

# OVATION

ROYAL  
**MTC**  
MANITOBA THEATRE CENTRE

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## THE MOUNTAIN TOP

by  
Katori  
Hall



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## THEATRE ABBREVIATION LEGEND

<b>Arts Club</b> Arts Club Theatre Company • Vancouver, BC	<b>Rainbow</b> Rainbow Stage • Winnipeg, MB
<b>ATF</b> Atlantic Theatre Festival • Wolfville, NS	<b>RNT</b> Royal National Theatre • London, England
<b>ATP</b> Alberta Theatre Projects • Calgary, AB	<b>Royal Alex</b> The Royal Alexandra Theatre • Toronto, ON
<b>BAM</b> Brooklyn Academy of Music • NYC	<b>RSC</b> Royal Shakespeare Company • Stratford-upon-Avon, England
<b>Bard on the Beach</b> Bard on the Beach Shakespeare Festival • Vancouver, BC	<b>RWB</b> Royal Winnipeg Ballet • Winnipeg, MB
<b>Belfry</b> The Belfry Theatre • Victoria, BC	<b>Sarasvati</b> Sarasvati Productions • Winnipeg, MB
<b>Blyth</b> Blyth Theatre Festival • Blyth, ON	<b>Segal</b> The Segal Centre for Performing Arts • Montreal, QC
<b>Broadway</b> Theatre district • New York, NY	<b>Shaw</b> Shaw Festival • Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON
<b>CBC</b> Canadian Broadcasting Corporation	<b>SIR</b> Shakespeare in the Ruins • Winnipeg, MB
<b>Centaur</b> Centaur Theatre Company • Montreal, QC	<b>Soulpepper</b> Soulpepper Theatre Company • Toronto, ON
<b>Citadel</b> The Citadel Theatre • Edmonton, AB	<b>Stratford</b> Stratford Festival • Stratford, ON
<b>COC</b> Canadian Opera Company • Toronto, ON	<b>SummerWorks</b> SummerWorks Theatre Festival • Toronto, ON
<b>CS</b> Canadian Stage • Toronto, ON	<b>TA</b> Theatre Aquarius • Hamilton, ON
<b>Dora</b> Dora Mavor Moore Award • Toronto, ON	<b>Tarragon</b> Tarragon Theatre • Toronto, ON
<b>Drayton</b> Drayton Entertainment • Ontario	<b>TBTR</b> Theatre by the River • Winnipeg, MB
<b>Dry Cold</b> Dry Cold Productions • Winnipeg, MB	<b>TC</b> Theatre Calgary • Calgary, AB
<b>Factory</b> Factory Theatre • Toronto, ON	<b>TiFi</b> Talk is Free Theatre • Barrie, ON
<b>GCTC</b> The Great Canadian Theatre Company • Ottawa, ON	<b>TNB</b> Theatre New Brunswick • Fredericton, NB
<b>Grand</b> The Grand Theatre • London, ON	<b>Toronto Free</b> Toronto Free Theatre • Toronto, ON
<b>HGJT</b> Harold Green Jewish Theatre Company • Toronto, ON	<b>TPM</b> Theatre Projects Manitoba • Winnipeg, MB
<b>Mirvish</b> Mirvish Productions • Toronto, ON	<b>TSO</b> Toronto Symphony Orchestra
<b>Moving Target</b> Moving Target Theatre Company • Winnipeg, MB	<b>U of M</b> University of Manitoba
<b>MTYP</b> Manitoba Theatre for Young People • Winnipeg, MB	<b>U of T</b> University of Toronto
<b>NAC</b> National Arts Centre • Ottawa, ON	<b>U of W</b> University of Winnipeg
<b>Necessary Angel</b> Necessary Angel Theatre Company • Toronto, ON	<b>VP</b> Vancouver Playhouse Theatre Company • Vancouver, BC
<b>Neptune</b> Neptune Theatre • Halifax, NS	<b>West End</b> Theatre district • London, England
<b>NFB</b> National Film Board of Canada	<b>WCT</b> Western Canada Theatre • Kamloops, BC
<b>NTS</b> National Theatre School of Canada • Montreal, QC	<b>WJT</b> Winnipeg Jewish Theatre
<b>Persephone</b> Persephone Theatre • Saskatoon, SK	<b>WSO</b> Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra
<b>PTAM</b> Popular Theatre Alliance of Manitoba • Winnipeg, MB	<b>WST</b> Winnipeg Studio Theatre
<b>PTE</b> Prairie Theatre Exchange • Winnipeg, MB	<b>YPT</b> Young People's Theatre • Toronto, ON
	<b>zone41</b> zone41 theatre • Winnipeg, MB

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Scenery, Carpentry and Show Running Crew at the John Hirsch Mainstage and the Tom Hendry Warehouse are members of IATSE Local 63.

The Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre is proud to call Manitoba home. Royal MTC is located in Winnipeg on Treaty 1 land, the traditional territory of the Ininew, Anishinaabe and Dakota peoples, and the homeland of the Métis Nation. We are thankful for the benefits sharing this land has afforded us, and we are committed to the responsibilities of the Treaty. Hiy Hiy, Miigwetch, Wopida and Maarsii.

## MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Kelly Thornton

Welcome to Katori Hall's *The Mountaintop*. This play is not only a powerful reminder of Dr. King's legacy but an intimate portrait of a man. In the privacy of his hotel room, we meet a different MLK, still humming with his tireless quest for justice, but also alone and afraid, agitated, and deeply exhausted.

In this imagined evening before his untimely death, Hall has pulled back the curtain to reveal his everyday humanity, and in doing so, challenges us to take inventory of ourselves. King's commitment, not without grave personal sacrifice, is an echoing call to action that inspired not only his generation

but reverberates today, challenging all of us to finally make right the wrongs that weigh us down as a society.

While he is a giant, an icon whose life has touched millions, he is also one person who made the decision to step up and be counted. King has left us not only with the legacy of his actions but the treasure of his words. As a preacher, he shared this story, "I imagine that the first question the priest and the Levite asked was: 'If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?' But by the very nature of his concern, the good Samaritan reversed the question: 'If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?' The good Samaritan engaged in a dangerous altruism."

Through theatre we participate in essential conversations that help transform us. This play, and indeed MLK's powerful legacy, asks us to reflect on what role we are willing to play. Our world today is confronting potent questions that will have lasting impact based on the path we choose. King also said, "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy."

Thank you for engaging in this powerful dialogue. We are honoured to share this play with you, and to provoke such pertinent questions through art.

Enjoy the show,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Kelly".

# The Civil Rights Movement

**1954**

- US Supreme Court declares school segregation unconstitutional in **Brown v. Board of Education** ruling.

**1955**

- Rosa Parks refuses move to the back of a bus in Montgomery, Alabama, as required by city ordinance; the **Montgomery Bus Boycott** follows and the bus segregation ordinance is eventually declared unconstitutional.

**1957**

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., helps found the **Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)** to work for full equality for African-Americans.
- The federal government uses the military to uphold African-Americans' civil rights as soldiers escort nine black students to desegregate **Little Rock High School**.

**1960**

- At the **Greensboro Sit-in**, four black college students refuse to move from the lunch counter of a Greensboro, NC, restaurant where black patrons are not served, launching sit-ins across the South.

**1962**

- **Malcolm X** becomes the National Minister of the Nation of Islam. He rejects the non-violent Civil Rights Movement and preaches African-American separatism and securing equal rights through "any means necessary."

**1963**

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., delivers his "**I Have a Dream**" speech to hundreds of thousands of supporters during the March on Washington, the largest Civil Rights march in history.
- Arrested for a protest in Birmingham, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., writes the "**Letter from a Birmingham Jail**" a manifesto for the Civil Rights Movement.

**1964**

- Congress passes the **Civil Rights Act**, giving the federal government powers to prosecute discrimination based on race in employment, voting, and education.

**1965**

- A year after splitting with the Nation of Islam, **Malcom X is assassinated** in New York City.

## THE MOUNTAINTOP

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., organizes a **march from Selma to Montgomery**, Alabama. Police beat and teargas protesters; the images are shown on television across the country.
- The **Voting Rights Act is passed**, outlawing the practices used to disenfranchise African-American voters.
- Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seales found the **Black Panther Party**, a radical black power group.
- **Thurgood Marshall** becomes the first African-American justice on the Supreme Court.
- **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is assassinated**. The event sparks riots across the country.
- **The Poor People's March on Washington**, a march against poverty planned by King before his death, goes on.

1966

1967

1968

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# Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. led the American Civil Rights Movement from December, 1955 to April 4, 1968, preaching a philosophy of non-violent protest, grassroots organizing, and civil disobedience.

Dr. King was born into a religious family. His grandfather and father were pastors of the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. King drew on his faith for his principles and spoke frequently about his duty to God.

Dr. King attended segregated public schools in Georgia, and then attended Morehouse College, an African-American institution in Atlanta, from which both his father and grandfather had graduated. Dr. King then studied theology for three years at the Crozer Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania where he was elected president of a predominantly white senior class. He then enrolled in graduate studies at Boston University, completing his residence for the doctorate in 1953. In Boston, he met and married Coretta Scott, a young woman studying at the New England Conservatory of Music. They would have two sons and two daughters.

