



REPERCUSSION THEATRE's mission is to deliver professional, classically based, visually dynamic theatre, accessible to all, regardless of income, culture, language, age or education.

PROFESSIONAL THEATRE FOR THE PEOPLE

Repercussion Theatre has been bringing its annual Shakespeare-in-the-Park tour to parks across Quebec and Ontario for 30 years. Each summer, **12,000 audience members** gather in local parks to enjoy live theatre under the stars. At each location, our team assembles and strikes the set on the day of the performance. Our 2017 summer tour had a total of **29 shows in 26 different communities**, including a revived tour leg in Ontario.



A HISTORY OF HIGHLIGHTS

- 1988 First Shakespeare-in-the-Park festival in cludes 4 performances in Beaconsfield, QC.
- 1998 The tour ambitiously expands across Canada and the United States, and is attended by a total of 45,000 people.
- 2005 Collaboration with the Théâtre du Nouveau Monde (TNM) on an English and French tour.
- 2007 Bilingual tour of Molière's *Les fourberies de Scapin* received high critical acclaim.
- 2013 25th anniversary tour of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is attended by over 13,000 people.
- 2015 Amanda Kellock is welcomed as Artistic Director with a focus on artistic excellence, community engagement and gender parity.
- 2016 All-Female production of *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar* is made accessible to francophone audiences through an app developed by Plank Design.
- 2018 Repercussion celebrates its 30th anniversary with a gender-bent revision of *Romeo & Juliet*.

ROMEO & JULIET: **LOVE IS LOVE**

We believe that our role as theatre-makers is to 'hold a mirror up to nature' : to use classic stories to reflect our amazingly diverse audiences and to reimagine our contemporary times. **Cultural diversity** has been an unspoken part of our DNA from the beginning, and more recently we have committed to gender parity both on and off stage. It isn't about "color-blind casting" or **gender-bending** as a gimmick — it's about bringing a plurality of voices into the room to engage with and affect how we interpret and present Shakespeare's plays. As a part of this ongoing commitment, and in honour of this city's amazing **LGBTQ+ community**, our 30th anniversary production will be famed love story Romeo & Juliet featuring a same sex couple as the lead characters. We're so excited to expand the lens through which we imagine this amazing story, and to explore how love is love is love is love.

Supported by | Avec le support de

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Shakespeare-in-the-Park brings exciting and inventive professional theatre to the people. We explore Shakespeare's very human themes with a Montreal flair, bringing communities together to question, imagine, to reflect and to wonder.

Amanda Kellock
Artistic Director, Repercussion Theatre

"If music be the food of love, then last night's show [...] was a feast indeed."

- Anna Fuerstenberg, Montreal Rampage



Staff | Personnel

Artistic Director | Directrice artistique
Amanda Kellock

General Manager | Directrice générale
Zina Koro

General Manager (Interim) |
Directrice générale (par interim)
Karine Kerr-Gillespie

Outreach and Development Coordinator |
Coordonatrice à la diffusion et au développement
Holly Greco

Board of Directors | Conseil d'administration

Corinne Smith, President/Présidente
Ellen Janody, Treasurer, Trésorière
Bernard Moulins, Secretary/Secrétaire
Stephen Bird
Cara Cameron
Jennifer DeLeskie



YOUTH ENGAGEMENT: LOVE OF LEARNING

Children and teens do more than just watch our productions. Through ongoing and ever-evolving activities, many of our younger patrons are given opportunities to engage directly with our productions. In past years, we collaborated with the **Geordie Theatre School** (a company dedicated to theatre for young audiences) on workshops that promote a lifelong love of the arts and encourage creativity. This summer, we hope to refocus our activities, inspired by the themes of our production of *Romeo & Juliet* (i.e. sexual orientation and suicide) while supporting and engaging with **at-risk/marginalized youth**, and spreading the *love is love* message.

"My kids were introduced to Shakespeare by attending Shakespeare in the Park. Sadly many kids only know it as something confusing and hard to read... My daughter cheered when they were going to read Shakespeare in high school."

- Tanya Bagshaw, audience member

GOALS FOR THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY AND BEYOND

- Produce our largest tour in many years, aiming to secure 30 shows for our 30th anniversary;
- Provide our show for free to 3-4 underserved communities;
- Continue to improve our French web application along with the amazing digital design company, Plank. This project allows us to continue our fight for accessibility, welcoming a francophone audience through our app that subtitles the show in real time;
- Engage 3 ASL interpreters for 3 to 5 shows this summer;
- Offer a free professional development workshop for Montreal artists;
- Produce a public reading of two new commissioned Shakespeare inspired plays by Governor General Award winning playwright Erin Shields and rising star Jeff Ho;
- Expand further within Quebec and Ontario;
- Engage an archivist to digitize 30 years of a/v materials – from VHS to CD-ROM to newspaper clippings.



For more information:

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