



**MISCELLANEOUS  
PRODUCTIONS**



## **EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT**

For the Year 2017

June 3, 2018

### **MISCELLANEOUS Productions Society**

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

In 2017, the Board continued to build on its renewal work of the previous year, assessing our strengths and needs. Following some director recruitment efforts, we are pleased to welcome Colleen Rogen to the Board. She brings a wealth of coaching, assessment, and operations organization experience. In addition to building the Board's strengths, we're pleased to be involved in the *Next Generation* work being led by Elaine, which is developing the leadership potential for MISCELLANEOUS Productions.

We're thrilled to see the production of *Monsters* come to life, no pun intended. At the AGM last year, we held an open rehearsal of *Monsters* and had an excellent turn out of the youth, parents, and community. Since then it's gone to full production at The Dance Centre, a tour to Catalonia, and now beginning tours across Canada. We hope to see another strong turnout at this year's AGM where we'll be showing some clips of *Monsters* as recorded during performances at The Dance Centre.

Sincerely,

Kurt Horne, President  
MISCELLANEOUS Productions

## A MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR OF MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTIONS

I am pleased and proud to report that 2017 was another busy and successful year for MISCELLANEOUS Productions Society.

Before I get into an overview of our activities, I would like to take this opportunity to extend a very special thank you to our fabulous 2017 Board of Directors: Kurt Horne, Rob Wilson, Michael Parfett, Amneet Dhillon and our newest Board member, Colleen Rogan.

2017 saw rehearsals, creation and production of *Monsters*, two Open Rehearsals/Community Forum, full production/presentation of *Monsters* at The Dance Centre' Faris Studio Theatre, continuation of our work with Michelle Leona Vine as our Indigenous Outreach Worker/Assistant Director on a grant from the First People's Cultural Council, professionally filmed document of *Monsters*, a tour of three professionals and one youth to Catalonia, Artistic Director's research in Andalusia, Spain, receiving a major contribution from Canadian Heritage Interaction Multiculturalism for the Canadian workshop and film tour of *Monsters* and the *Next Generation* project for five paid internships funded by the Vancouver Foundation.

- *Monsters* was MISCELLANEOUS Productions' new major project that began the creation and rehearsal process in 2016. In 2017, we continued to pursue support from major funders, and also continued with further research and creative development. We continued the work of creating this new anti-bullying musical based on Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*. The cast of culturally and socially diverse youth were trained by the best community-engaged professional Artistic and Technical Team in Canada. We continued to research monsters from the youth cast members' own cultures, train the youth in a variety of performance disciplines and styles, and rehearse this new play. I also continued to work with our brilliant team of designers on this work set in a mythical and yet industrial era, apocalyptic, strange and fascinating. This was one of our most talented casts, and though this group of youth have many challenges and barriers, they are courageous, resilient and powerful. We presented our first Open Rehearsal / Community Forum of *Monsters* on April 28, 2017 – full video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jLTvVsQB6VU> -, our second Open Rehearsal / presentation at our AGM on June 4, 2017 and the full production in October 6 and 7, 2017. Our 3 PM show on October 7, 2017 was a free matinee for local youth groups, agencies and schools.

We filmed a document of the entire show that will be online and free for viewing for the public in 2018. A trailer for MISCELLANEOUS Productions' *Monsters* can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r6IUkejTDgk> -.

- Through a grant from the First People's Cultural Council, we worked with Indigenous Outreach Worker/Assistant Director/Administrative Assistant Michelle Leona Vine as an intern until her maternity leave began at the end of March 2018. Michelle is Status Indigenous of the White River First Nation Band in the Yukon. Michelle was

incredibly organized and thrived as an administration assistant and assistant director of *Monsters*. On our behalf, she had contacted every band office and Indigenous youth-serving program in British Columbia and promoted the work of MISCELLANEOUS Productions. She updated our database of Indigenous bands and youth-serving programs. Her background in theatre made her the perfect candidate to work with the diverse youth and company of professionals.

