

**Members Spring Retreat 2013** 

Presenting 3.0: Community Engagement

June 5 - 7, 2013 Brantford, ON

Featuring:
THE GLOBAL SAVAGES
by Debajehmujig - Storytellers



















# the value of presenting

A Study of Performing Arts Presentation in Canada By Inga Petri, Strategic Moves

# Performing Arts for All: Utopia *or* Destiny?

The performing arts reach across socio-economic differences.



The more someone attends performances, the more they will attend.

Cross-cultural attendance Other Performances Visit museums, galleries

> Education Age

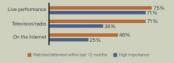
Statistics Canada's General Social Survey confirms: The strongest correlations of performing arts attendance are attending other performances and visiting museums, galleries or heritage sites.
Demographic factors are weaker than

#### 2 in 3 Canadians who:

- · earn less than \$40,000, or
- · do not have university education, or
- live in communities with a population <u>under</u> 25,000 ... attended a live performance in 2011.

Media viewing of performing arts augments attendance, rather than displaces it.

#### Live performance versus media



Canadians say **live attendance is twice as important** as watching a performance via media.

Media enhances access: 75% of non-attendees watch performance in media

Media deepens engagement: 94% of frequent attendees watch, too.

CAPICOA ELECTRICA.

Canadians under 35 years attend more than older Canadians.

Younger Canadians are more likely to attend than older ones: 83% of 18-34 
70% of 55+



#### Attendance by age - 2010



Source: Hill Strategies, Pactors in Canadians' Arts Attendance in 2010, based on Statistics Canada's 20 General Social Survey Sample: 7,500 MoE 1,116

© 2013 Catadian Arts Pretenting Association (CARACOA) / Strategic Noves
Principal source: Value of Presenting - Survey of the General Public, 2012 (EKOS /CARACOA) N=1,831, MoE 3,1%

# **GREETINGS**

Welcome to CCI Members Spring Retreat 2013!

We are pleased to have the privilege to host our members, a talented and experienced group of performing arts professionals, here at this year's Spring Retreat. Our team has worked over the past several months to create this retreat of panels and conversations that speak to themes that are especially important to our sector.

The new presenting practice - Presenting 3.0: Community Engagement - that has emerged from the conversations with our members, is particularly significant today as arts, culture, and performing arts sites need to fully engage with communities that they serve in order to remain relevant and successful.

Thank you for joining us these few days – we hope you make some meaningful connections and gain valuable knowledge from our sessions!

Glenn Brown and Retreat Organizing Committee

# **OUR HOST**

This year's retreat is hosted by Glenn Brown, General Manager, Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts in partnership with the Brantford Arts Block and the Woodlands Cultural Centre.



**Glenn Brown** is the Theatre Manager of the Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts. Glenn has spent the past twenty-five years working at the Sanderson Centre in a variety of roles. His first job was tearing down the movie screen on the first day the theatre was being converted back from a movie house to performing arts. Since then, he has held a variety of production roles including head electrician and technical director before moving into administration and presenting.

# **SCHEDULE**

	Wednesday, June 5	
Time	Activity	Location
4:30 pm	Check-in	Quality Inn & Suites
6:00 pm	Community Pot-Luck Supper and Participatory Program - 6 pm Community Pot Luck Dinner - 7 pm Multi-media presentation - 8 pm Spontaneous Combustion Dance - 8:30 pm Act Three – Lounge Act	Brantford Arts Block
10:00 pm	Return to hotel and Hospitality Suite	Quality Inn & Suites
	Thursday, June 6	
8:00 am	Continental breakfast at hotel	Quality Inn & Suites
9:30 am	Opening Session: Community Engagement: interview with Stratford Public Library CEO, Sam Coglan	Sanderson Centre
10:30 am	Health Break	Sanderson Centre
10:45 am	Spotlight Panel: Examples of successful community engagement	Sanderson Centre
12:00 noon	Lunch at Sanderson	Sanderson Centre
1:00 pm	Tools & Tips for Community Engagement: What practical steps can you take to engage your community?	Sanderson Centre
2:15 pm	Health Break	Sanderson Centre
2:30 pm	Working Session: Small group breakouts to work on specific initiatives	Sanderson Centre
4:00 pm	Return to your hotel to get ready for evening Campfire Event at Woodlands	Quality Inn & Suites
5:00 pm	Board bus to dinner at Montana's  A bus will transport retreat delegates from the hotel to dinner, the  Woodlands Cultural Centre and back to the hotel	Montana's
8:00 pm	The Global Savages	Woodlands Cultural Centre
10:30 pm	Board bus back to hotel	
	Friday, June 7	
8:00 am	Continental breakfast at hotel	Quality Inn & Suites
9:00 am	Critical Assessment and Reflection with Ron Berti, Artistic Director, Debajehmujig Theatre Group	Sanderson Centre
10:30am	Next Steps: Where are we heading? Getting our Compass points	Sanderson Centre
noon	Lunch & Closing Remarks	Sanderson Centre

