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**COREY HART** 

**AL WAXMAN** 

**JASON PRIESTLEY** 

**BRETT KISSEL** 



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### **MELANIE HURLEY**

I became CEO of Canada's Walk of Fame in 2014 and every year at this time I realize I have the best job in the country. I get to introduce you to the amazing Canadians we selected for induction. As a proud Canadian it's a thrill to be part of this great celebration.

We've inducted 167 extraordinary Canadians to Canada's Walk of Fame since its inception nearly 20 years ago, including the remarkable individuals we honour tonight during our annual engagement to celebrate Canadian pride. As I reflect on the illustrious list of past Inductees and the present day role models who are making a positive impact on the fabric of society both at home and on a global scale. I'm constantly reminded of how blessed we are to be Canadian.

### Celebrate the outstanding This year's extraordinary achievements of Canadians class of Inductees is made up of film and

television vanguards, idols, style and pop culture influencers, and an icon in our beloved game of hockey. We are humbled to recognize the achievements of Jeanne Beker, Corey Hart, Deepa Mehta, Jason Priestley and Darryl Sittler, We also honour Cineplex Legends Inductee Al Waxman, a Canadian theatre, film and television pioneer. The Allan Slaight Honour, established in 2010 and sponsored by the Slaight Family Foundation, is presented annually to a young, inspirational Canadian musician who has achieved international success. Brett Kissel is this year's recipient of the Honour, topping the country music charts, winning accolades and creating his own mark.

### The mission of Canada's **Engage** all Canadians Walk of Fame is to to celebrate with us celebrate Canadians who excel in their field

and to inspire the next generation to define their own legacy, while unholding the continuity of Canadian excellence and innovation, Canada's Walk of Fame 2016 will be broadcast on Global on Sunday, December 18 at 8 p.m. ET/PT.

Celebrating the achievements of Canadians is a year-round effort at Canada's Walk of Fame. This past March, we launched the fourth annual national Emerging Artist Music Mentorship Program, supported by RBC, and named Ayaz Virani as its grand prize winner, a talented and original artist from North York, Ontario.

In June, we once again called upon Canadians to nominate a change-maker, role model, inspiring leader or everyday hero making a positive difference to receive the Peter Soumalias Unsung Hero Honour, named for our founding director. This year's Unsung Hero is John Cairns from Trenton, Ontario. He faced a life-altering accident and went on to become a motivational speaker, create the Wheelchair of Hope Foundation and climb Mount Kilimanjaro. His story is remarkable and his optimistic outlook is truly inspirational.

In July, we held our Music Under The Stars concert fundraiser in beautiful Muskoka with unforgettable performances by renowned artists Randy Bachman and Chantal Kreviazuk; and in downtown Toronto's Entertainment District, we unveiled the star for 2015 Inductees Don Cherry and Ron MacLean.

With the generous support of the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario through Celebrate Ontario and Canadian talent the Ontario Tourism Marketing

**Inspire** the next generation of emerging

Partnership Corporation, we hosted our seventh annual Canada's Walk of Fame Festival in September highlighting Canadian talent in music, film, comedy, dance and art. It included programming at Toronto's Yonge-Dundas Square, The Phoenix, The Mod Club and The Horseshoe Tavern.

I want to thank those who work tirelessly on behalf of Canada's Walk of Fame all year round: our fantastic Broadcast partner, CORUS Entertainment, our Broadcast producers. Enter The Picture Productions, our Gala producers e=mc2, our publicity team Holmes PR. Board Chair Lewis Rusen: Talent Chair and Co-Executive Producer Randy Lennox; the Board of Directors and the entire Canada's Walk of Fame team.

I hope you enjoy reading more about each of these incredible Canadians we're honouring. Each one is a true inspiration, with a unique path to success, and words of wisdom that can guide us all. Thank you for supporting Canada's Walk of Fame!

6 CANADA'S WALK OF FAME 2016 CANADASWALKOFFAME.COM



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### LEWIS RUSEN the board chair

Welcome to a spectacular evening: a singular event at Toronto's Allstream Centre, a new venue where we gather together to celebrate the achievements of seven extraordinary Canadians. On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors for Canada's Walk of Fame, I would like to commend the accomplishments of Jeanne Beker, Corey Hart, Deepa Mehta, Jason Priestley, Darryl Sittler, Al Waxman and our Allan Slaight Honour Recipient, Brett Kissel.

I am very pleased and proud to say that Canada's Walk of Fame has become an integral part of our country's vibrant culture, and it would not continue to thrive and to recognize remarkable Canadians without the tremendous support of our valued sponsors.

I would like to extend our thanks to our valued National Sponsors: Cineplex Entertainment, NBCUniversal, Slaight Communications and Air Canada along with our next generation sponsor, RBC, our event sponsors Scotia Wealth Management, RBC Avion and Sentry Investments, and our official sponsor, Stella. Our community sponsors are: BMW, GTA Gum Removal, GQ Hair Studio, Historica Canada, hmv Canada and Novella Magazine.

I'd also like to thank our festival partners, the Government of Canada, and the Government of Ontario through Celebrate Ontario and the Ontario Tourism Marketing Partnership Corporation.

I also want to recognize and thank our valued broadcast partner, Corus Entertainment, for its continued support and for showing our annual celebration in millions of homes across the country.

It's an honour to lead the Board of Directors for a second year, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to work closely with Canada's Walk of Fame's remarkable team, without whom these commemorative nights could not happen.

And thank you for your support! Let's continue to nurture and honour some of this country's best home-grown talent.



## We salute the individuals who create our collective image.

Scotia Wealth Management™ is proud to support
Canada's Walk of Fame, celebrating the achievements
of Canadians from all walks of life who made their
mark on the world. Representing the best of our
country, this year's Inductees fill us with pride
and inspiration.

See the list of Inductees at canadaswalkoffame.com





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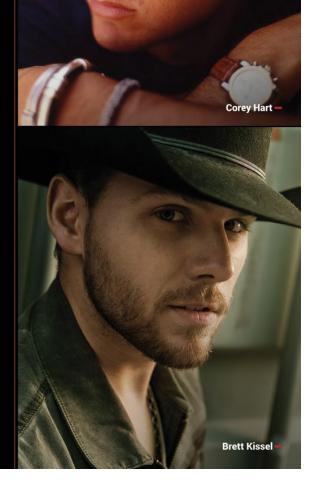
PAST CHAIRS: Peter Soumalias, Jack Tomik, Bonnie Brownlee, Randy Lennox, Bruce M. Rothney, Dan McGrath



Warner Music Canada would like to congratulate **Corey Hart** on his Canada's Walk Of Fame Induction

We would also like to salute **Brett Kissel** for being the 2016 Allan Slaight Honour Recipient







Congratulations to

Jeanne Beker
Corey Hart
Deepa Mehta
Jason Priestley
Darryl Sittler
Al Waxman Cineplex Legends Inductee

on your induction into Canada's Walk of Fame.





