

**TAPESTRY  
OPERA**

**The Royal  
Conservatory®**

**TO SUMMER  
MUSIC**



# GOULD'S WALL

A **Tapestry Opera** and **Maniac Star** production  
presented by **The Royal Conservatory of Music**, in collaboration with  
**Toronto Summer Music** and **The Glenn Gould School**.

Composed by **Brian Current** | Libretto by **Liza Balkan** | Directed by **Philip Akin**

**August 4–12, 2022**

The Atrium at The Royal Conservatory of Music  
273 Bloor Street West, Toronto

# Cast & Creative Team

## Creators

**Brian Current** | Composer  
**Liza Balkan** | Librettist  
**Philip Akin** | Director

## Cast

**Lauren Pearl** | Louise  
**Roger Honeywell** | Glenn  
**Caitlin Wood** | The Housewife  
**Andrea Ludwig** | The Mother  
**Keith Klassen** | The Celebrity  
**Justin Welsh** | The Teacher  
**Alice Malakhov** | The Girl

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP  
WITH THE CANADIAN CHILDREN'S  
OPERA COMPANY

## Musicians

**Sophie Lanthier** | Flute  
**Zack Goldstein** | Clarinet  
**Anjali Covill** | Bass Clarinet  
**Miles Mateus** | Bassoon  
**Sarah Bell** | Horn  
**Declan Scott** | Trumpet  
**Thomas Lagrange** | Trombone  
**Brayden Krueger** | Percussion /  
Vibraphone  
**Natalie Yu** | Stage piano 1  
**Huy Dang** | Stage piano 2  
**Colin Chang** | Stage piano 3

**Martin Kesuma** | Orchestra Piano  
**Kenneth Chen** | Distant Piano  
**Arlan Viens** | Violin 1  
**Tiffany Tsai** | Violin 2  
**Tilman Sandvoss** | Viola  
**Emma Schmiedeke** | Cello  
**Jesse Dietschi** | Bass

## Creative Team

**Noah Feaver** | Lighting Designer  
**Sheree Spencer** | Assistant  
Director  
**Michael Hidetoshi Mori** |  
Assistant Director  
**Jennifer Tung** | Associate  
Conductor (Aug 4, 5, 9),  
Assistant Conductor  
WOMEN IN MUSICAL LEADERSHIP  
**Maria Fuller** | Répétiteur,  
Assistant Conductor  
WOMEN IN MUSICAL LEADERSHIP  
**Sim Suzer** | Associate Set  
& Costume Designer  
**Alex Gilbert** | Wardrobe  
Coordinator  
**Susannah Feng** | Wardrobe Cutter  
& Stitcher  
**Allison Grant** | Choreographer  
**Aidan Cosgrave** | Producer

**Lesley Albarquez-Bradley** | Stage  
Manager  
**Anna Spencer** | Assistant Stage  
Manager  
**Paul Zivontsis** | Royal  
Conservatory of Music  
Production Manager  
**Alice Sellwood** | Royal  
Conservatory of Music  
Programming Manager  
**Mark Neilsen** | Rigger  
**DangerBoy: Tom Comet, Mark  
Nielson, Jules Tindungan,  
Lee Smith and Justin Moses** |  
Rigging design, installation and  
operation  
**Running Crew** | The Production  
Crew of Koerner Hall

## JANUARY 2022 SCHEDULED PREMIERE

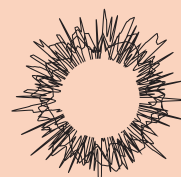
**Rachel Forbes** | Set & Costume  
Designer  
**Caroline Hollway** | Producer  
**Michelle Ramsay** | Lighting Designer  
**Stéphane Mayer** | Répétiteur  
**Alessia Urbani** | Costume  
Coordinator

## Producers

Tapestry Opera, Maniac Star, The Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto Summer Music, and The Glenn Gould School would like to thank the following sponsors for the writing and production of the work: The Canada Council New Chapter Fund, The Ontario Arts Council, The Toronto Arts Council and The Barlow Foundation at Brigham Young University.

This is one of the 200 exceptional projects funded through the Canada Council for the Arts' New Chapter program. With this \$35M investment, the Council supports the creation and sharing of the arts in communities across Canada.

Ce projet est l'un des 200 projets exceptionnels soutenus par le programme Nouveau chapitre du Conseil des arts du Canada. Avec cet investissement 35 M\$, le Conseil des arts appuie la création et le partage des arts au coeur de nos vies et dans l'ensemble du Canada.



TAPESTRY  
OPERA

The Royal  
Conservatory®

TO SUMMER  
MUSIC

A Tapestry Opera and  
Maniac Star production  
presented by The Royal  
Conservatory of Music, in  
collaboration with Toronto  
Summer Music and The  
Glenn Gould School.

# Land Acknowledgement

This place where we stand now has seen more than 15,000 years of stories. More than 15,000 years of families, communities, music, dance, and art, movement and migration, from the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and Wendat Nations who called this place home long before history was written down.

Acknowledgement is an important part of ceremony, and an important first step. But as our histories continue to get written, as our stories continue to grow in length and scope, we must also continue to grow in understanding. We must continue to question the stories and histories we're given, to situate ourselves and the work we do in the context of this time and place with everything that means, and to break down barriers to art and creation wherever we find them.

We are grateful for the opportunities to make art on this land, which has seen so much.

# Welcome

## Welcome to Gould's Wall!

If this is your first Tapestry show, welcome. If you know us well, welcome back. Either way, we're so happy to see you.

Making shows in unusual places is somewhat familiar to us here at Tapestry, but air-born on an historic atrium wall is a real first. It's been liberating to imagine what vertical opera might look like, and we're truly fortunate to have the creativity of such a stellar team to make it happen.

In 2019, The Globe and Mail described Tapestry as "Canadian opera's most reliable risk taker"—that feels particularly pertinent with this performance; specialist aerial teams and incredibly talented artists are elevating opera to 60-feet in the air!