# **Retreat Program Committee**

Josh Bean, Brantford Arts Block Ron Berti, Debajehmujig Theatre Group Glenn Brown, Sanderson Warren Garrett, CCI Judy Harquail, CCI Brian McCurdy, City of Kingston Janis Montour, Woodlands Cultural Centre Sara Palmieri, Centre for the Arts, Brock U.

#### **CCI Staff**

Warren Garrett, Executive Director Judy Harquail, Program Manager Kaitlin Cockburn, Program Associate Cheryl Ewing, Ontario Contact Manager Mila Ovchinnikova, Member Services & Communications Manager

## **OUR PARTNERS**



## Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts

The Sanderson Centre has been a Downtown Brantford entertainment destination since 1919. Its magnificent design and architecture represents our remarkable past and reflects the evolution and growth of our heritage and culture today. Owned and operated by the City of Brantford since 1986. The Sanderson Centre is a home to community

performing arts organizations, school events, amateur dance competitions and recitals and offers a season of professional entertainment for the community.



#### **Brantford Arts Block**

Brantford Arts Block is are a not-for-profit community arts organization with a vision to nurture the artistic and creative potential of Brantford. Brantford Arts Block aims to give local artists, of every age and skill level,

the chance to showcase their works in an open and accessible venue. Brantford Arts Block tries to showcase the entire arts community featuring contemporary, and traditional artists that work in a variety of mediums.



#### Woodlands Cultural Centre

The Woodland Cultural Center is a non-profit organization which preserves and promotes the culture and heritage of the First Nations of the Eastern Woodland area.

#### **RETREAT LOCATIONS**

#### Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts

88 Dalhousie Street Brantford, ON N3T 5V7 Phone: 519.758.8090

#### **Woodlands Cultural Centre**

184 Mohawk Street Brantford, ON N3T 5V6 Phone: (519)759-2650

#### **Brantford Arts Block**

111 Sherwood Drive, Unit 23 Brantford, ON N3T 6J9 Phone: 519-753-9400

# **Quality Inn & Suites**

664 Colborne St Brantford, ON N3S3P8 Phone: (519) 758-9999

#### **Community Pot-Luck and Participatory Program**

6:00 pm

Members gather to join the community for *Creating A Hullabaloo* at the Brantford Arts Block for Pot-Luck, Entertainment, and Dialogue. This occasion is designed to bring together the community organizers from different sectors - art, food, environment, social services and locations, to network.

# Thursday, June 6

#### **Opening Session**

9:30 am

#### Community Engagement: What conversations are you having with your community?

An out-of-sector interview with Stratford Public Library CEO, Sam Coglan on public libraries, their community value, and lessons for presenters in the digital age.



Sam Coghlan is the Chief Executive Officer of Stratford Public Library, 2004 – 2013. Sam serves as a Chair of Harrington & Area Community Association. His past community involvement and employment includes leadership of Perth Community Futures Development Corporation, Oxford County Library. Sam served on the board of Ontario Library Association, Victims Assistance Services and Women and Rural Economic Development. For a number of years, Sam has been a member of Perth County Social Research & Planning Council and Ontario Minister of Culture's Advisory Council for Culture. Sam has a Law Degree (LLB) from the University of Windsor and Masters of Library Science from the University of Western Ontario. Sam grew up in Port Arthur (now Thunder Bay), and

resides in Harrington since 2008.

#### Moderator



Brian McCurdy is the Cultural Director for Kingston, where he oversees the Grand Theatre, two municipal museums, Tett Centre for Creativity & Learning and municipal cultural policy development. McCurdy has developed the Performing Arts Center, University of Lethbridge, the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium, and the Mondavi Center, University of California, Davis.

#### Examples of successful community engagement

#### Moderator:

**Tina Rasmussen** is Director of Performing Arts at Harbourfront Centre, an innovative not-for-profit cultural organization on Toronto's waterfront. As Artistic Director of the World Stage series at Harbourfront Centre, she curates an annual programme of international performance, working closely with colleagues across the country and around the world to bring innovative work to Toronto and Canadian audiences.

