

Lyric CANADA 2010

Brock University and the Shaw Festival, Niagara, Canada, October 21-23, 2010

CALL FOR PAPERS for this inaugural international conference

Lyric Canada 2010 will bring creators of lyric theatre in Canada and abroad together with scholars, researchers, and critics concerned with historical and contemporary expressions of lyric theatre. For this conference the term "lyric theatre" encompasses a wide range of dramatic works in which sung text is an integral part, including cabaret, musicals, operetta, opera and all points in between.

We are inviting proposals for papers about all aspects of lyric theatre in Canada and abroad. Accepted proposals will be programmed into theme specific panels. Possible areas of exploration might include, but are not limited to:

- An enquiry into the possibility of a uniquely Canadian lyric theatre
- The aesthetic/political/societal significance of Canadian lyric theatre in our time
- Charting the development of lyric theatre in Canada: examining roots and influences from diverse ethnicities, language communities, and orientations
- Contributions of specific nations that populate the idea of Canada (for example, la Francophonie, First Nations): How have they written/been written into the idiom, and is there anything Canadian about it?
- Lyric theatre: synthesizing art and popular culture into hybrid performance
- The intersection of opera and the musical: challenges and opportunities
- Visual, spatial, and intermedia expressions of lyric theatre: new trends in creation, production, and the performing venue. Lyric theatre on the digital screen.
- The absence of lyric expression on the stages and shelves of the Canadian Academy: whither the examining eye?
- The reinvention of lyric theatre in 21st century explorations of the sung text
- Diverse approaches to a sustainable practice: how do composers and librettists prosper in commercial and marginal spheres of activity?
- The challenge of creating and maintaining the lyric theatre audience

Please send abstracts (<250 words) or proposals (<500 words) in English or French to the Chair of the Organizing Committee, Professor Virginia Reh, at info@lyriccanada.ca by June 7, 2010. Proposals from scholars, researchers, students, and practitioners, are welcome.

Abstracts, proceedings and conference-related material will be published in Volume 12 No. 2 (Spring 2011) of the **Brock Review**, a peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary journal published by the Humanities Research Institute at Brock. Creative work (i.e. video clips, paintings, photographs, poetry, short fiction or other types of work suitable to the online format of the journal) will also be considered for publication. . A separate call for papers for the **Brock Review** is also posted on the website at www.lyriccanada.ca

The conference will take place at Brock University in St. Catharines and at the Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Programming will include Guest Plenary Speakers, moderated roundtable, poster session, tables for affiliated professionals, and showcases of new and recent lyric works, including those written for and by Canadian youth. A separate call for showcase proposals is found at lyriccanada.ca.

Publishers, promoters, agents and other members of the profession are welcome. All expressions of interest should be directed to info@lyriccanada.ca Please visit our website at lyriccanada.ca for further information.

Lyric Canada 2010 is a collaboration between the Department of Dramatic Arts of the Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts of Brock University, Opera.ca and the Shaw Festival Theatre. Other key collaborators include Tapestry New Opera Works and Script Lab.