

The Playwrights OF Red Phone

Tara Beagan: ***It is so*** (Calgary)

Tara Beagan is a proud Ntlaka'pamux and Irish “Canadian” halfbreed based in Calgary, Alberta. She is co-founder/director of ARTICLE 11 with her most cherished collaborator, Andy Moro. She served as the artistic director of Native Earth Performing Arts. A Dora Mavor Moore Award–winning playwright. Five of her twenty plus plays have been published, and her first film script, *133 Skyway*, co-written with Randy Redroad, won the imagineNATIVE award for best Canadian drama. Beagan is also a Dora and Betty Mitchell Award–nominated actor.

Leanna Brodie: ***License*** (Vancouver)

Leanna Brodie is a playwright, librettist actor, and translator. *The Vic, For Home and Country, The Book of Esther*, and *Schoolhouse* are published by Talonbooks. She has translated the Québec playwrights Christian Bégin, Louise Bombardier, Rébecca Déraspe, Sébastien Harrisson, Catherine Léger, Philippe Soldevila, Olivier Sylvestre, Larry Tremblay, and Hélène Ducharme. Her opera with composer Anthony Young, *Ulla's Odyssey* – winner of Opera Factory New Works (New Zealand) and the Flourish Competition (UK) – was premiered by London's acclaimed OperaUpClose in 2015, and continues to tour the UK.

Ginny Collins: ***Share*** (Winnipeg)

Ginny Collins is a Winnipeg-based playwright who has worked with both English and French theatres. Most recently, Ginny's play *The Flats* was produced by Prairie Theatre Exchange as part of their 2016/2017 season. The play was then translated into French (*Les Flats*) and produced at Théâtre Cercle Molière during the same season. Ginny's short plays *Terroristas* and *The Propeller Moment* have also been published by Scirocco Drama in anthologies. She is a member of the Playwrights Unit at Prairie Theatre Exchange where she is currently under commission for a play called *Revenge and Co.*

Ivan Coyote: **Jag Alskar** (Vancouver)

Ivan Coyote is the award-winning author of eleven books, the creator of four short films, and has released three albums that combine storytelling with music. Ivan is a seasoned stage performer, and over the last twenty years has become an audience favourite at storytelling, writer's, film, poetry, and folk music festivals from Anchorage to Amsterdam. Ivan often grapples with the complex and intensely personal issues of gender identity in their work.

Jay Dodge: **#GlobalCull** (Vancouver)

Jay Dodge is the Artistic Producer of Boca del Lupo. During his tenure, Boca del Lupo has won several Jesse Richardson Theatre Awards, including seven nominations for the Critic's Choice Award for Innovation. His innovative and daring artistry is a key component of the company's body of work, exemplified in *Photog.*, his one-man show about conflict photography that featured interactive video, stunt rigging and verbatim text.

Karen Hines: **Condialogue** (Calgary)

Chicago born, Toronto-bred, Karen Hines is an award-winning performer, writer and director. Her independent company, Keep Frozen: Pochsy Productions, develops Hines' dark comedies for stage and screen. She is the author of *Drama: Pilot Episode*, *Citizen Pochsy*, *Hello...Hello* (A Romantic Satire), *Oh, baby* and *Pochsy's Lips* as well as several short plays and the Neo-Cabaret *Pochsy Unplugged*, have been presented in Calgary, Toronto, Vancouver, New York City, Munich, and Louisville. Hines is a two-time finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award for Drama.

Hiro Kanagawa: **Out of the Blue** (Vancouver)

Although perhaps best known as an actor, Hiro is an award-winning playwright and story consultant. His plays *Tiger of Malaya* and *The Patron Saint of Stanley Park* have been performed across Canada. His most recent play, *Indian Arm* received the 2015 Jessie Richardson Award for Outstanding Original Script and the 2017 Governor-General's Literary Award for Drama. Coming in early 2018, Hiro can be seen as Captain Tanaka in the Netflix series *Altered Carbon*.

