



# ANNUAL REPORT 2009

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

*The*  
HNATYSHYN  
FOUNDATION





## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In 2009 we were pleased to recognize the important role visual arts curators play in fostering and promoting Canadian art and awarded the Hnatyshyn Foundation Award for Curatorial Excellence in Contemporary Visual Art. An annual prize of \$15,000 created in 2007, this is the only national award of its kind – in addition to the \$25,000 Hnatyshyn Foundation Visual Arts Award, created in 2006 to honour the work of an outstanding mid-career artist.

The two Visual Arts Awards were presented in December at Government House in Winnipeg, Manitoba before a gathering of over 100 artists, curators and art aficionados, graciously hosted by His Honour, Phillip S. Lee, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba. The opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of our award recipients in the presence of their colleagues, and to have experienced the warmth and hospitality of their Excellencies, was truly memorable. To date more than \$140,000 has been awarded in support of visual art in Canada.

The Developing Artists Grants, the Foundation's national scholarship program for young performing artists in training, awarded eight \$10,000 grants this year to exceptional candidates. This program has provided \$300,000 in financial support to exceptional young Canadians over the past four years. Some of our previous scholarship winners

have now completed their training and are beginning professional careers. We look forward to following the successes of all the talented young performers who have received these scholarships.

On the investment front, financial markets turned remarkably positive in 2009. From their March lows, world equity markets staged dramatic rebounds. Our investment fund outperformed the benchmark with a total return of 12.9 per cent. We began to explore new sources of funding to supplement our investments; this activity will continue in 2010.

May I express appreciation for the generosity of all our donors and the many members of the arts community across Canada who have 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 2010



## *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, we aspire 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.

## FUNDRAISING

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, 2009, we had raised nearly \$2.9 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 \$4.4 million at the end of 2009. 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.

Financial markets turned remarkably positive in 2009. From their March lows, world equity markets staged dramatic rebounds. Overnight interest rates declined further in 2009 and corporate credit spreads tightened significantly, resulting in very robust fixed income returns.

The Hnatyshyn portfolio had a total return of 12.5% in 2009, outperforming the benchmark return of 11.1%. A solid 8.1% return in the portfolio's fixed income assets (which account for about 78% of the fund's assets) was complimented by a 28.6% return in the portfolio's Canadian equity assets, which account for about 22% of the fund's assets. (Note that all returns exclude investment management fees.)

Going forward, bond returns are expected to be more muted in 2010, and profit growth will be a key driver of the Canadian equity market.

## GRANTING PROGRAMS

### Developing Artists Grants

In the fifth year of our Developing Artists Grants program we awarded eight 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. Four provinces were represented in this year's scholarship winners: Ontario, Nova Scotia, Manitoba and Quebec. Since the inception of the program \$380,000 has been awarded in post-secondary scholarships .

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*"I cannot thank you enough, you, your foundation, your colleagues and collaborators, for the incredible support that you are giving to help the artists of tomorrow. Your mandat is not only praiseworthy, but it is also precious."*

André Jean, Director  
Conservatoire d'art dramatique de Québec

*"We were very pleased to hear that Jackson was selected for one of the Hnatyshyn Foundation Grants this year. It is a great opportunity for him."*

Robert Carroll  
Father of Jackson Carroll  
DAG recipient, Classical Ballet

*"I am sending this message from Vancouver Island where I am spending my holiday. I just want to let you know how delighted we are that Leah has been chosen to receive the Hnatyshyn Award. She is an extraordinary young artist and individual. I can't think of a more deserving student. We look forward to her continuing journey as she begins her 3rd Year at the school. Of course, she is thrilled to have been chosen for the award. It will make an important difference for her ongoing life as a student."*

*Thanks for the Foundation's support and encouragement to students across the country. FYI, Greg Gale (who received the award earlier) continues to make us all proud."*

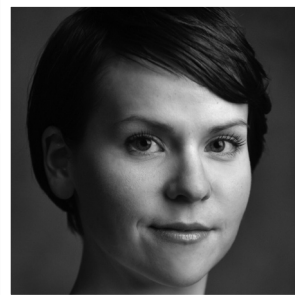
Best regards,  
Sherry Bie

## 2009 DEVELOPING ARTISTS GRANT RECIPIENTS



### *English Acting*

Ms. Leah Doz, Montreal, Quebec  
Studying at National Theatre School of Canada



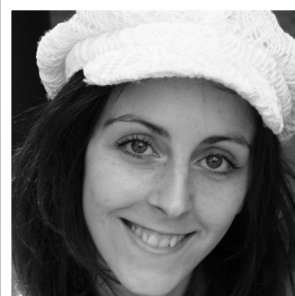
### *French Acting*

Ms. Danièle Gagné-Belley, Québec, Québec  
Studying at the Conservatoire d'art dramatique de Québec