In one of his songs, country music star Brett Kissel says he'll do just fine in the city, but at the end of the day he wants to hang his hat knowing where he came from.

Where Kissel, a fifth-generation Albertan, comes from is his family's cattle ranch in Flat Lake, two and a half hours north of Edmonton.

Kissel got his start in music at a young age, releasing his first album independently at 12 years old to sell at local performances. He and his parents printed a hundred copies, expecting them to trickle out, but demand for the album soon surpassed 500, then well into the thousands. His career as a country singer-songwriter skyrocketed over the next decade, with half a dozen albums, multiple hits and awards. In 2006, at 16, he became the youngest nominee in the history of the Canadian Country Music Awards.

"I feel there's an authenticity that comes with many Canadian artists in different genres, but especially in Canadian country," he says. "As much as we can be influenced by the Nashville scene there's something that you get just by being a part of the Canadian geography."

At 21 Kissel married, and he and his wife, Cecilia, have since made the move to Nashville, Tennessee where he's working to break into the American country music scene.

Country music isn't just about a paycheque for Kissal, however, in 2015, after getting involved with a fundraiser in support of adolescent mental health organized by Canadian philanthropist W. Brett Wilson, Kissel met Manitoban countryfolk singersongwriter Don Amero. Their meeting and Wilson's work inspired them to do something bigger.

"Around Brett Wilson's kitchen table Don and I sat down and thought about writing together, recording together and doing something that really could improve the relationships between the white public and the aboriginal people of Canada," Kissel says. They've collaborated and plan to tour as a duo to indigenous communities, and their work, Kissel explains, has only just begun.

## EVERYONE KNOWS THAT MUSIC CAN HEAL.

"The events we've done, including one on a big national scale, performing at Canadian Aborginal Day Live in Winnipeg really opened our eyes to how important our message really can be," he says. "Everyone knows that music can heal. We don't want to sweep under the rug the things that happened in the past, but its time that we lead the reconciliation and we start to heal."

If launching a successful musical career and undertaking advocacy for the indigenous community aren't enough for the ambitious singer-songwriter, he can now add "proud dad" to his list of accomplishments. "My little girl, Mila, was børn in January," he says. "She's the best thing that's ever happened to me and my wife. All these accolades can come and go, we can get some great accolades from the Junos, the CCMAs, in some respects it doesn't matter as much as being there for bath time, or being able to hold her and put her to sleep."

The 2016 Allan Slaight Honour recipient and proud Albertan, at only 26 years old, wants to put his stamp on the Canadian music landscape, even after all he's accomplished. "It's so hard to think about, because I'm so focused on the next thing, and the thing after that," he says. "I've been so goal oriented from the time that I was a kid, all these things are great and they're so special but I'm always thinking about what's next. Maybe as I get a little older I'll stop to smell the roses a little bit, but I feel I have a long way left to go before I actually make it."

Michael Lyons is a Toronto-based writer, game columnist, radio host and professional nerd

### THE ALLAN SLAIGHT HONOUR

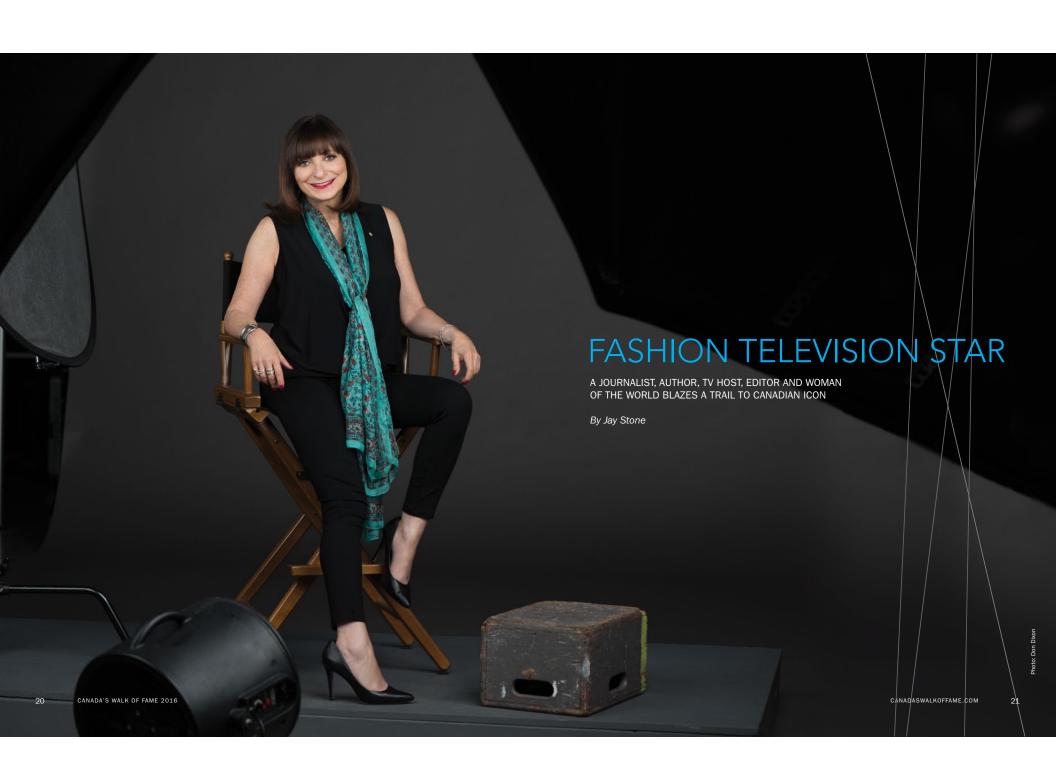
Named for Canadian music pioneer, broadcaster and philanthropist Alian Slaight, this Honour is presented to a talented young Canadian making a positive impact in music. It comes with a \$10,000 honourarium. Previous recipients include Shawn Mendes, The Weeknd, Carly Rae Jepsen, Melanie Fiona, Drake and Nikki Yanofsky.



## 2016 JEANNE BEKER

COREY HART
DEEPA MEHTA
JASON PRIESTLEY
DARRYL SITTLER

AL WAXMAN Cineplex Legends Inductee



### WHAT A LIFE!

Earlier this year a City TV staffer cleared out an archive of old publicity files and dropped off a cardboard box on the back deck of Jeanne Beker's Toronto house. It contained clippings, magazine covers, and publicity photographs from the 27 years when she was host of the groundbreaking TV show, Fashion Television.

