

The Salome Dancer

by Tim Brady, composer and John Sobol, librettist

The Salome Dancer is a lyrical and evocative drama that explores the conflicting psychologies of public celebrity and personal creativity through the morbid lens of contemporary media culture. Combining dance, film, live video and Tim Brady's impeccable electric guitar-driven ensemble, this startlingly fresh opera serves up a mythic tale of prime-time murder, madness and stardom.

Creative Team:

Anne-Marie Donovan, director
Dancer
Paul Pulford, conductor
Preacher
John Price, film and video
Reporter
Renée Brode, lighting design
The Cop

Cast and musicians:

Tamara Hummel, The

Terence Mierau, The

Michael Donovan, The

Ian Funk,

with the Bradyworks

Ensemble

Where and When:

8pm, Wednesday, April 27 & Thursday, April 28, 2005
King Street Theatre, 36 King Street West, Kitchener, Ontario

Tickets:

Adults & Seniors \$40 / Students \$25

To order tickets by phone, please call the Centre in the Square Box Office at 519-578-1570.

Please note: there are a limited number of \$5 eyeGO tickets available to high school students for each performance, please order early!

For additional information phone Jennifer O'Connor at NUMUS at 519-578-7570 or visit www.numus.on.ca (photos are available on web site).

*****WORLD PREMIERE*****



THE SALOME DANCER

PRESENTED BY NUMUS IN COLLABORATION WITH BRADYWORKS

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE OPEN EARS FESTIVAL OF MUSIC AND SOUND

BIOGRAPHIES

Tim Brady

composer/guitarist

Composer and electric guitarist Tim Brady has created music in a wide range of musical genres and has been commissioned by ensembles and orchestras in North America, Europe and Australia including the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, the Société de musique contemporaine du Québec, New Music Concerts, INA-GRM (Radio-France), the Nouvel Ensemble Moderne, New Music Concerts (Toronto), the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble, the Esprit Orchestra, the Philadelphia-based Relâche ensemble, the Topology Ensemble (Brisbane, Australia) and the British string ensemble The Smith Quartet.

He leads the electroacoustic chamber ensemble Bradyworks, and frequently performs solo concerts at venues such as The South Bank (London), Die Ijsbreker (Amsterdam), the Bang On A Can Festival (New York), Praha Alternativa (Prague), Xebec Hall (Kobe, Japan) and the Huddersfield Festival (England). In 1997 Brady was the Artistic Director of The Body Electric festival, a 23 concert celebration of new music for the electric guitar held simultaneously in 7 cities across North America.

In 1999 he toured his solo guitar and tape piece "Strange Attractors", a 1997 CD release, in a 21 city-world tour, with performances in Canada, Australia, Japan, England, the Czech and Slovak Republics and the United States. In October 2002 he premiered his chamber concerto "Playing Guitar" in Montreal and at Merkin Concert Hall in New York with the Nouvel Ensemble Modern, followed by the European premiere in May 2003 in Marseilles, France. November 2002 saw the premiere of the work "20 Jacks 1/4", for twenty electric guitars, at the Festival les Coups de Théâtre in Montreal, followed by the Canadian premiere of "Three or Four Days After the Death of Kurt Cobain", performed by the Montreal Symphony Orchestra.

His most recent productions include the one-act monodrama "Three Cities in the Life of Dr. Norman Bethune" (commissioned by la Société Radio-Canada and performed by Bradyworks in October 2003) and a European tour with the Bradyworks ensemble, including a radio performance for BBC Radio 3. His music is available on Ambiances magnétiques, Justin Time Records, Les Disques Atama and SNE. In 2004 he was awarded the Prix Opus "Composer of the Year" award by the Conseil québécois de la musique, and he released his 11th CD, "Playing Guitar: Symphony #1" with the Nouvel Ensemble Moderne.

John Sobol

librettist

John Sobol is an award-winning writer, performer and cultural producer who has worked extensively in television, radio and print as well as in the music industry, visual arts, performance, and new media. He was born in Brooklyn and has since lived in Los Angeles, Montreal, Toronto, Banff, Vancouver and Bangkok.