Tina is a leader in developing community engaged work, including recent projects Of All the People in All the World, Complaints Choir, and Dachshund UN.



#### Panelists:

Majdi Bou-Matar is a theatre director and performer from Lebanon. He holds a Master's Degree in Drama from the University of Guelph, Bachelor of Arts degree in Directing from the Lebanese American University and a Diploma of High Studies in Theatre from the Lebanese University. Majdi directed several productions in Beirut and took part in many theatre, television and film projects in the Middle East and North Africa. The Lebanese media considered Bou-Matar's productions to be new and innovative.



Majdi represented his country of origin in the Afro-Arab Centre for Theatre in Tunis, where he gained experience and interest in the intercultural aspects of theatre. Majdi immigrated to Canada in 2003 and moved to the Waterloo Region in January 2004, where he founded The MT Space (The Multicultural Theatre Space). Currently his work and research focus is on Intercultural, physically-oriented and interdisciplinary theatre. His work tours in Canada and internationally. His most recent directing credits include: Body 13, The Last 15 Seconds, Exit Strategy and Seasons of Immigration. In 2012, Majdi received Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal

Majdi is also the Artistic Director of IMPACT, a biennial international theatre festival in the Waterloo Region. In its first incarnation IMPACT 09 presented theatre from China, Hungary, Belgium and Canada. The festival engaged over 100 artists, 100 volunteers and 3300 visitors. Majdi is currently preparing for IMPACT 13 scheduled for September, 2013.



Laura Nanni is a Toronto-based artist, curator and producer. She is currently entering her 4th season as Rhubarb Festival Director for Buddies in Bad Times Theatre. A graduate of drama and visual studies from The University of Toronto, Laura has worked in a variety of artistic, administrative and management capacities for companies across the country including Harbourfront Centre, Toronto International Film Festival, Luminato, Public Recordings, Small Wooden Shoe, The Stratford Festival, Tarragon Theatre, The Theatre Centre and Theatre Smith-Gilmour.

From 2008-2010, for Harbourfront Centre, Laura was Curator of HATCH: emerging performance

projects residency and mentorship programme, Artistic Associate of World Stage and Producer of The Culture Congress, an annual arts and culture forum. She mentored with Artistic Director Franco Boni in 2008 as Intern Artistic Associate at The Theatre Centre and in 2006 co-edited the Canadian Theatre Review on site-specific performance.

Laura's performance and installation work has been presented across North America and the UK, including 7a\*11d International Festival of Performance Art, Nuit Blanche and Hub 14 (Toronto); Studio 303 (Montreal); The Banff Centre for the Arts (Banff); Galapagos Art Space (New York) and Angel Row (Nottingham). Most recently, with frequent collaborator Sorrel Muggridge, she was commissioned to create a three-part, site-specific work for the London International Festival of Theatre (London, UK), Wunderbar Festival (Newcastle, UK) and Homo Novus Festival (Riga, Latvia), presented in fall 2011. Laura also serves on the Board of Directors for US/Canadian collective Bluemouth Inc.



An actor and theatre graduate of York University of Ontario, **Phyllis Novak** is a community developer and art making instigator who is the Artistic Director and Founder of SKETCH Working Arts - a community arts development initiative based in Toronto, engaging young people living homeless and marginalized, from across Canada.

SKETCH has won numerous awards and has created a unique progressive learning framework with its creative participants, that is being proliferated with partners across the country. Celebrated as Global TV's Everyday Hero, Phyllis has taken arts based practices in youth engagement to Thailand, Central

America, the Yukon, Ottawa, Hamilton and even Bancroft, Ontario! Phyllis is part of provincial and national communities of practice that support youth organizing and community development to instigate systems change in mental health inequity and poverty reduction – all through an arts based community development framework.

1:00 pm

#### What practical steps can you take to engage your community?

#### Facilitator:

Janis Barlow established an arts consulting practice in Ontario in 1981 after a decade of work in Ontario theatres. Her post-secondary education includes honours degrees in drama and sociology and studies in architectural technology. Throughout the 1980s, she was best known as the Ontario Government's project manager for the \$30 million rehabilitation of the Elgin and Winter Garden Theatres in Toronto.