She looked through it with awe. "Wow, what a life!" she thought.

Fashion Television was just one of Beker's many high profile career accomplishments. "Journalist, author, TV host, editor, woman of the world," she says, and that's only a partial list. But the old publicity material from Fashion Television inspired her to reminisce about the woman who did all these things.

"I\think she certainly was on a mission," Beker says. "I hate to use the past tense because I'm still that woman, but I've softened or mellowed a bit. I'm amazed by the abundance of passion, and the relentless work."

"Sometimes I think back on my younger self and I can't believe how hard I worked. And it was a joy . . . knowing we were blazing new trails."

Her story started in Toronto 64 years ago. Beker is the daughter of two Holocaust survivors from Poland. Her father always toly her "don't be afraid and never give up." That advice that came in handy years later when she was going from one Toronto radio station to another looking for work.

### DON'T BE AFRAID AND NEVER GIVE UP.

She studied acting as a teenager and landed her first role at age 16 on the CBC sitcom Toby. She travelled to Paris to study mime because it was a pure way to express herself. "I'm a storyteller first and foremost," Beker says. "A communicator."

She returned to Canada in 1975 to begin work as the only mime in Newfoundland, a title that may very well be vacant today. But she wanted more, and she talked CBC Radio into hiring her as an arts reporter.

Three years later, she moved to Toronto and worked for CHUM as what she calls "the good news girl." After the company bought City TV, she co-hosted a magazine show called *The NewMusic* with J.D. Roberts (now John Roberts of Fox News). She later hosted the *Movic Television* show and was Canadian correspondent for *Entertainment Tonight*.

It was a golden era of TV entertainment and Beker interviewed everyone from Keith Richards and Sting to Ella Fitzgerald and Liberace. When she heard about a new fashion show pilot at City TV she saw a new career.

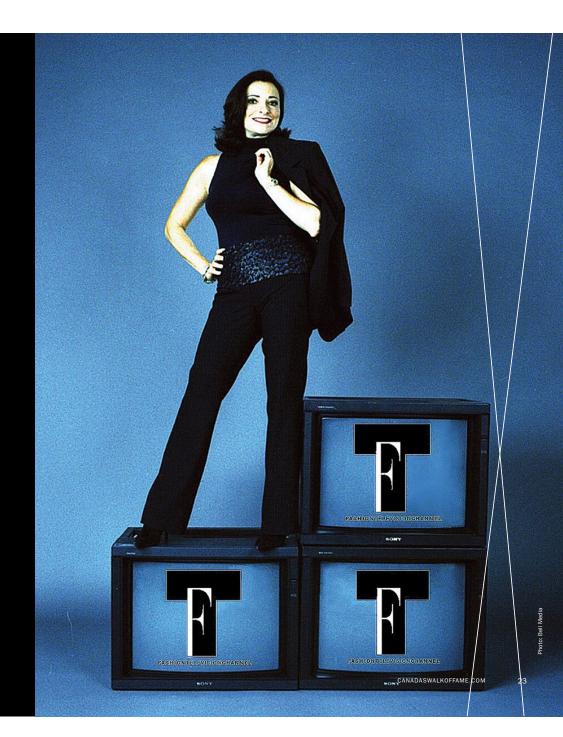
She was always interested in fashion: "I was the first kid on my block to wear go-go boots," she recalls. She started as host of Fashion Television in 1985 and stayed until 2012.

"Fashion is the way we move through the world," Beker says. She now has her own line of clothes at The Shopping Channel and QVC UK, shoes at The Shoe Company, and sunglasses at The Bay. She is also the style editor at The Shopping Channel where she hosts a series called Style Matters.

Along the way, Beker wrote five books, edited magazines and worked as a newspaper columnist — currently for *The Globe and Mail* — while picking up many honours, including a special achievement award from the Canadian Academy of Cinema and Television and an Order of Canada.

The Canada's Walk of Fame honour is special for her. "One of my goals was to be famous and now I'm on Canada's Walk of Fame. It's the cherry on top."

Jay Stone is a well known writer and film critic who spent decades working in the newspaper industry.







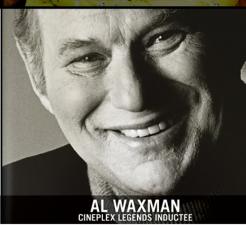


We are proud to support Canada's Walk of Fame in honouring great Canadian dreamers who inspire the dreams of tomorrow.

### **OMDC Congratulates** Canada's 2016 Walk of Fame **Inductees**







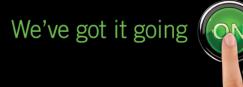
### Thanks for making Ontario's creative industries shine!













FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 24, 1985

Billocard. Line 100 30 singles by sales and

SALES

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1 2 NEVER SURRENDER

1 2 NEVER SURRENDER

2 3 THE POWER OF LOVE

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SAMERODY SET THEM FREE

# SHOUT IVE SOMEBODY SET THAT IN SOME SET TH

HOW A MONTREAL SINGER-SONGWRITER CAPTIVATED A WORLDWIDE AUDIENCE BY STAYING TRUE TO HIS HIGHEST VALUES.

By Suzanne Alyssa Andrew

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			13 MYSTERY LADY
		26	CANADASWALKOFFAME.COM 27
			16 PEOPLE TAKE YOU H
		27	I WONDER IF

In 1981, when he was 18 years old, Corey Hart recorded four songs on six cassette tapes and sent them to the Montreal Forum to the attention of Billy Joel and his touring band mates. It was an audacious plan, but when he got a callback from the band's saxophone player, he didn't hesitate.

Hart jumped in his car spent that summer in Long Island, where he recorded demos at famed recording studio Kingdom Sound, met his idol Billy Joel, played gigs with members of the Billy Joel band and started performing solo. He also wrote songs at a prolific rate.

He was no stranger to the music industry. He started performing as a singer when he was 11 years old, landing appearances with rom Jones and Paul Anka, and he represented Canada at the World Popular Song Festival in Tokyo in 1980 with Dan Hill.

But what he dreamed of to launch his career was a recording contract.

In the early 80s there were only a handful of Canadian recording artists, including Joni Mitchell, The Guess Who, Gordon Lightfoot and Anne Murray, who had achieved major commercial success stateside.

"It was still an uphill climb for a domestic act to break through in America and convince a skeptical Canadian industry that we were legitimate," says Hart. "Nowadays Canadian artists dominate, but it was not the norm then . . . I believe my chart successes south of the border and internationally, along with several other notable Canadian artists of the 80s, really kicked open the doors for good."

