



NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE
CENTRE NATIONAL DES ARTS

ENGLISH
THEATRE
JILLIAN KEILEY | ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



An opera for
young people

Sanctuary Song

by Abigail Richardson-Schulte
and Marjorie Chan

Inspired by a true
story of an elephant's
remarkable life and
journey to freedom.

February 16 and 18

Directed by Lynda Hill

Produced by Theatre Direct

Tickets \$18

THE DORA MAVOR MOORE
AWARD-WINNING OPERA

Sanctuary Song

BY Abigail Richardson-Schulte
and Marjorie Chan

February 16 – 18 NAC Studio

This performance will run approximately 45 minutes with no intermission.

Please completely turn off all cell phones, smart phones and texting devices. Cameras and recording devices are not allowed at any time in the Theatre. Video and/or audio recording of this performance by any means whatsoever is strictly prohibited.

AUDIENCE ADVISORY

A prop tranquilizer gun is carried by the character of the Poacher. No actual shots are fired.

PRODUCTION HISTORY

Sanctuary Song was commissioned by Theatre Direct Canada and developed in partnership with Tapestry New Opera Works, with support from the Canadian Opera Creation Program at Opera.ca. It first premiered at the 2008 Luminato Festival.

Theatre Direct is grateful to Tapestry New Opera Works and The Luminato Festival for their creative and financial investment in the premiere of *Sanctuary Song*.

This performance is made possible in part by a grant from the Ontario Arts Council's Ontario Touring program.

OFFICIAL HOTEL PARTNER



Embassy Hotel & Suites

FEATURING

Sydney
James

Penny and Young Girl
Poacher and Circus Owner

Percussion
Piano
Violin

ANNE-MARIE RAMOS
ALVIN CRAWFORD

WITH
SHARMILA DEY
SEAN ARBUCKLE

JAMIE DRAKE
REZA JACOBS
ANDRÉA TYNIEC

CREATIVE TEAM

Director
Music Director
Original Set and Costume Designer
Lighting Designer
Choreographer
Stage Manager

Production Manager
Assistant Production Manager
Design Coordinator
Assistant Director

Set built and painted by

LYNDA HILL
REZA JACOBS
KELLY WOLF
MICHELLE RAMSAY
VIV MOORE
ISOLDE PLEASANTS-FAULKNER

CAROLINE HOLLWAY
MEGAN PAQUETTE
RIVKAH WEISDORF
JAJUBE MANDIELA

MCWOOD STUDIOS INC.

Theatre Direct is an active member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres (PACT), the Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts (TAPA), Creative Trust Working Capital for the Arts, Theatre Ontario and the Professional Arts Organizations Network for Education (PAONE).

Theatre Direct engages members of the Canadian Actors' Equity Association under the terms of the Canadian Theatre Agreement.

Theatre Direct

Exceptional Theatre for Young People
www.theatredirect.ca



Sanctuary Song is part of Winterlude, the Capital's winter celebration.

The National Arts Centre is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres and engages, under the terms of the Canadian Theatre Agreement, professional Artists who are members of Canadian Actors' Equity Association.

Bring your parents!
Bring your kids!

**3rd Annual
NAC English Theatre**



NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE
CENTRE NATIONAL DES ARTS

Family Day

Join the NAC family on
February 18 for lots of
FREE activities:

- storytelling
- theatre and dance workshops
- large-scale interactive games
- button-making
- face-painting
- ... and much more!



**For children
ages five and up
and the people
who love them.**

**Monday,
February 18
12-4 p.m.
NAC Lobby**

For more information, visit
nac-cna.ca

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Theatre Direct Artistic Director

THEATRE DIRECT
EXCEPTIONAL THEATRE FOR **YOUNG PEOPLE**

We are thrilled to be a part of the National Arts Centre English Theatre's 2012-2013 season and its 2013 Family Day weekend activities!

The remarkable friendship between Sydney and her human friend who leads her out of captivity and isolation inspires us to reflect on the essentials of dignity and freedom, safety and community, and on our responsibility to those without a voice.

Lynda Hill

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, THEATRE DIRECT

About Theatre Direct

Now in its 37th year, Theatre Direct is an award-winning theatre company for young audiences. The company's productions have been seen by thousands of young people in schools and theatres across the country and in international festivals in Canada and overseas. Some recently acclaimed productions include ...*And By the Way Miss*, *Beneath the Banyan Tree*, *Walking the Tightrope*, *Head à Tête*, *Binti's Journey* and *Sanctuary Song*.