- With a grant from the Canada Council for the Arts, we travelled to Catalonia for a month-long residency at the Centre d'Art i Natura, Farerra in November 2017. While in-residence there, we created an original version of MISCELLANEOUS Productions' *Monsters* for and with students from Institut Hug Roger III in the City of Sort. Working in English with a translator and teachers from the school, students were enthusiastic and receptive to the concept of *Monsters*. We worked with the community to create a performance based on Catalanian, Basque, Andalusian, Romanian, Algerian and Columbian monsters and mythical creatures that included individual monologues, a group dance and a song. The show was received enthusiastically by the community and we were invited to return to work with students again in November 2019.

In December, I also travelled to Andalusia, Spain to conduct research for our new project with a working title of *Refuge/Refugee/Reconciliation – RRR*. In this new work, we will be exploring themes of home/homeland, identity and belonging.

In the midst of our residency in Catalonia, we also received amazing news: we were granted funding from Canadian Heritage for the 2017 performance and film document, and to conduct our first ever Canadian workshop tour. We immediately began planning for a tour to Burnaby, Coquitlam, Surrey, Mission/Abbotsford, Kelowna/West Kelowna/Westbank First Nations Territory, Prince George, Calgary, Regina, Winnipeg and Toronto that will take place in 2018. We will be giving workshops to culturally and socially diverse youth in 2018, screening our film of *Monsters* at small community-engaged/arts for social change theatre companies and lecture/presentations at the University of Regina and University of Winnipeg. Our community partners are MOSAIC, S.U.C.C.E.S.S., Fraserview Learning Centre, Westbank First Nation, Camp Trapping and Immigrant and Multicultural Services Society, Sunworks Studio and the Riel Institute, Rainbow Youth Centre, Macdonald Youth Services and Blake Boulton Youth Services.

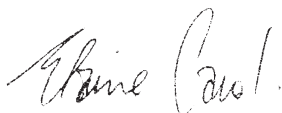
- We also received funding from the Vancouver Foundation for our *Next Generation* project which aims to train and guide a group of young professionals to create social change within the Canadian Theatre scene, particular in artistic leadership. Our team of young professionals formed under the *Next Generation* project grant include *POWER* (2009) alumni and Choreographers/Assistant Directors Megan de León Solís and Sabera Hamid, *Kutz & Dawgs* (2013) alumni and Assistant Director Jorge Alcalá, *Monsters* cast member/Youth Leader Tiffany Yang, and Dance Therapist/Assistant Director Veronica Berezowsky.

- Another important accomplishment in 2017 was the further solidification of our relationship with a wonderful community partner: The Dance Centre. They continue to provide us with subsidized rehearsal, office and meeting space. We are so very grateful – both for the venue itself, which is beautiful and welcoming, and for the positive, always professional treatment that our staff and youth cast members have received from The Dance Centre staff. A special thank you goes out to Mirna Zagar, Robin Naiman, Ashka Dudzic, Alice Jones, Tacky, Maurucio and other staff for their support and assistance.
- Our young performers, Artistic and Production Teams, board members, volunteers, youth community participants and partners have all shown amazing support and commitment over the course of the past year and we are deeply grateful. I would especially like to thank our contract workers, many of whom have donated part or all of their fees back to the organization, and have exhibited tremendous dedication to our artistic work in collaboration with our “community of communities.”

I want to recognize these generous and talented people for their belief in MISCELLANEOUS Productions’ work, their willingness to collaborate with culturally and socially diverse youth in the community, and their passion for employing art as a tool for personal transformation and social change. With continued development and vision, we lay the groundwork for a better future for young, underserved artists and to provide them with unique and very professional opportunities. MISCELLANEOUS Productions brings the arts to youth from marginalized communities, providing accessible creation and production opportunities to youth who have little to no access to the professional performing arts.

We continue to be recognized locally, nationally and internationally for our aesthetic in youth performing arts and committed support of the young people in our programs!

With thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Elaine Carol". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Elaine" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Carol".