He has published hundreds of articles in Canadian and international magazines and newspapers, including several years spent as music critic with the Montreal Gazette. His 4th book, titled *Digitopia Blues – Race, Technology and the American Voice*, was published in May 2002 by the *Banff Centre Press*.

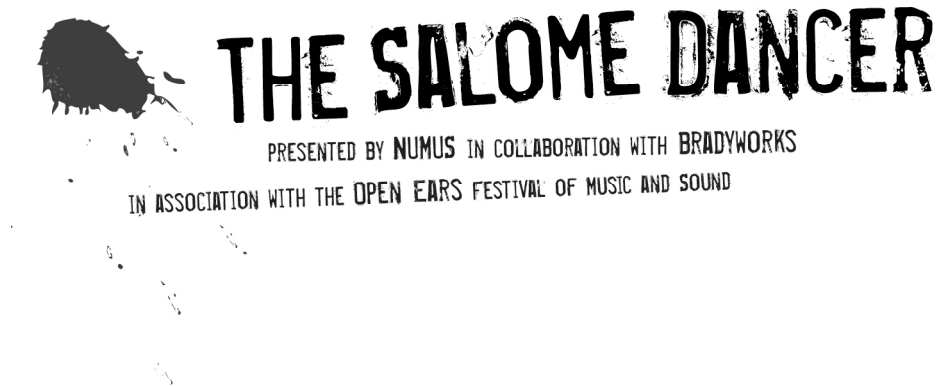
Additionally he worked as a story producer for CBC national radio, and has written television shows that have aired on CBC, Bravo!, Teletoon, TVO, History Channel, Vision, Disney Channel and Nickleodeon. He was the co-writer of *The Genius of Lenny Breau*, which won the 1999 Gemini Award for best Canadian arts documentary, and has written numerous children's TV programs including Nelvana's hugely popular *Pippi Longstocking*.

Since 1979, he has performed as a saxophonist in 11 countries, playing with Steve Lacy, Lillian Allen, Professor Griff, Paul Dutton and Bob Wiseman, among many other musicians. He has produced 8 CDs for his label, *Word of Mouth*, including albums featuring Guillermo Gómez-Peña, Jeanne Lee and his own *John Sobol Poetry Band*.

He has given improvisation workshops across Canada and has been the artistic director of community-based arts festivals in Toronto, Montreal, Banff and Vancouver.

He is the cofounder of *Globalhood*, a digital playground offering digital adventures to CEOs and street kids, and he designed the *Cosmic Questions Media League* for the Ontario Science Centre. He has produced several major online projects, including www.electroniccities.com and www.outloudlive.org

He has performed as a poet at the Montreal International Jazz Festival, Seattle's Bumbershoot and St. Mark's Poetry Project in New York, as well as at scores of other locales across America and Europe. In 1993-94 he was the director of a month-long residency for 45 oral poets at *The Banff Centre for the Arts*, where he also co-curated with Daina Augaitis a live art series featuring Kathy Acker, Paul Beatty and René Lussier among other artists. His polyvocal poet-trio, AWOL Love Vibe, performed across Canada, Europe and the USA between 1993 and 1998.



Anne-Marie Donovan

director

As a performer, Anne-Marie has acted as a vehicle for many composers, having premiered, recorded or commissioned over 50 works. Now, as a director, she continues to champion the music of living composers. She has directed a wide range of performance events, from theatre and performance installations to opera and cabaret.

Anne-Marie is a member of the Blue Rider Ensemble and former artistic director of NUMUS. In 2003, she was a recipient of the Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award at the University of Waterloo. This season, she directed Weill, Hindemith and Canadian Bruce Nicol's *The Trojan Women* for the Opera Program at Wilfrid Laurier University and continued her role as dramaturge of the Light Classics Series with the KW Symphony. She has directed many shows for the Open Ears Festival, including *A Soniferous Garden* by Richard Wyndeyer, *Lovesongs* by Claude Vivier and *Stimmung* by Karlheinz Stockhausen. This season, she returns to the festival with *The Salome Dancer* and *Guerilla Sound Events*. Currently, Anne-Marie is involved in the collaborative development of several new multidisciplinary works: *Reaching for Nothing* with composer Peter Hatch (for NUMUS) and *Frankenstein's Ghosts* with the Blue Rider Ensemble. She recently founded Red Zone Interdisciplinary Arts whose first production will be the *Ritual Sounding Project*.

