

# The DREAM HEALER

## A New Opera in Two Acts

Music by Lloyd Burritt  
Original Adaptation and Libretto by Christopher Allan  
Revised Libretto and Additional Material by Don Mowatt  
Based on the book *PILGRIM* by Timothy Findley

### WORLD PREMIERE presented by

The UBC Opera Ensemble  
Theatre UBC

March 2, 3pm  
and 4, 6, 8, 2008 8pm

Chan Centre for the Performing Arts

On the occasion of UBC's Centenary

### Featuring international guest stars:

Judith Forst, mezzo-soprano, as *Lady Sybil*  
John Avey, baritone, as *Carl Jung*  
Roelof Oostwoud, tenor, as *Pilgrim*

### Joined by:

UBC Opera Ensemble  
UBC Symphony Orchestra  
David Agler, conductor  
Nancy Hermiston, director

### Regular Tickets: \$44 - \$18

The Chan Box Office, in person only  
TicketMaster 604.280.3311 or [www.ticketmaster.ca](http://www.ticketmaster.ca)

### "Friends" Tickets: \$150

A premium seat and a tax receipt for \$120.  
Call 604.822.8246 to buy a "Friends" Ticket

### Donations:

UBC Development Office, Maryn Ellis 604.822.5345

### Story

The opera is based on Timothy Findley's *PILGRIM* and focuses on Carl Jung at the Burghölzli Clinic in Zürich. Early in the opera, Pilgrim's friend, Lady Sibyl, asks Jung about disintegration of the psyche as a symptom of schizophrenia and whether reintegration of the fragments is possible. Replies Jung, "Sometimes we have to accept that things break into pieces." "And then...?" she asks. "'And then'" becomes a journey to integrate the real with the unreal, the supposed with the unimaginable, so that new understandings of the human condition are possible.

### Music

The music is melodic and lyrical, approachable, rich and complex. "The music has a delicate, impressionistic perfume to it – mysterious, with a hint of poison in the air ... and, emerging from the swirl like a shining dagger, [Emma's aria *Orchard*] an aria of spectacular beauty." Max Wyman, critic.

### Symposium

The Department of Psychiatry and the UBC Institute of Mental Health are presenting three lectures during the premiere week. March 3<sup>rd</sup>, Dr. Wulf Rössler, current director of the Burghölzli Clinic, Zürich, will speak on the stigma of mental illness. March 5<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Thomas Kirsch will address "C.G. Jung: The man and the myth". March 7<sup>th</sup>, "Compassionate approaches to the challenges of mental ill health" includes presentations by UBC Professor Allan Young, Mr. Bill Wilkerson, Co-Chair, Global Business and Economic Roundtable on Addiction and Mental Health, and Ms Margaret Trudeau, celebrated Canadian and mental health advocate.

[www.thedreamhealer.com](http://www.thedreamhealer.com)

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## CREATIVE TEAM AND ARTISTS

V. Aberdeen Photo



Composer Lloyd Burritt is a graduate of UBC in music composition and a student of Jean Coulthard. He is an Associate Composer of the Canadian Music Centre and has composed in a wide variety of musical idioms, producing electronic music and numerous choral works as well as major orchestral works. His works have been performed by eminent orchestras in North America and Europe and by major ensembles in Canada, the USA, Great Britain, and Sweden. Vancouver born, Burritt enjoyed a lengthy career teaching secondary-school music and theatre in North Vancouver where he became recognized for his ability to create artistic projects that engaged and created community.

V. Aberdeen Photo



Librettist Don Mowatt was born in Montreal and is a graduate of both the University of Victoria and UBC. For thirty four years Don was a documentary, drama and music producer for CBC Radio, winning over fifteen international awards including two Peabody medals in New York. For nine years he was on the Faculty of Creative Writing and Theatre at the University of BC. He has also written plays and stage works for a number of professional companies and for the CBC and is currently co-artistic director of Western Gold Theatre, founded in 1994 by veteran actress Joy Coghill. THE DREAM HEALER is his third opera libretto.



Nancy Hermiston will direct the premiere. A Canadian-born lyric coloratura, in 1995 Nancy joined the UBC School of Music as Head of the Voice and Opera Divisions, where she established the UBC Opera Ensemble. Recent directing credits include *Die Zauberflöte* and *Manon* at UBC, Rossini's *La Cenerentola* for Opera Saskatchewan, Verdi's *La Traviata* and J. Strauss' *Die Fledermaus* for Vancouver Opera as well as *La Bohème* and *Così fan tutte* for Usti nad Labem in the Czech Republic.



Mezzo-soprano Judith Forst, OC, has been engaged to perform the role of Lady Sybil. Vancouver-born and resident, she is a UBC graduate. Judith continues to appear in significant roles with opera companies in major North American and European cities (New York, Chicago, Prague and Milan) and to make recordings for the CBC label. She not only has brilliant technique, with a voice of wide range and gorgeous, even tone, but also a rare dramatic sense that makes her a commanding figure in opera.



Baritone John Avey will perform the role of Carl Jung. John has become known for his powerful rich baritone and his commanding presence on-stage. He debuted at The Met as Enrico in *Lucia di Lammermoor* and has sung roles for the New York City Opera, the Arizona Opera, and the Lyric Opera of Kansas City. He has also sung with the Canadian Opera Company and most of Canada's opera companies including the Vancouver Opera.



Tenor Roelof Oostwoud will sing the role of Pilgrim. Roelof began his career with the Canadian Opera Company and followed it with engagements in San Francisco, Boston and at the Tanglewood Festival. He has appeared with Covent Garden, La Scala, and Deutsche Staatsoper and has sung under conductors Maazel, Bonyngue, Ashkenazy, Thielemann, Conlon, and Santi. Since 2003 Roelof has taught voice at the UBC School of Music, dividing his time between Vancouver and Europe.



Conductor David Agler is also a Vancouver resident with an international career. Currently Artistic Director of the Wexford Opera Festival in Ireland, David has previously served as Music Director of the Vancouver Opera, Principal Conductor of the Australian Opera, Resident Conductor of the San Francisco Opera, Principal Guest Conductor of the Oper der Stadt Köln, Conductor and Administrator of the Spoleto Festival, and Artistic Director of the Opera Festival of New Jersey.