Sit back, look up, and enjoy the show.

## Tapestry Opera

**Michael Hidetoshi Mori** | Artistic & General Director

**Stephanie Applin** | Interim Executive Director

The Royal Conservatory is thrilled to be closing the ninth edition of the 21C Music Festival, which is made possible through the generous support of Michael and Sonja Koerner, with this extraordinary world premiere, presented in partnership with Tapestry Opera. Liza Balkan and Brian Current have been with the Festival since its inception in 2014 when they collaborated on the Canadian premiere of Louis Andriessen's *Anaïs Nin* and produced magic on the Koerner Hall stage. Liza returned with *The Bicycle Opera Project* and Brian has been an advisor for the Festival, featured composer, and conductor of numerous concerts.

We are delighted to welcome an orchestra made up of Toronto contemporary music specialists, including students of The Phil and Eli Taylor Performance Academy for Young Artists alongside conductor Jennifer Tung, a member of the RCM faculty.

Mounting this production on the wall of the Ihnatowycz Hall adds yet another level of thrill and anticipation to the glorious design of the TELUS Centre for Performance and Learning in a Canadian opera that we hope will tour the world.

## The Royal Conservatory of Music

**Mervon Mehta** | Executive Director, Performing Arts

**Alice Selwood** | 21C Music Festival Producer

# A message from Philip Akin

Gould's Wall is a fascinating piece that delves deeply into an artist's path. It explores how we grow as creators in a bold singular fashion. For all of us that struggle is truly real. And that is as it should be.

It seems to be quite odd to have a chance to debut in a new form at this point in my career, but for me it is about continually exploring and learning a new kind of language. Every art form has its idiosyncrasies and opera is no stranger to that, but truly the commonalities outweigh the differences. It is a pleasure to have this opportunity for all of us in the rehearsal hall to learn from each other, because in the end there is a story to be told with truth and clarity, and new/old tools by which to tell it. Which leaves me in much the same position as our climber, and that is really exciting.

**Philip Akin** | Director

**...in the end there is a story to  
be told with truth and clarity...**

# A message from Brian Current

Since the beautiful new Royal Conservatory building was completed in 2009, the inner Atrium wall has been crying out to become the setting of a vertical opera. Huge thanks to librettist Liza Balkan and Tapestry's Artistic Director Michael Mori for creating such a wonderful theatrical premise to fit the site.

It takes an army of dedicated individuals to create a work like this and I can't tell you how grateful I am to every one of them. Our goal through this project is nothing less than to inspire a city, at a time when we could all use a little inspiration.

Thank you, Glenn, for showing us the way.

**Brian Current** | Composer

**Our goal through this project is  
nothing less than to inspire a city,  
at a time when we could all  
use a little inspiration.**

# A message from Liza Balkan

“An artist is a person who lives in the triangle which remains after the angle, which we may call common sense, has been removed from the four-cornered world.”

Natsumo Soseki, *The Three Cornered World (Kusamakura)*

I came upon Soseki's book while doing research for this opera work. The quote is from one of Glenn Gould's favourite books in the latter part of his life. I return often to this quote and its contents: creativity, structure, freedom, pursuit.

The release from common sense.

*Gould's Wall* is a metaphysical meditation about art, music, creation, rigour and discovery. It is about what emanates and resonates within, on, around, and through this wall, and this building.

This meditation is vertical and horizontal, but not linear.

The Wall is just that: foundation.

It holds magic, history and art.

It is challenge.

It is surprise.

It is struggle.

It is humour.

It is flight.

It is fall.

It is quest.

It is past and present.

It is practice.

Much of the text is informed and inspired by Gould's own words.

Thank you to Brian Current, Tapestry Opera, and The Royal Conservatory for inviting me to collaborate on this momentary climb within the artists' "triangle."

## Special Thanks

**THE  
GLENN GOULD  
ESTATE**

**FAYE PERKINS**

**BARBARA SCALES**

**IAN ARNOLD**

# The Characters

## Louise

A young, extraordinarily talented artist and musician on a quest to uncover her own voice. She is in search of excellence, perfection, discovery and flight in her art.

## Glenn

The presence of Mr. Gould. He is Inspiration. Consciousness. Sub-consciousness. Support. The Artist. The Icon. The Man. One might call him a ghost, but he is 100% real and present: an inhabitant of the wall and the building.

## The Window Inhabitants

- The Teacher
- The Mother
- The Celebrity
- The Housewife
- Guests at a party
- A Chorus of inspiration and the internal, external, conscious and subconscious world for both Louise and Glenn.

## The Girl

## Musicians

## Audience

# Synopsis

## Scene 1

Louise, a young, talented artist arrives and prepares for her first climb. She is seeking excellence, precision, and beauty. It is a quest toward attaining perfection in her art. Louise connects with her inspiration, support and icon: Glenn Gould. Their journey together begins.

## Scene 2

Louise encounters The Teacher at the window. The Teacher instructs on the development of rigorous, meticulous technique. Discussion of artistic philosophy is included in the training. Glenn recalls his own teacher.

## Scene 3

With a sense of freedom, Louise discovers daring, new musical terrain with Glenn's encouragement.

## Scene 4

The Mother appears at the window. She shares memories, loving praise and admonishments. The development of her child's talent and success has been her life's focus.

## Scene 5

The Celebrity is hosting a party. He calls out to Glenn and persuades him to play the piano with him for his guests. The guests gossip about past performances and bad reviews while simultaneously applauding the artist.

## Scene 6

Glenn tells Louise that applause should be banned. The Housewife shares the profound impact of witnessing Glenn's performance.

## Scene 7

Both Louise and Glenn are tired. They share stories about their nightmares.

## Scene 8

Louise and Glenn talk about their daily rituals. Re-energized, Louise wants to get back to climbing again. She starts muscling her way upward, urged on by thoughts of fame. Glenn's focus turns to his various medications and need for isolation. Glenn feels a sharp pain and struggles to support Louise. Both start to lose their grip, and Louise falls downward.