Paul Pulford

conductor

Paul Pulford has conducted Symphony New Brunswick, the Canadian Chamber Ensemble, Mississauga Symphony Orchestra, the Georgian Symphony Orchestra, the Pro Musica Ensemble (Ireland), and the Fredericton Chamber Orchestra. His work with the Laurier Symphony Orchestra has resulted in an orchestral program which has gone from strength to strength - recently giving highly acclaimed performances of the Bartok *Concerto for Orchestra*, Beethoven's *Symphony No.7* and Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade*. The recently released CD on the Eclectra label (*ECCD-2049*) of the Mendelssohn *Concerto for Violin and Piano* with the Lowe-Beaubien Duo and the Laurier Chamber Orchestra is his first recording as a conductor.

Paul has worked with some of the great maestros of our time, including: Erich Leinsdorf, Sir Adrian Boult, Seiji Ozawa, Karel Ancerl, Pierre Boulez, James Loughran and Klaus Tennstedt. He has played in the BBC Scottish Orchestra and the Toronto Symphony and has been principal cellist of the Toronto Chamber Players, the Amadeus Ensemble, and the Austin (Texas) Symphony. He maintains a prominent career as a solo cellist and has been a member of several internationally acclaimed chamber ensembles (the Orford and Penderecki String Quartets and the Galliard Ensemble). He is a founding member of Blue Rider Ensemble, a sextet of top musicians from across Canada. His discography includes 22 CDs of solo and chamber music.

John Price

filmmaker

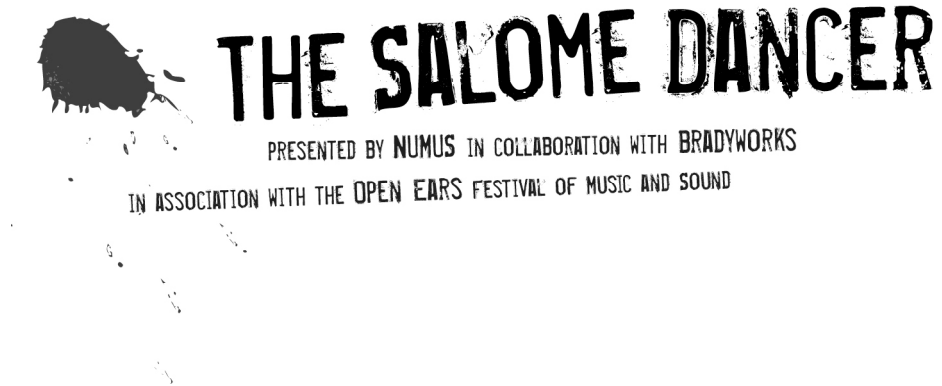
Toronto filmmaker John Price was the recipient of a Chalmers Fellowship award in 2003.

Renée Brode

lighting designer

Selected recent design credits: *Little Women* (Victoria Playhouse, Petrolia), *Something Wonderful* (Charlottetown Festival), *Otello* (Opera Ontario), *Rigoletto* (Canadian Opera Company), *A Fiddler on the Roof* (The Grand Theatre), *La Fille du Régiment* (Opera Ontario), *A Phoenix Too Frequent* (Touchmark Theatre), *Dear Boss* (Eldritch Theatre Company), *Mary's Wedding*, *Cabaret*, *Transit of Venus* (Sudbury Theatre Centre); 2003 Season at Red Barn Theatre; 2003 Season at Stirling Festival; *Having Hope at Home*, *Goodbye, Piccadilly*, *McGillicuddy*, *Corner Green* (Blyth Festival); *Fire*, *Einstein's Gift* (Theatre & Company); *El Paso* (Factory Theatre); *Glass Menagerie*, *Playboy of the Western World* (Touchmark Theatre), *Bereav'd of Light/Fellini Radio Plays*, *Patience*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Stratford Festival).

Renée is a member of the Associated Designers of Canada.



THE CAST

Michael Donovan

The Reporter

A native of Montréal, baritone Michael Donovan's early education included studies at the Conservatoire de Musique de Montréal, the Tanglewood Center and the Banff School of Fine Arts.