By 1954, Dr. King was a member of the executive committee of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and the pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama. When the Montgomery bus boycott began in 1955, Dr. King became one of the leaders of the movement.

The Montgomery bus boycott became one of the most successful non-violent demonstrations in modern history. During the boycott, Dr. King was arrested and his home was bombed, but he emerged as a great leader of the non-violent civil rights movement. The boycott lasted 382 days and ended with a Supreme Court decision declaring bus segregation unconstitutional.

In 1957, Dr. King was elected president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), formed to provide leadership for the growing civil rights movement. For the next eleven years, Dr. King travelled the country speaking over twenty-five hundred times, leading protests, and acting against injustice. He wrote "Letter from a Birmingham Jail," a manifesto for the civil rights movement, following his arrest during a protest in Birmingham; he told over 250,000 people "I Have a Dream" during a march in Washington, DC; and he led thousands in marches from Selma to Montgomery. At the age of thirty-five, Dr. King became the youngest person to win a Nobel Peace Prize. He gave the prize money to the civil rights movement.

In April of 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee, to support a sanitation workers strike, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was assassinated. The news shook the nation. Dr. King remains a symbol of non-violence across the world and he is the only non-president to have a memorial on the National Mall in Washington, DC.

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# Director's Notes

BY AUDREY DWYER

*"We must use time creatively, in the knowledge that the time is always ripe to do right."* — DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

When we ask ourselves who were the greatest activists of all time, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. ranks high on the list. He was a Baptist minister and a civil rights leader. This everyday hero had a global impact that continues to resonate today. He fought for equality and human rights for African-Americans. He expanded his message to advocate for the poor, for universal labour issues and for all people. He was arrested thirty times, his house was bombed and he was surveilled by the FBI. Dr. King motivated the masses like no one else. Over 300,000 people attended his marches over the span of his life. His highly regarded speech "I've Been to the Mountaintop" continues to inspire. At 35, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for fighting inequality. At that time, he was the youngest person to receive that honor.

*The Mountaintop* was written by Katori Hall. She was only 28 years old when her brilliance won her an Olivier Award for Best New Play. She was the first Black woman to achieve such heights. Ms. Hall invites us to spend time with Dr. King and Camae, a maid who works at the Lorraine Motel the night before his untimely death. Through their connection, we're exposed to King's inner

world, his thoughts, his worries and more. In *The Mountaintop*, Hall creates a world where Dr. King's humanity is the focus. She gives him room to simply be himself.

I believe that at the heart of *The Mountaintop* is transformation. Ms. Hall isn't simply asking us to remember times past. Looking back at Dr. King's time with romanticism and nostalgia is not her aim. She is asking us to examine our connection to the world we currently live in. Transformation is key because we all have unique abilities to create change. Dr. King's deeds are timeless because we recognize that we all have so much more work to do in this world. He believed in collective action. Ms. Hall challenges us to consider our relationships to justice, love and the human condition while engaging with the past. Yes, so much has changed. If we look around, we can plainly see that too much has remained the same.

May *The Mountaintop* illuminate what we can do to bring more justice and love into the world through action. Let us use our time on earth creatively and know when the time is ripe to take a stand. Just like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. ●

# The Mountaintop

By Katori Hall

February 26 – March 14, 2021

Director ..... Audrey Dwyer<sup>†</sup>  
 Set Designer..... Brian Perchaluk<sup>†</sup>  
 Costume Designer ..... Rachel Forbes  
 Lighting & Video Designer..... Hugh Conacher  
 Sound Designer ..... Chris Coyne  
 Dialect Coach..... Amani Dorn  
 Fight Director..... Jacquie Loewen  
 Assistant Director..... Hazel Venzon\*  
 Stage Manager..... Leslie Watson<sup>†</sup>  
 Assistant Stage Manager..... Michael Duggan<sup>†</sup>  
 Video Production..... Frank Digital

## THE CAST (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

Camae ..... Cherissa Richards<sup>†</sup>  
 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. .... Ray Strachan

**SETTING:** April 3, 1968. Room 306 at the Lorraine Motel, Memphis, Tennessee.

Original Broadway production produced by Jean Doumanian, Sonia Friedman Productions, Ambassador Theatre Group, Raise the Roof 7, Ted Snowdon, Alhadeff Productions/Lauren Doll, B square + 4 Productions/Broadway Across America, Jacki Barlia Florin/Cooper Federman, Ronnie Planalp/Moellenberg Taylor and Marla Rubin Productions/Blumenthal Performing Arts, in association with Scott Delman.