## Scene 9

Glenn is lost in a painful memory of The Mother in hospital.

## Scene 10

The Girl calls out to Glenn. She asks him for help with a piece of music.

## Scene 11

Louise is ready. She chooses a climb, exploring and unleashing her own full voice as she travels upward.

# The Creators



## Brian Current

Brian Current studied music at McGill University and UC Berkeley.

His music, lauded and broadcast in over 35 countries, has been awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship, the Barlow Prize for Orchestral Music (USA), the Premio Fedora (Italy) for Chamber Opera, and a Selected Work (under 30) at the International Rostrum of Composers in Paris.

Brian's pieces have been programmed by all major symphony orchestras in Canada and by dozens of professional orchestras, ensembles and opera companies worldwide. His music appears on ten commercial recordings, including three albums devoted exclusively to his works.

The Naxos recording of his opera *Airline Icarus* earned him a 2015 Juno Award for Best Classical Composition of the Year.

Current is also an in-demand conductor and regularly leads orchestral programs of contemporary music. He has championed over one hundred works by Canadian composers.

Brian has been the main conductor of the Continuum Ensemble since 2011 and has guest conducted with symphony orchestras and ensembles in Canada, the USA and Italy. Starting this 2021/22 season, he serves as Artistic Director and Conductor of New Music Concerts of Toronto. Since 2007 Brian has been director of the New Music Ensemble of The Glenn Gould School at The Royal Conservatory. In 2016 he won the inaugural Azrieli Commissioning Competition, one of the largest awards in the world at \$50,000; and in 2018 his *Shout, Sisyphus, Flock* won the Jules Léger Prize for New Chamber Music.

# The Creators



## Liza Balkan

Liza Balkan is an actor, opera and theatre director, librettist, writer and educator. She has written text for works produced by Tapestry Opera, Bicycle Opera Project, Opera McGill, the Brooklyn Art Song Society (New York), Scrag Mountain Music (Vermont) and Five Borough Songbook, Volume II (New York).

Liza recently wrote the interview-inspired lyrics and text for the song cycle, *So How's it Been?* which premiered this past summer at the outdoor Here for Now Theatre festival in Stratford, Ontario. Conceived and created in collaboration with composer Paul Shilton, Balkan directed the show, which shared a musical reflection of multiple experiences through lockdown during 2020/21. Through a multi-year residency at the Theatre Centre, she developed her documentary/verbatim project – about policing, use of force, mental health, accountability and the law – called *Out the Window*. The show premiered at the Theatre Centre in 2012 and received a new production at Toronto's international Luminato Festival in 2018, directed by Sarah Garton Stanley. In May 2022, *After the Fires*, a song cycle written in collaboration with composer Lembit Beecher, had its world premiere in New York, produced by Brooklyn Art Song Society. It will receive its Canadian premiere at the RCM/Koerner 21C Festival in January 2023.

Liza directed the Canadian premiere of composer Louis Andriessen's *Anaïs Nin* (RCM/Koerner Hall's 21C Festival) starring Wallis Giunta, Montsalvatge's *El Gato con Botas* and Berio's *Folk Songs* (RCM/ Glenn Gould School), Opera Briefs for Tapestry Opera, Bicycle Opera Project's summer tours and Opera Laurier's production of Stephanie Martin and Paul Ciufo's *Llandovery Castle*. She also directed one of Toronto's first site-specific operas, *Opera on the Rocks*, at Pauper's Pub on Bloor Street in 2008. Other recent directing credits include William Shakespeare's *Much Ado about Nothing* for Canadian Stage's *Dream in High Park* and Duncan Macmillan's *Every Brilliant Thing*, starring Rebecca Northan at the Grand Theatre London.

Liza has acted in multiple productions across Canada and the United States, receiving a Dora Award for her performance in Theresa Tova's *Still The Night* (Theatre Passe Muraille/Tapestry Opera). Her work as an educator remains an intrinsic part of her artistic practice.

# The Creators



## Philip Akin

Philip Akin is an award-winning cultural leader and has been acting and directing for 46 years. He is a founding member of Obsidian Theatre, Canada's leading Black theatre company, and has served as its Artistic Director from 2006 to 2020.

Selected Directing Credits: *Trouble in Mind* by Alice Childress, Shaw Festival; *Gatsby Jazz*, *Sonny's Blues* by Jay Turvey/Paul Sportelli, Shaw Festival; *Million Billion Pieces* by David Brock/Gareth Williams, Young People's Theatre; *Pass Over* by Antoinette Nwandu, Obsidian Theatre; *Actually* by Anna Zeigler, Meridian Arts Centre; *The Humans* by Stephen Karam

He has been the recipient of the Silver Ticket Award, the Mallory Gilbert Leadership Award, the Playwrights Guild of Canada Bra d'Or Award, the William Kilbourn Award, the Herbert Whittaker/CTCA Award for Distinguished Contribution to Canadian Theatre, the Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts, as well as the Life Membership Award from Canadian Actors' Equity Association.

He is currently the Vice President of the board for Canadian Contemporary Dance Theatre (2009 to present) and a director on the boards of the Koffler Centre of the Arts, Against the Grain Theatre and the Shaw Festival. His legacy awards program can be found at [www.bsla.ca](http://www.bsla.ca)

# The Cast

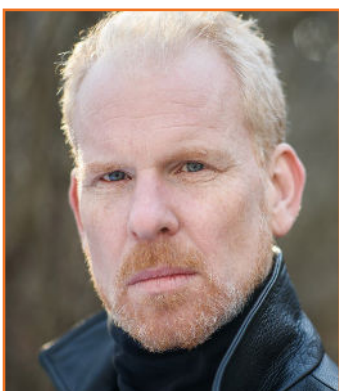


## Lauren Pearl | Louise

Lauren Pearl is a non-conforming, interdisciplinary artist known for her “luscious, rich tone” (Opera Canada), and “robust, dramatic voice” (BroadwayWorld). Lauren’s mission as a performer is to inspire and invigorate through an interdisciplinary approach to performance art.

