

World Theatre Day 2024

Canadian Message – Jani Lauzon



Jani Lauzon is a multidisciplinary artist of Métis/French/Finnish ancestry. She is a multi-nominated actor/director/writer, Juno nominated singer/songwriter, an award winning screen actress, and a Gemini Award winning puppeteer. She received the Toronto Theatre Critics Director award, the ACTRA Toronto Award of Excellence and the John Hirsch Director's Award. As a puppeteer she worked such shows as The Mr. Dress-Up Show, Wumpas World, Little Star and she played Pa Foley on The Big Comfy Couch. Memorable theatre appearances include; Cordelia/Fool in the NAC Aboriginal production of King Lear, Shylock in Merchant of Venice (SITR) and the Neighbour/Servant in Blood Wedding (Modern Times/Aluna Theatre). Directing credits include: 1939 (Stratford Festival) Where the Blood Mixes and Almighty Voice and his Wife (Soulpepper), Rope (Shaw Festival). Alien Creature at TPM, I Call myself Princess (The Globe Theatre). Television guest appearances include Ruby and the Well, Something Undone, Six Days to Die and Saving Hope. Jani was an advocate for inclusivity of cultural and physically diverse artists on Canadian screens through her work as the Diversity Advocate at ACTRA for over 20 years.

[Read Jani's Message Here](#)

International Message – Jon Fosse



Jon Fosse was born in 1959 in Haugesund, Rogaland county, and grew up in Strandebarne, Hardanger (a traditional district in Vestland). He started writing when he was about twelve years old. When he was a teenager, Fosse was interested in becoming a rock guitarist. When he no longer thought he would be a rock star, he could spend more time writing. Fosse studied comparative literature at the University of Bergen. His first novel, *Raudt, svart*" (Red, Black), was published in 1983. He earned a master's degree in comparative literature in 1987. It was also from the University of Bergen. Fosse's first play, *Og aldri skal vi skiljast*" (*And We'll Never Be Parted*), was performed and published in 1994. His novel *Septology*, has 7 volumes, and they are published as 3 books; The first of those books, came out in 2019.

[Read Jon Fosse's Message Here](#)