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## 36<sup>th</sup> Annual DORA MAVOR MOORE AWARDS

*Celebrating Excellence in Toronto's Performing Arts*

### AND THE DORA GOES TO . . .

Canadian Opera Company Leads the Field with **8 Wins**: **5** for *Falstaff* including Outstanding Production and **3** for *Die Walküre* including Outstanding Direction to **Atom Egoyan**

Modern Times Stage Company / Aluna Theatre follows with **6 Awards** for *Blood Wedding (Bodas de Sangre)* in **Independent Theatre Division** including Outstanding Production & Outstanding Direction to **Soheil Parsa**

Soulpepper nets **5 Wins** including Outstanding Production for *Accidental Death of an Anarchist (General Theatre)* & Outstanding New Musical/Opera for *Spoon River*

David Mirvish nabs **4 Awards** with **3** for *Once* for Top Spot in **Musical Theatre Division** including Outstanding Production

Theatre Direct's *Beneath the Banyan Tree* heads **TYA Division** with **3 Awards** including Outstanding Production and Outstanding Direction to **Lynda Hill**

Art of Time Ensemble Dominates **Dance Division** with **2 Doras** for *#lovesexbrahms* including Outstanding Choreography to **James Kudelka**

**Toronto, June 22, 2015** - The 36th Annual **Dora Mavor Moore Awards** for the **2014/2015 season** were handed out in a star-studded ceremony in Toronto on the evening of Monday, June 22 at Harbourfront Centre's WestJet Stage, hosted by the hilarious **Gavin Crawford**, whose eight seasons on CBC-TV's *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* earned him numerous accolades and who recently won an ACTRA Award for his leading role in the film *Two 4 One*.

The Dora Mavor Moore Awards are produced and presented by the Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts (TAPA) and celebrate excellence in Toronto theatre, dance and opera. For the 2014-2015 season, **117 producing companies** registered **212** eligible productions. A total of **48** Dora Awards plus the **Silver Ticket Award** and the **Audience Choice Award** were given out.

**The Canadian Opera Company** led the pack, taking home **8 Dora Awards** (**5** for *Falstaff* and **3** for *Die Walküre*). **Modern Times Stage Company / Aluna Theatre** earned second spot with **6 Doras**, all for their co-production of *Blood Wedding (Bodas de Sangre)*. **Soulpepper Theatre Company** followed closely with **5 wins** (**2** for *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*, **2** for *Spoon River* and **1** for *Twelve Angry Men*). **David Mirvish** tallies in with **4 hits**: **3** for the musical *Once* and **1** for *The Heart of Robin Hood*. The details for each division are below:

In the **General Theatre Division**, **Soulpepper Theatre** leads the division with **3 Doras**: Outstanding Production and Outstanding Performance-Male (**Kawa Ada**) for *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*, and Outstanding Performance-Ensemble for *Twelve Angry Men*. Outstanding New Play goes to **Hannah Moscovitch** for *Infinity*, a **Tarragon Theatre / Volcano Theatre** co-production. **Volcano** also wins Outstanding Sound Design/Composition for *The Four Horsemen Project* – original sound poetry/composition: **Rafael Barreto-Rivera, Paul Dutton, Steve McCaffery & bpNichol**; additional sound design/creation: **Bill Brennan, Graham Hargrove, John Millard and the cast** – presented with **Crooked Figure Dances and Global Mechanic** for a total of **2** for the company. **Eda Holmes** nabs Outstanding

Direction for **Buddies in Bad Times Theatre's *Tom at the Farm***. **Nicky Guadagni** hooks the Outstanding Performance-Female Dora for **Theatre Passe Muraille's *Hooked***. **Börkur Jónsson** snatches Outstanding Scenic Design for the **David Mirvish** production of ***The Heart of Robin Hood*** (co-presented with **Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre, Barry and Fran Weissler**) while **Astrid Janson** nets Outstanding Costume Design for **VideoCabaret's *Trudeau and Lévesque*** and **André Du Toit** nabs Outstanding Lighting Design for **Theatre Smith-Gilmour's *Take Me Back To Jefferson***.