Lauren’s notable Canadian collaborations include performances with The Hornby Island Festival; interdisciplinary concerts with Echo Chamber Toronto; Bino in Against the Grain Theatre’s modern adaptation of *Le nozze di Figaro: Figaro’s Wedding*; and numerous engagements with the Canadian Opera Company, including the self-produced *Les Adieux*, a performance of Messiaen’s transformational song cycle *Poèmes pour Mi*. Lauren has held residencies at the Marlboro Music Festival, Chamberfest Cleveland, and the New York Festival of Song.

Lauren trained in the Ensemble Studio with the Canadian Opera Company, as an Emerging Artist with Opera Philadelphia, and is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music. Upcoming engagements include an international recital tour with Musicians from Marlboro, and new music workshops with Opera Philadelphia.



## Roger Honeywell | Glenn

As a teenager, Roger Honeywell began his vocal training within the walls of The Royal Conservatory of Music with the wonderful team of Glenn and Edith Gardiner. He went on to study acting at Ryerson Theatre School and upon graduation apprenticed at the Stratford Festival upon graduation. After five seasons in Stratford, he joined the Shaw Festival for another five seasons under the leadership of Christopher Newton. Roger decided to make the leap to the world of opera in 2000 and was welcomed into the COC Ensemble Studio by Richard Bradshaw. For the past 20 years, Roger has performed in many of the world’s great opera houses. A champion of new work, he is thrilled to be a part of Tapestry’s bold project on the other side of the walls where it all started for him.

# The Cast



## Caitlin Wood | The Housewife

Caitlin Wood was “absolutely vibrant” in her 2017 debut as Susanna in Vancouver Opera Festival’s *The Marriage of Figaro*, and showed “exquisite vulnerability” as Ava in City Opera Vancouver’s world premiere of *Missing* (Clements/Current). In 2022, Caitlin dazzled audiences as Despina in Edmonton Opera’s *Così fan tutte* and as Josephine in Vancouver Opera’s *HMS Pinafore*. Recent concert performances include the premiere of *The River of Light* (Current) with the Vancouver Bach Choir/ Vancouver Opera Festival, *Carmina Burana* with Ottawa Choral Society, and *Mozart’s Requiem* with Windsor Symphony Orchestra. Caitlin is featured in several *OperaBreaks* – cinematic videos produced by Domoney Artists Management – and voices Iona the cockatiel in *Opera 5’s* charming animated video *Threepenny Submarine* in collaboration with Kingston Symphony.



## Andrea Ludwig | The Mother

Juno and Dora Award–winning mezzo-soprano Andrea Ludwig has appeared with the Canadian Opera Company in numerous productions, including Handel’s *Julius Caesar*, Britten’s *Peter Grimes*, Britten’s *The Turn of the Screw*, Poul Ruders’ *The Handmaid’s Tale*, and Bach’s *Coffee Cantata*.

Andrea has been involved in many of Tapestry Opera’s premieres, including *Shelter*, *Oksana G*, and most recently *The Overcoat: A Musical Tailoring*. Andrea was Nada in the multi-Dora-nominated *Queen of Puddings* production of Ana Sokolovic’s *Svadba* (*The Wedding*), which premiered in Toronto in 2011. She has reprised the role across North America and Europe.

Andrea has also appeared with Symphony Nova Scotia, Symphony New Brunswick, Shanghai New Music Festival, Toronto Symphony Orchestra (TSO), and more.

Recordings include the ECMA-nominated *Schubert Orchestrations* with Symphony Nova Scotia; *Responsio* by Peter Anthony Togni; the ATMA label recording of Ana Sokolovic’s *Sirens*; and the UK Chandos recording of *Thais: Grand Opera in Concert* with the TSO and the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir.

# The Cast



## Keith Klassen | The Celebrity

Keith Klassen has emerged to become one of Canada's busiest tenors, averaging 12 productions a season since graduating with honours from the Opera Division at the University of Toronto in 2002. He has been engaged across Canada as well as in Scotland, Germany, the United States, Ireland, and the Czech Republic. The Star Phoenix described him as having "a big ringing voice and great stage presence"; Classical 96.3 FM added, "Klassen's voice is pure honey with its ease of high notes and the lyrical grace of his phrasing"; Opera Canada raved that his Rodolfo was "dramatically convincing, sung with passionate sincerity ensuring the audience's love"; John Terauds of

the Toronto Star called him "one of the country's most versatile artists"; and NOW magazine's Jon Kaplan went so far as to rate Keith as one of Toronto's top ten theatre artists of 2006.

In the past season alone, critics and audiences alike have enthusiastically received Keith's performances of Rodolfo (*La bohème*), Alfredo (*La traviata*), Don José (*Carmen*), the Duke (*Rigoletto*), Samson (*Samson et Dalila*), Uriel (*Haydn's Creation*) and Spoletta (*Tosca*). Keith has also continued his work with Tapestry Opera.



## Justin Welsh | The Teacher

British Columbia baritone Justin Welsh's career highlights include Crown in *Porgy and Bess* with Kent Nagano conducting l'Orchestre symphonique de Montréal and Queegueg in the Canadian premiere of *Moby Dick* for Calgary Opera. His 2021/22 season includes Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* for the Canadian Opera Company, *Gould's Wall* with Tapestry Opera, *Bound* for Against the Grain Theatre, *Don Giovanni* for Pacific Opera Victoria, *Vanessa* for Opera in Concert Toronto, and performing as a soloist for Winnipeg Philharmonic Choir's Lord Nelson Mass. An alumnus of the Canadian Opera Company's Ensemble Studio, further credits include Marcello in *La bohème*

for l'Opéra de Montréal, Figaro in *Le nozze di Figaro* for Pacific Opera Victoria and Baron Duphol in *La traviata* for Edmonton Opera. He was a soloist in Verdi's Requiem for the Okanagan Symphony and has appeared with the Winnipeg, Victoria, Regina, and Niagara symphonies; VOICEBOX: Opera in Concert; the Grand Philharmonic Choir; and Tapestry Opera. Justin was the First Place winner in the Lotte Lenya Competition and holds a Master of Music from the University of British Columbia.

