

## SOULPEPPER'S ORIGINAL MUSICAL ROSE RECEIVES NEW YORK FESTIVALS RADIO AWARDS' GOLD MEDAL

**Toronto, ON – April 22, 2020: Soulpepper Theatre Company** is incredibly pleased to share that the Original Cast Recording of Soulpepper's inspiring original musical **Rose** has received the **New York Festivals Radio Awards** Gold Medal for Best Children's Audio Book. **Rose**, the uplifting musical about perseverance, identity, and adventure, was created by Soulpepper Academy graduates and company members **Sarah Wilson** and Slight Family Director of Music **Mike Ross** (co-creator of *Spoon River*, NYF Radio Awards Silver Medal, 2016). The award-winning Original Cast Recording of **Rose** is available on [iTunes](#) and [Spotify](#).

With entries from over 40 countries, this year's New York Festivals Radio Awards presented a remarkable global competition, including submissions from massive digital producers like CBC, BBC, and Audible. The recognition of the Gold Medal is a great achievement for the ambitious original musical, and a testament to the tremendous work of the talented local artists involved who made the World Premiere of **Rose** such a success. The New York Festivals Gold Medal is another accolade for the four-time Dora Award-winning musical **Rose**, which led in the 2019 Dora Awards with 11 nominations.

*"In this moment, where we are thinking about how we can connect our communities through stories, I am so appreciative that our cast recording of Rose is out there to inspire and entertain everyone from age 5 - 105 in their homes,"* said **Weyni Mengesha**, Artistic Director of Soulpepper. *"This international recognition continues to expand and solidify the Canadian footprint in the musical theatre landscape."*

Under the direction of **Gregory J. Sinclair** (*Afghanada, Trust, Inc.* for CBC Radio), Soulpepper has proudly built an international award-winning catalogue of digital programming that has garnered listeners from over 50 countries. This is the fifth consecutive year Soulpepper has been recognized at the New York Festivals Radio Awards: *Rose* Original Cast Recording - Gold Medal 2020; *A Christmas Carol* Audiobook - Bronze Medal 2019; *The Complete 150* - Finalist 2018; *Alligator Pie* - Gold Medal 2017; *Spoon River* - Silver Medal 2016.

*"Capturing this cast album, with all of its musical and lyrical complexity, and complete with its live performance virtuosity, energy and heart, is a testament to the unique qualities of the Soulpepper ensemble. It's an extraordinary accomplishment,"* said **Gregory J. Sinclair**, Album Producer.

Listen to the award-winning Original Cast Recording of **Rose** on [iTunes](#) and [Spotify](#).

### **ROSE**

Original Cast Recording

Music and Book by Mike Ross

Lyrics and Book by Sarah Wilson

From Gertrude Stein's *The World is Round*

**Recorded and Produced By:** Gregory J. Sinclair

**Mixed By:** Doug McClement

**Featuring:** Troy Adams, Michelle Bouey, Alana Bridgewater, Frank Cox-O'Connell, Oliver Dennis, Raquel Duffy, Jonathan Ellul, Peter Fernandes, Hailey Gillis, Scott Hunter, Raha Javanfar, John Millard, Sabryn Rock, James Smith, and Adam Warner.



Located in its multi-venue home, the Young Centre for the Performing Arts in Toronto's Distillery Historic District, Soulpepper is Toronto's largest not-for-profit theatre company. Founded and guided by artists, Soulpepper has an integrated mission which includes: industry-leading youth and community outreach initiatives; artist training and mentorship programs; and a year-round diverse repertory season which is grounded in the classics and committed to the creation of new works, new forms, and innovative practices.

# MEDIA RELEASE



The artists and staff of Soulpepper and the Young Centre for the Performing Arts acknowledge the original caretakers and storytellers of this land - the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Haudenosaunee, the Anishinaabe, and the Wendat First Nations. We commit to honouring and celebrating their past, present and future.

Soulpepper believes all people have a right to express their individuality, to experience creative freedom, to feel safe at all times, and to be treated with dignity and respect.

Tickets for Soulpepper Productions and Concerts start at \$25. Tickets are available by calling the Young Centre Box Office at 416.866.8666 or by visiting [soulpepper.ca](http://soulpepper.ca). All ticket prices include a Young Centre facility fee, service charge and HST. Pricing is subject to change.

Soulpepper gratefully acknowledges annual operating support from the Ontario Arts Council, the Toronto Arts Council, and the Canada Council for the Arts.

Soulpepper is pleased to recognize the donors of transformational gifts to its Creative Capital Campaign: The Slight Family; The Government of Ontario; Gail Drummond and Bob Dorrance; Kevin and Roger Garland; and Ada Slight.

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