Elaine Carol

Artistic Director, MISCELLANEOUS Productions





## DESCRIPTION OF MAJOR PROJECTS

**Monsters:** ISCELLANEOUS Productions' professional Artistic Team continued work with culturally and socially diverse, multi-barriered youth to create, produce and present a new music theatre performance work for children, exploring monsters from culturally diverse cultures (historical, pre-modern, Indigenous and traditional) as well as futuristic monsters in popular culture, which youth learned to understand and eventually meaningfully integrate into stories from their own lives. We compared, contrasted and juxtaposed these Monsters with their own "monsters within." We presented two Open Rehearsal / Community Forum in April and June 2017, and three fully produced performances at The Dance Centre Faris Studio Theatre in October 2017.

**Refuge/Refugee/Reconciliation** (working title), in-development throughout 2017 will bring together a team of professional with an exceptionally talented and under-served group of youth. MP's professional artistic team will work with youth to create a new music theatre performance work exploring the concept of 'refuge / refugee / reconciliation' from culturally diverse cultures – Indigenous and settler, which youth can learn to understand and eventually meaningfully integrate into stories from their own lives. This participatory research would focus on the art and literature from international cultures around concepts of home/homeland, belonging and identity.

For Indigenous youth participating in this project, these ideas will run deeper and differently from settler youth. The concepts and exchange of oral history performance will bring youth together as we use art as a vehicle for reconciliation. In the past few

years, we have worked with many Indigenous and refugee youth – and there are many threads in their oral histories that can bring them together. Being forced out of their homelands, experiencing genocide and violence, these histories, imprinted on their bodies, minds and souls bring them together through the vehicle of music theatre and performance art to a new understanding and empathy for each other.

**THE NEXT GENERATION PROJECT:** *The Next Generation* is an innovative professional training program for culturally and socially diverse MISCELLANEOUS Productions alumnae and young artists/ professionals struggling with various mental, physical and developmental disabilities as well other issues of marginalization. A socially innovative public education campaign directed at artistic leaders, and arts-based funders forms one of our core activities in this project. The vision is to develop un- and under-employed young arts professional within a unique career skill development environment, working alongside professional artists and arts administrators; and pushing forward a message about their vision of the future. Through an artistic educational campaign (a series of short films for social media developed by the youth interns and staff and distributed internationally) which will begin with an analysis of intersectionality and tokenism in the hiring practices in the next generation of artistic leaders, conduct outreach to arts organizations and relevant funders and promote a message of inclusion of diverse artists in their hiring practices and educate powerful leaders about community-engaged artistic practice. Our history working with marginalized youth makes us uniquely positioned to meet their needs by providing them with tailored opportunities to gain the necessary professional artistic and business skills to promote these innovative ideas in the arts sector, to advocate for pro-active systemic change in the arts and create possible models to address the imbalance of artistic leadership in BC.



## MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTIONS

### *Vision Statement/Purpose and Activities*

The purpose(s) of MISCELLANEOUS Productions Society are:

- a. to educate and increase the public's understanding and appreciation of the arts while providing performances of an artistic nature,
- b. to educate the public and professionals about prevention of and responses to societal problems through various artistic works.

The activities of MISCELLANEOUS Productions Society are:

- To explore interdisciplinary art and new artistic practices with diverse artists and allies in the Lower Mainland of BC, as well as in other urban, suburban and rural contexts,
- To make art that deals with current, relevant and engaging issues with an emphasis on works that celebrate diversity and employ an anti-racism, anti-violence, anti-poverty and anti-homophobia educational framework,
- To pioneer innovative approaches to interdisciplinary performance art, theatre, new media, video, film, political art, solo works, public / community-engaged art as well as collective art events,
- To educate culturally and socially diverse people about new and emerging approaches to art and the creative process, and to facilitate access to those innovative art forms,
- To integrate multi-barriered and mainstream, culturally and socially diverse young people and adults directly into our artistic works and create original pieces that authentically reflect their lives and
- To investigate and push aesthetic boundaries employing and melding various mediums including but not limited to theatre, performance, new technologies, visual and time-based art/film/video/web-based art, public art and community-engaged art.

MISCELLANEOUS Productions is an arts organization that was incorporated in July 2000 by two professional artists, Elaine Carol and Jules Rochielle, and a volunteer Board of Directors including Rebecca Bishop, Yuki Matsuno and Jo Ann Chew. Our B.C. non-profit society was created as a vehicle for diverse collaborative and solo artistic projects including performances, screenings of media works and visual art exhibitions, and we have been very successful at carrying out our vision.