# The Cast



## Alice Malakhov | The Girl

Alice Malakhov is thrilled to be a part of Gould's Wall and to help tell the story of Canadian icon Glenn Gould. She is a 13-year-old Grade 8 student and an award-winning triple-threat singer, dancer and actor. Alice is trilingual, speaking English, French and Russian fluently.

She has been a member of the Canadian Children's Opera Company (CCOC) for the past 5 years and has performed in many CCOC productions. She has also performed as the second spirit in Mozart's *The Magic Flute* at the Canadian Opera Company, as well as a chorus member in *Hansel and Gretel*.

As a young opera enthusiast, Alice introduces classical opera to her peers by setting up opera and music writing workshops at her school. As a professional actor, Alice has worked on stage and screen. She's appeared in film and television projects including CBC and Netflix's *Anne with an E*, TFO's *Zik*, and Lower Ossington Theatre's *Matilda*. Alice has performed solo recitals and appeared in singing competitions at Carnegie Hall, Roy Thomson Hall and Koerner Hall.

Alice thanks all her teachers for helping to develop her music and vocal skills, and her family for their unwavering support.

# Creative Team



## Noah Fever | Lighting Designer

Noah Fever is a Dora Award nominated lighting designer. He works frequently in dance and opera and has designed for companies such as: Edmonton Opera, Toronto Dance Theatre, Tapestry Opera, Human Body Expression, Holla Jazz, Citadel + Compagnie, Zata Omm, The Royal Conservatory of Music, Against the Grain Theatre, and Rock Bottom Movement. Noah holds a BFA from Toronto Metropolitan University's (formally Ryerson University) Performance Production program and spent two summers as a lighting design practicum at The Banff Centre. Noah is a member of the Associated Designers of Canada.



## Sheree Spencer | Assistant Director

Sheree Spencer finds creative balance as a performing artist and producer with a strong passion for interdisciplinary art expression. Sheree graduated from McGill University in 2012 with a major in music and double minor in drama performance and environmental science. Notable performing credits as a musician/singer and actress include the 2015 Pan Am Closing Ceremonies, Persephone (Fringe 2016 with Pencil Kit Productions), Apocalypse (2015 Luminato Festival), and Jesus Christ Superstar (Hart House Toronto).

As a producer, Sheree was selected as the 2016 TD Emerging Producer for the Toronto Fringe Theatre Festival and is now participating in a Performing Arts Internship at Tapestry Opera through the Metcalf Foundation. Gould's Wall marks Sheree's debut as Assistant Director.

# Creative Team



## Michael Hidetoshi Mori | Assistant Director

Michael Hidetoshi Mori has been called “a shot of adrenaline to opera”.

Michael is a leading international voice in socially and artistically progressive opera and music theatre. An internationally acclaimed and award-winning Canadian stage director and the General Director of Tapestry Opera in Toronto, he is frequently sought as a director, dramaturge, producer and speaker. Bringing new works from concept to full realization is his specialty, having commissioned and developed more than ten new operas over the past five years.

Michael is the current chair of the board of The Association for Opera in Canada, Canada’s association of professional opera companies and the founder and member of the executive of Indie Opera TO. Michael is a regular speaker and presenter on the subjects of diversity, equity and inclusion in opera; new works development; and independent opera.

As a director Michael is the winner of the 2017 Outstanding Direction Dora Mavor Moore Award for Opera/Musical Theatre. He has been nominated for a JUNO as a performing artist and led Tapestry to be nominated for a JUNO under his artistic direction.

Under Michael’s leadership, Tapestry has been called “The leader of the Canadian opera pack” by the Globe and Mail, “One of Ten Artists changing the artistic landscape of Canada” by the CBC, and “One of ten Torontonians to watch” by the Toronto Star for his accomplishments at Tapestry Opera and for his community leadership.



## Jennifer Tung | Associate Conductor (Aug 4, 5, 9) & Assistant Conductor, Women in Musical Leadership

Chinese-Canadian conductor Jennifer Tung leads a uniquely versatile career as music director and pianist, as Artistic director of Toronto City Opera and Assistant Conductor to the Mississauga Symphony Orchestra. In 2020, Jennifer joined Tapestry Opera as a conductor in the inaugural Women in Musical Leadership program (in partnership with Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Pacific Opera Victoria), where she served as Assistant Conductor for the world premiere of Brian Current’s Gould’s Wall (Tapestry Opera) and a new production of Orfeo ed Euridice (Vancouver Opera).

# Creative Team



## Maria Fuller | Repetiteur & Assistant Conductor, Women in Musical Leadership

Saskatchewan conductor Maria Fuller is a rising star on the international music scene, praised for her “fiery and dynamic” performances (The Walleye Magazine) and “subtle control, careful focus and thorough professionalism...” (Chronical Journal of Thunder Bay). Sought after as a conductor, pianist, vocal coach, trumpeter, compose, and arranger, Maria brings an unparalleled energy and infectious joy to her craft on and off the podium. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano from McGill University, a Masters of Music in Piano, Artist Diploma in Operatic Coaching, and a Masters of

Music in Orchestral Conducting from Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM). Maria was the 2019 David Effron Conducting Fellow at the renowned Chautauqua Institute, and competed in the inaugural La Maestra International Conducting Competition in Paris in 2020. In the 2022/23 season, Maria is a conductor fellow in Tapestry Opera’s Women in Musical Leadership Program.