THE MOUNTAINTOP was developed at the Lark Play Development Center, New York City, and was first produced by Theatre 503 in June 2009 and further produced at Trafalgar Studio One in July 2009 by Sonia Friedman Productions and Jean Doumanian, Tali Pelman for Ambassador Theatre Group, Bob Bartner, Freddy DeMann, Jerry Frankel, Ted Snowdon and Marla Rubin Productions Ltd.

THE MOUNTAINTOP was developed at the 2008 Bay Area Playwrights Festival, a program of the Playwrights Foundation (Amy L. Mueller, Artistic Director).

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Production photography by Hugh Conacher.

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\*Position funded through the Jean Murray - Moray Sinclair Theatre Apprenticeship Program

†Past Jean Murray - Moray Sinclair Scholarship award recipient



## ARTISTS



**Cherissa Richards**  
Camae

**ROYAL MTC** Assistant Director: *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley*. Actor: *Sense and Sensibility*, *Di and Viv and Rose*, *A Christmas Carol*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (with Citadel), *Mrs. Warren's Profession*.

**OTHER THEATRE** Director: *Subjection of Kezia*, *Poof* (Shaw); *New Beginnings* (Sarasvati); *The Game* (Sarasvati FemFest); *The Power of Harriet T* (MTYP). Assistant Director: *Hamlet* (Stratford Festival 2020); *Ladykillers*, *Getting Married* (Shaw); *Timon of Athens* (Bard on the Beach); *The Jungle Book* (MTYP). Actor: *Intimate Apparel*, *House at Pooh Corner*, *1837: The Farmers' Revolt*, *Dracula*, *Richard III*, *The Power of Harriet T*, *Eating Pomegranates Naked*, *Tough Case*, *Eternal Hydra*, *Dirty Butterfly*, *On the Rocks*, *The Admirable Crichton*, *An Ideal Husband*, *The Doctor's Dilemma*.

**FILM/TV** Actor: *Burden of Truth*, *Starlight Christmas*, *12 Dates of Christmas*, *The Secret Ingredient*, *Tales From The Hood 3*, *A Dog's Journey*, *Under the Autumn Moon*, *A Christmas In Tennessee*, *Max & Shred*, *The Christmas Heart*, *Wrong Turn 4*, *Heater*.

**TRAINING/TEACHING** M.F.A. Acting - York University, National Theatre School, B.A.H. Theatre - University of Winnipeg, Ecole Philippe Gaulier-Clown. Instructor: 1st year Theatre Performance - University of Winnipeg, York University.



**Ray Strachan**  
*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

**ROYAL MTC** *It's a Wonderful Life: The Radio Play*, *Shakespeare in Love* (with Citadel), *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (with TC).

**OTHER THEATRE** *The Tempest* (Citadel); *Deserter*, *Remember the Night* (Moving Target); *Hedda Noir* (Theatre NorthWest); *The Whipping Man* (WJT); *Romeo and Juliet* (SIR); *Dutchman* (PlayOn Theatre); *Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead* (Black Hole Theatre Company).

**TRAINING** Black Hole Theatre Company; Banff Centre for The Arts.

**ET CETERA** "A man dies when he refuses to stand up for that which is right. A man dies when he refuses to stand up for justice. A man dies when he refuses to take a stand for that which is true." - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

*"They hate so easily,  
and we love too much."*

— DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

## ARTISTS



**Katori Hall**  
*Playwright*

Olivier Award-winning and two-time Tony-nominated Memphis-native Katori Hall is the bookwriter and co-producer of the West End and Broadway hit, *Tina: The Tina Turner Musical*. She's also the executive producer and showrunner of *P-Valley*, the breakout Starz drama based on her play *Pussy Valley*. Katori's latest piece, *The Hot Wing King*, premiered in Spring 2020 at the Signature Theatre, rounding out her three-play residency. She is best known for *The Mountaintop*, which won the Olivier Award for Best New Play in 2010 before opening on Broadway in October 2011 to critical acclaim. Katori's other works include the award-winning *Hurt Village*, *Hoodoo Love*, *Saturday Night/Sunday Morning*, *Our Lady of Kibeho* and *The Blood Quilt*. She is also the director of the award-winning short, *Arkabutla*. Katori is an alumna of Columbia University, ART at Harvard University and Juilliard. She's also a graduate of the Sundance Episodic Lab's inaugural class, the Sundance Screenwriting Lab and Ryan Murphy's Half Foundation Directing Program. She is a proud member of the Ron Brown Scholar Program and the Coca-Cola Scholar Program. She's currently developing multiple projects across film, television and theatre.



