carr Institute of Art + Design and served as artistic director of the Centre for Indigenous Theatre in Toronto. This event honours Arcand's life and contributions as an active member of Vancouver's thriving Indigenous arts community between the 1980s and 2000s.

Selections from the archives of Western Front and grunt gallery offer a glimpse into a specific period of his creative output, highlighting the quirky, cerebral, and playful qualities that defined his practice.

Curator Aaron Rice will speak alongside the excerpts, offering insights and context, with tea and bannock by Raven and Hummingbird Tea Co. available throughout the evening.

It's a night to reflect, connect, and remember a remarkable and charismatic artist—giving the public an opportunity to engage with and appreciate Arcand's legacy ahead of a celebration of life on November 15, 2025.

## Biographies

Warren Arcand (1966–2025) was a Cree performance artist, writer, educator, and musician, whose family comes from the Muskeg Lake and Big River First Nations. His work spanned performance art, film and video, theatre, and text-based projects. He taught at the Emily Carr Institute of Art + Design in Vancouver and served as artistic director of the Centre for Indigenous Theatre in Toronto. Although he lived in several Canadian cities, Warren considered Galiano Island his home for over twenty-five years, after moving there to join the Gulf Islands Film and Television School.

Aaron Rice is an emerging interdisciplinary artist and curator of the Kanien'keha:ka (Mohawk) Nation. His work combines the mediums of printmaking, video, textiles, and sculpture. His work focuses on the manipulation and assemblage of materials, employing the elements of movement, pattern, and indigenous cultural reference. His work is informed by teachings of the land and traditional forms of artmaking. He seeks to explore concepts of indigeneity, queerness, and land/spirit relations. He completed his BA in visual arts with a minor in curatorial studies from Emily Carr University of Art + Design. He is currently an intern at Daphne in Montreal and he is enrolled in the curatorial studies certificate at Concordia.

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## Programme

1. Warren Arcand performing as part of *Making It Big*, Aug 28, 1997.  
Courtesy of grunt gallery.
2. Neo-Nativists  
*Days Without Singing*  
video documentation, Oct 21, 1989  
Courtesy of Western Front
3. Warren Arcand  
"Man from Green Gables", performed as part of *Cabaret Vulgare*,  
video deocumentation, Mar 19, 1993  
Courtesy of Western Front
4. Warren Arcand  
*Orpheus*  
video documentation, Sep 11, 1993  
Courtesy of grunt gallery
5. Hank Bull and Eric Metcalfe  
*Duster* (1992)  
video, 34:58  
Courtesy of the artists  
and Western Front
6. Interview with Warren Arcand as part of *Indian Acts*  
video documentation, Nov 30, 2002  
Courtesy of grunt gallery
7. Warren Arcand  
*Flamingo Killers*  
video documentation, Nov 5, 1998  
Courtesy of grunt gallery
8. Warren Arcand and Michael Park performing "Red" as part of *Neo-Nativism versus New Music*  
video documentation, Nov 15, 2014  
Courtesy of Western Front
9. James Luna and Warren Arcand performing as part of *Indian Acts*  
video documentation, Dec 1, 2002  
Courtesy of grunt gallery



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