A graduate of McGill University in Montréal, where he studied with Joanne Bentley, Donovan was drawn to Europe in 1989 to pursue his studies with the renowned mezzo soprano Brigitte Fassbaender at the Hochschule für Musik in Munich, Germany. In the third year of his apprenticeship, Donovan began a year-long association with the great baritone Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau at the Hochschule der Künste in Berlin, selected as one of the very few members of Dieskau's prestigious postgraduate Lieder class.

Donovan then began an active and successful career as a performer of lead roles in opera houses in Germany and Switzerland. Already, he has performed over 20 roles with companies such as the Munich State Opera, the Stuttgart State Opera and the Bern State Opera. Since returning to Canada in 1996, Donovan has been touring to great acclaim throughout North America, conducting master classes and performing as a soloist and recitalist. His Canadian opera debut came in the spring of 1998 when he reprised the role of Schaunard in the Vancouver Opera production of Puccini's *La Bohème*. Donovan has since performed at such venues as the Ford Centre and Glenn Gould Studio in Toronto, and Edmonton Opera.

Ian Funk

The Cop

Baritone Ian Funk has recently moved to Toronto from his native British Columbia where he has performed with such companies as Pacific Opera Victoria, Vancouver Opera, as well as the Victoria Symphony Orchestra. With POV, he has performed the roles of Masetto (*Don Giovanni*), Ali (*L'Italiana in Algeri*), Yamadori (*Madama Butterfly*), Silvano (*Un Ballo in Maschera*), and Johann (*Werther*). Ian played the role of Imperial Commissioner (*Madama Butterfly*) on Vancouver Opera's main stage and the Pirate King (*Pirates of Penzance*) in their touring ensemble.

Ian's experience with contemporary opera includes Claude Vivier's *Kopernikus* with Autumn Leaf, Peter Maxwell Davies' *Eight Songs for a Mad King* with Queen of Puddings, Tapestry New Opera Works' *Opera To Go* as well as a variety of workshops and presentations of modern operatic works.

Tamara Hummel

The Dancer

Soprano Tamara Hummel is a graduate of the Canadian Opera Company Ensemble Studio and a winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. Recent operatic highlights include Susanna in *The Marriage of Figaro* and Saffi in *The Gypsy Baron* with Pacific Opera Victoria, Charis in the world premiere of *The Golden Ass*, Giannetta in *The Elixir of Love*, Isifile in *Giasone* and Lucia in *The Rape of Lucretia* with the COC as well as Lauretta in *Gianni Schicchi* and Nannetta in *Falstaff* at the Tanglewood Music Festival under the baton of Seiji Ozawa. Ms. Hummel is a recipient of a career development grant from Montreal's Desmarais Foundation with recent credits from the Glimmerglass Opera Young Artist Program and Ravinia's Steans Institute for Young Singers. She holds a Bachelor of Music from the University of British Columbia, an Artist Diploma from the Vancouver Academy of Music and a Master of Music from the Manhattan School of Music in New York. Tamara has been a featured performer in Toronto with Tapestry New Opera Works, Queen of Puddings Musical Theatre, The Talisker Players and Toronto Operetta Theatre. This season, she returned to the Hamilton Place stage for Festa Italia with the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra after her recent performance with Opera Ontario as Ellen in *Lakmé*. Ms.

Hummel has been heard frequently on CBC Radio 2 programs, including Two New Hours, singing the works of contemporary composers.