### *Ballet*

Mr. Jackson Carroll, Toronto, Ontario  
Studying at the National Ballet School School



### *Contemporary Dance*

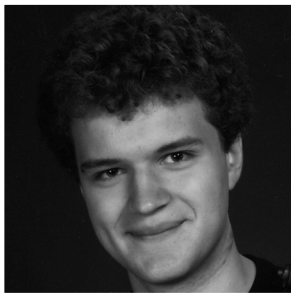
Ms. Kim Henry, Terrebonne, Québec  
Studying at L'école de danse contemporaine de Montréal

## 2009 DEVELOPING ARTISTS GRANT RECIPIENTS



### *Classical Piano*

Mr. Lucas Porter, Port Williams, Nova Scotia  
Studying piano at Glen Gould School of Music



### *Classical Music (Orchestral)*

Mr. Joshua Peters, Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Studying Violin Performance at Schulich School of Music,  
McGill University



### *Classical Voice*

Ms. Stéphanie Lavoie, Quebec  
Studying at the Quebec City Conservatory of Music



### *Jazz*

Mr. Luke Sellick, Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Studying jazz, double bass at University of Manitoba



## 2009 ADJUDICATORS

The Hnatyshyn Foundation gratefully acknowledges the contribution of the eight expert juries who selected the 2009 recipients of the Developing Artists Grants.

### *Acting (English Theatre)*

Mr. Martin Bragg, Toronto  
Ms. Glynis Leyshon, Victoria  
Ms. Jillian Keiley, St. John's

### *Acting (French Theatre)*

Mr. Michel Dumont, Montreal  
Mr. Roland Mahé, Winnipeg  
Mr. Andrei Zaharia, Moncton

### *Ballet*

Ms. Margaret Kaufmann, Montreal  
Mr. Francois Chevenement, Edmonton  
Ms. Mary Jago-Romeril, Toronto

### *Contemporary Dance*

Mr. Tedd Robinson, Ottawa  
Ms. Gerry Morita, Edmonton  
Ms. Peggy Baker, Toronto

### *Classical music (piano)*

Mr. Dr. Ireneus Zuk, Kingston  
Mr. Lawrence Jones, Brandon  
Mr. John Hansen, Wolfville

### *Classical Music (Orchestral instrument)*

Mr. Guillaume Tardif, Edmonton  
Mr. Robert Uchida, Halifax  
Mr. David Currie, Ottawa

### *Classical voice*

Mr. Donald Bell, Professor, Calgary  
Ms. Lyne Fortin, Montreal  
Mr. Garry Gable, Saskatoon

### *Jazz*

Mr. David Braid, Toronto  
Mr. Roddy Ellias, Montreal  
Mr. Ian McDougall, Victoria

## VISUAL ARTS AWARDS



Anthony Kiendl and Rebecca Belmore, 2009 Visual Arts Awards recipients, with Gerda Hnatyshyn

“These awards celebrate the mid-career phase in the lives of visual artists and curators of contemporary art. One of the most enjoyable duties that I have as President of The Hnatyshyn Foundation is the presentation of these awards. Each year I have the opportunity to experience more and more of the incredible depth of talent we have in the visual arts and to meet some of the people, both artists and curators, who are making their mark both in Canada and abroad.

What has quickly become evident to me is that being an artist is not really a career choice, but a passion that artists pursue because they can’t imagine living their lives any other way; they devote themselves to a creative process that wipes out the boundary between their work and the rest of their lives. They struggle to express something that may be inexpressible in any

other way, or to help us experience something that cannot be experienced in any other way. And in so doing, they enrich the fabric of our lives and help create the cultural heritage of future generations.

In this endeavour art curators are their partners or accomplices, sometimes their mentors, and often their interpreters. They are an invaluable bridge between the artist and the public, providing not only the space for the work to be seen and experienced, but also the context and the guideposts to assist visitors in their journey of discovery.”