**Audrey Dwyer**  
*Director*

**ROYAL MTC** Director: *Women of the Fur Trade*. Consulting Director: *Bang Bang* (with Belfry). Actor: *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* (with Mirvish), *Good People*, *Medea* (with Mirvish), *The Crucible*. Dramaturg: *Tiny Plays*, *Big Ideas* (upcoming).

**OTHER THEATRE** Director: *Prairie Nurse* (Lighthouse Theatre); *Calpurnia* (Nightwood Theatre/Sulong Theatre); *The Apology* (Rabiayshna Productions).

**TRAINING** National Theatre School of Canada.

**ET CETERA** Audrey is Royal MTC's Associate Artistic Director and is a multi-disciplinary artist with over 20 years experience working as an actor, director, playwright, teacher, artistic director, facilitator and mentor. She won the Cayle Chernin Award for Theatre in 2015. She has been nominated for four Dora Awards and has won three. She has been nominated for the Pauline McGibbon Award for Direction twice. She was the Artistic Director of Cow Over Moon Children's Theatre. She was the Urjo Kareda Artist in Residence and the Assistant Artistic Director of Tarragon Theatre.

*"The world is all messed up. The nation is sick, trouble is in the land, confusion all around. ...But I know, somehow, that only when it is dark enough can you see the stars."*

— DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

*I believe in the theatre.  
I believe that in a great city,  
or even in a small city or a  
village, a great theatre is  
the outward and visible  
sign of an inward and  
probable culture.*

- Sir Laurence Olivier -

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## ARTISTS



**Brian Perchaluk**  
Set Designer

**ROYAL MTC** Recent and favourites: *The Color Purple* (with Citadel), *The Cottage, John, A Doll's House, The Humans, Di and Viv and Rose, Once* (with Grand), *Sarah Ballenden, Black Coffee, Billy Elliot the Musical, The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance, Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Jersey Lily, A Christmas Story, Harvey, August: Osage County, The Boys in the Photograph* (with Mirvish), *The Lonesome West, Patience, Picasso at the Lapin Agile* (with NAC), *M. Butterfly* (with NAC).

**OTHER THEATRE** Brian's work has been featured at theatres across the country, including two seasons each at the Shaw and Stratford festivals. Selected recent credits include: *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)* (TPM); *La Cantatrice chauve et La Leçon* (Théâtre Cercle Molière); *The Whipping Man* (WJT); *Beauty and the Beast, Mamma Mia!* (Rainbow); *The Wedding Party, New Magic Valley Fun Town, Prairie Nurse, Gracie, The Flats* (PTE); *A Little Night Music* (Dry Cold).

**TRAINING** Graduate of U of W and NTS.

**ET CETERA** Recipient of Gemini, Jessie Richardson, Prix Rideau and Evie Awards.



**Rachel Forbes**  
Costume Designer

**ROYAL MTC** First engagement.

**OTHER THEATRE** Set and Costume Design: *Serving Elizabeth* (WCT); *A Million Billion Pieces, Risky Phil* (YPT); *Victory, 1837: The Farmers' Revolt* (Shaw); *The Bridge* (Neptune/2b Theatre); *Choir Boy* (Centaur); *Iterate* (Mile Zero Dance). Costume Design: *A Streetcar Named Desire, The Brothers Size* (Soulpepper); *Fences* (Grand). Set Design: *School Girls* (Obsidian Theatre); *In The Abyss* (Political Movement).

**FILM** Shorts: *21 Black Futures* (Obsidian/CBC); *A Revolution of Love* (THM/Awakenings); *Body So Fluorescent* (Madonnanera/Inside Out).

**TEACHING** She has designed, mentored and taught at Ryerson University and is currently serving on the board of directors of the Associated Designers of Canada.

**ET CETERA** Rachel received a Dora Mavor Moore Award for her costume design on *The Brothers Size* (Soulpepper 2019) and a Merritt Award for her set design on *The Bridge* (2b/Neptune 2019).

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### Hugh Conacher

*Lighting & Video Designer*

**ROYAL MTC** *All is Bright* (Lighting Director), *Women of the Fur Trade*, *Fun Home*, *The Color Purple* (with Citadel), *A Doll's House* (Lighting & Video Designer), *It's a Wonderful Life: The Radio Play*, *Vietgone* (Lighting & Video Designer), *Heisenberg*, *The Humans*, *Outside Mullingar*, *Kill Me Now* (with NAC), *Hand to God*, *Million Dollar Quartet*, *My Name is Asher Lev* (with Segal), *Things We Do For Love*, *Seminar* (with Mirvish), *The Woman in Black*, *Cabaret* (2015), *The Glass Menagerie* (2014, 1989/90), *Venus in Fur* (Lighting & Video Designer), *The Penelopiad*, *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, *After Miss Julie*, *Macbeth* (with English Suitcase Theatre Company), *Dry Lips Oughta Move to Kapuskasing*, *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, *Beautiful Lake Winnipeg*, *A Walk in the Woods*, *Frankenstein: Playing with Fire*.

