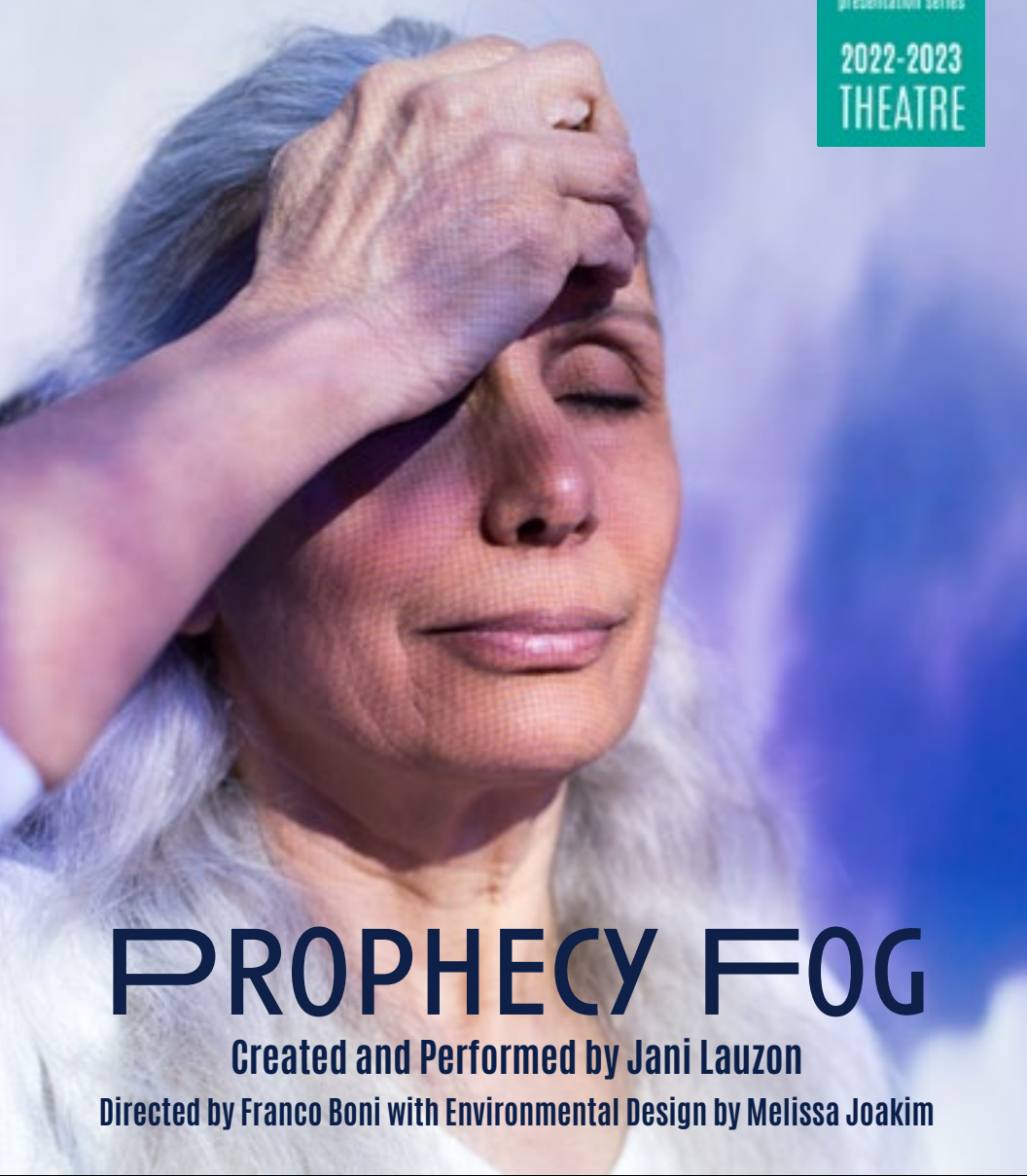




SPOTLIGHT
presentation series

2022-2023
THEATRE



PROPHECY FOG

Created and Performed by Jani Lauzon



Directed by Franco Boni with Environmental Design by Melissa Joakim



**VERNON & DISTRICT
PERFORMING
ARTS CENTRE
SOCIETY**

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2023 AT 7:30PM

Vernon & District Performing Arts Centre

Tickets:  **250-549-SHOW (7469)**  **vdpac.ca**



2022-2023 SPOTLIGHT Season


COMING SOON!

