



ANNUAL REPORT 2007

*Enriching the legacy of the arts in Canada
by nurturing exceptional talent*

The
HNATYSHYN
FOUNDATION



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In 2007 we were pleased to continue the expansion of our grants programs for artists. To recognize the important role visual arts curators play in fostering and promoting Canadian art, we introduced the Hnatyshyn Foundation Award for Curatorial Excellence in Contemporary Visual Art, an annual prize of \$15,000. The only national award of its kind in Canada, the new prize is the counterpart of the \$25,000 Hnatyshyn Foundation Visual Arts Award, created in 2006 to honour the work of an outstanding mid-career artist.

We are very grateful to the Canadian Museums Association for inviting us to present our two Visual Arts Awards in November at the Visual Arts Summit in Ottawa, the largest gathering of visual arts professionals ever held in Canada. The opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of our award recipients in the presence of more than 400 of their colleagues was truly memorable.

Our Developing Artists Grants, a national scholarship program for young performing artists in training, awarded nine \$10,000 grants this year in a very high quality competition. This program has provided over \$200,000 in financial support to exceptional young Canadians over the past three years. Some of our previous scholarship winners have now finished their training and are beginning their professional careers. For example, our 2005 classical ballet winner, Maude Sabourin, is a dancer with the Ballets de Monte-Carlo and the 2006 winner, Kostyantyn Keshyshev, has joined the Hong Kong Ballet. Lisa Di Maria, who received the classical voice grant in 2005, has completed her studies at the University of Toronto and was accept-

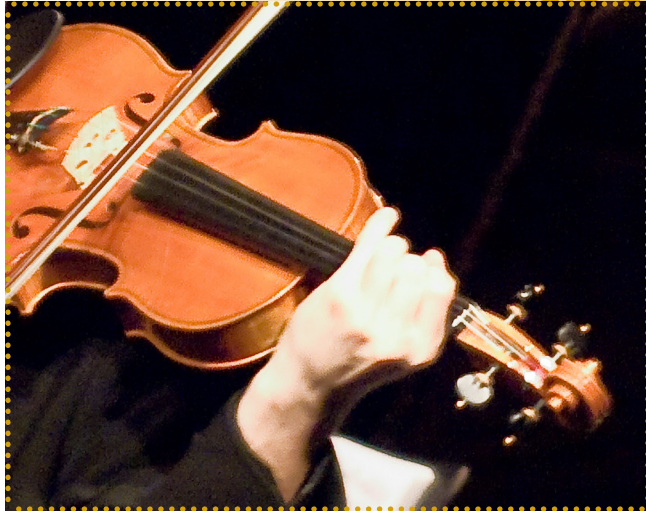


ed into the Canadian Opera Company Ensemble Studio program. We look forward to following the successes of all the talented young performers who have received our scholarships.

On the investment front, 2007 was a challenging year for income-oriented funds that represent a large portion of the Foundation's investment portfolio and our combined return was considerably less than it had been in the previous year. We are hopeful that investment markets will stabilize in 2008 and provide a higher income stream to support our programs.

Let me express my appreciation for the generosity of all our donors and the many members of the arts community across Canada who supported the Foundation in the past year by providing advice, serving as jury members for our grants or as Honorary Patrons. Finally, I extend my sincere thanks to our Board of Directors and staff whose hard work and expertise has ensured the continued growth of The Hnatyshyn Foundation.

Gerda Hnatyshyn, C.C.
President and Chair of the Board
July 2008



FUNDRAISING

The HNATYSHYN FOUNDATION

Dedicated to the support of excellence in the arts, The Hnatyshyn Foundation is a federally registered charity established by the late Right Honourable Ramon John Hnatyshyn, Canada's twenty-fourth Governor General.

We have two major objectives. First and foremost, we seek to nurture Canadian talent and facilitate the creation of new art by providing the means for individual artists to excel in their discipline and achieve national and international recognition.