**OTHER THEATRE** Hugh has collaborated with choreographers, visual artists and dance and theatre companies worldwide. In Winnipeg, his work has been seen with Canada's RWB, QDance, Gearshifting Performance Works, PTE, TPM and MTYP, to name a few.

**ET CETERA** Hugh enjoys working beyond the constraints of traditional lighting design using various forms of interactive media, video and photography. His photographic work resides in private collections and has been published worldwide. Hugh is a member of the Associated Designers of Canada and L'Association des professionnels des arts de la scène du Québec [www.pellucid.me](http://www.pellucid.me).



### Chris Coyne

*Sound Designer*

**ROYAL MTC** *Fun Home*, *Kill Me Now* (with NAC), *The Hound of the Baskervilles* 2016 (Tour).

**OTHER THEATRE** Chris has had the pleasure of working with many local and international theatre groups. Credits include *Routes* 2016/17 Tour (MTYP); *The Hound of the Baskervilles* Mar. 2015, *Little Thing* Sept. 2015 (PTE); *EDEN* 2013 (Sarasvati); *Bashir Lazhar* Mar. 2013 (TPM); *Angels in America* 2012, *Perestroika* 2014 (WJT); *Three Sisters* 2011 (zone41).

**TRAINING** Chris is a graduate of the Ontario Institute of Audio Recording Technology.

**ET CETERA** Chris has been involved in the theatre industry in Winnipeg for many years. Currently working as Royal MTC's Technical Director at the John Hirsch Mainstage.



### Amani Dorn

*Dialect Coach*

**ROYAL MTC** First engagement.

**OTHER THEATRE** *Victory* (Capitol Classics).

**TRAINING/TEACHING** University of California at Irvine; Knight-Thompson Speech Trainer Certification; Fitzmaurice Voice Training.

**ET CETERA** Amani Dorn is a dialect coach originally from Austin, Texas currently residing in Atlanta, Georgia. She is professionally represented by Pamela Vanderway at Entertainment Linguistics. Amani coaches actors preparing accents for auditions, roles and their careers. She is beyond excited to join the team on this very relevant work. [amanidorndialects.com](http://amanidorndialects.com)

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## ARTISTS



**Jacquie Loewen**  
*Fight Director*

**ROYAL MTC** Fight Director (selected):  
*Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical* (with Arts Club/Citadel), *Vietgone* (with fu-GEN/Hope and Hell), *Hand to God*, *Unnecessary Farce*, *Private Lives*, *Gone With the Wind*, *August: Osage County*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Seafarer*. Actor: *Alice Through the Looking-Glass*, *Top Girls*.

**OTHER THEATRE** Fight Director (selected):  
*Macbeth* (Bard on the Beach); Indigenous Playwrights New Works Workshop (PTC - Vancouver); *Beauty and the Beast* (Rainbow); *The Flood Thereafter* (CS); *Don Giovanni* (Manitoba Opera); *Macbeth*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *The Taming of the Shrew* (SIR); *Prairie Nurse* (PTE).

**TEACHING** U of Winnipeg, U of Manitoba, Trinity Western, Simon Fraser University, Kansas State University.

**ET CETERA** Jacqueline was a founding member of the Canadian Comedy Award-nominated sketch group, Hot Thespian Action. She has adapted/directed several operas for site-specific performances for Manitoba Underground Opera, Little Opera Company, and Flipside Opera, and is currently developing a theatre-for-one show with Theatre Projects Manitoba.



# Your seat awaits.

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**We'd love to honour you as a member of  
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For more information on Legacy Giving, contact:  
Chris Turyk 204 954 6412 or [cturyk@royalmtc.ca](mailto:cturyk@royalmtc.ca)

ROYAL  
**MTC**  
MANITOBA THEATRE CENTRE



## ARTISTS



**Hazel Venzon**  
*Assistant Director*

**ROYAL MTC** First engagement.

**OTHER THEATRE** Directing: *Stories Houses Tell* (PTE); *BELTFEST 'N CHILL* (UNIT); *EMBRACE* (Nakai); *Haircuts By Children*, *Children's Choice Awards*, *Eat The Street*, *These Are The People In Your Neighbourhood* (Mammalian); Assistant Directing: *By Grand Central Station* (PTE). Select Acting: *Kismet*, *Things Have Changed* and *Kismet: one to one hundred* (The Chop); *Blank and San Diego* (Rumble); *Happy Place* (PTE); *Young Drunk Punk* (YAC); *Jitters* (Belfry); *Nanay: a testimonial Play* (Urban Crawl); *Wee Tube* (Replacement); *East of the Sun*, *West of the Moon* (Caravan); *The Shoes That Were Danced To Pieces* (Boca); *The Leisure Society* (Ruby).

