

# NightwoodTheatre



## 2021 - 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Teiya Kasahara 笠原貞野 in *The Queen In Me*, 2022. Co-directors Andrea Donaldson and Aria Umezawa, conductor Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser, set and costume designer Joanna Yu, lighting designer André du Toit, projection designer Laura Warren. Photo: Gaetz Photography.

# LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

**"To acknowledge this land on which we stand is to acknowledge truth. To acknowledge truth is to acknowledge connection and disconnection. To acknowledge connection and disconnection is to acknowledge the Nations who care for our mother. To acknowledge our mother is to acknowledge truth. To acknowledge truth is to acknowledge that truth is at the forefront of the conversation."**

**- Monique Aura, Oneida Nation  
(Shared with permission. Originally posted to Whose Land)**

In the spirit and intent of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations, Nightwood Theatre acknowledges the land on which our work is created and where our offices are located is the traditional territory of many Nations, including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat peoples, and is home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples.

We acknowledge them and any other Nations who care for the land (acknowledged and unacknowledged, recorded and unrecorded) as the past, present, and future caretakers of this land, the traditional territory named Tkarón:to, the Mohawk word for "the place in the water where the trees are standing." The treaty for this particular parcel of land (Treaty 13), collectively referred to as the Toronto Purchase, applies to lands east of Brown's Line to Woodbine Avenue and north towards Newmarket.

We recognize the enduring presence of Indigenous peoples on this land. We commit ourselves to addressing and disrupting the systems of oppression and the colonial forces that undermine, distort, or erase the vital role of Indigenous peoples in our world, and recognize stewardship as a shared responsibility of all those who reside in a territory, as is the spirit of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum agreement.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

REPORT FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR.....	4
REPORT FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR.....	5
REPORT FROM THE BOARD CHAIR.....	6
MISSION, VISION, AND VALUES.....	7
ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT.....	8
THE TRANSFORMATION PROJECTS.....	9
GOOD THINGS TO DO.....	10
GROUNDSWELL FESTIVAL.....	11
LIBERATED FEMINIST FUTURES.....	12
THE QUEEN IN ME.....	13
CHILDREN OF FIRE.....	14
LAWYER SHOW 2022: THE WORLD GOES 'ROUND.....	15
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.....	16
OUR SUPPORTERS.....	18
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS.....	20
OUR TEAM.....	21

# REPORT FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

As with all industries, this season the cultural sector was still deeply impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite numerous pivots, we were grateful to move forward with many of our plans and are pleased to report that after two and a half years, Nightwood Theatre made it back onto the stage with two live productions as well as our ambitious Lawyer Show Fundraiser!

Our 2021-2022 season was curated with the intention of creating intimacy with our audiences - to lure them back to the theatre in ways that felt safe and nourishing, and so started with a tenderhearted, meditative digital project from Vancouver's Rumble Theatre called *Good Things To Do*.

We followed that with our annual Groundswell Festival, all free of charge and supported by various access measures, where we hosted live in-studio and virtual recording sessions of new works in excerpt by Anahita Dehbonehie, Celia Green, Teiya Kasahara 笠原貞野, Breton Lalama, Kitoko Mai and Nikki Shaffeeullah, as well as digital professional development sessions.

We supported three initiatives led by Artist/Activist in Residence Sedina Fiati, including a podcast produced by Crow's Theatre called *Beneath the Ceiba Tree*; our third annual Feminist Unconference, co-hosted by Sedina and Deaf theatre artist Natasha "Courage" Bacchus to generate ideas, accountability, and action as tools for feminist futures within and beyond our industry; and Liberated Feminist Futures, which included over 100 community participants, to inspire a poet, a visual artist and sound designer and a director to craft an audio-visual collective *cris de coeur* including a recording with ASL-English interpretation, and an image printed onto a Nightwood tote bag for all 100+ participants.

At the top of June we presented our first full scale live production during COVID-19: *The Queen In Me*, produced in partnership with The Canadian Opera Company, Amplified Opera and Theatre Gargantua. Combining comedy, drama, and opera, this explosive show by interdisciplinary artist Teiya Kasahara 笠原貞野 (they/them) explored the many ways that race, gender, and sexuality are policed in the opera industry. Our sold out houses leapt to their feet at the conclusion of each night, prompting us to remount it our 22/23 season!

Our next live production in the season was *Children of Fire* with support from Aluna Theatre at the Children's Peace Theatre in Scarborough in June 2022. We made this show COVID-proof by playing outdoors as well as launching the play's full-length podcast recording captured throughout Winter 2022.

We dazzled audiences with our 13th annual Lawyer Show production, *The World Goes 'Round*, directed by Sedina Fiati. We went to great lengths to safely rehearse this show with 30+ lawyers in the cast and band, and were thrilled to be live again on stage.

Beyond the stage, we increased our investment into education and audience engagement with: Community Choir, the Rising Moon Program, Nightwood's Creatryx Digital Writing Room, as well as with our long-standing Nightwood Innovators Program, and Write From The Hip. We also initiated a What's In A Name think tank to explore Nightwood's relationship with trans, Two-Spirit, and non binary folks.

Nightwood continues to be Canada's foremost intersectional feminist theatre, creating and presenting stunning, provocative productions and deep community engagement, tapping into the vital issues of our time through a feminist lens. And upon reflection of this past season, we feel especially proud of our continued energy and resilience, of our commitment to our mission, and of the tangible impact we're offering to our numerous communities.

**Andrea Donaldson**

**Nightwood Theatre, Artistic Director**



# REPORT FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

Nightwood's goals this past season, and throughout the COVID-19 pandemic have been to navigate the digital landscape, to operate with all safety measures in mind, and to maintain engagement with our artists, audiences, donors, and community in innovative ways. Having largely embraced Nightwood supporters and community members through digital community spaces and programming, we were equal parts buoyant and cautious to return to live theatre with our Lawyer Show fundraiser, our co-production of *The Queen In Me*, and our live outdoor production of *Children of Fire* in late spring/early summer 2022. To be in physical space with artists and communities alike was a shift in our energy reserves and artistic wells, and proved to be well worth the efforts with a fundraiser that grossed \$144,000, a sold out run, and Nightwood's first ever outdoor performance.

