

Congratulations to the winners of the 2016 Jessie Awards!

Posted on: June 28, 2016

The winner of the Jessie Award goes to.....

Vancouver, BC – The 34th Annual Jessie Richardson Theatre Awards were held Monday, June 27th at the Commodore Ballroom saluting excellence in theatre. Holding Space Productions produced this year's ceremony – a celebratory event that moved quickly and effortlessly. This past year over 40 companies registered over 70 productions, contributing to a dynamic theatre community.

The Jessies are divided into three categories – Large Theatre, Small Theatre and Theatre for Young Audiences – along with a variety of special awards. The Arts Club Theatre Company swept all awards in the Large Theatre category with their production of Onegin winning 10 awards including Outstanding Production. Onegin, a new musical by Veda Hille and Amiel Gladstone, based on the poem by Pushkin and the opera by Tchaikovsky won in every category from Outstanding Actor and Actress (Alessandro Juliani and Meg Roe), Supporting Actor (Josh Epstein), Lighting Design (John Webber), Set Design (Drew Facey), Costumes (Jaqueline Firkins) Composition (Veda Hille and Amiel Gladstone), Direction (Amiel Gladstone), the creative team of Veda Hille and the Ungrateful Dead (Barry Mirochnick and Marina Hasselberg) were also acknowledged for their Outstanding Musical Direction and Musical Ensemble. Colleen Wheeler was acknowledged with a Jessie for her Outstanding Performance in a Supporting Role in Peter and the Starcatcher.

Of the 21 companies in the Small Theatre category, 7 companies earned a nod from the Jessies. Upintheair Theatre won a total of 3 Jessies for their production of The North Plan earning a win for Chelsea Haberin, Outstanding Direction, Genevieve Fleming for Outstanding Performance in a Lead Role and for Outstanding Production of a Play. Twenty Something Theatre took 2 Jessies for their production of The Out Vigil, with Matthew MacDonald Bain winning for his performance in a lead role and Jay Clift and Julie McIsaac for Outstanding Sound Design. Also Joel Sturrock won a Jessie for Significant Artistic Achievement for Outstanding Choreography in their production of Tender Napalm. The ever-talented Gabrielle Rose earned another Jessie to add to her outstanding career for her performance in Blackbird Theatre's production of The Rivals, along with Shelia White for Outstanding Costume Design. Other award winners in this category were Hardline Productions' Bright Blue Future with supporting actor Curtis Tweedie taking a Jessie, Alan Brodie for Outstanding Lighting for Pi Theatre's The Invisible Hand, and Glenn MacDonald for his design in Christie Webb's Productions, Annapurna. The Escape Artists with Musical TheatreWorks won for Outstanding Production of a Musical for Miss Shakespeare.

In the Theatre for Young Audiences category Théâtre la Seizième won for Outstanding Production of Mathieu Mathématiques along with Drew Facey who won for Outstanding Design, for this show and Vincent Leblanc-Beaudoin, Emilie Leclerc and Zack Tardif for Outstanding Performance. Lauren McLean earned a nod for her Outstanding Artistic Direction for Delinquent Theatre's Our Time. Acknowledged for Significant Artistic Achievement for the Commission of the Socially Relevant was Green Thumb Theatre for its moving show Still/Falling by Jessie nominee (for Outstanding Original Script) Rachel Aberle. Donna Yamamoto was recognized with the inaugural Vancouver NOW Representation and Inclusion award for outstanding leadership in developing work by 3

Asian-Canadian playwrights in the Cultch's 2015-16 season as Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre's Artistic Director.

The 34th year of theatre productions continue to enrich the vibrancy of our city with our diverse and extraordinary talented theatre community.

Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Lead Role – Large Theatre

Alessandro Juliani, Onegin, Arts Club Theatre Company

Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Lead Role – Large Theatre

Meg Roe, Onegin, Arts Club Theatre Company

Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role – Large Theatre

Josh Epstein, Onegin, Arts Club Theatre Company

Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role – Large Theatre

Colleen Wheeler, Peter and the Star Catcher, Arts Club Theatre Company

Outstanding Lighting Design – Large Theatre

John Webber, Onegin, Arts Club Theatre Company

Outstanding Set Design – Large Theatre

Drew Facey, Onegin, Arts Club Theatre Company

Outstanding Costume Design – Large Theatre

Jacqueline Firkins, Onegin, Arts Club Theatre Company

Outstanding Sound Design or Original Composition Large Theatre

Veda Hille & Amiel Gladstone, Onegin, Arts Club Theatre Company

Outstanding Direction – Large Theatre

Amiel Gladstone, Onegin, Arts Club Theatre Company

Outstanding Production – Large Theatre

Onegin, Arts Club Theatre Company

Significant Artistic Achievement – Large Theatre

Veda Hille and the Ungrateful Dead (Barry Mirochnick and Marina Hasselberg), Onegin, Arts Club Theatre Company

Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Lead Role – Small Theatre

Matthew MacDonald-Bain, The Out Vigil, Twenty Something Theatre

Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Lead Role – Small Theatre

Genevieve Fleming, The North Plan, Upintheair Theatre

Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role – Small Theatre

Curtis Tweedie, Bright Blue Future, Hardline Productions

Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role – Small Theatre

Gabrielle Rose, The Rivals, Blackbird Theatre Company

Outstanding Lighting Design – Small Theatre

Alan Brodie, The Invisible Hand, Pi Theatre

Outstanding Set Design – Small Theatre

Glenn MacDonald, Annapurna, Christy Webb Productions

Outstanding Costume Design – Small Theatre

Sheila White, The Rivals, Blackbird Theatre Company

Outstanding Sound Design or Original Composition – Small Theatre

Jay Clift and Julie McIsaac, The Out Vigil, Twenty Something Theatre

Outstanding Direction – Small Theatre

Chelsea Haberlin, The North Plan, Upintheair Theatre

Outstanding Production of a Musical – Small Theatre

Miss Shakespeare, Musical Theatreworks & The Escape Artists

Outstanding Production of a Play– Small Theatre

The North Plan, Upintheair Theatre

Significant Artistic Achievement – Small Theatre

Joel Sturrock, Tender Napalm, Twenty Something Theatre, Outstanding Choreography

Outstanding Performance – Theatre for Young Audiences

Vincent Leblanc-Beaudoin, Emilie Leclerc, and Zack Tardif, Mathieu Mathématiques, Théâtre la Seizième

Outstanding Design – Theatre for Young Audiences

Drew Facey, Mathieu Mathématiques, Théâtre la Seizième

Outstanding Artistic Creation – Theatre for Young Audiences

Laura McLean, Our Time, Delinquent Theatre

Outstanding Production – Theatre for Young Audiences

Mathieu Mathématiques, Théâtre la Seizième

Significant Artistic Achievement – Theatre for Young Audiences

Still/Falling, Green Thumb Theatre, Commissioning of the Socially Relevant

Outstanding Original Script

RIVULETS: 3 short plays about a flood, James Gordon King, Babelle Theatre

Vancouver NOW Representation and Inclusion Award

Betroffenheit, Co produced by Kidd Pivot and Electric Theatre Company

Donna Yamamoto: for outstanding leadership in developing work by 3 Asian-Canadian playwrights in the Cultch's 2015-16 season as Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre's Artistic Director.

Additional awards presented were:

Patron of the Arts Award – Wendy Orvig

Mary Phillips Prize for Behind-the-Scenes Achievement –Ellie O'Day & Craig Laven

Sam Payne Award for the Most Promising Newcomer – Daniel Doheny

John Moffat & Larry Lillo Prize – Chris Gatchalian

GVPTA Career Achievement Award – Margo Kane

Sydney Risk Prize– James Gordon King for RIVULETS: 3 short plays about a flood

Colin Campbell Award for Excellence in Technical Theatre – James Pollard

Ray Michal Prize for Most Promising New Director – Milton Lim