

Simon Johnston

Writer

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Associations/Unions: WGC, PGC, CAEA, ACTRA, TWUC

Awards:

- 2016 Winner, Short Story Contest, White Rock Library, "[A Good Morning](#)"
- 2016 Winner, White Rock/Surrey Literary Contest, "[Pauline's Diamond](#)"
- 2012 Certificate of Recognition, City of Richmond Arts Coalition
- 2011 Cultural Leadership Award, City of Richmond
- 1999 McMaster University Alumni Gallery inductee for excellence in theatre arts
- 1998 W. O. Mitchell Literary Award Nominee for mentorship of writers
- 1997 Jessie Award Nominee - "[Running Dog, Paper Tiger](#)" & 2002 for "[Wildcat](#)"
- 1995 Winner, Theatre BC's National Playwright's Award
"[Running Dog, Paper Tiger](#)"
- 1994 Governor General's Canada 125 Medal for leadership in arts and tourism

Published Works:

- "[House of Daughters](#)", a novel, Earnshaw Books, December 2022
- "[The House of Wives](#)", a novel, Penguin Random House, 2016
- "[The House of Wives](#)", a novel, Penguin India, 2016
- "[The House of Wives](#)", a novel, Keter Books, Israel, 2016
Above titles as Simon Choa-Johnston
- "[Running Dog, Paper Tiger](#)", Playwrights Canada Press, 1998
- "[A Good Morning](#)", Rice Paper Magazine, March 2016.
- "[If A Mutt Barks in the Forest](#)", Rice Paper Magazine, 2016
- "[Lion Dance](#)", a novel, Williams Wallace Publishers, Toronto, 1985
- "[A Song For Harmonica](#)", Children's novel, Three Trees Press, Toronto, 1986

Plays Produced:

- 2013 "[Sisters](#)", premiere, Gateway Theatre, February 2013
- 2012 "[El Camino](#)", one act, looking for a home
- 2008 Writer-in-residence, Stratford Festival, working on "[Sisters](#)"
- 2008 "[Sisters](#)", Factory Theatre, Cross Currents Festival, Toronto, Ontario
- 2006 "[Rice Rockets & Yacht People](#)", Gateway Theatre, New Play Series
- 2003 "[Wildcat](#)", "Yacht People" Workshops at Playwright's Theatre Centre
- 2002 "[Wildcat](#)", Western Canada Theatre, Kamloops and Gateway Theatre;
Reading at The Stratford Festival, Ontario 2003

- 2001 “Gold Mountain Guest”. Arts Club Theatre, Vancouver, BC April 2001;
Kaleidoscope Theatre, Belfry Arts Centre, Victoria
- 2000 “The Giveaways”, commissioned by The Theatre School & LDC High
School (London, Ontario) premiere April 2000
- 1999 “Wildcat”, Writers’ Workshop (London) production - October 2000
- 1998 “A Nightingale Sang”, commissioned & produced by Collective Arts Prod.
London, Ontario April 1998, commissioned by The Grand Theatre,
- 1998 “The Steamer Atlantic”, commissioned/Produced by Lighthouse Festival
August 1998
- 1997 “Tales from the Arabian Nights”, commissioned by Youththeatre, Montreal
Produced November 1997
- 1995 “Running Dog, Paper Tiger”, commissioned by The Great Canadian
Theatre Company 1995, produced at Gateway Theatre, Richmond,
BC. Oct. 1997
- 1985 “The Ugly Duckling” commissioned by Music Mosaic, Canmore, Alberta

Television:

- 1999 “Beat the Street” Kudos & Co/CHUM/CITY TV-MOW screenplay
- 1999 “Yip Sang: Patriot and Adventurer” Kudos & Co, half hour screenplay
- 1999 “The Pauline Johnson Story” History TV/Smoke Lake Productions,
documentary on Mohawk Poetess E. Pauline Johnson
Tekahionwake
- 1996-1997, “Riverdale” Epitome Pictures/ CBC TV Drama Series first season

Radio Drama:

Six CBC Radio Dramas and numerous contributions to “Morningside”

Teaching:

- 1997/1998 University of Western Ontario, three Playwriting Courses
- 1997 University of Toronto, Erindale College, Guest Director
- 1994/1987/1982 Ryerson University Theatre School, Guest Director
- 1990 University of Waterloo, Drama Department, Guest Director
- 1989 Dalhousie University, Drama Department, Guest Director
- 1986 University of Guelph, Drama Department, Artist-in-Residence
- 1983 Theatre Ontario, Young Company, Teacher/Director

Other Experience:

2014 – 2018 PGC Board Member and Vice-President.

1999 – 2012 Artistic & Executive Director, Gateway Theatre Richmond, BC

1994 – 1999 Contractor, teaching and writing, see above.

1987 – 1994 Artistic Director, Lighthouse Festival Theatre, Port Dover, Ontario

1976 - 1987 Freelance Theatre Director – selected credits:

Western Canada Theatre, Gateway Theatre, National Arts Centre, Theatre Aquarius, Factory Lab, Toronto Free, Young People's Theatre, Quest Theatre (Calgary) Lunchbox Theatre (Calgary), Muskoka Festival (4 Seasons), Gryphon Theatre (3 Seasons), Arbour Theatre and others.

1978-1982 Artistic Director, Press Theatre, St. Catharines, Ontario

1983 & 1984 Assistant Director, Stratford Festival, Stratford, Ontario

1983-1984 Resident Director, Banff Centre for the Arts, Banff, Alberta

1974-1978 Resident Director Toronto Arts Productions, (now Canadian Stage)

Education:

BA, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario 1972

St. Joseph's College, Hong Kong

St. Paul's Convent, Hong Kong