This past year brought new changes that our team rose to meet with extreme heart. We said a warm welcome to Erika Morey as Nightwood's Head of Development and to Reva Lokhande as our Artistic Producer Associate on a one year contract. We said a tearful farewell to outgoing Managing Director Beth Brown in October 2021. Nightwood's dedicated Board of Directors alongside the search committee, with the support of LeSage Arts Management, undertook an extensive search for a new Managing Director and I am delighted to have been selected to step into the large shoes left vacant by Beth. It has been an honour to learn from her these past 5 years and I was deeply excited to be able to collaborate with Artistic Director Andrea Donaldson in this new capacity.

Nightwood was in the news in December 2021 as being one of 70 arts organizations to be evicted from the Distillery District, losing our office at the end of March 2022, and as of August 2022, our studio. Having run this space for 20 years, and given the dearth of studio and event venues available and affordable for mid-sized and small arts organizations, we spent much of this season packing, advocating, searching and planning for a new home next year.

Like many other theatre companies, we have found ourselves with a large surplus at the end of the fiscal year. This largely resulted from the need to forecast revenues cautiously, projecting a potential decrease in public and private sector support alongside expenses, as well as the unforeseen impact of Omicron on our plans for two potential shows. Nightwood received a total of \$64,537 in emergency funds, which came through the Canadian Emergency Wage Subsidy and the reformatted Tourism and Hospitality Recovery Program and Canada Recovery Hiring Program. Nightwood Theatre also received funding through the Canada Council for the Arts Reopening Fund in the amount of \$27,500. We will utilize this accumulated surplus in the years ahead, as the live performance industry builds back capacity and offers full seasons of vibrant programming. We foresee that in the next two years our accumulated surplus will once again return to "normal" for Nightwood.

We are prepared and excited to be returning to live theatre more fulsomely in our 2022-2023 season, and look forward to seeing you at the theatre!

**Naz Afsahi**  
**Nightwood Theatre, Incoming Managing Director**



# REPORT FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Against all odds the performance industry has been facing, 2021-2022 was a year of resilience and success that included new beginnings for Nightwood Theatre, with a bittersweet farewell along the way. Artistically, the company mounted a combination of digital and live productions and activities that sought to connect with audiences locally and abroad. We were thrilled that our first live production since the onset of COVID-19, *The Queen In Me*, was met with sold out houses and was nominated for five Dora Mavor Moore Awards. An incredible time was had by all as Artist/Activist in Residence Sedina Fiati directed *The Lawyer Show*. The safety and success of this production, along with continuing strong donor support and excellent financial stewardship by management, enabled the company to finish the year with another operating surplus, adding to the financial health of the organization.

It was with a little sadness but with a great sense of pride that we saw Beth Brown leave Nightwood in October 2021 after almost eight seasons to take on the position of Executive Director of Soundstreams, a global leader in the presentation of innovative, carefully curated, and immersive musical experiences. We were delighted that Naz Afsahi agreed to join us as our new Managing Director. Naz is a beloved member of the Toronto theatre community and has been part of the Nightwood team for almost seven years, beginning as a Metcalf Intern. Naz then stepped into the position of Artistic and Business Associate, and assumed the position of Interim Managing Director when Beth left the company. Following a search for a new Managing Director, we were proud to offer Naz the role of Managing Director in winter 2022. Naz's deep knowledge of the company and passion for Nightwood's mandate has made for a seamless transition. Naz's advancement within Nightwood supports one of Nightwood's core goals: to propel the careers of women and gender marginalized arts workers in Canada.

This season, the board was especially active overseeing Nightwood throughout the challenges of returning to live works during the pandemic, and in working to support the search process for our new Managing Director. We bid farewell to two retiring board directors Hilary Green and Maria Zakos; Hilary and Maria's contributions to Nightwood over the years were considerable and they will be missed. We owe a debt of gratitude to continuing board members Paul Butler, Edina Cavalli, Dr. Barbara Moses, Tara Remedios and Chantria Tram for their ongoing commitment to Nightwood Theatre. After four years of Chairing Nightwood's Board, it is my great honour to pass on the privilege to Vice Chair Tara Remedios as of October 2022.

As we continue to adjust to a post-pandemic world, we are incredibly excited about our future as Canada's foremost feminist theatre company.

**Susan Hodkinson**  
**Nightwood Theatre, Board Chair**



## MISSION

As Canada's foremost feminist theatre, Nightwood provides an essential home for the creation of extraordinary theatre by women.\*

## VISION

To be a world-renowned cultural centre for provocative theatre, bringing audiences, artists, and activists together to elevate women's\* voices.

## VALUES

**PROVOCATION** - We use theatre to spark empathy and provoke action through a deeper conversation about the diversity of our lived experiences.

**EMPOWERMENT** - Our theatre empowers audiences and artists alike by giving voice to varying perspectives, and offering opportunities for growth and a space to connect.

**FEMINISM** - We promote intersectional feminist values and equity. We believe theatre is a potent vehicle to challenge historical and systemic power imbalances in all aspects of what we do.

**INCLUSIVITY** - We are committed to produce art that is driven by—and that gives voice to—the diverse society we live in.

**INTEGRITY** - It is critically important to operate with integrity, be truthful in our interactions and accountable for our actions.

**OPPORTUNITY** - It is our responsibility to create meaningful opportunities for women\* in our field, prioritizing folks with numerous intersecting identities. This value shapes our hiring practices, and the mentoring and sharing of knowledge with emerging talent in order to seed a new generation of Canadian theatre practitioners.