Secondly, our goal is to promote national cohesiveness and pride in citizenship through the medium of the arts – transcending regional boundaries and cultural differences – by exposing Canadians to the wealth of artistic talent within Canada.

The Foundation has a volunteer Board of Directors and a small operational staff. We collaborate with other organizations, whenever possible, to reduce administrative costs. Our grants programs are conceived to complement assistance offered by other public and private arts funding bodies, and to avoid unnecessary duplication. We work in consultation with artistic advisors in all disciplines to ensure the relevancy of our programs.

The Foundation is building an endowment fund of \$8.5 million the income from which is used to carry out our programs. By December 31, 2007 we had raised nearly \$2.5 million in donations from individual, corporate and provincial government donors. In addition, through an agreement with the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Government of Canada had provided matching funds of \$2.38 million.

INVESTMENT STRATEGY

The Foundation's investment portfolio, managed by Greystone Managed Investments Inc., had a market value of \$4.3 million at the end of 2007. The Foundation seeks to preserve the value of its portfolio within reasonable return and risk parameters. While the base is growing to the targeted \$8.5 million level, the Foundation is emphasizing the generation of income over the growth in capital of the fund.

2007 was a volatile year in the investment markets and our portfolio had a combined return of only 3.3% compared to 7.7% in 2006. The uncertainty in financial markets is expected to continue into 2008.

GRANTING PROGRAMS



Developing Artists Grants

In the third year of our Developing Artists Grants program we awarded nine scholarships of \$10,000 each to exceptionally talented young students in the performing arts. Nominated by universities and professional training institutions across Canada, the candidates were then adjudicated anonymously by an expert jury. One scholarship was awarded in each of the following disciplines:

classical music (string instrument), classical music (wind instrument), classical music (piano), classical voice, jazz, classical ballet, contemporary dance, English theatre acting, French theatre acting. Five provinces were represented in this year's scholarship winners: British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Quebec.

"Many thanks to you and the Foundation for making wonderful things happen for the future leaders of Canadian culture... bravo!!"

**Denny Christianson, Director, Music Program
Humber College**

"Grateful thanks to the Foundation for their wisdom in supporting young artists."

**Patricia Fraser, Artistic Director
The School of Toronto Dance Theatre**

"Thank you to Mrs. Hnatyshyn and to the members of the Hnatyshyn Foundation for establishing such a notable source of encouragement and practical help for our developing artists. It is the difference that makes all the difference. As singers, voice teachers, and coaches, we are deeply grateful."

Dr. Darryl Edwards, Associate Professor and Head of Voice Studies, University of Toronto

"The support your foundation provides for developing artists is without equal and I sincerely thank you for your dedication."

**André Jean, Director
Conservatoire d'art dramatique de Québec**

"We are very appreciative of the support that the Hnatyshyn Foundation has given to our own children and to other young Canadian artists. It makes a world of difference to the students and their families, in helping to alleviate the tuition load and also in encouraging them in their chosen path."

**Joan Dyrda, mother of classical music grant recipient,
Keith Dyrda**

"This grant is truly a wonderful initiative by your foundation. There are not a lot of scholarship programs for students in the arts because we are a relatively small group and we don't always get our training in a university context. I am enormously encouraged by receiving this award. When I have fears and doubts it will help me to keep going because I know that somebody believes in me."

**Claudiane Ruelland
French theatre acting grant recipient**

"I am sending my immense gratitude for awarding me the Developing Artist Grant for contemporary dance. I am so looking forward to my next year at the School of Toronto Dance Theatre. Thank you for all you have done to improve this year for me."

**Megan Nadain
Contemporary dance grant recipient**

"I want to express my utmost thanks for being awarded the prestigious 2007 Oscar Peterson Grant for Jazz Performance. It is truly an honour to receive this distinguished award. To my knowledge, this is the only music scholarship of its kind in North America and over the past few years it has been a tremendous financial help to young emerging Canadian jazz artists like myself."

