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JESSIE RIVEST

Education

Humber Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning 2015-2016
Certificate in Arts Administration and Cultural Management

York University 2009-2013
Bachelor of Arts in Music - Vocal Performance

Fellowships and Professional Development

Music BC - Jumpstart Mentorship Program 2024
Session with Nancy Lee on putting together grass roots performances, collaboration and crossing disciplines with a clear vision.

New Explorative Oratorio Festival 2023
Collaborator with 12 other composers for a cumulative piece, Los Angeles, CA. Week-long mentorship in voice and composition from Faculty: David Harris, Laurel Irene, and Fahad Siadat.

Interplay Workshop and Reading Session 2023
One of five composers to work with the Vancouver Chamber Choir on a new experimental piece.

Actor's Foundry Intensive 2022
Dialogue, scene building and character work, Kelowna, BC. Led by Matthew Harrison.

Monologue Intensive 2022
Weekend workshop with Mad Fox Theatre, Kelowna, BC. Led by Christopher Weddell.

Harmony University 2022
Scholarship to attend week-long professional development at Harmony U in New Orleans, LA from the Barbershop and Harmony Society, Evergreen District.

Canadian League of Composers - PIVOT Program 2021
One of six composers to work directly with – and have their music performed by – Pro Coro Canada, one of Canada's most celebrated and innovative choirs. Participants experience first-hand the professional development opportunities offered by the CLC by professional composers. The program took place between January and June 2020, with the final Performance in November 2021, Edmonton, AB.

Choral Arts Initiative

2019

PREMIERE|Project Festival, Newport Beach, CA. Composer Fellow, 4-day mentorship from Faculty: Dominick DiOrio, Derrick Spiva Jr, and Dale Trumbore. Conducted by Brandon Elliot.

Millennium Composers Initiative

2018

Featured Composer and Member. MCI has continued to represent its composers in the form of collaborative concerts with chamber groups across the United States and appearances at various music conferences.

Awards and Grants

BC Live Performance Network

2024

Recipient of Into the Act funding for \$3,500 in partnership with Inner Fish Theatre and Living Things Festival for the development of 22 ROOMS.

City of Kelowna Community Arts Grant

2024

Received \$5,000 towards community public art project, PSOUNDS.

ORTUS International New Music Competition

2022

One of ten winners, featured work and premiere performance of *non-dual* by KHORIKOS, Brooklyn, NY.

Canada Council for the Arts

2019

Awarded \$2,500 towards professional development for Music & Sound Composition.

International Bronze Medalist

2018

Member of Ripple Effect Quartet, placing 3rd in the world at BinG! World Mixed Competition in Munich, Germany.

Dean's Scholarship for Arts Administration

2015

Awarded \$2,000 from the Humber School of Performance.

Notable Performances

Voice & Theatre

A Streetcar Named Desire

2025

- Stella in the iconic Tennessee Williams play, with New Vintage Theatre in Kelowna, BC.

22 ROOMS

2025

- Sound & Movement performance art with audience participation. Created and collaborated with dancer Hailey McCloskey. Performed in Living Things Festival Kelowna, BC.

Introspection - Piano & Other Sounds

2024

- Featured artist performing Elliseo Stanillan's piece *Universe 3*, Kelowna, BC.

Sketch Us if You Can

2024

- Co-writer, actor, core ensemble cast member and Rehearsal Director of two showcases per year in Kelowna, BC.

Living Things Festival Kelowna

2024

- “PLAYBOOK” was created by a group of local musicians and artists: Eliseo Santillan (keyboards and soundscape), Jessie Rivest (voice) and Andrew Stauffer (percussion), and Neil Cadger (text), with electronics and surround sound at the Black Box Theatre.

Nuit Blanche

2023

- “PLAYBOOK” was created by a group of local musicians and artists: Eliseo Santillan (keyboards and soundscape), Jessie Rivest (voice) and Andrew Stauffer (percussion), and Neil Cadger (text), with electronics and surround sound at the Kelowna Library.

Island of Misfit Toys

2023

- Solo experimental piece singing *Cuckoo* by Benjamin Britten in ten different voices, as part of an eclectic line up of artists in Kelowna, BC.

Living Things Festival Kelowna

2023

- Vocal Improvisation “Looks Like Sounds” with dancers and members of Land’s End Ensemble from Calgary, AB.

TrailArt on the Okanagan Rail Trail

2023

- Performance art followed by vocal improvisation with dancers: Francesca Frewer, Ben Gorodetsky, Andrea Cownden, Neil Cadger. Featuring musicians: Nicholas Denton Protsack, and Andrew Stauffer.

Joni Judy Tribute Show

2022

- Produced and performed a Joni Mitchell & Judy Garland tribute show as part of Kelowna Fringe Festival.

a cappella performance

Mistletones

2021-2022

- Jazzy Christmas at Urban Distilleries, West Kelowna.
- Rutland Tree Light Ceremony
- Vernon Mall Carolling
- Various Christmas parties

Ripple Effect Quartet

2017-2018

- First mixed barbershop quartet to represent Canada internationally, placed as bronze medalists at the BinG! World Mixed Competition in Munich, Germany
- Featured in Toronto's SING! Festival showcase with Cadence and Countermeasure

- Competed in the Ontario District Barbershop Spring Convention and became the Ontario Mixed Quartet Champions in 2017 and 2018