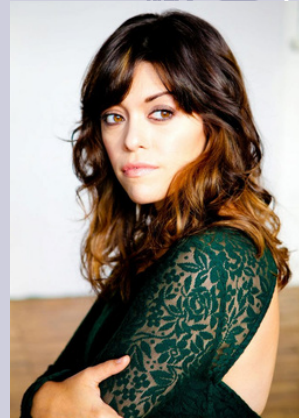
**RESPECT** - All of our relationships, whether with artists, producers, employees, donors or audiences must be conducted with full transparency, open communication and an emotional intelligence that approaches human relationships with fairness and collaboration.

\*women including, but not limited to, trans, cis, Two-Spirit, non-binary and gender diverse folks

# ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT

Throughout the 2021-22 season, we focused on supporting artists known and new to us through mentorship opportunities, commissions, residencies and workshops, as well as through offering free studio space, and two distinguished awards.

Through the **Kate Amesbury Fund**, we were able to support workshops for two extraordinary writers at the top of their craft - **Yolanda Bonnell** and **Rose Napoli** - who are creating plays through for Nightwood Theatre. We also held a three week workshop of **Sugar Plum** by **Sadie Epstein-Fine**, **Teiya Kasahara** 笠原貞野, **Colleen Snell** and **Lisa Karen Cox** through their Ontario Arts Council Creators in Residence Grant. In collaboration with Necessary Angel, we were thrilled to commission **Phoebe Tsang** on her continued development of her play **Death of a Father** she'd originally developed through our Write From The Hip program. We are also grateful to The Paul Butler and Chris Black Foundation at Toronto Foundation for supporting new play development, and are eager to see what the future might hold for these pieces at Nightwood and beyond.



L: Rose Napoli (photo: Chris Frampton)  
R: Yolanda Bonnell (photo: Graham Isador)

We were able to offer a studio residency to **Claren Grosz** to develop her piece **I love the smell of gasoline**, as well as support toward **Maddie Bautista** and **Deanna H. Choi's** piece **Love You Wrong Time** directed by Erin Brubacher, both of which Nightwood will present next season.

We were happy to support **Marie Barlizo** with studio space in preparation for her tour of **Lucky** to Vancouver's Revolver Festival. We also provided in-kind studio space to **Celia Green**, **Merlin Simard**, **Chelsea Woolley** and the **RISER project**. We partnered with **The Paprika Theatre Festival**, supporting them with studio space as well as facilitating their first Unconference. Furthermore, we came on as associate producers of **Wah Wah Wah** by **Celia Green**, directed by **Bilal Baig** for their tour to the prestigious English Theatre Berlin.

We were able to honour **Maria Clara De Sena** and **Suzanne Roberts Smith** with our biannual \$10,000 **Strombergs Family Realization Fund**, an award that supports Ontario-based women theatre artists who've been working for over two decades in the field to create a passion project. We also celebrated **Carolyn Fe** with our **Louise Garfield Award**, an annual cash prize awarded to a mature emerging artist who has come through one of Nightwood's programs.



WFTH 21-22 Cohort and Nightwood staff.

Top to bottom, L to R: Donna-Michelle St. Bernard, Taylor Trowbridge, Juliet Jones-Rodney, Reva Lokhande, Max Cameron Fearon, Omolola Ajao, Andrea Donaldson, Stephanie Fung, Beth Brown, Merlin Simard, Naz Afsahi.

We were once again selected as a **Recommender Organization** through the Ontario Arts Council to allocate funds at arms length to worthy new plays and theatre works in development. Through this initiative, we were able to support sixteen artists seeding new projects.

Lastly, Nightwood's flagship programs were able to flourish; **Write From The Hip** – for exceptional emerging theatre creators, our **Nightwood Innovators** program for emerging arts workers, as well as **Rising Moon** writing program for youth aged 16-19, a newer addition to our artistic development programs.

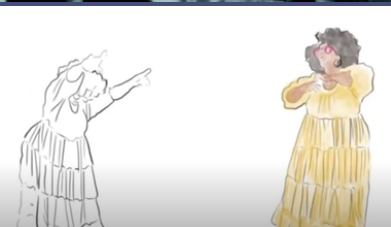
# THE TRANSFORMATION PROJECTS

*“What would it take to transform our society for the betterment of all?”*  
– playwright David Yee

Hosted by the **National Arts Centre of Canada**, The Transformations Project is a digital national project in which live performance companies from across Canada are asking some of their favourite artists to approach the above question in whatever way they see fit. Nightwood Theatre was honoured to have been one of the companies invited to commission artists in our community to imagine a path between now and a better future – to imagine if that’s even possible, and, if so, what it might entail. Over the course of a year, Nightwood commissioned a total of 14 artists to respond to the above question posed by David Yee.

## COMMISSIONED ARTISTS

Tamyka Bullen, Brefny Caribou, 錢嘉琪 Karthy Chin, Debbie Coucherne, Drawing with Knives Shadows (Brescia Nember Reid, Hannah Dez), Mala Theatre Collective (Liz Der, Sofia Rodríguez), MDS Collective (Dian Marie Bridge, Sedina Fiati, Mekdes Teshome), Mother Artist Society (Aria Zenua, Shahi Teruko, Jaz Fairy J, Myrtle Sodhi aka Afro Quill, Elisha, Janīsa), Keshia Palm, Raging Asian Womxn Taiko Drummers (Young Park, Wy Joung Kou, Jody Chan), Neta J. Rose, Dainty Smith and Les Femmes Fatales Burlesque Troupe (Belle Jumelles, Ivory, Rania "Violet" El Mugammar), Meghan Swaby, Jess Watkin





Promotional Art by Sam MacKinnon.