Theatre Direct has received numerous nominations, and won six Dora Mavor Moore Awards for its productions, as well as ten Chalmers Awards for playwriting.

In 2009, Theatre Direct established a community base in the Artscape Wychwood Barns (located at Christie and St. Clair West in Toronto) where it operates a 110-seat theatre and education space. In addition to touring and outreach, the company now serves a vibrant network of local schools, daycares and families through its productions and a year-round drama school.

Theatre Direct wishes to thank

Xin Wang, Wallace Halladay, Annalee Patipatanakoon, Kai Masaoka, McWood Studios, Fantastic Creations, Soulpepper Theatre, and everyone at the NAC English Theatre.





Abigail Richardson-SchulteComposer

Abigail Richardson-Schulte was born in Oxford, England and moved to Canada as a child. Ironically, she was diagnosed completely and incurably deaf at the age of five. Upon moving to Canada, her hearing was fully intact within months. After growing up in Calgary and studying composition there, she received a Doctorate degree from the University of Toronto. Her music has been

commissioned and performed by major orchestras, presenters and music festivals, including the Festival Présences of Paris, where Radio France commissioned a work for the Quatuor Castagneri from her. Abigail won the first Karen Kieser Prize for Canadian music and the Canadian Music Centre Prairie Region Award. Most significantly, she won a first at the prestigious International Rostrum of Composers, after which her music was broadcast in 35 countries. Abigail's opera *Sanctuary Song*, with librettist Marjorie Chan, (by Theatre Direct and Tapestry New Opera) won a Dora Mavor Moore Award for "Best New Opera" in 2009. Abigail frequently collaborates with her husband, violinist Michael Schulte, who has played and conducted much of her work for national broadcast. Abigail was Affiliate Composer for the Toronto Symphony Orchestra from 2006 to 2009 and is currently Festival Coordinator of the New Creations Festival. Current projects include a work for children's choir and the Gryphon Trio and a choral fantasy for the Elmer Iseler Singers with orchestra and piano. Abigail is Composer in Residence with the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra.



Marjorie ChanPlaywright

Marjorie is a multi-disciplinary theatre artist based in Toronto. As a writer, her works have been performed in the United States, Scotland, Hong Kong, Russia and across Canada. She has been artist-in-residence with Tapestry New Opera, Cahoots Theatre Company, Theatre Direct Canada, State University of New York and Theatre du Pif (Hong Kong). Most recently, Marjorie directed a bilingual, bicultural adaptation of *A Doll's House* for Theatre du Pif for a sold-out run. Marjorie's other direction has included assistant directing *Maria Stuarda* (Pacific Opera Victoria) and *A Synonym for Love* (Volcano Theatre), and directing *Late* (Obsidian Theatre) and the Asia premiere of *Knives in Hens* for Theatre du Pif. As a performer, Marjorie most recently appeared in *paperSERIES* (Cahoots Theatre/Magnetic North Theatre Festival 2012 in Calgary), as well as voicing Mrs. Ping on the cartoon *Detentionaire* for the past three seasons. A five-time nominee, Marjorie is the recipient of two Dora Mavor Moore Awards, one each for acting and writing. She has also received the K.M. Hunter Artist's Award in Theatre for the breadth of her work, as well as a Harold Award for her community contribution to the theatre industry in Toronto. Other notable nominations include the Governor General's Literary Award for her playwriting debut, *China Doll*, and the Canadian Citizen Award for her work with *Crossing Gibraltar* – a theatre program for young refugees. Current libretti-in-progress include a contemporary adaptation of *Medea*, with composer John Harris (Tapestry New Opera/Scottish Opera) and *The Lesson of Da Ji*, with composer Alice Ho (Toronto Masque Theatre). www.marjoriechan.com