**FILM/TV** Director: *Mabuhay a musical journey* (Bluewater Buffalo/UNIT); 1st AD: *I Knew My Murderer* (Frantic Films); 2nd AD: *Gone* (Buffalo Gal); *Perfect Match* (Farpoint). Acting: *Christmas By Starlight*, *Two Turtle Doves* (Hallmark); *Let's Meet Again*, *Forever Christmas* (Lifetime); *Percy*; *Reasonable Doubt*; *The Gesture*; *Burden of Truth* (CBC/Netflix).

**TRAINING** Director's Process, Suzuki and Viewpoints (PTE); Improv (Second City); Studio 58 (Langara); Black Hole Theatre Program, School of Fine Arts (U of M).

**ET CETERA** Hazel is the Artistic Director and Producer of U 'N I Together (UNIT) Productions, Dramaturg in Residence at MAP, Mentor for Creative Manitoba's Youth Mentorship Program, Coach for Creative Manitoba's MENTORLY Coaching Program.



**Leslie Watson**  
*Stage Manager*

**ROYAL MTC** Stage Manager: *The Color Purple* (with Citadel), *A Doll's House, Part 2* (with Mirvish), *Once* (with Grand), *Kill Me Now* (with NAC), *Black Coffee*, *My Name is Asher Lev* (with Segal), *Myth of the Ostrich*, *Late Company*, *Cabaret*, *Venus in Fur*, *The Melville Boys* (tour), *Wingfield on Ice* (tour), *Looking Back - West*, *Bad Dates* (tour). Assistant Stage Manager: *As You Like It* (with Citadel), *Billy Elliot the Musical*, *Jane Eyre*, *Gone With the Wind*, *Grumpy Old Men: The Musical*, *White Christmas*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Educating Rita* (tour), *Guys and Dolls* (with TC/Citadel). Talent Coordinator: *All is Bright*.

**OTHER THEATRE** Over 50 productions at theatres around Winnipeg and Canada, including Rainbow Stage, Prairie Theatre Exchange, Shakespeare in the Ruins, Manitoba Theatre for Young People and Winnipeg Jewish Theatre.

**TRAINING** Graduate of Sheridan College and member of CAEA.

**ET CETERA** Leslie owns and operates Updog Boutique, with the support and love of her husband, Sean and her dog, Murtaugh - [updogboutique.com](http://updogboutique.com).

## ARTISTS



### Michael Duggan

Assistant Stage  
Manager

**ROYAL MTC** Stage Manager: *Vietgone* (with fu-GEN/Hope and Hell), *Hand to God*. Assistant Stage Manager: *The Color Purple* (with Citadel), *A Christmas Carol*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (with Citadel), *Chimerica*, *Clever Little Lies*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Other People's Money*. Apprentice Stage Manager: *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, *In the Next Room or THE VIBRATOR PLAY*, *The Shunning*, *Brief Encounter*, *The Seafarer*, *Steel Magnolias*. Props: *Gone With the Wind*.

**OTHER THEATRE** *Dragonfly*, *Mary's Wedding* (TPM); *Mamma Mia!*, *Les Misérables* (Rainbow); *Ghost Light*, *New Magic Valley Fun Town*, *Fly Me to the Moon* (PTE); *Am I Not King? The Last Concert of Richard II* (zone41); *Hamlet*, *Timon of Athens* (SIR); *A Year with Frog and Toad* (MTYP).

**TRAINING** B.A. (Hons) in Theatre Production and Stage Management at the University of Winnipeg.

**ET CETERA** Enjoy the show!



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Video Production

FRANK Digital is a full-service video production studio & world-class post-production facility, with operations in Winnipeg. Our focus, whether we are producing commercials, documentaries, or television series, is to produce thought-provoking, socially responsible content. FRANK has an affinity for working with organizations that do good in the world and encourage their audience to achieve great things as citizens. With this in mind, we have produced multi-award-winning commercials, documentaries and corporate films for agencies and brands. We know how to conceptualize, create, and deliver creative products which exceed client expectations on all levels. ●



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Kelly Thornton, Artistic Director, Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre



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## Resources

We hope you enjoyed *The Mountaintop*! Want to support and know more about our local Black community? We encourage you to check out these organizations below.