# GOOD THINGS TO DO

SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 2, 2021

## Nightwood Theatre presents a Rumble Theatre Online Experience

Conceived by Siminovitch Protegee Prize recipient **Christine Quintana**

In collaboration with Jessie Award winning collaborative artist and violinist **Molly MacKinnon**

Sound and recorded music by Jessie Award winning composer **Mishelle Cuttler**

Original digital interface created by digital artist **Sam MacKinnon**

Nightwood was thrilled to launch our 2021-22 season with Rumble Theatre's imaginative and interactive production *Good Things To Do*. Blending an ethereal sonic landscape, solitary physical environment, and an unexpected use of technology, *Good Things To Do* invites participants to place themselves within a dreamscape in which they possess extraordinary powers. This wondrously immersive experience is a meditation on goodness, generosity, and the struggle to stay tender in a world that asks us to be hard.

The project was originally a live performance/installation incorporating digital design. Following a COVID-19 pivot, *Good Things to Do* was taken on by Rumble Theatre where the piece has adapted, or perhaps found its form by embracing its digital form, having reached audiences across Canada, and well beyond.

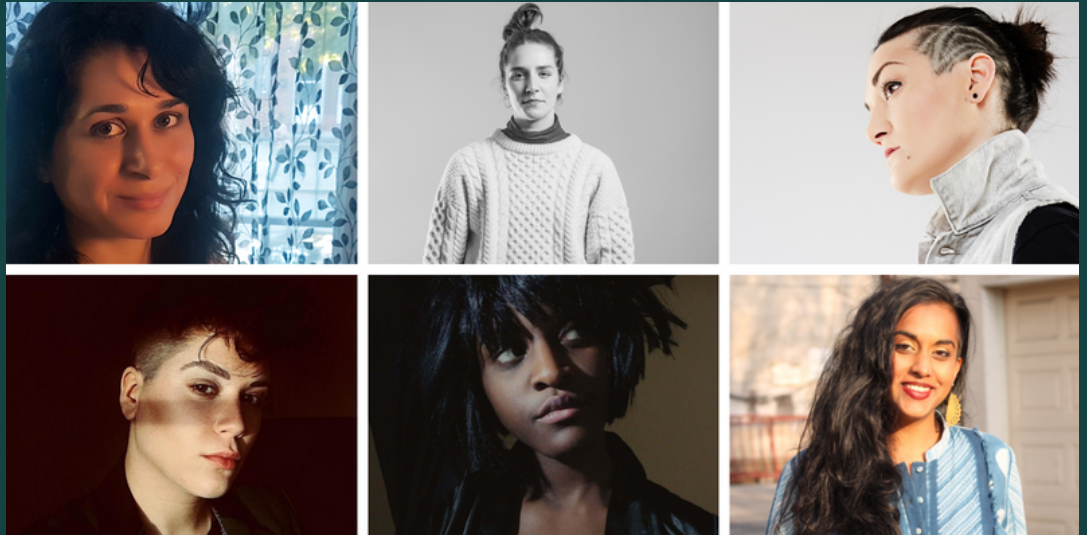
*"Good Things To Do offers a welcome asylum of tenderness"* — Colin Thomas ([colinthomas.ca](http://colinthomas.ca))

*"This is an interactive show truly designed with isolation in mind."* — Georgia Straight

# GROUNDSWELL FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 10 - 17, 2021

Our 36th annual **Groundswell Festival** invited the audience to get creative, offering a six-day, interactive digital retreat to generate ideas and spotlight brand new works from our **Write From The Hip playwright's unit (WFTH)**.



Groundswell 2021 Playwrights. Top to bottom, L to R: Anahita Dehbonehie, Celia Green, Teiya Kasahara 笠原貞野, Breton Lalama, Kitoko Mai, Nikki Shaffeeullah

Inspired by the success of Nightwood's **Creatryx Digital Writing Room**, this season's festival offered a unique opportunity for folks to hear selections of new plays, learn more about each artist in an intimate conversation hosted by Artist/Activist in Residence **Sedina Fiati**, and then have the option to delve into a writing session of their own with a prompt inspired by the piece.

## PLAY READINGS & EXCERPTS BY

Anahita Dehbonehie, Celia Green,  
Teiya Kasahara 笠原貞野, Breton Lalama,  
Kitoko Mai, Nikki Shaffeeullah

## READINGS DIRECTED BY

Bilal Baig, Marie Farsi, Sedina Fiati, Diane Roberts,  
Aria Umezawa

## DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS BY

Andrea Donaldson, Max Cameron Fearon,  
Shelley M. Hobbs, Faly Mevamanana,  
Donna Michelle St. Bernard

*View the full team on page 21*

# LIBERATED FEMINIST FUTURES



Artwork by Tannis Nielsen

## *What is your vision for liberated feminist futures?*

Inspired by discussions at our last **Feminist Unconference** in response to the above question, and curated by **Sedina Fiati**, we at Nightwood Theatre turned this question to you, our community. We were delighted to receive **over 100 stirring and beautiful responses** to this question, which we have offered as inspiration to a culturally diverse group of artists to craft our collective *cris de coeur* into various mediums (including a lovely tote bag): Black poet **Whitney French**, Indigenous visual artist **Tannis Nielsen**, and East Asian artists **Olivia Wheeler** as sound designer and **Amanda Lin** as director. The poem was performed and recorded in English and in ASL.

## PERFORMED BY

Cole Alvis, Tamyka Bullen,  
Amah Harris, Eponine Lee

[Click here to read  
the community  
responses](#)

# THE QUEEN IN ME

JUNE 2 - 4, 2022

A new co-production by Canadian Opera Company, Amplified Opera, Nightwood Theatre, and Theatre Gargantua

Combining comedy, drama, and plenty of opera, this exuberant show by interdisciplinary artist **Teiya Kasahara 笠原貞野** (they/them) explored the many ways that race, gender, and sexuality are policed in the opera industry. Through the lens of The Magic Flute's iconic Queen of the Night, the show reclaimed space for the multitudes of women, trans, and non-binary individuals excluded from the stage, daring to imagine new narrative possibilities for the art form.