Shawn MacDonald: **TransCanada** (Vancouver)

Shawn is a playwright and actor. His work has been produced by Vancouver TheatreSports, The Arts Club, The Vancouver Playhouse, Touchstone Theatre and Pacific Theatre. His play *Prodigal Son* won the Jessie Richardson Theatre Award for Outstanding original Script. As an actor, Shawn has worked for most of Vancouver's professional theatre companies, and performs regularly as a company member of Bard on the Beach. Shawn is the Instructor and Program Leader for the LEAP Playwriting Intensive for Teen Writers at the Arts Club Theatre.

Janet Munsil: ***The Inheritance*** (Victoria)

Janet Munsil is a Victoria-based playwright and the author of more than a dozen plays produced internationally, including *Ugly Duchess*, *Be Still*, *Circus Fire*, *Influence*, *I Have Seen Beautiful Jim Key*, and *That Elusive Spark*. After many years as Intrepid Theatre's Artistic Director, she has returned to the University of Victoria to complete an MFA in Writing. She acknowledges her debt to, and respect for, the Duwamish, Nuu-chah-nulth, Hupačasath, Esquimalt, Songhees, Stoney, Sylix, and Nez Perce peoples, upon whose land she has lived.

Yvette Nolan: ***Civil War III*** (Toronto)

Playwright, director, dramaturg, actor, and educator, Yvette Nolan has contributed substantively to the creation and performance of Aboriginal Theatre in Canada. She was born in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan to an Algonquin mother and an Irish immigrant father. Raised in Winnipeg, she graduated from the University of Manitoba with a B.A. in 1997. She has worked with Theatre Projects Manitoba, Manitoba Association of Playwrights, the Manitoba Theatre Centre, Nakai Theatre in Whitehorse, and the Society of Yukon Artists of Native Ancestry.

Ellen Peterson: ***Sorry!*** (Winnipeg)

Ellen Peterson is a playwright, dramaturg, actor, and teacher. She is a graduate of the University of Winnipeg. Ellen's plays *The Brink* and *The Eight Tiny Reindeer of the Apocalypse* premiered at Prairie Theatre Exchange (2013) and Theatre Projects Manitoba (2012) respectively. Other plays include *Branta Canadensis*, *Learning to Drive*, and *The Blanket Show*, and *The Goose*. Her adaptation of Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility* will premiere at the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre in October 2018.

Sharon Thesen: ***What's Wrong?*** (Lake Country)

Sharon Thesen is a poet, editor, and writer. After receiving her MA degree from Simon Fraser University in 1975, she taught English and Creative Writing at Capilano College (now University) in North Vancouver, and joined UBC Okanagan's Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies as professor of Creative Writing in 2005. She is the author of nine books of poetry, the most recent, *Oyama Pink Shale*, *The Good Bacteria*, and *A Pair of Scissors*.

Ian Ross: ***Untitled*** (Winnipeg)

Metis/Ojibway playwright and author currently lives in Winnipeg, Manitoba. He has written for theatre, film, television and radio. Ross's play *Heart of a Distant Tribe* was published in the Manitoba anthology *A Map of the Senses: 20 Years of Manitoba Plays*, edited by Rory Runnells (Scirocco). His play *fareWel*, which garnered him the 1997 Governor General Award for Drama, is a dark comedy about Native life on the fictional Partridge Crop Reserve.

Marcus Youssef: ***All Good***

Marcus is the artistic director of Vancouver's Newworld Theatre and is the recent recipient of Canada's most prestigious theatre award, the Siminovitch Prize. His plays include *King Arthur's Night*, *Winners and Losers*, *Jabber*, *Peter Panties* (his first with Niall McNeil), *How Has My Love Affected You?*, *Ali and Ali and the axes of Evil*, *Everyone*, *Adrift* and *A Line in the Sand*. He is an editorial advisor to Canadian Theatre Review, a Canadian Fellow to the International Society of Performing Arts and teaches widely.