MISCELLANEOUS Productions is an East Vancouver, community-engaged interdisciplinary arts organization that brings in teams of professional artists to collaborate with culturally and socially diverse, multi-barriered youth.

MISCELLANEOUS Productions' work is more plainly described as "a music theatre boot camp for at-risk youth" – a unique, long-term music, theatre and dance program for inner-city youth who live with grave challenges. The youth involved as participant/writer/performers with MISCELLANEOUS Productions acknowledge that this organization helps them maintain mental and physical health, keeps them off the streets and out of criminal detention, and helps them find new meaning and value in their lives.





Accessibility and inclusion were among the central reasons MISCELLANEOUS Productions was created. We are passionate about the intersection and combination of art-making, community development and education, especially when realized as collaborations between professional and non-professional artists resulting in live performance, theatre, public art, media art, documentary, publications, public education campaigns and visual art. We strive to work with artist/activists who are audacious enough to make art that has relevance to a contemporary audience that extends far beyond the pretentious art world.

## MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTIONS 2017

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President **Kurt Horne**

Vice President **Robert Wilson**

Treasurer **Michael Parfett**

Secretary **Amneet Dhillon**

### FOUNDERS

**Elaine Carol**

**Jules Rochielle**

**Rebecca Bishop**

**Yuki Matsuno**

**Jo Ann Chew**

### 2016 VOLUNTEERS

**Eric D. Wong, Dr. George Tien, Oparin**

**Ortiz, King Duque and Kevin Dale**

**McKeown**

### MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTIONS STAFF, CONSULTANTS & CONTRACTORS

Artistic Director **Elaine Carol**

Accountant **Winnie Kwan**

Diversity Consultant/Educator **Eric D. Wong**

Grant Writers **Mary Ann S. Anderson at**

**Little Dog Creative Consulting, Melanie**

**Thompson and Steen Starr of crisp**

**editorial**

Social Psychologist/Evaluator **Dr. George**

**Tien**

Indigenous Intern/Indigenous Outreach/

Administrative Assistant **Michelle Leona**

**Vine**

Composers In-Residence - Music Teachers

**Chin Injeti, George Rahi, Cris Derksen and**

**Dawn Pemberton**

Senior Film Editor **Mary Ungerleider**

Sound Designer/Mixer **Dennis Burke**

Director of Photography **Steven Miko Burns**

Sound Recordist **Mark Barry**

Set and Props Designer **Yvan Morissette**

Costume Designer **Megan Leson**

Lighting Designer **Brad Trenaman**

Workshop Coordinator & Community Outreach

**Megan de León Solís**

Community Outreach **Sabera Hamid,**

**Jorge Alcala and Veronica Berezowsky**

Production Manager/Live Sound

**Katja Schlueter**

Web Designer **Adam Skye Jones**

Credit Union **VanCity Credit Union**

Insurance **Callow Insurance Associates Ltd.**  
and **Intercon**

**Member of the Alliance for Arts & Culture**

**Member of the Association of Community  
Educators of British Columbia (ACEbc)**

### ARTISTIC/PRODUCTION CREDITS – 2017 PROJECTS

*Monsters* Artistic Director, Creator and

Dramaturge **Elaine Carol**

Assistant Directors/Community Developers/

Youth Counsellors **Megan de León Solís,**

**Sabera Hamid, Jorge Alcala, Veronica**

**Berezowsky and Michelle Leona Vine**

Youth Writers/Performers **Pearl “PJ” Alingig,**

**Klaudija Muznikaite, Gwen Kyla Ocampo,**

**Tiffany Yang, Aleksandra Koel, Emily Lê,**

**Bella Avila Gil, William “Billy” Robert**

**Smith, Tiffany Shim and Kamalia Coetzee**

Hip Hop Composer – Music & Performance