Featuring



Anne-Marie RamosSydney

While studying voice at the University of Western Ontario, Anne-Marie performed such roles with UWOpera as Angelique in Ibert's *Angelique*, Suor Genovieffa in Puccini's *Suor Angelica* and Adele in Johann Stauss' *Die Fledermaus*. Upon graduating, she was awarded first place in the Canadian Opera Company Competition – London division. Anne-Marie was a recipient of the prestigious Board of Governor's Award for three consecutive years. Also a graduate of the University of Toronto Vocal Music Performance Program, she participated in productions with the Opera School Division. She has gained notoriety in the musical theatre and operetta world with such roles as Mabel in Gilbert and Sullivan's *Pirates of Penzance*, Elsie in Gilbert and Sullivan's *Yeomen of the Guard* and Maria in Leonard Bernstein's *West Side Story*. During her graduating year Anne-Marie joined the Stratford Shakespeare Festival where she performed the role of Princess Tuptim in Rogers and Hammerstein's *The King and I* as well as Goddess Diana in Shakespeare's *Pericles*. Anne-Marie's most recent performance was as soprano soloist in Brahms Requiem with The Guelph Chamber Choir. Other recent roles include Esther in the Canadian premiere of Wish Opera's *Rosemarie*, Julie Jordan in Edmonton's Mayfield Theatre and Cosette in *Les Misérables* with Thousand Islands Playhouse. Anne-Marie is looking forward to making her National Arts Centre debut as Sydney in the Dora Mavor Moore Award-winning opera, *Sanctuary Song*.



Alvin CrawfordJames

Alvin Crawford hails from Toronto, Canada. Operatic roles include Sarastro in *Die Zauberflöte* (Vienna Volksoper); Der Lauschprecher in *Der Kaiser von Atlantis*, James Conlon conductor (New World Symphony, Los Angeles Symphony, Spoleto Music Festival, Italy); Alvise in *La Gioconda*, Il Grande Inquisitor in *Don Carlos* (Staatstheater Kassel); Pistola in *Falstaff*, Sourin in *Pique Dame* (Canadian Opera Company); The Ghost in *Hamlet* (Opera Theatre of St. Louis). On Broadway, he has performed as Sam Cooke in *The Buddy Holly Story*; John in *Miss Saigon*; The Lion in *Candide* and Mufasa in *The Lion King*. Mr. Crawford has been seen on Canadian and American television and was in the MGM feature film *It Runs in the Family* starring Michael and Kirk Douglas. Alvin Crawford is a graduate of the Juilliard Opera Center. This performance is dedicated to Audrey and Ramon.



Sean Arbuckle*Poacher and Circus Owner*

Selected credits from 11 seasons at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival include *The Pirates of Penzance* (The Pirate King), *42nd Street* (Julian Marsh), *Titus Andronicus* (Saturninus), *The Merchant of Venice* (Bassanio), *Three Sisters* (Tuzenbach), *Cabaret* (Cliff), *Twelfth Night* (Orsino), *The Swanee - Part Two* (Leopold/Popple), *The Winter's Tale* (Camillo), *Timon of Athens* (Alcibiades), *Trojan Women* (Talthybius), *London Assurance* (Richard Dazzle), *Electra* (The Beggar), *The Tempest* (Antonio) and *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (Nick). Other credits include *The Importance of Being Earnest* on Broadway, national tour of *Copenhagen*, and many regional theatres in the U.S. and Canada including The Grand Theatre (London), American Conservatory Theatre, Denver Center Theatre, Shakespeare Theatre Company, George Street Playhouse and the Berkshire Theatre Festival. Film and TV credits include *Law & Order*, *Anything But Love* and *Hope and Faith*. He is a graduate of Duke University and The Juilliard School.



Sharmila Dey*Penny and Young Girl*

Sharmila is a classically trained actor born, raised and living in Toronto. She has toured extensively both in Canada and the United States, performing theatre for young audiences with two of Toronto's leading theatre companies devoted to youth, Theatre Direct and Roseneath Theatre. Along with these travels, she was also involved in outreach programs and headed workshops.

Sharmila is really looking forward to revisiting the Dora Mavor Moore Award-winning opera *Sanctuary Song* which she premiered for the Luminato Festival in 2008. She has also performed in several Shakespeare productions, her favourite being *Miranda* in *The Tempest* with Resurgence Theatre. Other favourite shows include *Danny, King of the Basement*, *Beneath the Banyan Tree* and the Dora Mavor Moore Award-winning *Head à Tête*. Sharmila is also a film and television actor, making appearances on *The Listener*, *Flashpoint* and *The Border*. A graduate of the Theatre Arts Program at George Brown College, she was the recipient of the Timshel Challenge Award.



