



## mixed media artist

hai is a mixed media artist who defies categorization. like his dna, hai's art is diverse, ranging between directing, designing, and devising new works in theatre, opera, and film. hai's art explores race, gender, and orientation themes, emphasizing works that bridge arts and advocacy. hai was one of the inaugural artists-in-residence with wildseed blacks arts fellowship & black lives matter - toronto.

as a screen director/producer, hai made his feature film debut "mixed↑" (mixedup), produced with jack fox and in association with outtv. the film has won people's choice award (byblacks) for best director & film and the best feature film documentary at the caribbean windrush film festival supported by the british film institute & national lottery fund. mixed↑ is currently distributed through moving images distribution. stir magazine called the film,

"a bold mix of documentary, confessional, strident manifesto, and arthouse experiment.  
it defies categorization, a lot like the artist at its centre."

hai's award-winning short film "c'est moi" has screened at some of the leading black film festivals worldwide, including vues d'afrique, montreal, and britain's black international film festival. hai is also a producer, having been the assistant producer to marie clements on her feature film red snow available on cbc gem. in 2022, hai was selected as part of the highly competitive eave (european audiovisual entrepreneurs) on demand access program, a program for emerging bipoc creators supported by the canada media fund and national screen institute. through this program he is developing a plurilingual series entitled "diaries of a dowry" with collaborators sharada eswar and alison wong.

as a stage director, hai's work includes assistant directing under peter hinton for the national arts centre and canadian opera company production of harry somer's "louis riel". he was also part of the inaugural bud's program at the stratford festival and directed in the meighen forum. upcoming hai will be the director & librettist for "aportia chryptych: a black opera for portia white". the show is currently supported by the national arts creation fund, canadian opera company, canada council for the arts and the ontario arts council.

noted as "canada's first black video/projection designer," hai was the 2021 recipient of the jack king award from the associated designers of canada and was a meta award nominee for best contribution to theatre. as a video designer, hai has worked at the stratford festival of canada, shaw festival of canada, luminato festival, tarragon theatre, neptune theatre, gctc, black theatre workshop.

as a visual artist, hai's photography work was included in laurie sean borzovoy's design for rufus wainwright and daniel mcivor's "hadrian", directed by peter hinton and produced by the canadian opera company. in addition, hai's works have been printed in harpers bazaar uk, greystone books, and he was a stills photographer & epk creator for the film company zhoh daatsik pictures. upcoming, you can see his visual arts work at various exhibitions including wildseed centre for arts & activism and the art gallery of mississauga.

as a deviser/performer, hai was a cast member of the canadian premiere of alice walker's "the colour purple" (neptune theatre), george bernard shaw's "pygmalion" & neil simon's "sweet charity" (shaw festival), anosh irani's "bombay black" (factory theatre), jani lauzon's "i call myself princess" (cahoots theatre, native earth and paper canoe projects) and was a member of the dora winning ensemble in sarah ruhl's "passion play" (outside the march, sheep no wool & convergence theatre). as a deviser/writer, his poetry was included in suitcase in point's 2020 production of "freedom - a mixtape". hai's work was also featured in "freedom: cabaret" as part of the 2021 season at the stratford festival of canada. hai seeks to continue telling stories relegated to the peripheries of history while blurring the line between theatrical mediums, creating work synthesized from many art forms.

"howard, or "hai," as he positions himself, is a highly intelligent, witty, and talented artist with a huge repertoire of skills...this is an exceptionally professional young man who will make his name, and soon, with a vengeance. his talents are wide-ranging- and unique."  
martha henry; order of canada, order of on, hon lld, phd, dhum, dfa.