He landed the record deal: His debut album, First Offense, was released in 1983 to modest sales in Canada to start, but picked up momentum in the U.S. and internationally, becoming a massive hit. Through the 80s and 90s he continued to release successful albums and write songs that resonated with a wide and appreciative audience.

After selling over 16 million records around the world, landing nine consecutive singles on the U.S. Billiboard top 40 and 11 top 10s in Canada and receiving numerous accolades including Grammy nominations and ASCAP, ADISQ, SOCAN and Juno awards, Hart is recognized as one of Canada's most successful sineer-sonewriters.

Of his storied career Hart remains grounded and philosophical: "It's all wrapped within a magical alchemic combination of creation, talent, transformation and a little good luck," he says. "If you can summon the internal confidence without fear or regret, your imagination will improvise the rest. Seeing something through until the end, no matter how daunting, offers you the sweetest gratification."

Hart cites his greatest musical achievement not as a particular hit record or bestselling album but "from the fact that I was able to remain authentic to my artistic vision by being the sole architect of my words and music."

### Corey Hart's advice for Canadian musicians starting out:

### Never surrender.

Love and respect your craft. Give nothing less than everything you've got.

Hart lives with his wife Julie Masse and their four children in the Bahamas. After his eldest daughter was born in Montreal, he and his wife decided to raise their family outside the spotlight. He also wanted to reach out to his father who moved to Nassau in 1973, when his parents separated.

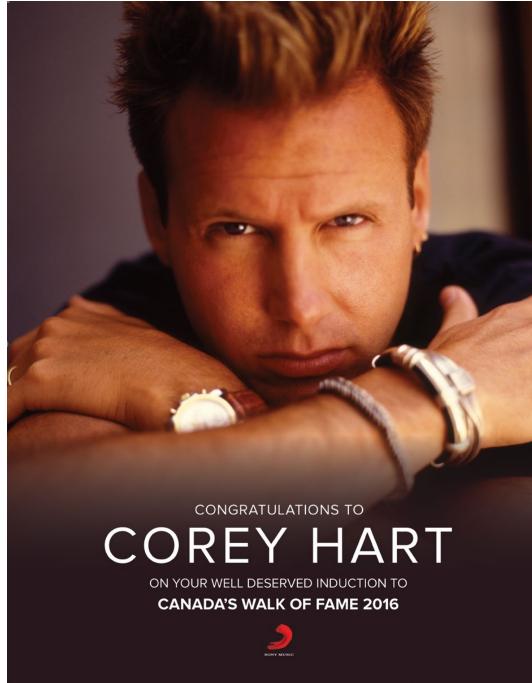
Montreal is still his hometown, though. "I'm extremely proud to be a Canadian and also a Quebecer," he says, noting he misses "that distinctive smell in the air of a crisp Montreal September afternoon, which wistfully harkens back to my youth and gearing up for another season of Habs hockey games."

These days his focus is on raising his family. Yet he's still president of Siena Records, a joint label venture with Warner Music Canada created by legendary Sire Records CEO Sevmour Stein.











## Fire, Earth, Water and Adventure

AWARD-WINNING FILMMAKER RECOGNIZED FOR FOUR DECADES OF EXQUISITE STORYTELLING

By Michael Lyons



## If there's one word in the English language film director Deepa Mehta despises, it's the word controversial.

"Its use to describe any work limits the work," she explains. If not controversial, the work of the critically acclaimed, Indo-Canadian filmmaker of over 40 years has elicited a full range of extraordinary reactions.

After its release in 2005, The New York Times waxed political on Water, the critically-acclaimed third film in Mehta's Elements trilogy — following Fire (1996) and Earth (1998). Water follows the trials of an eight-year-old child-bride turned widow as she enters a community of Hindu women who have also lost their husbands. Reviewer Jeannette Catsoulis described Water as an "exquisite film about the institutionalized oppression of an entire class of women and the way patriarchal imperatives inform religious belief," pointing out the parallel struggle of widows under Hinduism alongside India under British colonialism.

This followed a turbulent creation period for Water. Following her previous films — Fire especially was highly critical of conservative Hindu values — a segment of right-wing Hindu nationalists organized protests that saw the set destroyed and production halted. Eventually, after a suicide protest threat, a district administrator in Varanasi ordered the crew to stop shooting and asked Mehta to leave the city. This set production back years, and eventually Water was shot in Sri Lanka instead. "Though some of my work has often infuriated religious fundamentalists, it's not accurate to say or imply that it has raised the ire of the Indian/Hindu community," Mehta explains.

The Punjabi born, New Delhi-raised filmmaker grew up in the industry. Her father was a film distributor. She majored in Hindu philosophy at the University of Delhi, and made a few short documentaries for an Indian production studio before she met her first husband, Canadian documentarian Paul Saltzman, who was filming in India.

They married and she moved to Toronto with him in 1973, eventually giving birth to their daughter, Devyani Saltzman. The marriage ended and she has lived with collaborator and Canadian film producer David Hamilton for 23 years now. For decades she worked as a script writer for children's films

and on a number of film and television projects, including a documentary about her brother, photojournalist Dilip Mehta, before she began to produce her own feature films.

The first film in the Elements trilogy, Fire, dealt frankly with the romantic and sexual relationship between two women dissatisfied with their traditional Hindu marriages and family life. Reviewers praised Fire, but a far-right Indian regional political party called the film "immoral and pornographic."

"A right-wing faction has said that they find my female characters, or my women-centric films like *Fire* and *Water* not representative of the 'real' Indian woman, who in their terms means one who never questions men, or patriarchy for that matter," Mehta explains.

Adventure is a great impetus for me.

In addition to crafting authentic, fully fleshed out, beautiful female characters, Mehta's work also explores stories about queer Indian women and hijras — a term for a person who would be considered transgender in the West. She says what drives her work and her ideas is plain curiosity: "I have an insatiable need to know more about what I don't know."

"I don't know if it's important to explore what one generally hears about as much as it's wildly intriguing, interesting and downright fun," Mehta says. "A bit like Captain Kirk and the Enterprise I guess, 'to boldly go where no man has gone before.' Adventure is a great impetus for me."

The multiple award winning filmmaker — whose many honours include 12 honourary degrees, an Oscar nomination and the Governor General's Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Artistic Achievement in 2012 — recently completed her latest feature, Anatomy of Violence.

Michael Lyons is a Toronto-based writer, game maker, columnist, radio host and professional nerd.