Created & Performed by	<b>Teiya Kasahara 笠原貞野</b>
Co-Directed by	<b>Andrea Donaldson &amp; Aria Umezawa</b>
Conducted by	<b>Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser</b>
Set & Costume Design by	<b>Joanna Yu</b>
Lighting Design by	<b>André du Toit</b>
Projection Design by	<b>Laura Warren</b>
Stage Managed by	<b>Jane Honek</b>
Assistant Stage Managed by	<b>Stephanie Marrs</b>

*"One of the most powerful moments of theatre I've experienced in years."* — *Schmopera*

*"Opera is more interesting than objectification, and Teiya Kasahara is one of a kind."* — *The Globe and Mail*



# CHILDREN OF FIRE

JUNE 27 – JULY 2, 2022

A Nightwood Theatre Production with support from Aluna Theatre

*Children of Fire* is an intimate portrayal of the Kurdish female freedom fighters that hosted **Shahrzad Arshadi** and **Anna Chatterton** in the mountains of Kurdistan in 2018. Co-created with a mix of verbatim theatre and first-person confessional, this play follows the journey and layered relationship across cultures between Shahrzad and Anna, and asks what is at the heart of living bravely as a woman and an activist.



Aida Keykhaii, Parastoo Amanzadeh, & Nyiri Karakas in *Children of Fire*, 2022. Director Beatriz Pizano, designers Anahita Dehbonehie & Niloufar Ziaee. Photo: Dahlia Katz.

Created & Written by  
Verbatim Text Translated by

Directed by

Co-Designed by

Stage Managed by

Production Managed by

Production Assistance by

Poetry Translation by

Performed by

**Shahrzad Arshadi & Anna Chatterton**

**Shahrzad Arshadi**

**Beatriz Pizano**

**Anahita Dehbonehie & Niloufar Ziaee**

**Erika Morey**

**Tamara Vuckovic**

**Reva Lokhande**

**Raha Javanfar**

**Parastoo Amanzadeh, Shahrzad Arshadi,  
Anna Chatterton, Nyiri Karakas, Aida Keykhaii**



[Click to view  
additional  
engagement  
material for  
\*Children of Fire\*!](#)

Beatriz Pizano, Aida Keykhaii, Shahrzad Arshadi, Nyiri Karakas, Anna Chatterton, and Parastoo Amanzadeh in *Children of Fire*, 2022. Director Bea Pizano, designers Anahita Dehbonehie & Niloufar Ziaee. Photo: Dahlia Katz.

# THE 14TH ANNUAL LAWYER SHOW

MAY 12 - 14, 2022

# THE WORLD GOES 'ROUND

Book and Lyrics by Fred Ebb  
Music by John Kander

Conceived by Scott Ellis, Susan Stroman, David Thompson

The Lawyer Show is Nightwood's main annual fundraiser. Every year, supported by a team of directors, designers and vocal coaches, over 30 members of the legal community rehearse for three months to be able to stage an exhilarating, entertaining, professionally led production. This season we were so excited to return to the stage for the 2022 Lawyer Show!

Since the Lawyer Show's inception in 2010, some 300 legal professionals have appeared in 12 shows to raise more than \$1,344,000 in support of Nightwood.

The cast and band of *The World Goes 'Round*, 2022. Photo: Jeremy Mimmagh.



# THE WORLD GOES 'ROUND

## LAWYER SHOW CREATIVE TEAM

Direction and Choreography by

Music Direction by

Assistant Direction and Choreography by

Assistant Music Direction by

Set and Costume Consultation by

Lighting Design by

Projection Design by

Production and Stage Management by

Rehearsal Stage Management by

Assistant Stage Management by

Assistant Stage Management by

**Sedina Fiati\***

**Alexa Belgrave**

**Brittany Banks\***

**Melissa Morris**

**Amanda Wong**

**Andrea Nelson**

**Laura Warren**

**Pip Bradford**

**Hazel Moore**

**Reva Lokhande**

**Ashley Elliott**



\*The participation of these Artists is arranged by the permission of Canadian Actors' Equity Association under the provisions of the Dance-Opera-Theatre Policy.

Tracy Pratt, Valérie Lord, Heidi LeBlanc, Christian Baes, Emma Romano, Leah Cummings, Edina Cavalli, and Angela Zhu in *The World Goes 'Round*, 2022. Director Sedina Fiati, set and costume consultation Amanda Wong, lighting design Andrea Nelson, projection design Laura Warren. Photo: Jeremy Mimmagh.

## LAWYER SHOW CAST AND BAND

**Alexandra Mealia** – Royal Bank of Canada

**Angela Zhu** – OPSEU / SEFPO

**April Maurer** – Government of Ontario

**Astrid Mrkich** – Mrkich Law

**Brookelyn Kirkham** – Polley Faith LLP

**Christian Baes** – Mondelēz International

**Christine Doucet** – Children's Aid Society of Toronto

**Craig Allardyce** – CI Financial

**Dany Horovitz** – TD Bank Group

**David Mills** – Mills & Mills LLP

**Edina Cavalli** – TD Bank Group

**Emma Romano** – WeirFoulds LLP

**Garrett Zehr** – Legal Aid Ontario

**Heidi LeBlanc** – Carters Professional Corporation

**Henry Gluch** – Department of Justice

**Ilana Ludwin** – Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

**Jennifer Whincup** – ADP Canada Co.

**John McGowan** – Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP

**Joshua Zung** – Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

**Kaley Duff** – Cavalluzzo LLP

**Kate McNeece Cruess** – McCarthy Tetrault

**Khrystina McMillan** – Mathers McHenry & Co.

**Leah Cummings** – Rayman Beitchman LLP

**Rona Ghanbari** – Stikeman Elliott LLP

**Russell Silverstein**

**Sharlene Atkins** – BMO

**Steven Kennedy** – Cassels Brock & Blackwell, LLP

**Stewart Cruikshank**

**Tamara Thomas** – Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada

**Tracy Pratt** – Fasken

**Valérie Duchesneau** – Ministry of Finance

**Valérie Lord** – Howie, Sacks and Henry LLP

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



The 2021-22 Nightwood Innovators. Top to bottom, L to R: Erin Jones, Taylor Trowbridge, Amanda Lin, Camille Rogers, Emily Maxwell, Jahnelle Jones, Jade Silman, Alex Cameron, Natércia Napoleão, Drea, Rebecca Bauer, Rahaf Fasheh, Augusta Monet, Rosiland Goodwin, Maria Alejandra Cortes, Abigail Whitney.

