



(Image by Coey Kerr / Design by Dfi Grafik)

PRESS RELEASE  
For immediate release

### INTIMATE SKY SERIES

Chapter 15 - *Sky Up*: Friday, February 26, 2010 at 8 pm

*\*Please note that this performance, originally scheduled for March 19, has been rescheduled to the above date\**

Poetry / soul / funk / jazz / hip hop at the MAI!

Chapter 16 - Friday, May 14, 2010 at 8 pm (with Nomadic Massive)

**Montreal, February 10, 2010 – Never heard of Intimate Sky? Well, let’s get you up to speed. This series of inspiring performances is back with a bang, taking the stage for the third time this season at the MAI (Montréal, arts interculturels), now on Friday, February 26 at 8 pm. So come get acquainted - or reacquainted - with some of Montreal's finest musicians, singers, rappers, and urban poets, many of whom are members of the tremendous 60-artist collective KALMUNITY. Without a doubt a must-see performance!**

Unpredictable, intense, spontaneous, and magical, the four latest installments of *Intimate Sky* have been programmed at the MAI this year, with each performance bringing together some 15 different artists performing in smaller groups. These incredible lyrical and musical performances in part improvised, move between genres - funk, soul, hip hop, and reggae, with an imaginative mélange of song, rap, and poetry in both French and English, in an atmosphere that lies somewhere between cabaret and a jazz-club atmosphere.

Each installment of the *Intimate Sky* series is devoted to one specific theme, bringing together members of Kalmunity as well as a host of special guest artists. This fifteenth chapter, ***Sky Up***, promises to be inspiring with various **trios**, made up of two vocalists and one musician, taking the stage by storm! And last but not least, watch for the 4<sup>th</sup> *Intimate Sky* performance of the season (chapter 16) taking place May 14, 2010, with an electrifying and expansive collaboration featuring members of Kalmunity and Nomadic Massive.

Premiering in 2005, *Intimate Sky* has now been a fixture at the MAI since 2008, and is produced by poet and trumpet player **Jason "Blackbird" Selman**. With Selman at the helm, *Intimate Sky* has introduced several artists to Montreal audiences - daring artists who plunge boldly into stirring and startling collaborative performances. Totally anchored in the intensity of the moment, these "**spoken soul**" performances are always sure to win over audiences.

**About Jason "Blackbird" Selman:** Jason is a musician, a poet, a playwright, and a teacher. He holds an honours bachelor's degree in Jazz Studies and has been a fixture in the music scene for over ten years, in Montreal and Canada alike. He is also the author of two poetry books and one play, and is a teacher in the Black Theatre Workshop's *Youthworks* program. Jason is a member of the Kalmunity collective and Nomadic Massive, with whom he will play a series of concerts this February as part of Black History Month. [www.kalmunity.com](http://www.kalmunity.com)

Tickets for the show are available for only \$12 at the MAI box office (3680 Jeanne-Mance) or by calling (514) 982-3386.

For additional information, please contact Karl-Philip Marchand Giguère at [comm@m-a-i.qc.ca](mailto:comm@m-a-i.qc.ca) or 514 982-1812, extension 227. [www.m-a-i.qc.ca](http://www.m-a-i.qc.ca)