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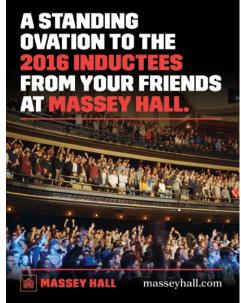


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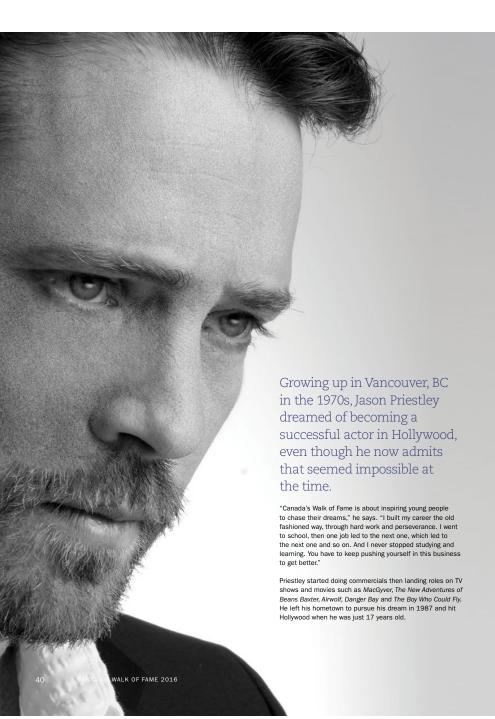




## HOLLYWOOD DREAMER

A PROLIFIC VANCOUVER ACTOR, DIRECTOR AND PRODUCER PERSEVERES TO WORLDWIDE SUCCESS

By Suzanne Alyssa Andrew Photography by Matt Barnes



Now, after 30 years in the business, Priestley is still best known for his breakout role as Brandon Walsh on Beverly Hills, 90210, which aired from 1990 to 2000 on Fox and also in syndication worldwide. The show chronicled a decade of friendships, relationships and glamorous young characters grappling with the tough socio-economic issues of the time. Priestley directed episodes of the show and was also an executive producer. He was nominated for two Golden Globes for his role.

He's also recognized for playing Richard "Fitz" Fitzpatrick and both directing and producing on the HBO Canada comedy series Call Me Fitz (2010 to 2013). The show won multiple Canadian Screen Awards including Best Comedy Series as well as multiple Directors Guild of Canada Awards. It was nominated for 16 Gemini Awards and three Canadian Comedy Awards. Priestley won a Canadian Comedy Award for Best TV Performance for it in 2011. Other TV projects include Priestley's memorable roles on Tru Calling, Masters of Horror, Medium and Ny Name is Fact.

One of his most recent projects is starring as Matt Shade, a former hockey player turned private investigator on the Canadian dramedy *Private Eyes*, which airs on Global TV. The show begins shooting its second season in Toronto this fall.

As a result of working steadily throughout his career, Priestley has starred in more than 30 films with numerous credits in TV. He expanded beyond acting into directing and producing early on, because it's work he enjoys: "they offer different challenges to me than performing in front of the camera," he says.

One of his early directorial projects was Barenaked in America (1997), a documentary about the popular Canadian band, The Barenaked Ladies. He went on to direct other made-for-TV movies and feature films including Cas & Dylan, which won Best Canadian Film at the Toronto International Film Festival in 2013 as well as film festival awards in 2014 in L.A., Newport Beach, San Diego and Whistler.

Priestley was honoured with the ACTRA National Award of Excellence in 2015 for his contribution to Canada's film and television industry.

He says he's prolific simply because he's a fan: "That's what made me want to get into the industry to begin with and it's what keeps me motivated today."

There isn't such a need to rush to Los Angeles anymore... And there is so much production in Vancouver and Toronto. I would suggest to young actors that they stay in Vancouver or Toronto and work. Working as an actor is the best thing you can do."

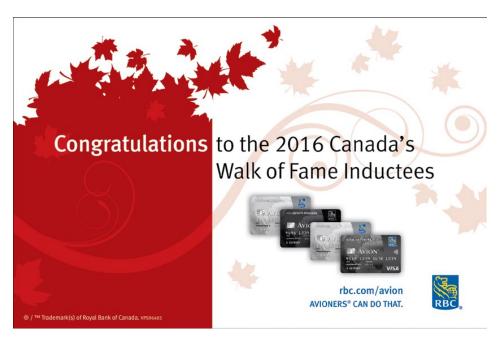
Priestley spends most of his time in Los Angeles now, but he's frequently in Canada working on various projects. Though he attained his Hollywood dream, he recognizes heading to Hollywood isn't as crucial as it used to be.

"Things have changed a lot since I was a young actor," he says. "There isn't such a need to rush to Los Angeles anymore. More and more things are cast off self-tapes. And there is so much production in Vancouver and Toronto. I would suggest to young actors that they stay in Vancouver or Toronto and work. Working as an actor is the best thing you can do."

Priestley published a best-selling book, Jason Priestley: A Memoir in 2014. He's married to make-up artist Naomi Lowde and is a father to a son and a daughter, Dashiell and Ava. He's an avid hobby racecar driver, dog owner, hockey fan, cook and fine wine enthusiast, and maintains close ties to the Canadian west coast, describing Vancouver as "one of the most beautiful cities I've ever seen." He also enjoys fishing trips to Ucluelet BC, where he owns The Terrance Beach Resort.

Perhaps one of his most Canadian achievements (prior to the Canada's Walk of Fame induction) was in 2013 when Tim Hortons named a donut The Priestley. Of this year's induction, however, Priestley says, "I'm a very proud Canadian, and now to be a permanent part of something like this is incredible."

Suzanne Alyssa Andrew is the author of the novel, Circle of Stones (Dundurn Press, 2015) and an editor for Taddle Creek magazine.







## CONGRATULATIONS JASON PRIESTLEY

### 2016 INDUCTEE

Characters, APA & Thruline are proud to honor our client Jason Priestley and all of the 2016 Inductees.