Black Owned Business Manitoba's directory features a wide range of black owned businesses, brands, professionals, bloggers and artists for every consumer to support. They understand how difficult it is to find black owned businesses and services in Manitoba. They can help you buy locally, and support our city's economy, while advancing the economics of black communities. [blackownedmb.com](http://blackownedmb.com)



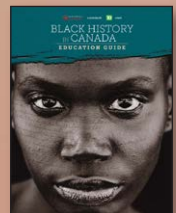
Black History Manitoba (BHMCC) has been active in Winnipeg for 40 years now. They are dedicated volunteers committed to educating our province about Black History, cultural diversity and multiculturalism. They strive to be a portal of information and resources to connect our community. One of their mandates has always been keeping young people connected, educated and involved. [bhmwinnipeg.com](http://bhmwinnipeg.com)



The African Communities of Manitoba Inc. (ACOMI) has been at the center of African programming in Manitoba for over 20 years, working to improve the lives of people of African descent. They provide a wide array of programs and services that include employment programming, settlement services, community gatherings, youth programming, supports to families in need, food support, mental health support and culturally relevant programs. [africancommunities.ca](http://africancommunities.ca)

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Interested in learning more about Black history in Canada? Check out this informative education guide by Historica Canada - [education.historicacanada.ca/files/19/EN\\_BlackHistory\\_Digital.pdf](http://education.historicacanada.ca/files/19/EN_BlackHistory_Digital.pdf). ●





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Ray Strachan in *The Mountaintop*.

PHOTO BY HUGH CONACHER



## Creating a Legacy of Storytelling

*“I watched *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* on stage when I was young and knew then – I wanted to do that. I wanted to tell stories that were magical and powerful.”* – KATORI HALL

Katori Hall's play *The Mountaintop* is certainly full of magical and transformative moments. It's a story that strips away the public persona of a larger-than-life hero and reveals a flawed person dealing with his own challenges. That's the magic of live theatre. It draws us into a story and invites us to deepen our understanding of what it means to be human.

This has been a year full of challenges, one of which is how to take the very essence of live theatre and move it into a digital space. Thanks to your support, we've made the leap and will be welcoming you into our virtual theatre. As difficult as this year has been, we are so grateful for your messages sharing how much you miss theatre and how meaningful it is in your lives.

Members of our Founders' Circle have been so moved by magical and powerful stories that they've planned to leave a gift in their wills to ensure that future generations continue to be welcomed into the theatre. At Royal MTC, we want to show our love to those thoughtful patrons who've chosen to leave a legacy gift. Become a member of the Founders' Circle by letting us know your plans and receive recognition in MTC programs and on our Founders' Circle wall, as well as access to exclusive donor events throughout the season.

If you have named Royal MTC in your will or have questions about legacy giving, please let us know by contacting Chris Turyk, Development Manager, at 204 954 6412 or [cturyk@royalmtc.ca](mailto:cturyk@royalmtc.ca). ●



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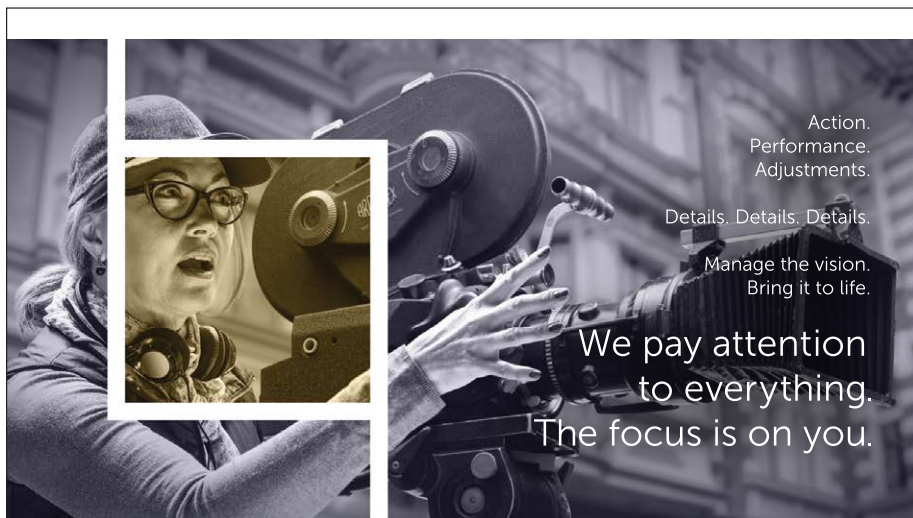
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