## Sim Suzer | Design Assistant

Assistant Set and Costume Design for *Romeo and Juliet*; Stratford Festival 2021  
Assistant Costume Design for *Gypsy*, Assistant Set Design for *Devil’s Disciple*; Shaw Festival 2020

Assistant Set and Costume Design for *Horse and His Boy*, *The Ladykillers*, *Victory*, *Holiday Inn*; Shaw Festival

Costume Designer for *Water Wonder*; Carousel Players, 2019

Set and Costume Designer for *Play House*; Shaw Festival, 2019

Set and Costume Designer for *The Subjection of Kezia and Poof!*; Shaw Festival, 2019

Set and Costume Designer for *Journey to the Greatest Gift*; L’Arche Daybreak, 2019

Costume Designer for *Good Morning, Viet Mom*; Cahoots Theatre, 2019

# Creative Team



## Allison Grant | Choreographer

Allison directs and choreographs Opera and Music Theatre across North America. She recently directed *Le Nozze di Figaro* (National Arts Centre and Sarasota Opera); *H.M.S. Pinafore* (Anchorage Opera); *Carmen* and *Alcina* (Western University); *The Magic Flute* (Hawaii Opera Theatre and Sarasota Opera); *Roméo et Juliette* and *Così fan tutte* (Vancouver Opera) and *L'Italiana in Algeri* (L'Opéra de Montréal). Choreography credits include *Dido and Aeneas*, *Don Giovanni*, *Eugene Onegin* and *Queen of Spades* (Canadian Opera Company) as well as numerous productions of *Fledermaus* and *The Merry Widow* (Hawaii, Edmonton and Hamilton). She has directed,

choreographed or developed numerous new works (including *The Auction Westben Festival*) and is delighted to be working 'on the wall' with Lauren. Next month Allison returns to Anchorage Opera to direct and choreograph *Pirates of Penzance*. (Anchorage Opera will also present Brian Current's *Missing* this season).

## Lesley Abarquez Bradley | Stage Manager

Lesley is excited to be stage managing this production of *Gould's Wall*. Previous credits with Tapestry Opera include ASM on *Shanawdithit* and SM for *Tables Turned*, *New Opera Showcase*, *Opera Briefs*, and *Dark Star Requiem*.

Working primarily in opera for 25 years, she regularly stage manages for the Canadian Opera Company, The Glenn Gould School, and Against the Grain Theatre. She has also enjoyed stage managing for the Canadian Children's Opera Company, Opera Columbus, The Banff Centre, and the University of Toronto Opera School.

## Anna Spencer | Assistant Stage Manager

Anna is thrilled to be back with the Tapestry team on this fantastic project. Born and raised in Cape Breton, NS; Anna's past shows include: *Rocky Horror Show* (Neptune Theatre); *RIOT* (Renaissance Canadian Theatre Company); *Juno's Reward* (The Grand Theatre); *A Christmas Carol* (Soulpepper); *The Crucible* (Stratford Festival); *Cabaret* (The Grand Theatre); *Hook Up* (Tapestry Opera); *Prom Queen* (The Grand Theatre); *The 39 Steps* (Capitol Theatre); *The Barber of Seville* (Opera5), *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, *Kingfisher Days*, *Stage Kiss* (Festival Antigonish) *Oksana G.* (Tapestry Opera); *The Chocolate Soldier* (Toronto Operetta Theatre) *Mature Young Adults* (Highland Arts Theatre). Anna is a graduate of the Theatre Production Program at Toronto Metropolitan University and is a member of IATSE 873.

# Tapestry Opera Supporters

## SEASON SPONSORS



Canada Council  
for the Arts

Conseil des arts  
du Canada



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL  
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO  
an Ontario government agency  
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