## TOP SCORER

HOCKEY LEGEND DARRYL SITTLER REFLECTS ON SOME OF THE BIGGEST SCORING NIGHTS IN HOCKEY HISTORY AND LIVING FOR THE MOMENT

By Jay Stone



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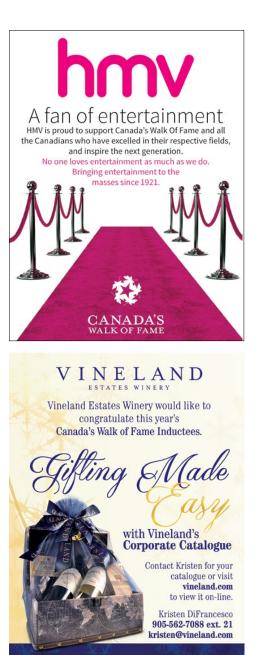


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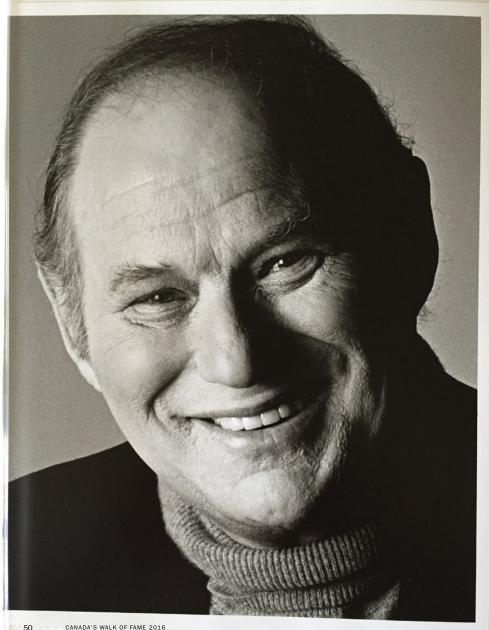
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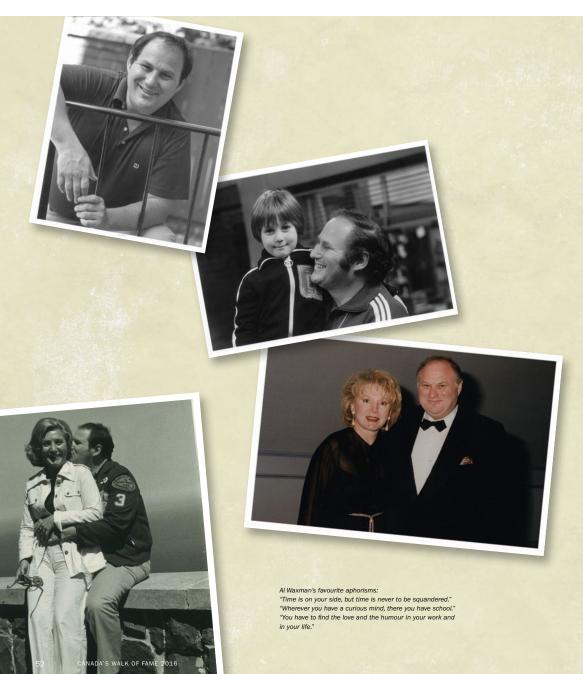




### OUR BELOVED KING OF KENSINGTON

REMEMBERING A CANADIAN TV LEGEND FOR HIS PASSION, INTEGRITY AND TIRELESS SUPPORT

By Suzanne Alyssa Andrew Photos provided by The Waxman Family



## OVER THE COURSE OF A CAREER SPANNING FIVE DECADES, AL WAXMAN WAS INVOLVED IN OVER 1,000 PRODUCTIONS, AS AN ACTOR OR DIRECTOR FOR TV, FILM, RADIO AND THEATRE.

Waxman started early, at age 12 on CBC Radio, and after university studied acting in New York City's renowned acting schools. It was his breakout role in CBC TV's hit sitcom King of Kensington, in which he starred from 1975 to 1980, that first garnered him attention and accolades across the country.

Like Larry King, the convenience store owner he played on the show, Waxman spent his early years in Toronto's Kensington Market neighbourhood. He was born in Toronto in 1935 to a Jewish family and grew up near Spadina Avenue and Nassau Street. His parents were originally from Poland and owned and operated a downtown restaurant.

After King of Kensington's run, Waxman went on to star in major Hollywood films and shows, including CBS TV's Emmy Award-winning drama Cagney and Lacey. He was awarded the Order of Ontario in 1996 and in 1997 was honoured with The Order of Canada. That same year he won a Gemini Award for his role in the CBC movie, Net Worth. In recognition of his honest portrayals in police force roles he was also named an Honourary Chief of Police by the Metropolitan Toronto Police Force and received the rare recognition of Honourary Police Lieutenant by the New York City Police Department.

"He was a man who had tremendous belief in himself, in what he had to give and in the stories that he believed must be told," says his son, Adam Waxman, an actor and executive editor of DINE magazine. "Acting and directing were his passion. He had a disarming honesty and brought that emotional truth into his work. That's what made him so watchable, so relatable and so loveable."

Waxman was integral to the development of the Canadian film industry as an advocate for union issues and as a founding member of the Director's Guild of Canada and as chair of the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television.

His support for young Canadian talent was tireless. He ran Al's Gym, an informal mentorship program through which he freely gave his advice, time and energy to young actors.

Adam Waxman says his grandmother was his father's inspiration for all of the community and charitable work he did during his lifetime. "She was a strong woman with depth and generosity of spirit, and she taught him the importance of *tzedakah* and of giving back," he says. "My father believed it was important to use his celebrity for the good of others."

"He had a larger than life quality, a great sense of humour and gave the best hugs in the world," says his son. "In an industry that is often not conducive to raising a family, we are one of the fortunate few who can say that our father was a family man. For him, family always came first."

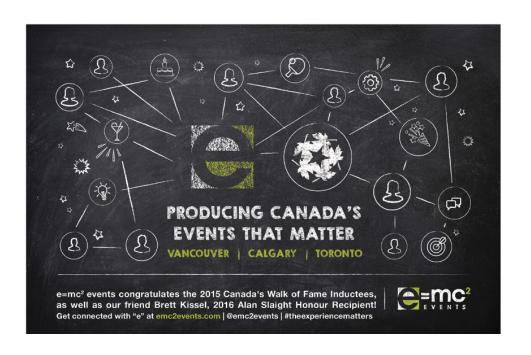
Waxman died in January, 2001, at age 65 as a result of elective heart surgery. Friends and family packed Toronto's Holy Blossom Temple to remember him, and his legacy lives on — in his productions, the actors he mentored, the community projects he supported and the many lives he touched. His wife Sara and sons Adam and Tobaron Waxman continue his legacy of tzedakah, each in their own way.

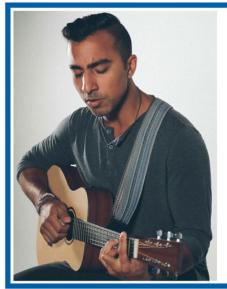
The statue of him in Kensington Market sculpted by Ruth Abernathy bears one of his most memorable lines: "There's lots to do down the road, there's always more. Trust your gut instincts. In small matters trust your mind, but in the important decisions of life trust your heart."