**Eli Bennett
Jazz grant recipient**

2007 DEVELOPING ARTISTS GRANTS RECIPIENTS



English Acting

Ms. Lindsey Angell, High River, Alberta
Studying at Langara College, Vancouver



French Acting

Ms. Claudiane Ruelland, Quebec City, Quebec
Studying at the Conservatoire d'art dramatique de Québec



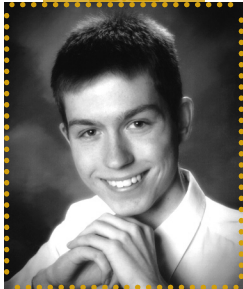
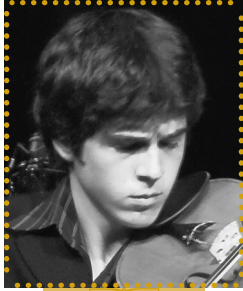
Ballet

Ms. Alyssa Stevens, Surrey, British Columbia
Studying at the Goh Ballet Academy, Vancouver



Contemporary Dance

Ms. Megan Nadain, North Vancouver, B.C.
Studying at the School of Toronto Dance Theatre



Classical Music (Strings)

Mr. Victor Fournelle-Blain, Sainte-Julienne, Quebec
Studying violin at the Conservatoire de musique de Montréal

Classical Music (Winds)

Mr. Keith Dyrda, Oakbank, Manitoba
Studying trombone at McGill University, Montreal

Classical Piano

Mr. Devon Joiner, Nanaimo, British Columbia
Studying at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver

Classical Voice

Ms. Allison Cecilia Arends, Regina, Saskatchewan
Studying at the University of Toronto

Jazz

Mr. Eli Bennett, Vancouver, British Columbia
Studying jazz saxophone at Humber College, Toronto

2007 DEVELOPING ARTISTS GRANTS ADJUDICATORS

English Acting

Ms. Linda Moore, Halifax
Dr. Gerald Lenton-Young, Regina
Mr. John Lazarus, Kingston

French Acting

Ms. Brigitte Haentjens, Montreal
Mr. Guy Mignault, Toronto
Mr. Maurice Arsenault, Caraquet

Ballet

Ms. Merrilee Hodgins, Ottawa
Mr. David LaHay, Kelowna
Ms. Nancy Kilgour, Calgary

Contemporary Dance

Mr. David Earle, C.M., Guelph
Mr. Michael Montanaro, Montreal
Ms. Anne Flynn, Calgary

Classical Music (Orchestral)

Mr. Jeremy Berkman, Vancouver
Ms. Elaine Klimasko, Ottawa
Dr. Jeremy Brown, Calgary

Classical Piano

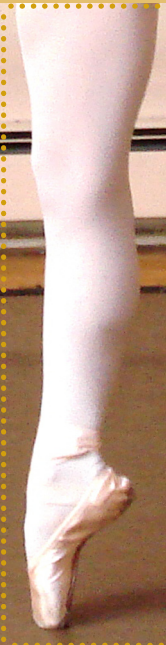
Mr. Stéphane Lemelin, Ottawa
Ms. Kristina Szutor, St. John's
Mr. David Louie, Toronto

Classical Voice

Ms. Nancy Hermiston, Vancouver
Mr. Daniel Lichti, Waterloo
Ms. H el ene Fortin, Quebec City

Jazz

Ms. Christine Jensen, Montreal
Mr. Barry Elmes, Toronto
Mr. Andr e Lachance, Vancouver





Ken Lum and Louise Déry, 2007 Visual Arts Awards recipients,
with Gerda Hnatyshyn

VISUAL ARTS AWARDS

“Contemporary art is a way of expressing what it means to be living in today’s world. It can make us aware of both the beauty and the ugliness of contemporary existence. It can open our eyes to see and our minds to imagine. In a world beset by environmental problems and armed conflicts, artists are more important than ever because, in the words of Henry Moore, “To be an artist is to believe in life.”

