

A SPOTLIGHT ON WOMEN IN MUSICAL LEADERSHIP

October 27th at 1:00 pm ET

PLEINS FEUX SUR LES FEMMES EN DIRECTION MUSICALE

27 octobre à 13h00 HE



Jaime Martino



Jennifer Szeto



Jennifer Tung



Juliane Gallant



Rosemary Thomson



David Dredla



Michael Hidetoshi Mori

Jaime Martino

Executive Director, Tapestry Opera

Award-winning choreographer Jaime Martino is a lifelong contributor to the arts and social justice, making art that challenges narratives and centres queer voices. Following the completion of her Master's degree in New Zealand in 2009, she co-founded the Aha Dance Collective, a contemporary dance company dedicated to exploring gender and movement through a queer feminist lens. In Toronto she dances and choreographs for Momentum Dance Toronto and creates contemporary dance works as an independent artist.

Jaime is recognized as a leader in pushing for equitable creation and management practices in the opera community; she is a member of the 2019 Opera America Leadership Cohort and a 2020 Toronto Arts Council Leaders Lab fellow. Since joining Tapestry in 2016, Jaime has helped to more than double the annual operating budget, launch two national initiatives, and produce some of the largest shows produced by the organization since 2001.

Jennifer Szeto

Project Lead, Women in Musical Leadership

Praised for an “immense sweetness and precision that seemed to be flawless” (L’Opéra Revue), Jennifer Szeto carves out a unique path as a performer, educator, and administrator. Graduate of San Francisco Opera’s Adler Fellowship, Merola Opera Program, Canadian Opera Company Ensemble Studio, and Opéra de Montréal Atelier Lyrique, roles include music directing the world premiere of L’hiver attend beaucoup de moi, (Montreal Theatre hub: “exactly what opera needs”) and the Canadian premiere of Written on Skin (Opéra de Montréal). She is a co-founder of Musique 3 Femmes, a non-profit fostering emerging Canadian female creators with a biennial \$50,000 prize. In 2021, she is Director of the Beta Lab for Opera McGill and joins the Board of Directors of the Association for Opera in Canada.

Jennifer Tung

Conducting Fellow, Women in Musical Leadership

Currently the artistic director of Toronto City Opera, Mississauga Children’s Choir and assistant conductor of the Mississauga Symphony Orchestra, Jennifer is also an accomplished singer and collaborative pianist. She has performed with orchestras, given recitals and has served on faculty in summer programs internationally.

Jennifer debuted with the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival conducting their production of The Mikado in 2017 and has returned to conduct Sweeney Todd and Tragedy of Carmen. In 2019, she debuted with Opera York conducting their production of La Traviata and was the assistant conductor for Tapestry Opera and Opera on the Avalon’s joint production of the Dora award winning new opera Shanawdithit by Dean Burry and Yvette Nolan.

Jennifer is on faculty at the Glenn Gould School and holds degrees in vocal performance and collaborative piano from the Eastman School of Music. She studies conducting with Denis Mastromonaco. Most recently, Jennifer was selected to be one of the two conducting fellows in the inaugural year of the Women in Musical Leadership program.

Juliane Gallant

Conducting Fellow, Women in Musical Leadership

Conductor, pianist, and coach Juliane Gallant has been based in the UK for the past 8 years, where she trained at the National Opera Studio and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. She worked as Musical Director on operas such as Carmen, La Bohème, Tosca, La Traviata, Don Giovanni, Così fan tutte, Orphée aux Enfers, and Les contes d’Hoffmann. She is an Opera Awards Foundation bursary recipient.

Juliane has regularly taken part in conducting courses at the Royal Opera House, both in person and online during the pandemic, studying with Alice Farnham, Jessica Cottis, and Sian Edwards.

Juliane’s website: <https://www.julianegallant.com/>

Rosemary Thomson

Music Director, Okanogan Symphony Orchestra (OSO)

Artistic Director, Opera Kelowna

Career Mentor, Women in Musical Leadership

A highly skilled musician experienced in conducting a variety of repertoire with an innovative audience presentation, Rosemary Thomson is in her fifteenth season as Music Director of the Okanogan Symphony Orchestra. Under her leadership the orchestra has blossomed and audiences have grown to unprecedented levels. She has created multiple community engagement programs throughout the Okanogan valley. Recently, Thomson also started her tenure as Artistic Director of Opera Kelowna. Previous positions included Assistant Conductor to Hans Graf and Chorus Master for the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, Assistant Conductor to Richard Bradshaw at the Canadian Opera Company and Resident Conductor with Bramwell Tovey at the Winnipeg Symphony. Thomson also conducted the new music ensemble Continuum for fourteen seasons. Thomson has been active as a guest conductor and has been featured with orchestras and opera companies across the country. This season, she makes her debut with Vancouver Opera. With the OSO, she will release a new CD of Canadian Concerti. Thomson is the subject of an award-winning documentary titled, Shiny Objects: The Conductor with ADHD currently on the film festival circuit.

David Dredla

Associate Vice-President, Artistic Administration, Toronto Symphony Orchestra (TSO)

David Dredla is Associate Vice-President, Artistic Administration, of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. He has previously served as Artistic Administrator for both the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and the Phoenix Symphony.

Mr. Dredla holds an MBA from the W.P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University, and undergraduate degrees in music from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and biology from the University of Rochester.

Originally from Bozeman, Montana, Mr. Dredla began playing trumpet in the fourth grade. He credits his career in music to inspiring teachers and a public school system supportive of arts education.

Michael Hidetoshi Mori

Artistic and General Director, Tapestry Opera

An award-winning Canadian/American stage director, and the Artistic and General Director of Tapestry Opera, Michael Hidetoshi Mori is frequently sought as a director, dramaturge, producer and speaker. Michael's leadership at Tapestry Opera has led to the Globe and Mail naming Tapestry as the "Leader of the Canadian opera pack" (2019).

Michael is a versatile stage director, working both in site-specific settings and conventional theatres. Recent directing credits include TAP:EX Augmented Opera with Tapestry Opera, Maada'ookii Songlines for The Luminato Festival, co-directing Shanawdithit for Tapestry Opera and Opera on the Avalon; Pomegranate at Buddies in Bad Times; Puccini's Rigoletto for Sacramento Opera; a new production of David T. Little and Royce Vavrek's Vinkensport for Opera Saratoga; and Puccini's Il Trittico for West Bay Opera in Palo Alto.