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Associated Designers of Canada Awards Haiui the 2021 Jack King Award

Toronto, October 14, 2021 — The Associated Designers of Canada is thrilled to announce the 2021 recipient of the \$1,500 Jack King Award. The Award is presented annually to a Canadian live performance designer in a pursuit of personal artistic development.

The jury was unanimous in selecting **Haiui** as the 2021 recipient of the Jack King Award, noting:

The jury appreciated Haiui's initiative in creating this opportunity and making the connection with Andy Moro as mentor. Haiui's proposal had very specific and clear goals as he customizes his professional development and learning journey. Haiui is working to connect elements that are very relevant in performance design today and the jury is pleased to be able to support this application.

About Haiui

Haiui is a mixed media artist creating work that is the synthesis of many artistic forms. Career highlights include his recent feature-film debut, MIXED↑, which Stir Vancouver called "a bold mix of documentary, confessional, strident manifesto, and arthouse experiment. It defies categorization, a lot like the artist at its centre". The film was produced with trans filmmaker Jack Fox and in association with OUTtv.

Upcoming, Haiui's work will be seen as the video and projection designer for GUIDED BY STARLIGHT - Exploring Toronto's Musical Galaxy produced by Luminato Festival. It will feature artists such as Sate, TiKA, and Zaki Ibrahim. He is currently an artist-in-residence with Wildseed Black Arts Fellowship - Black Lives Matter Toronto, a twenty-month residency bridging arts and advocacy and is developing his first opera about Portia White, created with Sean Mayes and Neema Bickersteth, supported by the Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council, and Canadian Opera Company.



His art is mixed, like his DNA. This fusion will continue to inform how he sees the world and creates within it. His aesthetic and experience in video and projection design and his heritage have given him a greater understanding of the correlation between theatrical and cultural dramaturgy and its importance in pursuing authenticity and truth in storytelling. His goals are to use the skills he has accumulated to keep designing and transition into directing narrative forms of storytelling in long-format film, theatre, and operatic mediums.

Former Artistic Director of Black Theatre Workshop Quincy Armourer said, "in four short years, Haiui has quickly risen to being Canada's first Black video/projection designer ("firsts" being a title we often hold as Black artists); therefore, his work demands nurturing. We need his art, his artistry, and his voice. I respect all artists who want to further their practice and enrich their skills, and resist being siloed as one thing; Haiui continues to sharpen his tools as an artist who is truly a master of many talents. He has the potential to become a leading voice in the arts scene."

Visit: <http://www.haiui.ca>



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About the Jack King Award

First presented in 1992, the Award was established as a memorial to Jack King, and supports a Canadian live performance designer in a pursuit of personal artistic development—be it an apprenticeship, a period of creative exploration, or an acquisition of new skills. After a 15-year hiatus, the Associated Designers of Canada relaunched the award this year thanks to the 2019 establishment of a permanent endowment fund.



About the Jury

We were thrilled to have a jury consisting of five distinguished designers to guide the awarding of this year's prize. The jury included: *Carmen Alatorre; Rachel Forbes; Shawn Kerwin; Camellia Koo; and Ed Kotanen*

More information about the jury members is available at: <https://designers.ca/jackking/jury2021/>

About Jack King

Jack King is remembered as a designer, but he was much more. His experience as an actor, director, prop maker, dyer, scenic artist, and administrator reveals itself in the depth and maturity of his work. He was largely self-taught, benefitting from every influence that came his way, from early teen-aged years at the Chatham Little Theatre to his long association with Leslie Hurry at the Stratford Festival. Throughout his career, he continued to grow as an artist, maintaining his personal style while allowing each project its own unique expression.



"... when I start a show, I settle myself down to read the play. I am imagining each character ... who they are, where they are moving, what they are wearing, where they are on the set. That is emerging in my head. In other words I am directing and acting the play as well as designing it. When I finish reading the play, I immediately scribble down my ideas, concepts, flashes of shapes ... anything that has come into my head at the first reading ... these will usually be in the finished product somewhere, although they may be greatly altered, but they have been a clue to the whole puzzle ..."

- From notes for a talk - c. 1980

Announcing our 2022 Jack King Award

The Jack King Award will continue next year, with applications opening in early 2022. Dates will be announced on the ADC website later this year.

Inquiries

More information is available at: <https://designers.ca/jackking/>

Please direct Inquiries to ADC's General Manager, Louise Plunkett, at: 416-907-5829 or adc@designers.ca.