### THE CINEPLEX LEGENDS HONOUR

Each year Cineplex Entertainment presents this honour posthumously to a Canadian pioneer in film, television, music, sports, arts or innovation in recognition of a long and respected career. Previous recipients include Lorne Greene, Jeff Healey, Oscar Peterson, Phil Hartman, Mordeai Richler, Doug Henning, Norma & Douglas Shearer and Raymond Burr.

Suzanne Alyssa Andrew is the author of the novel, Circle of Stones (Dundurn Press, 2015) and an editor for Taddle Creek magazine.





## Congratulations to Grand Prize Winner Ayaz Virani!

Winner of the 2016 Canada's Walk of Fame Emerging Artist Music Mentorship Program supported by RBC®, Ayaz demonstrates the type of hard work, perseverance and vision that goes into having – and realizing – a Someday®. Together with organizations like Canada's Walk of Fame, a diverse range of Canadian talent is supported in communities across the country through the RBC Emerging Artists Project.

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By Suzanne Alyssa Andrew

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### GRAND PRIZE: AYAZ V.

Ayaz Virani is a 24-year-old singer-songwriter known for his own unique blend of guitar driven pop, rock and R&B. His fans love his originals and his covers of the Travie McCoy and Bruno Mars hit "Billionaire" and Amy Winehouse's "Back to Black." "Music is my soul," he says. "I'm just a chill guy from Toronto writing songs in my mom's basement and trying to let the world hear my voice."

soundcloud.com/ayazv



### FINALIST: FAOUZIA OUIHYA

Winnipeg-based teen Faouzia Ouihya combines catchy pop rhythms, heartfelt lyrics and powerful vocals, singing in both French and English. Born in Morocco, Ouihya grew up in the rural town of Carman, Manitoba listening to traditional Arabic music. In 2015 she won Grand Prize at Le Chicane Électrique for her song "Mes Cicatrices." Listen for her hit "Knock On My Door" as it gains steady radio play.

youtube.com/watch?v=x0t0hYKGXrg



### FINALIST: BEN KLICK

This high energy, guitar-slinging country artist from Kelowna, BC released a debut EP in 2014 and took first place in the 2015 Edmonton Global Country Star Search. *Today*, Ben Klick's latest EP, was produced and recorded in Nashville by Clay Krasner and RyLee Madison of 7-17 Music. benklick.com



### FINALIST: DAVE SAMPSON

Hailing from Nova Scotia, this folk-pop singer-songwriter is already a fan favourte in Atlantic Canada. His album No Pressure, No Diamonds received radio play across Canada when it debuted in 2014, and its titular track was sampled by Canadian Hip Hop icon Classified, introducing him to a new fan base. davesampson.ca



### FINALIST: JAKE VANCE

Singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Jake Vance grew up in a musical family in Southern Alberta. The 20-year-old's debut EP White Elephant (2015) charted on Canadian college radio stations and he released a follow-up EP, Eden, produced by Russell Broom, this year. jakevance.ca



### FINALIST: NUELA CHARLES

The much anticipated fall, 2016 release of pop-soul singer-song-writer Nuela Charles's latest album follows her success with her debut, Aware, (2012). In addition to radio play, songs from that album were picked up by TV shows on VH1, Family Channel, W Network, CityTV, MTV and Showtime. She was the first recipient of the inaugural Edmonton Music Prize in 2013. nuelacharles.com



### FINALIST: THE KENTS

Warren Frank (vocals), Fred Kwon (guitar), Tanner Pare (drums) and Luke Shauf (bass) are the energetic players in this indie pop band from Lindsay, Ontario. They've shared stages with Canadian favourites The Trews, The Strumbellas and Ben Caplan, and their debut ER Waking, was produced by Derek Hoffman and mastered by Dan Weston.

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CELEBRATING JOHN CAIRNS, OUR 2016
PETER SOUMALIAS UNSUNG HERO
By Suzanne Alyssa Andrew

Every year Canada's Walk of Fame recognizes a special Canadian whose outstanding work in the arts, culture or sports positively impacts their community and inspires the next generation. This year we honour motivational speaker and mobility advocate John Cairns.

After graduating from high school, Cairns accepted a job at Canadian National Railways. His life path seemed to be set, until a devastating accident in 1992 when he was just 26 years old. While assembling a train in a Toronto yard, he was run over by a 68-ton railway car, and instantly suffered the loss of his right arm and right leg.

It took two years of rehabilitation for him to relearn how to live in his body without his dominant right side and adjust to his new life. He came out of the rehabilitation experience with the overwhelmingly positive attitude that's shaped the rest of his life and touched countless others. He now dedicates his life to sharing his experience and vision of hope. He strives to be what he calls "a lighthouse of encouragement."

"It is my life's passion, and purpose to share that miracle and use my life as an instrument of change and inspiration to the next generation and those whom I am blessed to come in contact with," he says. "I remain motivated pushing through own boundaries, believing in living my life with power, passion and purpose and in doing so, inspires and empowers others to take action. If I can do it so can you!"

Cairns works as a motivational speaker under his own Voice of Victory organization. In 2014 he also founded the Wheelchair of Hope Foundation, for which he serves as CEO. The foundation is dedicated to raising awareness about the needs and abilities of people with physical disabilities. It also works to improve the mobility of people who need it, while delivering dignity, hope and opportunity through the freedom of independence.

Cairns is someone who leads through example by staying involved and active in his community. He's served as a president of a local Rotary Club in Belleville, and on various boards of directors for community, health and accessibility advisory organizations. In his spare time he enjoys golfing, snowboarding, skiing, swimming, cycling, scuba diving, skydiving and running 10K Terry Fox races. In August of this year he successfully summited Mount Killimanjaro.

"Anything is possible when you believe," he says. "Life's obstacles are there not to bury us, but are designed to make us grow and develop who we are meant to be."

Cairns was nominated for the Peter Soumalias Unsung Hero Honour by Carol-Ann Fellows, and selected as this year's recipient by the Canada's Walk of Fame Board Committee.

The Honour itself is named after the founding director of Canada's Walk of Fame, Peter Soumailias, to pay tribute to his dedication and commitment in celebrating Canadian excellence. All Canadians are invited to submit nominations for the 2017 Honour through the Canada's Walk of Fame website or by mail.

"Anything is possible when you believe."

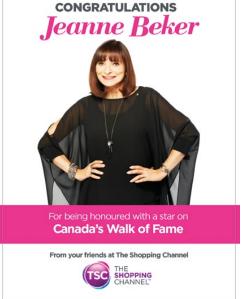


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### Looking Back 2016

## Music Conder the Stars

A private concert and fundraising event for Canada's Walk of Fame returned in summer 2016.

This year's exclusive celestial celebration included lakeside cocktails at a beautiful Muskoka location, an outdoor gourmet dinner and a private concert with renowned Canadian musical artists Chantal Kreviazuk and Randy Bachman.