Nightwood's community offerings continued to grow in the 2021-22 season. Entering its second year, we doubled the number of participants in our **Rising Moon Writing Program** for youth aged 16 to 19. Led by Nightwood team members and emerging playwrights **Amanda Lin** and **Taylor Trowbridge**, this six week course offers budding writers a chance to develop their creative voice online and free of charge.

Our **Creatryx Digital Writing Room**, led by Artist/Activist in Residence **Sedina Fiati**, continued to offer a well-loved space for folks across the country to come together and spend time writing with a prompt from various artists in our community. We were delighted to take our **Community Choir** back to in-person with a one-day outdoor session aligning with Toronto Pride and led by Nightwood's Associate Artist **Teiya Kasahara** 笠原貞野.

Entering its sixth year, our **Nightwood Innovators Program** has become a mainstay in the community, offering emerging artists a chance to work closely together and with our company to gain insight into theatre producing and creation. This season we were delighted to do away with the 30 and under age cap that we had set for participants in previous years, making for greater access to the program and a more diverse cohort. We continued to keep our community informed and connected with our frequent company newsletter, spotlighting important events and issues in theatre and beyond, and our **Artist List** newsletter, which highlights a wide-array of opportunities for artists in the creative field and beyond.

# OUR SUPPORTERS

## INDIVIDUAL DONORS

### **\$30,000+**

Anonymous

### **\$10,000 - 29,999**

Vinetta Strombergs

### **\$5,000 - 9,999**

IATSE Local 58 Charitable Fund, Jane Corkin in memory of Tessa Barlow Riley, Tamara Zielony

### **\$1,000 - 4,999**

Edina Cavalli, Shelley Hobbs, Susan Hodgkinson, Valerie Hussey, Miriam Newhouse, Julie White

### **\$500 - 999**

Craig Allardyce, Krishna Balkissoon, Ryan Campbell, Christine Doucet, Rona Ghanbari, Astrid Janson, Victoria Laberge, Merry Lin, Larry Lubin, John McGowan, Alexandra Mealia, Carla Rice, Maria Zakos

### **\$250 - 499**

Anonymous, Sharlene Atkins, Christian Baes, Stewart Cruikshank, Leah Cummings, Daniel Duchesneau, Kaley Duff, Lo Fine, Shira Hart, Dany Horovitz, Howie, Sacks & Henry in honour of Valérie Lord, Steven Kennedy, Brookelyn Kirkham, Heidi Leblanc, April Maurer, Khrystina McMillan, Kate McNeece Cruess, David Mills, Susan Moellers, Astrid Mrkich, Ed Nowina, Jocelyn Pitsch, Tracy Pratt, Emma Romano, Sue Simington, Sonja Smits, Victoria Steele, Tamara Lisa Thomas, Jennifer Whincup, Garrett Zehr, Angela Zhu, Joshua Zung

### **\$100 - 249**

Anonymous x 4, Azita Gerami and Ahmad Afsahi, Wasseim Al Zouabi, Moira & Ed Bacon, Linn Baran, Danielle Bourgon, Cathy Lloyd, Joan Cranston, BJ Danylchuk, Lia De Groot, Sabina Delvecchio, Barbara Fingerote, Patty Fleming, Matt Fowler, Jean Gourdeau, Harriett Grant, Joyce & Grahame Henry, Rose Janson, Jani Lauzon, Corinne Leon, Jeanne LeSage, H. Ian & Dorothy Macdonald, Robin Mackie, Mary Motz, Dan Murdoch, Eleanor O'Connor, Judith Parker, Burke Paterson, Colleen Pollreis, Jacquie Robison, Michael Schechter, Marsha Sfeir, Paula Shewchuk, Linda Silver Dranoff, Linda & Alan Slavin, Imre Szeman, Suzanne Thompson, Bruce Wilkinson, Anthea Windsor, Richard Worsfold, Hersh Zeifman

### **\$1 - 99**

Anonymous x 16, Catherine Balla Boudreau, Simon Baron, Alma Bjelosevic, Tessa Bouchier, Margaret Bryce, Steven Bush, Paul Butler & Chris Black, Alex Cameron, Pamela Cameron, Zosia Cassie, Joan Chandler, Shannon Charnock-Davis, Matt Code, Dawn Langille, Ellen Denny, Matthew DesRosiers, William & Sue Donaldson, Karen Franklin, Alisdair Gadowsky, Christine Gresham, Colette Habel, Jacqueline Hardy, Melanie Herbin, Karen Hines, Jon Hunt, Jane Hutcheson, Cecil King, Marsha Klerer, Geoff Kolomayz, Diana Kolpak, Michelle Krieger, Deanna Kruger, Anne Learn Sharpe, Reva Lokhande, Patricia Marsh, Hope McIntyre, Jane Mills, Mary Milne, Tracey Nesbitt, Mary Oko, Linda Padfield, Keshia Palm, Kate Pharoah, Rena Post, Trudee Romanek, Kydra Ryan, Marjan Sadeghian, Ana Sasic, Ellen Schoenberger, Marie Schram, Rebecca Sugarman, Emma Tibaldo, Delanie Tiniakos-Doran, Sheila Toller, Chantria Tram, Diana Tso, Michaela Washburn, Anne Wessels, Katie Wilson