Reza Jacobs*Music Director and Pianist*

Reza Jacobs is an award-winning composer, lyricist, sound designer and music director, known for his versatility in style and genre. His credits include sound design and composition for the Shaw Festival, Factory Theatre, Volcano Theatre, Cahoots Theatre, Acting Up Stage Theatre, the Luminato Festival and Harbourfront's World Stage Festival. As Music Director, he has won Dora Mavor Moore Awards for *Caroline, or Change* (Acting Up Stage, Best Music Direction and Best Musical 2012) and *Assassins* (Talk Is Free Theatre/ Birdland Theatre, Best Musical 2010). He is also the resident Canadian Music Director for Andrea Martin's one-woman show, *Everything Must Go*. Currently Reza is teaming up with Andrew Kushnir to write a new musical, commissioned by the Belfry Theatre and Acting Up Stage.



Jamie Drake*Percussion*

Jamie Drake is a Toronto-based percussionist and drummer with an affinity for chamber music. As a member of TorQ Percussion Quartet, hailed by the Ottawa Citizen as "outstanding – no, make that astonishing", he has performed across Canada to standing ovations and critical acclaim. He is also one half of the piano-percussion duo Tandem, the percussionist-in-residence for the Hamilton Children's Choir and High Park Choirs, the house drummer for the Young Centre's Saturday Night Cabaret Series, and a founding member of the indie/jazz/prog/instrumental group Muskox. His recordings with various groups can be heard frequently on CBC Radio 2. Jamie has played more than 50 musical theatre productions, and is a frequent collaborator with musical director Reza Jacobs. He is currently a Doctor of Musical Arts (Performance) candidate at the University of Toronto. Jamie is thrilled to be part of the Sanctuary Song team with Theatre Direct. www.jamiedrake.ca



Andréa TyniecViolin

Violinist Andréa Tyniec, who “plays with exceptional musicality and intensity” (Montreal’s *La Presse*), has moved audiences across Europe and North America. Highlights of the 2011-12 season include performances of the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto with Yannick Nézet-Séguin and Orchestre Métropolitain, the Brahms Double Concerto with cellist Andrés Díaz and the Banff Festival Orchestra

conducted by Lior Shambadal, the Glazunov Violin Concerto with the Peterborough Symphony Orchestra led by Michael Newnham, and Kaija Saariaho’s *Graal Théâtre* with the GGS New Music Ensemble led by Brian Current. Andréa fostered an early passion for contemporary works, which has led to premiering numerous compositions, especially from Canadian composers, such as Ana Sokolovic’s *Cinque Danze per violono solo*, André Ristic’s *Environnement de Cantate*, Maxime McKinley’s *Territoire Lune*, and Terri Hron’s *Love Song for M.A.D.* With conductor Véronique Lacroix and the Ensemble Contemporain de Montréal, Andréa recorded a work composed for her, the Violin Concerto by André Ristic, on the ATMA label.



Photo © Gregory Edwards

Sharmila Dey and Anne-Marie Ramos.

Creative Team



Lynda HillDirector

Lynda Hill has led Theatre Direct since 2001 guiding the company's theatre and education mission, as well as a number of award-winning productions and innovative education projects in schools and the community. Commissioned works under her leadership include *And, by the way, Miss...*, *Binti's Journey*, *The Demonstration* and *Sanctuary Song*, which was premiered as part of the 2008 Luminato Festival. Her production of *Beneath the Banyan Tree* has toured across the country and throughout northern England.



Kelly WolfOriginal Set and Costume Designer

Previous designs for Theatre Direct include *Walking the Tightrope* and *Andrew's Tree*. Some of Ms. Wolf's most recent work has been designing the set and costumes for *Between the Sheets* (Nightwood Theatre); and set for *The Sound of Music* (Drayton Theatre); *Spring Awakening* (Sheridan College); *Swimming for Shore* (Humber College); *Much Ado About Nothing* – costumes (Theatre Calgary); *A Midsummer Night's Dream* - costumes (Citadel Theatre); as well as designs for the Stratford Festival, Shaw Festival, Blyth Festival, Factory Theatre, Tarragon Theatre, The Grand Theatre, Canadian Stage, Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre and Theatre and Co. Kelly is an instructor at Brock University and has taught and mentored students at Humber College and Ryerson Theatre School. She is also an active instructor with Learning through the Arts. Graduate of York University (BFA) and the University of Toronto (MA) as well as the Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design. Kelly is a member of Associated Designers of Canada.



