



Traveling To The Future...

On The Trails of The Past.



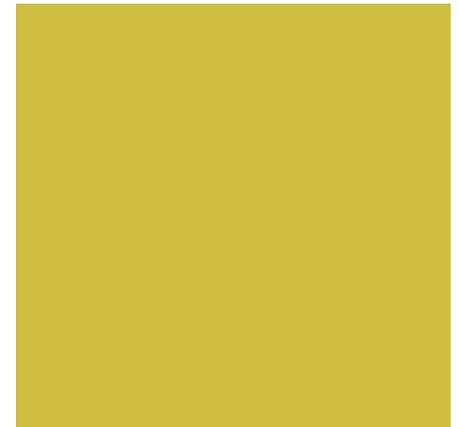
## Cowboys and Indians

In Song and Verse



## The Cast....

- Misner & Smith / Musicians, Actors
- Gail Steiger / Cowboy, Musician, Poet
- Amy Hale Auker / Cowboy, Poet
- Henry Real Bird / Cowboy, Poet



Not Pictured:

**\*Local  
Musicians\***





# Show Synopsis

Two American Cowboys and One Indian Cowboy, the theatrical centerpiece of the show “Cowboys and Indians” are in fact just that- **authentic working Cowboys of the American West**. The values they hold close, the land they hold dear, and way of life they cultivate is something shared by all agrarian cultures. These core Cowboy values needn’t stay just on the **ranch**. They can be the reminders of what makes us all human, and unite Americans with populations around the globe

Our story begins with two couples, mirror images of one another, but **one American and one Bulgarian**. They find themselves lost in a kind of wilderness and not knowing what to do other than seek help from an iPhone, a tablet, a GPS tracker, and tweet, remain utterly unaware of themselves, each other, and the world around them. They are eventually saved by a song- the disembodied lyrics of **the Crow language** beckoning them to follow and so they do. These notes lead them to the camp of two American Cowboys sharing the end of the day with one another.

The American Cowboys invite the couples to stay and begin to share their **Cowboy code of life**- in song and poetry. It’s the story of their lives and the values they uphold: **respect** for the power **and beauty of nature**, **responsibility for the animals** that are their constant companions, and trust that their fellow cowboy will pull his weight when a job needs to be done.

The openness of the Cowboys encourages the couples to share and sing as well using the songs of popular culture (songs known to the audience) to describe their own life challenges and reflections. These shared songs, stories, poems, and laughs serve to reflect what we all have in common- **our humanity**. Throughout all hear the call of the Crow song again and again; a refrain, and a reminder of what brought them all to this place.

Finally, the Crow Indian appears on stage and describes the importance of **tradition, harmony** with nature and cultural roots to the Indian civilization. He shares how these historical elements have enabled Indians to survive and evolve for generations. He reminds us that the Indian culture precedes the birth of “cowboys” but let’s us witness **the Indian link to the Cowboy culture** of today. He speaks to the universalities of agrarian life, and how these universalities can breed **cross-cultural understanding and acceptance**.

The show ends with all seven players joining together in a final poem and song- a culmination of what they’ve shared in their time together and with the audience. This final song becomes **a joyful celebration** of previous generations (those who’ve blazed the trails we’ll traverse on our pursuit of the future) and a heartfelt thanks to the **friends** who help us get there.