**Gerda Hnatyshyn**

*Hnatyshyn Foundation Visual Arts  
Awards Presentation  
Winnipeg, December 1, 2009*

## 2009 VISUAL ARTS AWARDS JURY

**Ian Carr-Harris**, artist, writer and educator, Ontario College of Art & Design, Toronto  
**Peter Dykhuis**, Director/Curator, Dalhousie Art Gallery, Halifax  
**Timothy Long**, Head Curator, MacKenzie Art Gallery, Regina  
**Joan Stebbins**, Curator Emerita, Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge  
**Gaétane Verna**, Executive Director, Musée d’art de Joliette



## The Hnatyshyn Foundation Visual Arts Awards

These two national prizes for excellence in Canadian contemporary art are intended to recognize and celebrate the crucial relationship between those who create art and those who make art it accessible to the public.

The 2009 award recipients, chosen by a jury of arts professionals from across Canada, received their awards at a ceremony at Government House in Winnipeg, Manitoba on December 1, 2009, before a gathering of over 100 visual arts professionals. The \$25,000 prize for outstanding achievement by a mid-career Canadian artist was awarded to Rebecca Belmore. The \$15,000 award for curatorial excellence in contemporary art was presented to Anthony Kiendl, Director/Curator, Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art, Winnipeg.

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Born in Ontario, **Rebecca Belmore** (Anishinaabe) works in a variety of media including sculpture, installation, video and performance. Currently living and working in Vancouver, Belmore has long been creating work about the plight of the disenfranchised and marginalized in society. In her poignant and dramatic performances, the artist's own body becomes the site of historical, cultural and political investigations as she explores self and community, boundaries between public and private, chaos and linear narrative. The official representative for Canada at the 2005 Venice Biennale, Belmore's work has been exhibited internationally since 1987 and can be found in the collections of the National Gallery of Canada, Art

Gallery of Ontario, Canada Council Art Bank, and many others. In 2004 Belmore received the prestigious VIVA award from the Jack and Doris Shadbolt foundation.

In recommending Rebecca for the Hnatyshyn Foundation Visual Arts Award, the jury highlighted the impact of her artistic practice: "Since the late 1980s, Rebecca Belmore has challenged romantic conceptions of Aboriginal cultures through a remarkable series of performance art pieces and mixed media installations. Her work combines passionate thinking and a brilliant use of materials with a deep cultural knowledge drawn from her Anishinaabe heritage. Working tirelessly against historical



Rebecca Belmore, multi-media artist

amnesia, her work gives expression to silenced voices by restoring value to community, local experience and the land. In the process, Belmore's work has inspired myriad artists from within and without the First Nations artistic community to follow her ground-breaking path. Belmore's achievement has been an ever evolving art practice which, while it explores her own history, simultaneously challenges the precepts and concepts of contemporary art on a global stage."

The recipient of the 2009 Hnatyshyn Foundation Award for Curatorial Excellence in Contemporary Art is **Anthony Kiendl**, Director/Curator, Plug In ICA. In 2007, Anthony was Leverhulme Visiting Research Fellow at School of Arts, Middlesex University, London. He was the Director of Visual Arts, Walter Phillips Gallery and the Banff International Curatorial Institute at The Banff Centre in Alberta from 2002 until 2006. In 2002, he served as Acting Director of the Dunlop Art Gallery, Regina Public Library in Saskatchewan, where he had been Curator since 1997. He is currently the instructor of a graduate theory seminar in the Architecture Department at the University of Manitoba.

In recommending him for the curatorial award



Anthony Kiendl, Director/Curator, Plug In ICA

the jury praised his deep understanding of artists and their work as an expression of culture. "Anthony Kiendl's curatorial practice is shaped by a global perspective and sustained by an unbounded curiosity regarding contemporary culture and its artifacts. His diverse background as a curator encompasses a broad spectrum of arts related activity and reflects an understanding gained through involvement in artist run centres, public art galleries, art centres, arts boards and diverse communities. His extensive research, writing and publishing have focused on the overlooked and undervalued. Kiendl's curatorial projects have consistently addressed topics that have been marginalized by exclusion from the mainstream and his scrutiny has deemed them worthy of critical attention. Thoughtful in framing and gentle in spirit, Anthony Kiendl's curatorship challenges ideologies of power by looking beyond the obvious to expose the most basic elements that contribute to the construction of culture. In doing so, he has highlighted and championed the work of a broad range of contemporary art practitioners and expanded the margins of cultural theory bringing new audiences to contemporary art."

## VISUAL ARTS AWARDS PRESENTATION



From left to right, top to bottom:

Anthony Kiendl at the Arts Awards reception; Rebecca Belmore; Lee-Ann Martin, Curator of Contemporary Canadian Aboriginal Art, Canadian Museum of Civilization, at the presentation of the Visual Arts Awards; Noam Gonick, President, Plug In ICA speaks about Anthony Kiendl.

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