Since 1990, she has undertaken feasibility studies and management plans for dozens of projects throughout the United States and Canada. She was one of the first arts consultants in Canada to adapt successful corporate strategic planning workshop methods to the distinctive needs of non-profit art organisations. She has facilitated hundreds of planning workshops for artist-run organisations, emerging community arts boards, arts councils, professional theatres and associations.

Janis has served on the board of the Toronto Theatre Alliance, the World Encyclopedia of Contemporary Theatre (an international UNESCO project), Carousel Players (a Niagarabased theatre for young audiences) and the League of Historic American Theatres. She has lectured in Arts Administration at Brock University and is a founding member of Those Women: Consultants to the Arts and Arts Consultants Canada.

# THE GLOBAL SAVAGES by Debajehmujig - Storytellers

7:00 pm

On Thursday evening we will gather around a campfire beside the orchard at Woodlands Cultural Centre, and The Global Savages will tell the story they have been sharing around the world for the last three years.

Members may converge first at 7:00 pm at the Farmers Market and walk together with Global Savages to the storytelling place on foot.

At around 8:00 pm the story will begin. After the story ends about 90 minutes later, members are welcome to stay by the fire to share the tea that had been brewing, and talk.

#### THE GLOBAL SAVAGES - BRANTFORD



Created, Produced and Performed by Debajehmujig - Storytellers

Giizhigo Kwe (Sky Woman) Debajehmud (Storyteller) Mudjeekawis (Record Keeper) Chibiabos (Musician)

Directors Ongoing Dramaturge Wardrobe Jessica Wilde Peltier Joe Osawabine Josh Peltier Bruce Naokwegijig

Ron Berti/Joe Osawabine Ron Berti Carolyn Deforge



# GLOBAL SAVAGES

The Global Savages share the unknown 18,000 oral history of the Indigenous people of North America as a way of reframing our relationships to all things that share the earth, for the preservation of humanity.

The Global Savages are members of an Anishnaabeg family who have been travelling since the beginning of their recorded history – 18,000 years ago. They are in search of clean drinking water and a gathering place. They have an important story to tell, a story about the preservation of humanity. Who will listen?

If a single story can change the way you understand Aboriginal people and their distinctive world view, this is it. With humour, compassion, and without judgment, the Storytellers not only contextualize history in a new way (being the old way!), they also make clear that the traditional teachings and their symbolic representations like the petroglyphs near present day Peterborough, were left by the ancestors for all of us to use, not just the Anishnaabeg people. They provide a road map, a guide, and specific tools for every one of every age and every race - for the preservation of humanity.

The Global Savages is not a scripted play, but rather a sharing of a series of stories that are selected for the particular audience, the particular place, and the particular reason the story is being told at this time. All performances of The Global Savages include the most important story – the Lessons of Kahila – as well as some specific Traditional Anishinaabeg Teachings. These stories and teachings have been gifted to Debajehmujig over the last 30 years.

On Friday CCI Members, The Global Savages and the Community Animators are invited to share the final session and lunch at the Sanderson Centre. Ron Berti, Artistic Producer/Executive Director of Debajehmujig – Storytellers will provide anecdotal feedback to the CCI retreat delegates.



Ron Berti has been at Debajehmujig for 20 years, and under his stewardship the company has grown from 2 full time employees to 15, in addition to building and opening a 15,000 square foot production centre. The organization has also been operating a professional training program since 2001, and continues to view cross-cultural bridge building as fundamental to its activities.

Ron was recognized with several Juno Awards and Nominations, Gemini Award, Casby Award, and an

American Art Directors Club Award, in recognition for his conceptualization, directing and editing of videos for The Northern Pikes, Corey Hart, and dozens of others with his company Total Eclipse – A Film Group Ltd. But it was his work with Bruce Cockburn and the Video Culture International Award that stands out as significant – recognizing the collaboration that created 'Call It Democracy', 'If a Tree Falls', and 'Waiting for a Miracle' among others.

Born and raised in the town of Weston, Ontario, Ron has an Honours Degree in Art Education from Queen's University in Kingston. He also attended the National Theatre School of Canada in Montreal, followed by the Institute of Scenography - TV and Film in Toronto and Ojibway language at Cambrian College in Sudbury.

#### Debajehmujig – Storytellers

**Debajehmujig – Storytellers** (De-ba-jeh-mu-jig Theatre Group) was established in 1984 by Shirley Cheechoo and Blake Debassige, on Manitoulin Island, having been inspired by their experiences at the landmark Schreiber Island School organized by the late Tom Peltier in the 1970's. His dream was to bring Aboriginal artists together on an Island in hopes of a transformative group experience that would propel them to energetically pursue the creative expression of Aboriginal people. It succeeded and led to the development of artist's careers, new companies, galleries, and a new vocabulary and aesthetic based on Aboriginal experience, cultural traditions and their relationship to the natural environment.

