



THE ISABEL
HUMAN RIGHTS
ARTS FESTIVAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 14, 2020

Kingston ON ... The Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts launches its **ISABEL HUMAN RIGHTS ARTS FESTIVAL** on Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 6:30 PM with Alanis Obomsawin's 53rd film, *Jordan River Anderson, The Messenger*, that documents the story of a young Indigenous boy who spent all five years of his life in hospital while the provincial and federal government argued over who was responsible for paying for the boy's care.

Festival artists include: **Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra** with **Maryem Tollar, Diely Mori Tounkara**, and **Naghme Farahmand** (*Safe Haven* created by **Alison Mackay**), **Art of Time Ensemble** with **Andy Maize** and **Josh Finlayson** of Skydiggers and the **Ralston String Quartet** (*All We Are Saying*), **Santee Smith** with **Montana Summers, Raelyn Metcalf, Julianne Blackbird**, and **Jonathan Fisher** (*The Mush Hole*), **Tom Wilson** and the **Kingston Symphony** (*Beautiful Scars*, a National Arts Centre commission), and **Holly Rose Lorenzon** and **Selina Chiarelli** (*Firebirds in Motion*). The Festival closes with the **H'art Centre's Small Things** with performances and contributions by over fifty remarkable H'artists and guest artists with a diversity of abilities. Film directors include **Alanis Obomsawin, Philippe Bellaiche, Rachel Leah Jones**, and **Laura Mora**. The Festival thanks film curators **Susan Lord** and **Dorit Naaman** of Queen's Department of Film and Media.

Festival tickets can be purchased online <https://www.queensu.ca/theisabel/> or in person at (613) 533-2424 (M-F, 12:30-4:30 PM).

"The arts are a powerful voice in promoting awareness and action in human rights," says **Tricia Baldwin**, Director of the Isabel. "We are privileged to partner with diverse artists and human

rights activists who have dedicated their lives to create a fairer and inclusive future for humanity. Nothing could be more important in this challenging political world climate, in which we are now immersed, than to inspire people to actively participate and create a political and legal environment that will protect world citizens from prejudice, hatred, and violence.”

FESTIVAL EVENTS

Film

JORDAN RIVER ANDERSON, THE MESSENGER

Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 6:30 PM

2019 / 65 minutes

Language: English

Director: Alanis Obomsawin

<https://www.queensu.ca/theisabel/content/jordan-river-anderson-messenger>

Performance

SAFE HAVEN

Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra

Conceived, scripted, and
programmed by Alison Mackay

Elisa Citterio, Music Director

Maryem Tollar, narrator and vocalist

Diely Mori Tounkara, kora

Naghmeh Farahmand, percussion

Wednesday, January 29, 2020 at 7:30 PM

<https://www.queensu.ca/theisabel/content/safe-haven-tafelmusik-baroque-orchestra>

Film

ADVOCATE

Monday February 3, 2020 at 6:30 PM

2019 / 108 minutes

Languages: Hebrew, Arabic, English with subtitles

Directors: Philippe Bellaïche, Rachel Leah Jones

<https://www.queensu.ca/theisabel/content/advocate>

Performance

ALL WE ARE SAYING

Art of Time Ensemble

Andrew Burashko, Artistic Director

Ralston String Quartet

Andy Maize and Josh Finlayson of Skydiggers, Singers

Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 7:30 PM

<https://www.queensu.ca/theisabel/content/all-we-are-saying-art-time-ensemble-rolston-string-quartet>

Film

**MATAR A JESÚS
(Killing Jesus)**

Monday, February 10, 2020 at 6:30 PM

2017 / 95 minutes

Language: Spanish with English subtitles

Director: Laura Mora

<https://www.queensu.ca/theisabel/content/matar-jesus-killing-jesus>

Performance

THE MUSH HOLE

Created and Produced by Santee Smith

Remount Production by Kaha:wi Dance Theatre

Monday, March 9, 2020 at 7:30 PM

<https://www.queensu.ca/theisabel/content/mush-hole>

Performers: Montana Summers, Raelyn Metcalf, Julianne Blackbird, Jonathan Fisher

With production partners the Woodland Cultural Centre, Banff Centre for Arts & Creativity,

Socrates Project - McMaster University, Art Gallery of Guelph, Thru The Red Door.

Please be aware there are mature themes involved and not recommended for ages 12 and under.

Free Event

FIREBIRDS IN MOTION

Isabel Lobby

Holly Rose Lorenzon, dance instructor, award-winning street dance artist, and Queen's student

Selina Chiarelli, storyteller, musician, and director

Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 5 PM to 7 PM

<https://www.queensu.ca/theisabel/content/firebirds-motion>

Performance

BEAUTIFUL SCARS

By Tom Wilson

Tom Wilson, Program Creator and Singer

Darcy Hepner, Conductor and Soloist

Kingston Symphony

Wednesday, April 8, 2020 at 7:30 PM

<https://www.queensu.ca/theisabel/content/beautiful-scars-tom-wilson>



Performance

**H'art Centre presents
SMALL THINGS**

A docu-dance about family and finding joy

Kathryn MacKay, Director

David Archibald, Music Director

Melissa Mahady Wilton, Director of Choreography

David Dines, Composer

Menka Nagrani, Guest Choreographer

Vincent-Nicolas Provencher, Guest Dancer

Performed by H'artists and guest performers

Friday, April 17, 2020 at 6 PM

Saturday, April 18, 2020 at 2 PM and 6 PM

<https://www.queensu.ca/theisabel/content/small-things>

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The Isabel thanks Festival supporters:

Season Benefactor

Estate of Alexander Murray Jeffery

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For further information, please contact Tricia Baldwin, Director, Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts at (613) 533-6000 ext. 75168 or tricia.baldwin@queensu.ca.