Tickets: 250-549-SHOW (7469) vdpac.ca

BALLETJÖRGEN Cinderella




SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2023 AT 7:30PM



**ballet
edmonton**

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 2023 AT 7:30PM



BY STILL HUNGRY

RAVEN

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2023 AT 7:30PM




Prophecy Fog

Created and performed by Jani Lauzon

Directed by Franco Boni

Environmental Design by Melissa Joakim

Dramaturgy: Brian Quirt

Movement Consultant: Julia Aplin

Cultural Consultants: Pauline Shirt and Sadie Buck

Originally developed through The Theatre Centre's Tracy Wright Global Archive with additional support by Nightswimming's OAC Creation Residency, the Banff Playwrights Lab, and Native Earth Performing Arts.

This tour was made possible with the support of The Canada Council for the Arts, The Theatre Centre, Nightswimming Theatre and Ontario Presents

Paper Canoe Projects would like to thank

Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Presents, The Theatre Centre, The Ontario Arts Council, Native Earth Performing Arts, Banff Playwrights Lab, Justis Danto-Clancy, Remington North, David Cherniack, Tara Sky, Don Koch, Trevor Schwellnus, Marjorie Chan, Kate Ann Vandermeer, Soheil Parsa, Brittany Ryan, Karyn Recollet, Brenda Leadlay, Smith Purdy, Peter Millard. Additional footage of Giant Rock used by permission from David Cherniack

About Paper Canoe Projects

Paper Canoe Projects was founded in 2013 by Jani Lauzon and Tara Sky to support the development and production of multidisciplinary projects in Theatre, Film and Music. Paper Canoe Projects seeks to explore the connection between body memory and creative expression in the development of new works.

Managing Artistic Director: Jani Lauzon
Associate Artist: Tara Sky

CREATOR'S NOTES

I am guided by the legacy and continued presence of Tracy Wright. I am guided by the memories and presence of my mother, Sam Osawamick, my daughter Tara Sky and the grandmothers and ancestors who are with me on this journey. I am forever indebted to the leaders at The Theatre Centre and Nightswimming who truly understand what it means to support artists and therefore the work they create. And most of all I am thankful for the opportunity to stretch my artistic muscle in a way that I have never experienced before. I am humbled by the lessons I have learned from the stones who have demanded that they be present throughout the creation of the work. They are more than my scene partners. And I thank you all for joining me to contemplate a different way of looking at our precious and amazing world.

Jani Lauzon in *Prophecy Fog*, photo by Dahlia Katz



CREATIVE TEAM



Jani Lauzon | Writer/Performer/Producer

Jani Lauzon is a multidisciplinary artist of Métis ancestry. She is a 10 time Dora Mavor Moore nominated actor/director/writer, a three time Juno nominated singer/songwriter, an award winning screen actress, a Gemini Award winning puppeteer and a Toronto Theatre Critics award winning director. She recently received the ACTRA Toronto Award of Excellence celebrating both her body of work and her commitment to advocacy for inclusion as well as the John Hirsch Directing Award. 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). Television guest appearances include *Ruby and the Well*, *Something Undone*, *Saving Hope* and *Conspiracy of Silence*. She won Best Actress at Dreamspeakers and the American Indian Film Festival for her portrayal of Doris in *A Windigo Tale*. She recently directed and co-wrote (with Kaitlyn Riordan) a successful run of *1939* at the Stratford Festival. Her company Paper Canoe Projects was created in 2013 to support the creation of her works that include: *Prophecy Fog*, *A Side of Dreams*, *I Call myself Princess*, *Just One Word* and *euthanasia* (short films).



Franco Boni | Director/Dramaturg

Franco is a recognized cultural innovator, facilitator and community builder with a demonstrated track record of restoring financial stability and artistic credibility for local art organizations and festivals for over two decades. He is currently the Executive and Program Director for The Regent Theatre, leading the design and restoration of a 600 seat theatre in Toronto's Mount Pleasant neighbourhood. From 2003 - 2019 Franco served as Artistic Director of The Theatre Centre, leading the company in the restoration of a former Carnegie Library into its new performance venue on Queen Street West. During his time at The Theatre Centre, he directed two works: *Sea Sick* by Alanna Mitchell and *Prophecy Fog* by Jani Lauzon.

Awards include the George Luscombe Award for mentorship, the inaugural Ken McDougall Award for emerging directors, and was the Rita Davies Cultural Leadership Award, recognizing his outstanding leadership in the development of arts and culture in the City of Toronto.