**Chin Injeti**

Hip Hop Composer – Lyrics & Performance

**Natasha Pheko**

Contemporary New Music/Cello & Effects

Composer/Producer/Performer **Cris Derksen**

Soul Song Composer **Sophia Danai**

Singing Instructor/Vocal Coach

**Dawn Pemberton**

Additional Vocal Coaching **Marc Petrunia**

Hip Hop Dance Number Choreography

**Sabera Hamid and Megan de León Solís**

Lyrical Dance Number Choreography

**Megan de León Solís**

Circus Training and Choreography

**Katie Creswell**

Resident Dance Therapist

**Veronica Berezowsky**

Fight Choreography **David Bloom and**

**Nathan Kay**

Set & Props Design **Yvan Morissette**

Costume Design **Megan Leson**

Lighting Design **Brad Trenaman**

Outreach Coordinator **Megan de León Solís**

Community Outreach and Developers/Social

Media and Communications **Sabera Hamid,**

**Megan de León Solís, Jorge Alcala and**

**Veronica Berezowsky**

Indigenous Community Outreach and

Administrative Intern **Michelle Leona Vine**

Diversity Consultant **Eric D. Wong**

Evaluation Design **Dr. George Tien**

Dance Captain **Pearl “PJ” Alingig**

Assistant Dance **Captain Klaudija**

**Muznikaite**

Fight Captain **Gwen Kyla Ocampo**

Acting Captain **Aleksandra Koel**

Monster/Mythical Creature Research  
Methodology & Sourcing **Kaspar Saxena**

Production Manager/Technical Director **Katja Schlueter**

Stage Manager **Melanie Thompson**

Live Sound **Roland Choe**

Assistant Costume Designer **Serena Inman**

Costume Dresser **Valeria Maichen**

Costumer **Ash Turner**

Makeup Artist/Teachers **Alyssa Satow,  
Aurezo Sanari, Michael Fels, Siobhan Uy,  
Andrea Alaca, Katie Griffith and Angelica  
Nakamura**

Director of Photography/Cinematography

**Stephen Miko Burns**

2nd Camera **Thom Stitt**

Location Sound Recordist **Mark Barry**

Editor **Mary Ungerleider**

Sound Editor/Design **Dennis Burke**

Publicist Marnie Wilson – **The Arts Biz**

Media Release & Backgrounder/Copy Writing

**Kevin Dale McKeown**

Graphic Design **Corporate Graphics**

Website Maintenance **Adam Skye Jones**

Studio Photography **Amanda Skuse**

Live Documentation Photography

**Chris Randle**

## **BOARD AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

Sarah Markwick

Lori Baxter

Wendy Orvig

## **SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO WENT THE “EXTRA DISTANCE” FOR US IN 2017:**

Cherryl Masters

Douglas D. Durand

Marnie Rice

Lys Stevens

Danielle Roy

Monique Lacerte-Roth

Dan W. Burnett

Dr. Aida Sadr

Family of Eric D. Wong

Jack Zipes

James Pond

Jenn McGinn

Jenny Kwan, MP

Dr. Hedy Fry, MP

Rachel Von Fossen

Edward “Ted” Little

Terry Hunter

Judith Marcuse

Savannah Walling

Mirna Zagar

Robin Naiman

Alice Jones

The Dance Centre staff: Ashka Dudzic, Tacky

and Mauricio

LJ Opina

King Duque

Charles and Mary Ungerleider

Families of all youth involved in *Haunted House*  
and *Monsters*.



**IN 2017, MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTIONS WAS SUPPORTED  
BY THE FOLLOWING FUNDERS, SPONSORS AND DONORS**

**FUNDERS**

Funded by the Government of Canada  
Financé par le gouvernement du Canada



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COLUMBIA



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
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Kevin Dale McKeown, Fiona Old, Megan de Leon Solis, Elaine Carol, Kurt Horne, Margo Kane,  
Kaspar Saxena, Brenda Joy Lem and R. Cole Harris



**MISCELLANEOUS  
PRODUCTIONS**

**[www.miscellaneousproductions.ca](http://www.miscellaneousproductions.ca)**

Registered Charitable Business Number: 89778 5812 RR0001

Charitable donations to MISCELLANEOUS Productions are always welcome.