Canada



METCALF  
FOUNDATION

## GOULD'S WALL

THE LLOYD  
CARR-HARRIS  
FOUNDATION

CORNELIA SCHUH  
& MICHEL HORN

BYRON BELLOWS

## WOMEN IN MUSICAL LEADERSHIP



The  
McLean  
Foundation

HODGSON FAMILY  
FOUNDATION

LINDA & MICHEAL  
HUTCHEON

NEW OPERA 101 /  
SONGBOOK XI

DON & FRANCIE  
KENDAL

WALLY PIECZONKA

BOX CONCERTS

GEORGE & KATHY  
KAWASAKI

MARILYN COOK

10 DAYS IN  
A MADHOUSE

LINDA & MICHAEL  
HUTCHEON

# Tapestry Opera

## Premium Members

Aaron & Patricia Fenton	Claire Hopkinson	Directors on behalf of	Leslie Monkman	Rex & Rita Deverell
Adel Bandi	Clement Kent	Miranda Hobbs	Linda Egan	Richard Archbold
Adrian Ishak	Conrad Willemse	Isabelle Gibb	Lisa Balfour Bowen	Richard Bishop
Adrienne Pieczonka	Cornelia Schuh	Jaclyn Siou	& the Late Walter M.	Richard Burton-Williams
Afaq Ahmed Karadia	& Michiel Horn	James Rolfe & Juliet	Bowen	Richard Paradiso
Alaina Viau	Cynthia Wilkey	Palmer	Lisa Cheng	Riki Turofsky
Alan Feller	Dana Lafarga	Jana Skarecky	Lise Buisson	Roald Nasgaard
Alec McGillivray	Danny Richmond	Janice Ketchen	Lise Desaulniers	Robert Dick
Alexandre Elsayad	Darryl & Dianne	Janice Lavery	Lorraine & Ken Coull	Robert Missen
Alex Nikolic	Edwards	Jean Lee Lockwood	Lorraine Chan	Robert Norquay
Alice Roth	David & Sharon Olds	Jeffrey Coull	Luisa Kurtz	Robert Spence
Alida Doornberg	& Lovett	Jennifer Ashley	Lyndsay Promane	Robin Roger
Ali Kashani	David Fujiwara	Jennifer Stein	Lynn Daigneault	Robin Shonfield
Alison Girling	David Holt	Jerry Smith	Marc Chalifoux	Rodney Ellis
Alison Smiley	David Pepper	Jialiang Zhu	Marcia Boyd	Rona Kosansky
Allison Kabayama	Davina Hader	Jill Kelman	Margaret Bryce	Ronald Forbes
Alvin & Doris Jantzi	Deanna Koitsan	Jini Stolk	Margaret Fisher	Ruth Caspell
Amale Barrett	Deanna Koitsan	Joanne Berg	Margaret Genovese	Ryan Allen
Amy Colson	Debbie Cabezas	Jocelyn Macdonald	Margaret Goodfellow	Rysia Andrade
Andrea Penullar	Debra Chandler	Joe Clarke	Margaret Procter	Sally Holton
Andrew Adridge	Denis Kulesha	Joe Dind	Margaret Wakeham	Sarah Crawford
Andrew & Tauna	Denton Creighton	Joe Martino	Maria Braico	Sarah Edmonds
Staniland	& Kris Vikmanis	John Burge	Maria Kilfoil	Sarah Nayani
Andrew Gillespie	Diane Kolin	John McNeish	Marianna Mott Newirth	Scott Brubacher
Angela Cuddy	Dianne Oliphant	Jonathan Krehm	Maria Soulis	Sean King
Anne Richards-Bentley	Don & Francie Kendal	Josephine Ridge	Marie-Josée Therrien	Shelley Maclean
& Bob Bentley	Don & Helen	Joseph Lewis	Marilyn Cook	Sherily De Silva
Annick Aubert	McGillivray	Joseph Mulder	Marilyn Job	Shirley Neuman
Annie & Ian Sale	Donna Michelle	Joyce and Fred Zemans	Marion Newman	Sonja Greckol
Ann MacKenzie	St. Bernard	Judith John	Mark Grieve	Spencer Cripps
Ann Rosenfield	Douglas & Joanne	Julia Empey	Mark Wilson	Stephanie Applin
Ann Tudor	Colbourne	Julia Gorman	Marsha Groves	Stephen Johnson
Anonymus	Douglas Rodger	Juliette Sweeney	Mary Newman	Stephen McLellan
Aria Umezawa	Dr. Wally Pieczonka	June McLean	Massey College in the	Sue Mortimer
Avrum Jacobson	Edna Heath	June Pinkney	University of Toronto	Sue White
Barbara Basta	Edward Epstein	Juris & Alda Steprans	Matthew Jocelyn	Susan Aihoshi
Barry Edwards	Eileen Smith	Justine Ajao	Maureen Simpson	Susan and Joe Salek
Benjamin Dietschi	Elaine Singer	Karen Cohen	Maureen Tingley	Susan Davies
Bernadette Palmer	Elena Malakhov	Karen Rice	Maya Ali	Susan Lemay
Bernie Koenig	Elizabeth Asselstine	Kate Applin	Melody Bogin	Susanna Rumsey
Bramwell Pemberton	Elizabeth Felgueiras	Kate Croome	Michael & Linda	Suzanne de Grandpre
Brian & Linda Corman	Elizabeth Greisman	Katherine Semcesen	Hutcheon	Sylvia Grady
Brian Dawson	Elizabeth Raum	Kathleen Semcesen	Michael Beswick	Sylvia Solomon
Brian Finley	Ellen Karp	Kathleen Frankovic	Michael Ford	Sylvia Taylor Gesner
Brian McLean	Ernest Balmer	Kathleen McMorrow	Michael Sinclair	Taylor Dawson
Bruce Chown	& Barb Parsons	Kathy Domoney	Molly Thom	Ted Dawson
Bruce Reid	Fiona McHugh	Kelly Rintoul	Monica Whicher	Terence Crowley
Bryan Bindon	Gabriela Urbanik	Kelvin Chan	Morgana Asselin	Tim Atkins
Bryna Tallman	Genevieve Proulx	Ken Gass	Morry Patt	Timothy and Frances
Byron Bellows	George & Kathy	Ken Marple	Mridula Joyner	Price
Carina Vassilieva	Kawasaki	Kerry Sharpe	Nancy Hawkins	Tom Diamond
Carl Lyons	Gillian Cummings	Kimberly Barber	Nancy Hermiston	Tom Wright
Carol & Ken Anderson	Ginette Duplessis	Kristine Anderson	Natalie Sandassie	Tomyo Maeshiro
Carol Baruchel	Gordon & Caroline	& Richard Wolfe	Nina Penner	Tony Kerekes
Carole Brearley	Langill	Kristin Kennedy	Patricia Green	Toronto Lithuanian
Caryl Clark	Gregory Campbell	Krisztina Szabo	Patty Hargreaves	Senior Citizens
Catherine Belyea	Harold Chmara	& Kristian Clarke	Paul Moore	Incorporated
Catherine Graham	& Danny Hoy	Laura Kennedy-Rankin	Peter & Hélène Hunt	Tracy Torchetti
Cesar Vonlem	Hasnat Mahmood	Laura Lane	Peter Goring	Tricia Black
Chanile Vines	Hayleigh Cudmore	Laurence Packer	Peter Hobbs	Trixie Postoff
Christian Perry	Heather Renzella	Laurene Winkler	Peter McGillivray	Ulrich Menzefricke
Christina Trunn	Helmut Reichenbacher	Lea Bredschneider	Peter Philip Akin	Virginia Hatfield
Christine Meloche	& John Stanley	Leon Lukashevsky	Pierre McAlpine	Waleed Hafeez
Chris Younkman	Houry Artinian	Leslie Allt	Presentation Manor	Ward Jardine
Chris Younkman	Ian Kennedy	Leslie Dala	Senior Living	Wayne Gooding
Cindy Wagman	Institute of Corporate	Leslie Fagan	Rachel Gottesman	Wayne Strongman
		Leslie Jost	Rachel Krehm	Wendy Nielsen
			Ray Kinoshita	William Jamieson
			Rebecca Cuddy	William Terry
			Rebecca Davies	Wilma Spence
			Reginald and Helen	Zdenka Goralikova
			Bronskill & Findlay	
			Rene Stock	