Melissa Joakim | Environmental Design/Production Manager

Melissa Joakim is a lighting and projection designer and scenographer. She is a recipient of a Dora Award in Scenic Design for *Prophecy Fog* (The Theatre Centre, Paper Canoe Projects and Nightswimming Theatre). She has recently collaborated with Outside the March, Ahuri Theatre, Bad New Days, Lucid Ludic, Theatre Why Not, Theatre Passe Muraille, Lemontree Creations, Soundstreams, Signal Theatre, ARC Stage Co, and Crow's Theatre. She is the stage manager and touring lighting designer for *Sea Sick* (Theatre Centre, 2014) which has toured extensively around the world and recently had its USA premiere at The Kennedy Center.



A.J. Morra | Stage Manager/Production Manager

Based in Toronto, A.J. is a graduate of the Technical Theatre Program at Toronto Metropolitan University, and has enjoyed an active career as a Technical Director, Production Manager, and Stage Manager for contemporary dance, opera, circus, and theatre. Selected credits include three seasons with Toronto Dance Theatre, and assorted projects with ProArteDanza, Dreamwalker Dance Company, Groundling Theatre Company, Holla Jazz, Zero Gravity Circus, Soundstreams, and Signal Theatre.



Brian Quirt | Dramaturge, Producer with Nightswimming

Brian Quirt is the Artistic Director of Nightswimming, and Director of the Banff Centre Playwrights Lab. With Nightswimming he has commissioned and developed 30 new works. Nightswimming credits include directing recent national tours of *The Fish Eyes Trilogy* by Anita Majumdar and *Broken Tailbone* by Carmen Aguirre. He has created eight of his own plays, including *Why We Are Here!* (with Martin Julien; High Performance Rodeo; Harbourfront; Belfry Theatre) and *These Are The Songs That I Sing When I'm Sad* (with Jane Miller; Boca del Lupo; Blyth Festival). Brian is the past Board Chair and a past-President of the Literary Managers & Dramaturgs of the Americas (LMDA), and was founding Board Chair of SpiderWebShow Performance.



Julia Aplin | Movement Consultant

Julia has been dancing and creating dances for as long as she can remember. She has performed around the world with Dancemakers and has created dances for theaters, rivers, boxing rings and cyberspace. She continues to explore her fascination with the human body in motion through dance, healing and teaching.
www.juliaaplin.com

CULTURAL ADVISORS



Sam Osawamick

Sam Osawamick was a member of the Odawa nation. He lived in Kaboni on the Wikwemidong Resrve located on Manitoulin Island. He is best known for the stories he shared with writer Basil Johnson including *The Bear Walker and other Stories*.

Sam was a traditional medicine man. He collected medicines from trees and plants in a traditional way, and made teas and salves. He lived a humble life in his home in Kaboni where people from all over the world would come to visit and ask for healing and medicine.



Pauline Shirt

Pauline Shirt was born and raised in Saddle Lake Reserve, Alberta. Pauline is greatly recognized for her commitment to the Toronto Indigenous community and for her dedication as a teacher and lecturer since the late sixties. She is a member of the Three Fires Society and the Buffalo Dance Society.

Being founder of the First Nations School and the Red Willow are just two examples of her hard work ethic and perseverance to enhance the betterment of the Toronto Indigenous community. Today, Pauline serves as a mentor to many Indigenous youth and young families as an experienced and trusted Grandmother.

She also works in all levels of government conducting opening prayers and attending meetings, making sure the Indigenous community is positively recognized as she offers a voice for her people.



Sadie Buck

Sadie Buck was born into a long line of traditional singers and dancers. Her life as a traditional singer has honed her training and performance skill to a master level. Sadie has taken her traditional training ideology and transposed that to her contemporary life as an artist, performer, facilitator, director, author, trainer, researcher and consultant. Sadie is also the lead singer of the Six Nations Women Singers, one of the most influential female Native singing groups. They have recorded with Robbie Robertson and performed at the Presidential inauguration in 1997. Representing the Onkwehonwe people, she is from the Seneca nation of Six Nations of the Grand River Territory and Tonawanda Seneca. Sadie Buck established and ran the Aboriginal Women's Music Program at the Banff Centre for three years where she organized and co-led the JUNO nominated recording, *"Hearts of the Nations"*.

THE VERNON & DISTRICT PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE THANKS THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT



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LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Vernon and District Performing Arts Centre Society respectfully acknowledges that we live, work and play in the northern part of the unceded territory of the Syilx/Okanagan People and that many of their descendants of the Syilx/Suqnaquinx still live here.



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LEARN MORE

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