

*MANY MOTHERS - SEVEN SKIES*

*Staged Reading*  
*Many Mothers Collective*



*July 21 and 22, 2023 7:30 - 9 pm*

*Canmore Opera House*  
*Heritage Park, Calgary, Alberta*

**Canmore Opera House at Heritage Park, Calgary, Alberta**

**July 21 and 22, 2023**

**The Many Mothers Collective**

**presents the staged reading**

**Many Mothers - Seven Skies**

**Developed with support from the Canada Council for the Arts,**

**the Calgary Arts Development Authority, and Heritage Park**

Theatre Consultant	LINDA GABORIAU
Production Manager	KENNEDY GREENE
Event Coordinator	OLEK JANUSZ
Audiovisual Technician	TINA SHEWFELT
Archival Videographer	MATT MCKINNEY
Projection Designer	MANY MOTHER'S COLLECTIVE
Original Compositions	HESTON LETENDRE, ANNA LUMIERE, SUSAN OURIOU, CHRISTIE SIMMONS
Venue Consultant	TREVOR MATHESON
Stage Manager	KENNEDY GREENE



## CAST



**WAKEFIELD BREWSTER, Spoken Word Artist**  
Orator, Chief

Poet Wakefield Brewster stepped onto his first stage as a Spoken Word Artist in 1999. Now he is one of Canada's most powerful Professional Performance Poets. Wakefield became the sixth Poet Laureate of Calgary in 2022, first Black Poet Laureate of Calgary, ever.



**JOAN CRATE, Playwright**  
Norma Jean Munro, Woman

Joan Crate writes both poetry and fiction — and now theatre — and has won several writing awards over the years. The band U2, of whom she's a big fan, featured her poem "I am a Prophet" on screen in their last Canadian tour.



**CHERYL FOGGO, Playwright**  
'Cil, Lawyer 1 (photo credit: Mike Tan)

Cheryl Foggo is an award-winning playwright, author and filmmaker, whose work has focused on the lives of Western Canadians of African descent. Recently, her plays *Heaven* and *John Ware Reclaimed* have received multiple productions. She is a 2022 inductee into the Alberta Order of Excellence.



**LINDA GABORIAU, Theatre consultant**  
Nikokum, Stage directions (photo credit: Josée Lambert)

Linda Gaboriau is an award-winning dramaturg and literary translator based in Montreal. Her translations of plays by Quebec's most prominent playwrights have been published and produced across Canada and abroad. She is a member of the Order of Canada.



**CHRISTOPHER HUNT, Actor**  
Mogul, Kent Clarke, Man, Single Voice (photo credit: Mike Tan)

Christopher Hunt is a versatile actor who has won several of Calgary's Betty Mitchell acting awards. In 2018, he was awarded the Harry and Martha Cohen Award for his sustained and significant contribution to theatre in Calgary.



**TCHITALA NYOTA KAMBA, Playwright**  
Kayowa wa Bayombo

Tchitala Nyota Kamba is a Calgary-based writer, actor, poet, drummer and educator. Originally from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, she has published poetry collections, written for the theatre, and directed performances for Calgary's Alliance Française. Her book *Kayowa wa Bayombo* has just been published in French.



**SHERRY LETENDRE, Playwright**  
Girl/Woman

Sherry Letendre's current work is focused on the Nimi Icinohabi Life Skills program and Healthy Relationship Project for youth. Her journey and passion have led her back to her own community. She credits much of what she has accomplished to the Creator and to her mother for instilling a vision for change in her community.



**KAREN W. OLSON, Playwright**  
Nitanis, Lawyer 2

Karen W. Olson is nehiyaw/anishinaabe of the Marten Clan and from Peguis First Nation. She is the founder of Prairie Thunder Arts, an Indigenous performance company. She is passionate about sharing the stories and teachings of her Indigenous heritages.



**SUSAN OURIU, Playwright, Songwriter**  
Suzanne

Susan Ouriou is an award-winning fiction writer and literary translator with an interest in theatre and song-writing. She was shortlisted for the WGA Georges Bugnet Prize for the first of her two novels, *Damsel fish* and has won the Governor General's Award for Literary Translation.



**BARBARA JOAN SCOTT, Musician/Singer**  
Barbara (photo credit: Jazhart Studios)

In addition to being a musician, Barbara is an award-winning writer of fiction. Her latest novel, *The Taste of Hunger*, published by Freehand Books, was a Quill and Quire Book of the Year for 2022.

## CREATIVE TEAM



### **KENNEDY GREENE**

Production Manager, Stage Manager, Sound

Kennedy Greene has been kept busy over the past few years working as a stage manager/assistant stage manager for Theatre Calgary, Ghost River Theatre, Calgary Opera, Lunchbox, Alberta Theatre Projects, Inside Out, Azimuth, Stage West, Vertigo and Handsome Alice. The Many Mothers would like to thank Kennedy for her invaluable assistance.



### **TREVOR MATHESON**

Venue Consultant

Trevor Matheson is the Artistic Production Coordinator for Heritage Park, spearheading their theatrical activities. He coordinates summer street theatre performances and also the dramatic activities for Ghouls' Night Out and Once Upon a Christmas.

## **With additional thanks to:**

Reneltha Arluk, Akpik Theatre Productions; Kelsey Attard, Freehand Books; Brad Bergevin, Heritage Park Digital Engagement Specialist; Elizabeth Breaker; Denise Clarke, One Yellow Rabbit; Janelle Cooper; Andy Curtis; Stacy Da Silva; Sarah Edwards, Heritage Park Director of Programming and Experience; Ivanna Ihekwoaba; Olek Janusz, Heritage Park Event Coordinator; Aaron Letendre; Norma Lewis; Daniel Libman, Calgary Actors' Studio; Allison Lynch; Douglas MacLeod; Clem Martini; Katheryn Morrissette, Heritage Park Marketing Coordinator; Natalie Olsen, cover designer for *Many Mothers*, *Seven Skies*, *Scenes for Tomorrow*; Joël Ouriou; Bob Pearson, Heritage Park Manager of Community Engagement; Chantal Perron; Brian Quirt, Nightswimming; Colby Clair Stolson, Freehand Books; Pam Taylor, Heritage Park Interim Director of Marketing; Jenna Rodgers; Dominic Terry, Heritage Park Strategic Communications Manager; Michelle Thrush, Making Treaty 7

The Many Mothers acknowledge with gratitude that we live, work and create on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, Piikani), the Tsuut'ina, the Îyâxe Nakoda Nations, and the Métis Nation (Region 3).

*LAUNCH OF ANTHOLOGY  
AFTER THE JULY 21 PERFORMANCE  
ORDER YOUR COPY OF  
MANY MOTHERS, SEVEN SKIES  
FROM YOUR FAVORITE BOOKSTORE OR:*