The inaugural **Pat and Tony Adams Freedom Fund for the Arts** provides a cash prize of **\$1,000** each to the recipients of the **Outstanding Performance-Female and Outstanding Performance-Male** in the **General Theatre Division**.

In the **Musical Theatre Division**, **David Mirvish** leads the division with **3 Doras** for ***Once***: Outstanding Production, Outstanding Performance-Female for **Trish Lindström** and Outstanding Performance-Ensemble. Outstanding Performance-Male goes to **Daren A. Herbert** for **Acting Up Stage Company's *The Wild Party*** (which also nabs Outstanding Choreography for **Stephanie Graham** in the shared Musical Theatre/Opera Division for a total of **2** wins). Outstanding Touring Production goes to ***Kiss & Cry*** from **Charleroi Danes presented by Canadian Stage**.

In the shared **Musical Theatre/Opera Division and Opera Division proper**, the **Canadian Opera Company (COC)** tops the Dora wins list with a total of **8 awards** over these two divisions: **Atom Egoyan** wins Outstanding Direction for the **COC's *Die Walküre*** which also nabs Outstanding Lighting Design for **David Finn** and Outstanding Performance-Female for **Christine Goerke**. The **COC's *Falstaff*** (a co-production with **Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; Teatro alla Scala; Metropolitan Opera and Dutch National Opera, Amsterdam**) scores **5 Doras** in total: Outstanding Production, Outstanding Performance-Male for **Gerald Finley**, Outstanding Performance-Ensemble, Outstanding Scenic Design for **Paul Steinberg** and Outstanding Costume Design for **Brigitte Reiffenstuel**. The Dora for Outstanding New Musical/Opera goes to **Mike Ross and Albert Schultz** for **Soulpepper Theatre's *Spoon River*** for which **Mike Ross** also earns the Dora for Outstanding Musical Direction, bringing Soulpepper's overall haul to **5**.

Continuing the tradition of **Bluma's Indies**, the winners in the **Independent Theatre Division** each receive a **\$1,000** cheque from the **Bluma Appel Community Trust** in addition to Dora Awards. The **Modern Times Stage Company / Aluna Theatre co-production of *Blood Wedding (Bodas de Sangre)*** leads the wins in this division with **6 Doras**: Outstanding Production, Outstanding Direction to **Soheil Parsa**, Outstanding Performance-Female to **Beatriz Pizano**, Outstanding Costume Design to **Angela Thomas** and both Outstanding Scenic Design and Outstanding Lighting Design to **Trevor Schwellnus**. **Quote Unquote Collectives's *Mouthpiece*** snags **2 awards**: Outstanding Performance-Ensemble and Outstanding Sound Design/Composition for composer **Amy Nostbakken** and sound designer **James Bunton**. **Jordan Tannahill** nets Outstanding New Play for **Suburban Beast's *Concord Floral*** and **Sergio DiZio** of **Bob Kills Theatre's *The Motherfucker With the Hat*** nabs Outstanding Performance-Male.

In the **Theatre for Young Audience's Division**, **Theatre Direct's *Beneath the Banyan Tree*** heads the division with **3 Doras**: Outstanding Production, Outstanding Direction to **Lynda Hill** and Outstanding Performance-Ensemble. **Firebrand Theatre's *Beneath Springhill: The Maurice Ruddick Story*** takes the remaining 2 categories: Outstanding New Play to **Beau Dixon (created by)** and **Susan Newman / Rob Fortin (lyrics and music)** and Outstanding Performance-Individual to **Beau Dixon**.