Donations made between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

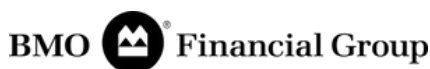
**[Click here to make a tax-receiptable donation to Nightwood Theatre!](#)**

# OUR SUPPORTERS

## GOVERNMENT SUPPORT



## CORPORATE SUPPORT



## FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Arts Etobicoke, Butterfield Family Foundation, The Citrine Foundation of Canada, Kate Amesbury via the Woodlawn Arts Foundation, McLean Smits Family Foundation, Metcalf Foundation, Patricia J. Fleming (FBG) Fund at Toronto Foundation, The Pat & Tony Adams Freedom Trust, The Paul Butler And Chris Black Foundation At Toronto Foundation, Rick & Lynne Salsberg, Shum Vourkoutiotis Fund at Toronto Foundation, S.M. Blair Foundation, Strombergs Family Realization Fund, Sylvia Chrominska Fund, Wuchien Michael Than Fund

## 2022 LAWYER SHOW SPONSORS



## 2022 LAWYER SHOW SILENT AUCTION DONORS

Cake Fairies, Canadian National Exhibition, Christine Doucet, Coffeecology, Donalda Club, The Drake Hotel, Dwayne Morgan, Eni Oszlai, Festival Players, Fleur Du Luxe Canada, Flying Books, Frank De Francesco Giorgio, George C., Heather Paterson, Hot Docs, Jade Style, Java Roasters, JM Smith, Joe Wang Photo, Khrystina McMillan, Kiss My Pans, Kula Annex, Lee Restaurant, Mama Earth Organics, Mark Anthony Wine & Spirits, Michael Kleinman (Kleinman Family Law), The Musical Stage Company, Nahid's Salon and Spa, Niagara Vintage Wine Tours, Nicolas, The Old Spaghetti Factory, Osprey Valley Golf, Rachel SV Parry, The Running Club (Tamara Thomas, Jennifer Whincup, Valérie Duchesneau, Christine Doucet, David Mills), Soul Fuel Fitness, Soulpepper Theatre, Sticks and Stones Floral Design, Stratford Festival, Tatyana Sabitova, True North Climbing, V Hazelton

# STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Statement of Operations  
Year Ended June 30, 2022

	2022	2021
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Private sector:		
Donations and sponsorships	209,206	255,636
Foundations	118,229	108,310
Fundraising events	73,247	16,820
Public sector:		
Federal	185,000	179,300
Municipal	93,000	88,000
Provincial	66,899	66,461
Government assistance	64,537	154,168
Earned:		
Other	7,794	3,138
Single ticket sales	2,646	2,645
Co-production	-	17,623
	820,558	892,101
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Artistic and programming:		
Artistic salaries and fees	338,128	232,740
Production costs	17,912	3,792
Venue rental	14,027	26,440
Production and technical fees	13,815	23,233
Royalties	-	200
Administration:		
Administration salaries and fees	168,431	148,160
General and administrative costs	69,955	53,762
Amortization	2,255	1,544
Digital project	-	4,327
Marketing and development:		
Marketing salaries and fees	98,972	95,346
Fundraising costs	87,905	43,696
Other marketing costs	2,986	3,654
Advertising purchases	949	921
	811,335	637,815
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS</b>	9,223	254,286
<b>OTHER REVENUES</b>	-	74,454
Insurance claim proceeds		
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES</b>	9,223	328,740

# THE TEAM

## NIGHTWOOD TEAM

Naz Afsahi (**Business Manager & Artistic Associate / Incoming Managing Director Feb 2022**), Beth Brown (**Outgoing Managing Director**), Andrea Donaldson (**Artistic Director**), Max Cameron Fearon (**WFTH Program Associate**), Sedina Fiati (**Artist/Activist in Residence**), Cara Humeniuk (**Development Intern**), Teiya Kasahara 笠原貞野 (**Associate Artist**), Amanda Lin (**Development & Engagement Associate**), Reva Lokhande (**Artistic Producer Associate**), Erika Morey (**Head of Development**), Chris Mustard of Young & Associates (**Financial Advisor**), Donna-Michelle St. Bernard (**WFTH Program Director**), Taylor Trowbridge (**Head of Communications & Engagement**), Jess Watkin (**Accessibility Consultant**)

## FOUNDING MEMBERS

Cynthia Grant, Kim Renders, Mary Vingoe, Maureen White

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Susan Hodgkinson (**Chair**), Tara Remedios (**Vice-Chair**), Chantria Tram (**Treasurer**), Paul Butler (**Secretary**), Edina Cavalli, Dr. Barbara Moses