The Current Quartet

2015-2016

- DayBreakers Morning Christmas Dance Party and Obstacle Course
- University Women's Club Annual Fundraiser
- Holt Renfrew Charity Opener
- Toronto Distillery District Christmas Market

Toronto's Waterfront Singing Ambassadors

2015

- Flash mob-style singing along Toronto's Waterfront for all of Summer
- Special appearances throughout Toronto's summer events including OPEN Streets, City Festival, Canada Day, City Sight-Seeing Tours, and more.
- Performed at the Pan American Games at Nathan Phillips Square

WIBI A Cappella

2009-2014

- Toronto Pearson Airport: Christmas Caroling (5 years)
- Global TV: Glee Campaign Video, Toronto
- Kraft Foods Canada: Tassimo Mother's Day Commercial
- Big Brothers Big Sisters Toronto: Scotia Bank's Big Night Out
- Arranging and Assistant Director (2 years)

Choral Performance

The Element Choir

2017-2018

- "Sung Ra" tribute with the Sun Ra Arkestra at Guelph Jazz Festival
- Singing installation in John Oswald's "Island Passage" as part of ArtSpin, Toronto Island
- Performed with Tanya Tagaq in the National Film Board's documentary, "Throat" at Trinity St. Paul's
- Premiered scores composed by Lisa Busby in 'Labour of Curation' exhibition at University of Toronto's Blackwood Gallery
- Improvised during Art Battle at the Opera House in Toronto

That Choir

2017-2018

- Game of Thrones: Music is Coming at Air Canada Centre
- Performed at PODIUM Choral Festival and Conference in St. John's, Newfoundland
- Received the Honourable Barbara A. Hagerman Award at the provincial level
- Hans Zimmer North American Tour at Air Canada Centre
- Legends of Zelda in Concert at Sony Centre
- Special Guest Performance at Casino Rama Christmas Extravaganza
- Canadian premiere of Ēriks Ešenvāld's Multimedia Nordic Light Symphony

Amabile Youth Singers

2002-2006

- Won two gold medals for Canada at the World Choir Games in Bremen, Germany

- Toured to Chicago, Finland, and Sweden
- Recorded and performed the album “All Good People” composed and conducted by Stephen Hatfield
- Received the London Music Award for Best Classical Ensemble
- Performed for Queen Elizabeth II on Commonwealth Tour in Toronto

List of Works

non-dual. 3'30, SATB

2022

Performances:

KHORIKOS at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Carroll Gardens, Brooklyn, NY. Winner of the ORTUS International New Music Competition.

PRIMA MATERIA. 5', SATB.

2021

Performances:

Pro Coro Canada as part of PIVOT 2020 with Canadian League of Composers, Edmonton, AB.

GOOD MORNING. 4', SATB

2019

Performances:

Choral Arts Initiative PREMIERE|Project Festival, Newport Beach, CA.

Estar remando en dulce de leche. 3', Soprano, Tenor, Piano.

2019

Performances by Maureen Batt (soprano), Fabián Arciniegas (tenor), and Claire Harris (pianist) during Crossing Borders Tour 2019:

2019-11-05: Heliconian Hall, Toronto, ON.

2019-11-14 to 30: Colombia Tour featured in Popayán, Santa Marta, Pereira, Manizales, and Bogotá.

Relevant Employment History & Community Events

Under The Valley: A Night of Explorative Arts

2024

Facilitated an exploratory space for all artistic mediums in Kelowna, BC. Unlike traditional spaces that showcase only finished works, "Under the Valley" provides a fluid environment where artists from diverse mediums can ignite inspiration from one another in a free improvisation setting.

Central Okanagan Music Strategy

2021

Projects & Operations Assistant with Creative Okanagan. Promoted and helped organize the UpBeat Summit. The purpose of the Music Strategy was to advance the sustainability of the music industry in the Central Okanagan through: connecting people with similar interests towards collective action, increasing support for live music, creating an understanding of the current music landscape; and setting priorities for the future development of music in the Central Okanagan.

Singing for Joy

2019

In partnership with Ptarmigan Arts and Mary Reher. Facilitated a total of six vocal workshops for locals on Pender Island. Led experienced and beginner singers through call/response exercises and songs, as well as expanded their "noise repertoire" and platform for creative expression. The events successfully provided an atmosphere where people could be free to learn, interact, and have fun with all of the possibilities they found in their own voice.

O P E N : an evening of sound interactions

2017

Operations & Marketing manager for *Musicworks* magazine. This annual fundraiser was planned for *Musicworks*, an experimental music publication established in 1978, with a cult following in the city of Toronto. This event along with other efforts Increased the financial vitality and online presence of the publication and the intriguing artists who lie within its pages.

Arts Arrive: A Newcomer's Guide to Toronto Arts

2016

Arts Arrive is a guidebook created with the intention of making Toronto's arts scene more accessible to newcomers. By championing diverse organizations all across the city and highlighting free and affordable cultural experiences, *Arts Arrive* provides an inclusive, multidisciplinary overview of arts in the city. The publication was featured in Toronto Metro news, and over 1,000 complimentary copies were printed and distributed to community centers across the GTA. Created by Colleen Munro, Adam Moffatt, Camille Dziewurski, Jessie Rivest and Elizabeth Ferguson.

"Out of Our Hands": a multidisciplinary networking party

2015

Curated, planned, and produced a collection of musicians, artists, actors, bakers, makers and more. Performers and guests had the opportunity to post creative ideas and connect with new contacts via the *network net* and connect with fellow artists outside of their discipline.