In the **Dance Division**, the **Art of Time Ensemble** leads with **2 Doras**, both for ***#lovesexbrahms*** (from ***Intermezzi***) with Outstanding Choreography to **James Kudelka** and Outstanding Lighting Design to **Simon Rossiter**. Outstanding Production goes to **Luminato's** presentation of ***So Blue*** (produced by **Fou Glorieux** and co-produced by the **Festival TransAmeriques, Tanzhaus nrw, Theatre de la Ville, Hellerau and National Arts Centre**). **Caroline Fraser** snags Outstanding Performance-Female for **Gadfly's *Skills & Soul Battles (TUDS)*** and **Vincent Mantsoe** nabs Outstanding Performance-Male for **DanceWorks' *NTU (DW 208)***. Outstanding Performance-Ensemble goes to ***This Is a Costume Drama*** (**Harbourfront Centre's World Stage presents The Deitrich Group**). And Outstanding Sound Design/Composition goes to **Nicolás Hernández** for his new arrangement of ***Pueblo*** for **Esmeralda Enrique Spanish Dance Company's** remount of ***Letters to Spain***, after **Jose Luis Valle "Chuscales"** and **Hernández's** composition for the original presentation.

#### **OTHER AWARDS:**

**The Silver Ticket Award** is bestowed upon an individual who has excelled in their career while also nurturing the

development of Canadian theatre. It was presented to master prop builder **fina macDonell** who has been making her magic for Toronto's theatre community for over three decades, ranging from small fringe theatre works to multi-million dollar lavish musicals.

TAPA's **Audience Choice Award for Outstanding Production**, co-sponsored by *NOW Magazine* and Yonge-Dundas Square, was also handed out. The public was invited to vote online from a list of Outstanding Production nominees in all divisions, or choose their own favourite. Presented with a commemorative plaque, the **Audience Choice Award** winner is *Brantwood* by Sheridan College's Canadian Music Theatre Project.

For more information on the Dora Awards visit [www.tapa.ca](http://www.tapa.ca)

### **36<sup>th</sup> Annual Dora Mavor Moore Awards**

**Toronto's Theatre, Dance and Opera Awards - Monday June 22, 2015**

Hosted by **Gavin Crawford**

**5:00pm-7:00pm Pre-Show Red Carpet & VIP Reception at Harbourfront Centre's Lakeside Terrace**

**7:30pm Dora Mavor Moore Awards Show at Harbourfront Centre's WestJet Stage, [235 Queens Quay West](http://www.235queensquaywest.com)**

**10:30pm After-Party Under the Stars beside the lake at Harbourfront Centre**

Written by **Chris Earle**, Directed by **Edward Roy**, Musical Direction by **Waylen Miki**,

Lighting and Production Design by **Andrea Lundy**, Produced by **Jacoba Knaapen**.

**\$87.00 for Awards Show & After-Party Tickets** (General Admission),

available by calling the Harbourfront Centre **Box Office at 416-973-4000** or online at <http://harbourfrontcentre.com>;

**\$15 After-Party Only Tickets** can be purchased only onsite at the event beginning at 10:30pm;

For **\$175 VIP Tickets** (Pre-show VIP Reception, Dora Awards Show, After-Party), email [scotttd@tapa.ca](mailto:scotttd@tapa.ca).

For information visit [www.tapa.ca](http://www.tapa.ca)

Twitter: @DoraAwards #DORAS2015

*The Dora Mavor Moore Awards are administered by the Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts (TAPA). In addition to the Doras, other programs and services provided by TAPA include: T.O. TIX - Toronto's Official One Stop Ticket Shop at Yonge-Dundas Square and online at [www.totix.ca](http://www.totix.ca); Toronto's Official Theatre Guide; hipTIX, offering \$5 tickets to students between the ages of 14 and 29; citySPECIAL; the Commercial Theatre Development Fund; and the Travel Retreat Initiatives Program – TRIP. For more information visit [www.tapa.ca](http://www.tapa.ca) and [www.totix.ca](http://www.totix.ca).*