## ENSEMBLE

**MAINSTAGE PERFORMERS** Cole Alvis, Parastoo Amanzadeh, Shahrzad Arshadi, Tamyka Bullen, Anna Chatterton, Amah Harris, Raha Javanfar, Nyiri Karakas, Teiya Kasahara 笠原貞野, Aida Keykhaii, Eponine Lee, Bahareh Yaraghi **GROUNDSWELL PERFORMERS** Raymond Ablack, Bilal Baig, Augusto Bitter, Frank Cox-O'Connell, Deborah Drakeford, Alia Ettienne, Maryan Haye, Stephen Jackman-Torkoff, Luka Kawabata, Qasim Khan, Djennie Laguerre, Ericka Leobrerera, Xavier Lopez, Allister MacDonald, Michelle Mohammed, Ahmed Moneka, Natasha Negovanlis, Adele Noronha, Khadijah Roberts-Abdullah, Neta J Rose, Navtej Sandhu, Tetsuro Shigematsu, Rae Takei, Tahirih Vejdani, Jesse Wabegijig, Andrea Werhun, Bahareh Yaraghi **WORKSHOP PERFORMERS** Arlen Aguayo-Stewart, Cole Alvis, Claire Armstrong, Marie Beath Badian, Maddie Bautista, Kristopher Bowman, Samantha Brown, Deanna H. Choi, Samuel Davilmar, Suzy Duvy, Celia Green, Daren A. Herbert, Holly Horner, Stephen Jackman-Torkoff, Qasim Khan, Ange Loft, Viv Moore, Rose Napoli, Nancy Palk, Joelle Peters, Jake Runeckles, Heath V. Salazar, Kris Siddiqi, Tara Sky, Carly Street, Ravyn Wngz **PANELLISTS & SPEAKERS** Shahrzad Arshadi, Leyla Batgi, Anna Chatterton, Andrea Donaldson, Kazhal Fattah, Max Cameron Fearon, Faly Mevamanana, Donna-Michelle St. Bernard **PLAYWRIGHTS & CREATORS** Shahrzad Arshadi, Maddie Bautista (Workshop), Yolanda Bonnell (Workshop), Anna Chatterton, Deanna H. Choi (Workshop), Whitney French, Teiya Kasahara 笠原貞野, Molly MacKinnon, Rose Napoli (Workshop), Christine Quintana **WFTH PLAYWRIGHTS** Omolola Ajao, Stephanie Fung, Juliet Jones-Rodney, Merlin Simard, Jillian Welsh **GROUNDSWELL PLAYWRIGHTS** Anahita Dehbonehie, Celia Green, Teiya Kasahara, Breton Lalama, Kitoko Mai, Nikki Shaffeeullah **MAINSTAGE DIRECTORS** Brittany Banks (Lawyer Show), Andrea Donaldson, Sedina Fiati (Lawyer Show), Amanda Lin, Beatriz Pizano, Aria Umezawa **GROUNDSWELL DIRECTORS** Bilal Baig, Marie Farsi, Sedina Fiati, Diane Roberts, Aria Umezawa **WORKSHOP DIRECTORS** Yolanda Bonnell, Erin Brubacher, Lisa Karen Cox

# THE TEAM

## ENSEMBLE

**CREATIVE CONTRIBUTORS** Brittany Banks (Choreographer), Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser (Conductor), Alexa Belgrave (Music Director), Jill Carter (Workshop Dramaturg), Heidi Chan (Sound Design), Mishelle Cuttler (Sound and Music), Anahita Dehbonehie (Designer), Jess Dobkin (Outside Eye), André du Toit (Lighting Design), Sedina Fiati (Choreographer, Podcast Co-host), Raha Javanfar (Poetry Translator), Teiya Kasahara 笠原貞野 (Sound Design), Sam MacKinnon (Digital Interface), Melissa Morris (Assistant Music Direction), Andrea Nelson (Lighting Designer), Tannis Nielsen (Visual Artist), Amy Nostbakken (Music and Vocals), Cosette Pin (Sound Design & Podcast Editor), Meghan Swaby (Podcast Co-host), Aki Takahashi (Sound Design), Laura Warren (Projection Design), Olivia Wheeler (Sound Design), Amanda Wong (Set and Costume Consultant), Joanna Yu (Set & Costume Design), Niloufar Ziaee (Designer)

**PRODUCTION TEAM** Pip Bradford (Production Manager, Calling Stage Manager), Ashley Elliott (Assistant Stage Manager), Jane Honek (Stage Manager), Reva Lokhande (Assistant Stage Manager, Production Assistant), Stephanie Marrs (Assistant Stage Manager), Hazel Moore (Rehearsal Stage Manager), Erika Morey (Stage Manager), Tamara Vuckovic (Production Manager)

**LAWYER SHOW CAST** Sharlene Atkins, Christian Baes, Edina Cavalli, Leah Cummings, Christine Doucet, Valérie Duchesneau, Kaley Duff, Rona Ghanbari, Dany Horovitz, Steven Kennedy, Brookelyn Kirkham, Heidi LeBlanc, Valérie Lord, April Maurer, Khrystina McMillan, Kate McNeece Cruess, Alexandra Mealia, David Mills, Astrid Mrkich, Tracy Pratt, Emma Romano, Tamara Thomas, Jennifer Whincup, Garrett Zehr, Angela Zhu

**LAWYER SHOW MUSICIANS** Craig Allardyce, Stewart Cruikshank, Henry Gluch, Ilana Ludwin, John McGowan, Russell Silverstein, Joshua Zung

**NIGHTWOOD INNOVATORS** Rebecca Bauer, Alex Cameron, Maria Alejandra Cortes, Rahaf Fasheh, Rosiland Goodwin, Erin Jones, Jahnelle Jones, Emily Maxwell, Augusta (Gus) Monet, Natércia Napoleão, Camille Rogers, Jade Silman, Abigail Whitney, Drea

**PARTNERS** Aluna Theatre, Amplified Opera, Canadian Opera Company, Crow's Theatre, Rumble Theatre, Theatre Gargantua

## GRANT AND AWARD RECIPIENTS

**LOUISE GARFIELD AWARD** Carolyn Fe

**STROMBERGS FAMILY REALIZATION FUND** Maria Clara De Sena, Suzanne Roberts Smith

**KATE AMESBURY FUND** Yolanda Bonnell, Rose Napoli

**ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL RGTC RECIPIENTS** Valerie Buhagiar and collaborator Angela Galea, Alex Cameron, Maria Alejandra Cortes, Carolyn Fe, Generous Friend (Erin Brubacher and Erum Khan), Rosiland Goodwin, Camille Inston, Marcia Johnson, Evie Jones, Emily Jung and collaborator Jennifer Park, Hanlon McGregor, Marissa Orjalo, Jessica Rose, Margarita Valderrama, Torey Urquhart and Rehaset Yohanes

**NEW PLAY DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT** Claren Grosz, Sugar Plum Collective (Lisa Karen Cox, Sadie Epstein-Fine, Teiya Kasahara 笠原貞野, Colleen Snell)