Michelle Ramsay*Lighting Designer*

Michelle has designed lighting across Canada for theatre and dance companies of all shapes and sizes. Other productions here at the National Arts Centre include *Night* (Human Cargo), *The Ecstasy of Rita Joe* (NAC/Western Canada Theatre); *Death of a Chief* (Native Earth Performing Arts) and *Rough House* (nightswimming). Other recent designs include *Cafe Daughter* (Gwaandak Theatre), *Obaaberima* (Buddies in Bad Times Theatre), *Helen's Necklace* (Shaw Festival), *Out the Window* (Out the Window Collective/The Theatre Centre), *Red Snow* (Red Snow Collective), *The Atomic Weight of Happiness* (Stand Up Dance), the *sankofa* trilogy (Tarragon Theatre), *Peter and the Wolf* (Theatre Rusticle), *Sia* (Cahoots Theatre Projects) and *Tombs of the Vanishing Indian* (Native Earth Performing Arts). Michelle is the recipient of three Dora Mavor Moore Awards and the 2008 Pauline McGibbon Award.



Viv Moore*Choreographer*

Born in England, Viv trained in ballet from the age of four, then in jazz, modern and folk, performing in the vaudeville group The Roaring Twenties in Alberta. She has been dancing, choreographing and acting both collaboratively and as a solo artist since 1979. Viv co-founded *Remote Control* with Dave Wilson, performing and teaching in Sweden, Australia, England and Canada; worked with community dance in London, England and Canada (Royal National Institute for Blind People, Canadian National Institute for the Blind, deaf and partial hearing, multi-abilities, psychiatric survivors); and was National Coordinator of Fight Directors, Canada (Advanced Actor Combatant level). She is a movement coach, choreographer, rehearsal director and outside eye for dance, plays, musicals and films (Theatre Direct, Cahoots Theatre Co. and others). Viv has choreographed for Humber College main stage productions (e.g. *Cabaret* and *Godspell*) and has taught Dance and Movement part-time at Humber College since 1985. Viv has also worked with Fujiwara Dance, Sashar Zarif, Holly Small, Allison Cummings (Dance); Theatre Rusticle (Acting); and Theatre Direct (Choreography). Viv has received a Harold Award, a Paula Citron FIDA Award (*Bogie Woman*) and several Dora Mavor Moore Award nominations, as well as an invitation to dance in London (England) at the English Folk Dance & Song Society. Her solo performance work (e.g. *Worcestershire Saucy*) is inspired by an eclectic mix of theatre, dance, English Music Hall, English clog and step dance, stage combat and butoh. Viv is a recipient of a Chalmers Arts Fellowship (2011).

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Isolde Pleasants-FaulknerStage Manager

Isolde Pleasants-Faulkner is delighted to join Theatre Direct's wonderful production, *Sanctuary Song*. Ms. Pleasants-Faulkner has most recently been working at the University of Toronto, Tapestry New Opera Works and as a faculty member for the Centre for Opera Studies in Italy (Sulmona, Italy). Other recent projects include productions at Angelwalk Theatre, Mirvish Productions and Koerner Hall. Ms. Pleasants-Faulkner has had the privilege of stage managing many productions in Canada for Tapestry New Opera Works, Just for Laughs, Opera Atelier and the Canadian Opera Company, and at many locations around the world. Additional favourite projects have ranged from the Luminato world premiere of *TAJ* (Sampradaya Dance Creations), a trip to Riga, Latvia addressing Eastern European Technical Directors, and Production Operations for The Rolling Stones SARS Concert. Isolde is grateful to her two sons, Gavin and Ryan. They always offer understanding and support!



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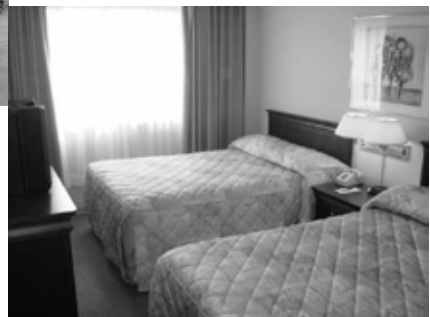
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Senior Marketing Manager
Associate Artistic Director
Department Assistant

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JULIE BRUYÈRE
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BRIDGET MOONEY
BAR MORGAN
JUDI PEARL
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SARAH GARTON STANLEY
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Technical Director
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Administrative Assistant
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Head Scenic Painter
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