# Tapestry Opera Special Thanks

Alexandra Smither  
Asitha Tennekoon  
Camille Rogers  
Clarence Frazer  
Dustyn Wales  
Gabrielle Nguyen  
Helen Taylor

Krisztina Szabó  
Neema Bickersteth  
Peter McGillivray  
Ryan Allen  
Shawn Henry  
Soulpepper Theatre  
Stewart Arnott



# Royal Conservatory of Music Supporters

The 21C Music Festival is made possible  
through the generous support of

**Michael and Sonja Koerner**



*Gould's Wall* Performance Sponsors

**Kris Vikmanis & Denny Creighton**

Government Supporters



Canadian  
Heritage

Patrimoine  
canadien



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL  
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO  
an Ontario government agency  
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario



FUNDED BY  
THE CITY OF  
TORONTO



ONTARIO CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS FUND  
LE FONDS POUR LES MANIFESTATIONS  
CULTURELLES DE L'ONTARIO

Media Sponsors

**theWholeNote**

for curious ears  
**musicworks**  
www.musicworks.ca | 416.977.3546  
MAGAZINE

## Tapestry Opera

### Staff

**Michael Hidetoshi Mori** | Artistic and General Director  
**Jaime Martino** | Executive Director  
**Stephanie Applin** | Interim Executive Director  
**Keith Fernandes** | Manager of Sponsorships and Philanthropy  
**Georgie Sykes** | Manager of Marketing and Communications  
**Dona Arbabzadeh** | Patron Services Associate  
**Jennifer Szeto** | Program Manager, Canadian Opera Resource  
& Women in Musical Leadership  
**Juliane Gallant, Jennifer Tung, Naomi Woo, Maria Fuller** |  
Women in Musical Leadership Conductors  
**Taylor Long** | Videographer  
**Zile Liepins** | Graphic Designer  
**Riad** | Gould's Wall artwork

## Tapestry Opera Board of Directors

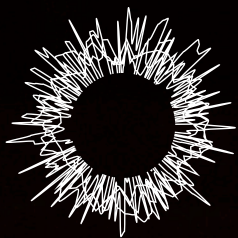
**Brian Dawson** | Chair  
**Alex Nikolic** | Vice-Chair  
**Michael Ford** | Treasurer  
**Chim Alao** | Director  
**Ali Kashani** | Director  
**Susan Salek** | Director  
**Richard Paradiso** | Director  
**Juliette Sweeney** | Director  
**Ben Dietschi** | Director

## The Royal Conservatory of Music's Performing Arts

### Staff

**Mervon Mehta** | Executive Director  
**Aida Aydinyan** | General Manager  
**Rysia Andrade** | Box Office Supervisor  
**Jennifer Bettencourt** | Ticketing Data Administrator  
**Pieter Bruelemans** | Head Stage  
**Andrew Bryan** | Manager, Concessions & Beverage  
**Kristin Campbell** | Facilities Rental Manager  
**Nolan Cox** | Supervisor, Concessions & Beverage  
**Dayna Dickenson** | Head Video & Shift Coordinator  
**Julian Gobert** | Assistant Box Office Supervisor  
**Ian Harper** | Head Audio  
**John Hudson** | Ticketing Administrator  
**Radostina Ivanova** | Marketing Assistant  
**Akshay Kaushik** | Marketing Coordinator  
**Heather Kelly** | Director of Marketing  
**Barbora Kršek** | Concert Publicity Manager  
& Publications Editor

**Kareen Lalicon** | Manager, Ticketing Services  
& Operations  
**Chris MaGee** | Facility Rentals Event Coordinator  
**Bramwell Pemberton** | Associate Manager,  
Ticketing Services & Operations  
**Collette Radau** | Supervisor of Licensee Events,  
Ticketing Services and Operations  
**Heather Richards** | Head Electrician  
**Raúl Rodríguez** | Assistant Audio  
**Alice Sellwood** | Programming Manager and 21C  
Music Festival Producer  
**Kevin Shea** | Front of House Manager  
**Calvin Wong** | Facility Rentals Event Coordinator  
**Samantha Wong** | Facility Rentals Event Coordinator  
**Alexandra Wylie** | Assistant Manager, Front of House  
& Production Residency Program Coordinator  
**Annie Yao**, Assistant Manager, Concessions  
& Beverage  
**Paul Zivontsi** | Production Manager



**TAPESTRY  
OPERA**

## Women in Musical Leadership

We're changing the face of leadership on the podium.

Support our three-year conducting program designed to nurture the next generation of conductors.

**DISCOVER MORE**  
[tapestryopera.com](http://tapestryopera.com)



**OPERA** PACIFIC  
OPERA  
VICTORIA

**TSO** Toronto  
Symphony  
Orchestra

Fondation  
**Azrieli**  
Foundation

# MEMBERSHIP

Join our opera, music and performing arts loving community and support our work. Every donation over \$20 qualifies as a membership.

- First Access to tickets
- Invitation to our opening night post-show parties
- Invitation to workshop showings
- Invitation to our season announcements and special events
- Tax receipt

**Sign up: [tapestryopera.com/membership](http://tapestryopera.com/membership)**

# Gould's Wall

## Research Bibliography

*The Great Gould* by Peter Goddard  
Dundurn Toronto 2017

*A Romance on Three Legs* by Katie Hafner  
Bloomsbury USA 2010

*Wonderous Strange: The Life and Art of Glenn Gould* by Kevin Bazzana  
McClelland & Stewart 2010

*The Secret Life of Glenn Gould: A Genius in Love* by Michael Clarkson  
ECW Press 2010

*Glenn Gould: The Ecstasy and Tragedy of Genius* by Peter Oswald  
WW Norton Company 1997; Archives Collections Canada

*In Search of Albert Guerrero* by John Beckwith  
Wilfred Laurier University Press 2006

CBC Archives

The Glenn Gould Archive [collectionscanada.gc.ca](http://collectionscanada.gc.ca)

Unheard Notes: [GlennGouldInterviews.com](http://GlennGouldInterviews.com)

Maclean's Magazine