The evening wouldn't have been possible without the beautiful venue provided by Walter and, Maria Schneider and the Schneider Family Foundation, as well as the generous support of our national sponsors, Air Canada, Cuceplex Entertainment, NBCUniversal and Slaight Communications Thank you'to our donors, Burt's Bees, Coca-Cola, Décor & More, Gordon Bay Marine. Lindt, Neal Brothers Foods and RE/MAX. Wine, tequila and whisky were graciously supplied by Vineland Estates Winery, Casamigos Utra-Premium Tequila and Gooderham and Worts, respectively

### Looking Back 2016

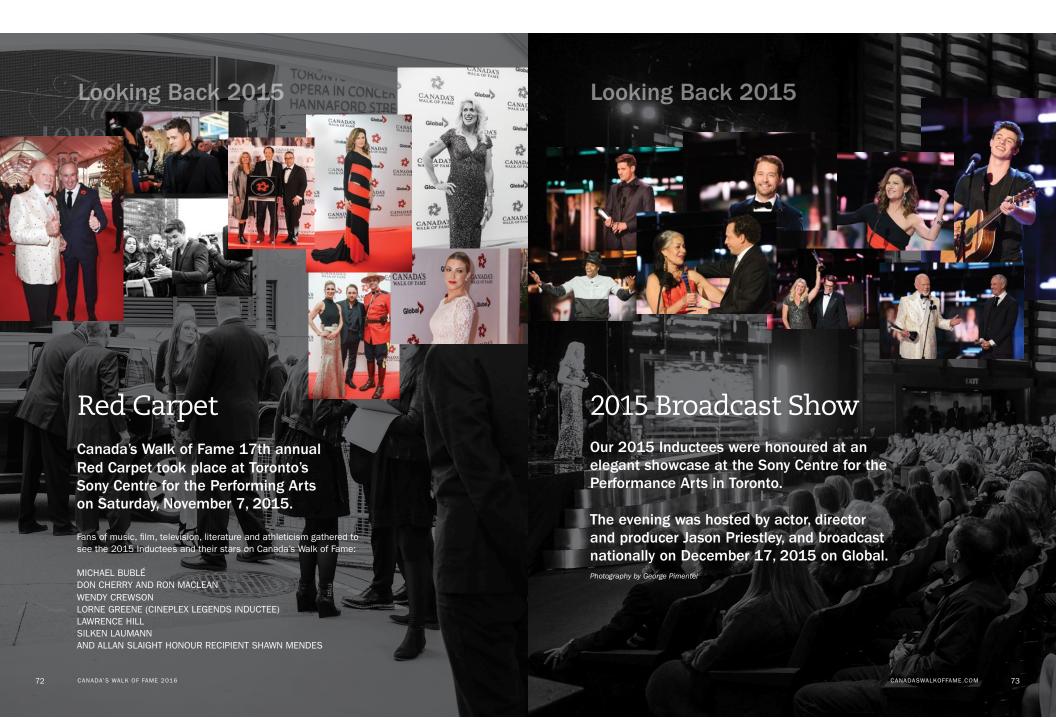


### Star Unveiling

On July 25, 2016, 2015 Canada's Walk of Fame Inductees and sportscasters Don Cherry and Ron MacLean unveiled their star on King Street West in the heart of Toronto's entertainment district.

The legendary duo is best known by Canadians as the longstanding beloved hosts of Coach's Corner on Hockey Night in Canada. MacLean and Cherry were inducted into Canada's Walk of Fame in November 2015, along with Michael Bublé, Silken Laumann, Wendy Crewson, Lawrence Hill and Lorne Greene.

Photography by George Pimentel





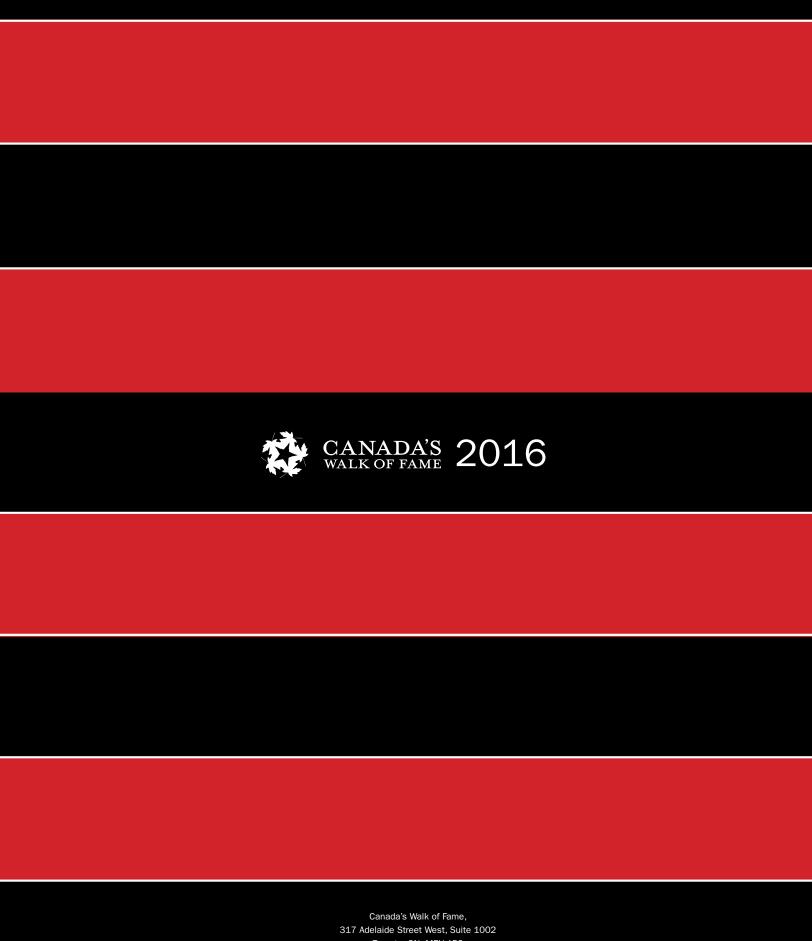
The 2015 annual Canada's Walk of Fame Charity Ball was held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre with all proceeds going to the Canada's Walk of Fame Emerging Artist Music Mentorship Program.

The event was hosted by Arisa Cox from Big Brother Canada and presented by Scotia Wealth Management. It featured performances by R&B singer Sean Jones, and Juno Award-winning recording artist Johnny Reid. More than 900 VIP guests mingled with the 2015 Inductees and participated in the silent auction.

Photography by Tara West

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