Debajehmujig – Storytellers was the first professional arts organization located on reserve. Since 1989 the head office has been on the Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve. In 2008 the company opened The Debajehmujig Creation Centre in the neighbouring community of Manitowaning. All 15 full time employees and 8 Board Members are residents of Manitoulin Island. Debajehmujig – Storytellers acknowledges the ongoing support of the Canada Council for the Arts, The Department of Canadian Heritage, and the Ontario Arts Council

# **ABOUT CCI**

CCI - Ontario Presenting Network is a member-based, not-for-profit arts service organization that serves the arts presenting industry in Ontario. Our network is comprised of performing arts centres, municipal venue presenters, academic venue presenters, festivals, artistic companies, performing artists, artist managers, arts consultants and individuals who work collaboratively to improve arts presentation practice in the Province of Ontario.

CCI's primary focus is on the health of its members and their organizations. CCI operates a number of participatory programs and services that help members build capacity, develop leadership and create opportunities to grow and diversify their audiences.

#### Mission

To develop Ontario's presenting arts leadership through networking and professional development

#### Vision

A live performance for everyone in Ontario: an active curator for the performing arts in every community: a lively engagement between the two.

#### Values

We value the participation of our professional and volunteer presenters, artists, artist representatives and business consultants by:

- Encouraging, supporting & developing groups that present professional performing arts in Ontario communities
- Fostering networking, professional development, advocacy & access to resources
- Supporting our members' curatorial visions
- Fostering and encouraging collegiality, trust, and openness within our membership
- Encouraging the presentation of new art forms and the appreciation of quality and engaging performing arts performances
- Developing strong & healthy leadership to sustain Ontario's arts presenting industry

#### **THANK YOU**

We would like to extend thanks to staff of the Sanderson Centre, the Woodland Cultural Centre, the Brantford Arts Block, all of the Community Animator Volunteers from the Brantford region and to everyone else who has supported and helped organize this event. Special thank you to Debajehmujig – Storytellers and sincere thanks to all CCI members for making this event a success!

CCI acknowledges the support of the Ontario Arts Council and the Department of Canadian Heritage.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Colleen Clack, President
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Cameron Smillie, Vice President Ballet Jorgen Canada

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Karen Scott-Gagné Ottawa Theatres, Shenkman Arts Centre

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#### **STAFF**

Warren Garrett, Executive Director
Judy Harquail, Program Manager
Kaitlin Cockburn, Program Associate

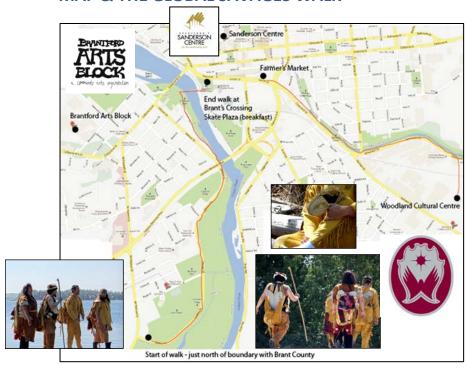
Cheryl Ewing, Ontario Contact Manager

Mila Ovchinnikova, Member Services & Communications Manager





# **MAP & THE GLOBAL SAVAGES WALK**



# **RETREAT LOCATIONS**

# **Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts**

88 Dalhousie Street Brantford, ON N3T 5V7 Phone: 519.758.8090

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# **Quality Inn & Suites**

664 Colborne St Brantford, ON N3S3P8 Phone: (519) 758-9999



Benefits to Individuals Entertainment, fun

Stimulation (intellect, emotion, spirit)

Learn/experience something new

Exposure to different cultures

Social capital

Health and well-being

Benefits to Community Energy and vitality

Quality of life

Creative communities

Understanding between cultures

Pride and belonging

Community safety

Benefits to Society
Volunteering

Civic engagement

Better education outcomes

Social cohesion

Economic development



Ontario CONTACT 2013
Kitchener, October 24-26
Celebrating Energizing Engaging

Registration will open **July 1**Early Bird discount closes **September 15** 

For information on sponsorship and advertising contact: kaitlin@ccio.on.ca

www.ontariocontact.ca