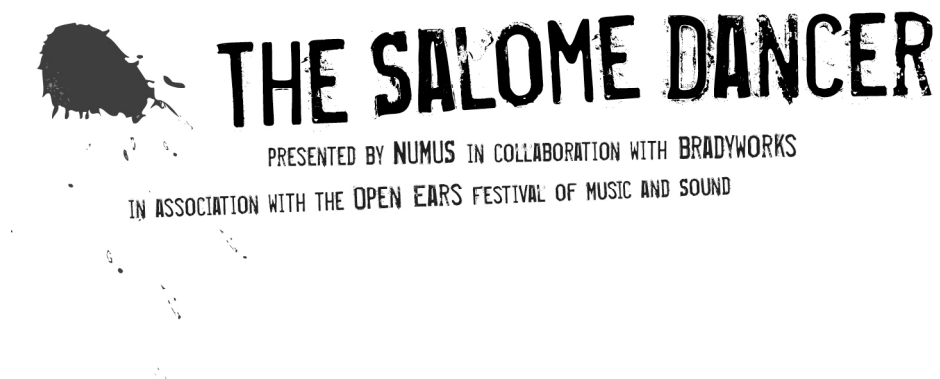
Terence Mierau

The Preacher

Canadian tenor Terence Mierau holds a Master's Degree from McGill University. Past opera engagements include Peri's *Euridice*, Mozart's *Così fan Tutte*, Johann Strauss' *Die Fledermaus*, and Britten's *Albert Herring*. During his training at the International Opera Centre of the Netherlands, Terence debuted with de Nederlandse Opera (*Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* and Claude Vivier's *Rêves d'un Marco Polo*), Onafhankelijk Toneel (*The Rake's Progress*), and Nationale Reisopera in *Tri Sestri* from composer Peter Eötvös.

Last season, Mierau performed Britten's *Curlew River*, a new production of Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress*, a reprise of *Die Fledermaus*, and Puccini's *La Fanciulla del West* with Opera Zuid. This season, Mierau makes a commercial CD recording of Mozart's *Il Sogno di Scipione*, premieres with the Edinburgh Festival, performs a new production of *Les Mamelles de Tiresias*, sings with De Nederlandse Opera in *Lohengrin*, and reprises his role in Eötvös' *Tri Sestri* with Opéra National de Lyon as well as the Wiener Festwochen in Vienna.

Terence's concert repertoire begins with Bach (Cantatas, Masses, *Weihnachts-Oratorium*, *Matthäus-Passion*, *Johannes-Passion*), and also includes Handel (*Messiah*), Haydn (*Die Schöpfung*, *Die Sieben Worte*), Mozart (*Requiem*), Orff (*Carmina Burana*) and Stravinsky (*Les Noces*), for which he has received high acclaim in both Canada and Europe.



THE BAND

BRADYWORKS

Tim Brady - composer, electric guitar / Philip Hornsey - percussion
Pamela Reimer - pianos + digital keyboards / Lori Freedman - bass clarinet
André Leroux - soprano saxophone / Catherine Arsenault - viola
Pierre Simard - rehearsal conductor (Montréal)

Bradyworks was formed in 1989 in order to play the music of Tim Brady and to promote his vision of the electric guitar and contemporary chamber music repertoire. The ensemble features some of Canada's finest performers, with experience in chamber music, jazz, free improvisation, opera, orchestral and electroacoustic music - a truly unique palette of musical colours, at times moving from notated scores to electronics to improvisational passages within the same concert, sometimes within the same work.

The ensemble has given concerts for both the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and Radio-Canada and it was featured at the 1990 Festival international de musique actuelle de Victoriaville. In 1991 it undertook a successful 12-city North American tour, including a New York debut, and it released its first CD, *Inventions*.

From 1997 to 1999 the group performed regularly in Montreal, as well as collaboration with the British ensemble "Regular Music II". In the 2000 - 2001 season Bradyworks performed a cross-Canada tour with guest artist mezzo-soprano Anne-Marie Donovan, premiering Brady's new song-cycle *The Knife Thrower's Partner*. In the spring of 2001 Bradyworks were named "ensemble in residence" at Concordia University.

The 2001 - 2002 season saw the group performing in New York again, at The Kitchen multimedia space, and co-producing a concert of Canadian string music with the Société québécoise de la recherche en musicologie. In March 2002 the group performed a joint concert with Dublin's VOX 21, presenting a concert of Canadian and Irish new music in Montreal as part of the "Voyages: Montréal - Dublin" new music exchange project. The group launched its third CD, *Unison Rituals*, in April 2003 and October 2003 saw the premiere of *Three Cities in the Life of Dr. Norman Bethune*, a concert opera project commissioned by Radio Canada.

The ensemble presented its first European tour in 2003, with concerts in London, Aberdeen, Dublin and Cork, including a recording for the BBC Radio 3 programme "Hear and Now". In January 2005 New Music Concerts in Toronto presented a new production of *Three Cities in the Life of Dr. Norman Bethune*, featuring the ensemble.