However, to be appreciated art has to be seen and it is surprising that so little attention is paid to the people who orchestrate the experiences we have when we visit art exhibitions. Great exhibitions that provide a seamless journey of discovery for the visitor do not happen by accident. They are the result of an enormous amount of highly creative and intellectually demanding work by curators who decide what the journey will be, the route we will take and the information we will gather along the way.”

Gerda Hnatyshyn

*Hnatyshyn Foundation Visual Arts Awards Presentation
Ottawa, November 26, 2007*

The Hnatyshyn Foundation Visual Arts Awards are two national prizes for excellence in Canadian contemporary art. Together they recognize and celebrate the crucial relationship between those who create art and those who help make it accessible to the public.

The 2007 award recipients, chosen by a jury of arts professionals from across Canada, received their awards at a ceremony at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Ottawa on November 26 during the

Visual Arts Summit, a gathering of visual arts professionals from across Canada. The \$25,000 prize for outstanding achievement by a mid-career Canadian artist was awarded to Vancouver artist Ken Lum. The \$15,000 award for curatorial excellence in contemporary art was presented to Montreal gallery director and curator Louise Déry.

One of Canada’s leading international artists, Ken Lum was born in Vancouver in 1956 and

has been exhibiting internationally since 1978. While he has employed sculpture and painting in his practice, it is his photo-text works that have gained the artist international attention in recent years. In recommending Lum for the Hnatyshyn Foundation Award, the jury highlighted the multifaceted nature of his artistic practice: “Recognizing that the formation of one’s identity is informed by social and commercial influences, Lum blurs the boundaries between traditional and popular aesthetics in the interest of revealing the basis of our contemporary ethos. In addition to his studio work, he has persistently challenged the precepts of the established art world through public presentations, writing and teaching. Taken together, Ken Lum’s activities constitute an active, critical engagement with the public as to what art is, how it is used and who has access to it.”

Louise Déry, recipient of the Hnatyshyn Foundation Award for Curatorial Excellence in Contemporary Art, is Director of the Art Gallery at the

Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM). Her numerous projects have greatly contributed to the advancement of Quebec and Canadian art both nationally and internationally, particularly in France, Belgium, Italy, China, Japan and the United States. In 2007, Ms. Déry served as curator for the David Altmejd exhibition in the Canadian pavilion at the Venice Biennale, - an exhibition that was lauded by both Canadian and international art critics as one of the highlights of the prestigious biannual event featuring contemporary art. The Hnatyshyn Foundation jury underlined the intellectual rigour of Ms. Déry’s curatorial practice: “Her exhibitions show an ability to engage with the contemporary world and her outstanding catalogues embody a desire to reflect on what it means to live in our world today. They combine a concern for making art accessible to a broad audience with a refined interpretation of the works, giving equal attention to the visual aspect of a work and its meaning.”



2007 VISUAL ARTS AWARDS JURY

Ms. Liz Magor, artist, Vancouver

Mr. Robert Enright, arts journalist, Winnipeg

Ms. Diana Nemiroff, Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa

Ms. Christine Ross, Dept. of Art History, McGill University, Montreal

Mr. Jon Tupper, Confederation Centre Art Gallery and Museum, Charlottetown



VISUAL ARTS AWARDS PRESENTATION



From left to right, top to bottom:

Louise Déry and Ken Lum at the Awards reception; Gerda Hnatyshyn presenting the awards to Louise and Ken; Jon Tupper, jury member, introducing Ken Lum; Diana Nemiroff, jury member, speaking about Louise Déry; John McAvity, Executive Director of the Canadian Museums Association; Barbara Janes, Gerda Hnatyshyn, Peter Herrndorf and Diana Nemiroff at the reception.



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