"hai's voice is layered: as male, as queer, as mixed-race, as black, as curious. his scope is vast: as director, as actor, as visual artist, as interpreter...his questions are endless. we need his art, his artistry and his voice."  
kimberley rampersad, associate artistic director, the shaw festival of canada

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## mixed media artist

### director

#### stage

director | "aportia chryptych: a black opera for portia white"  
by hau x sean mayes in collaboration with neema bickersteth | canadian opera company | 2024\* (*upcoming*)  
director shadow to atom egoyan | "salome" by richard strauss | canadian opera company | feb 2023† (*upcoming*)  
associate director to mike payette | "choir boy" by tarell alvin mccraney | nov 2022† (*upcoming*)  
director | "lizzie siddel" by jeremy green | the meighen forum (stratford festival of canada) | 2022  
director & deviser | live captured virtual reality workshop (stratford festival lab and relative motion uk) | 2021  
assistant director to ash knight | "antigone" by sophocles | directors workshop (stratford festival of canada) | 2019  
intern director/designer to peter hinton | "silence" by trina davis | grand theatre | 2018‡  
assistant director to associate director estelle shook & director peter hinton | "louis riel" by harry somers & mavor moore | national arts centre & canadian opera company | 2017

† supported by the canada council for the arts

‡ supported by the theatre ontario professional training program

#### screen

director, writer & editor | "mixed†" by hau | mixed up pictures inc, jack fox media in association with outtv | feature film | 2020\*  
director & editor | "reweaving severed ties" by tantoo cardinal | culture storm | documentary film | 2018  
director, producer & editor | "sikhokele" by drfr | music video | 2018\*  
director, writer, producer, editor & composer | "chloe" by howard j davis | short film | 2017\*  
director, writer, producer, editor & composer | "c'est moi" by howard j davis | moving images distribution | short film | 2016\*  
director & editor | "shakespeare shorts" by william shakespeare | short film | 2014

### designer

#### video & projections

"the man that got away" by martin julien | directed by peter hinton-davis | buddies in bad times | nov-dec 2022 (*upcoming*)  
"hamlet 911" by anne-marie-mcdonald | directed by alisa palmer | the stratford festival of canada | 2022  
"guided by starlight: exploring toronto's musical galaxy" | luminato festival toronto's international festival of arts and ideas | 2021  
"backstage at carnegie hall" (workshop) by audrey dwyer | directed ahdi zhina mandiola | black theatre workshop | 2021  
"carried away on the crest of a wave" by david yee | directed by andy houston | university of waterloo | 2021  
"simone half & half" by christine rodriguez | directed by quincy armourer | black theatre workshop | 2020\*  
"oh what a lovely war" by joan littlewood | directed by peter hinton | the shaw festival of canada | 2018  
"the mountaintop" by katori hall | directed by azm | black theatre workshop, great canadian theatre company, neptune theatre | 2017-19  
"the millennial malcontent" by erin shields | directed by peter hinton | tarragon theatre | 2017

#### visual arts

visual arts | "black athena" "left up to their own provocations they free/d worlds" | wildseed centre | nov 22 - jan 23 (*upcoming*)  
visual arts | "vagabond, vakabon et al," by rodney diverlus | art gallery of mississauga | sept 13-oct 23, 2022 (*upcoming*)  
visual arts | "vagabond, vakabon et al" by rodney diverlus | tarragon theatre lobby | 2021  
visual arts | "vagabond, vakabon et al" by rodney diverlus | dance ontario | 2021  
photographer | commissioned for cover of "voice of rebellion" the autobiography of mozhdah jamalzadah | greystone books | 2019  
stills photographer & epk creator | red snow by marie clements | zhoh daatsik pictures | 2018  
photographer | commissioned for use in rufus wainwright & daniel macivor's opera "hadrian" directed by peter hinton | 2018  
poster design | "looking at edward curtis" by marie clements | knowledge network/mcmedia | 2018  
photography has been printed internationally in harpers bazaar uk, tiff and more.

# deviser

## performer (select credits)

"measure for measure" by william shakespeare | directed by peter hinton | the shakespeare company | 2021  
"anthony & cleopatra" by william shakespeare | directed by alison wong | ghost light theatre | 2021  
"the colour purple" by alice walker | directed by kimberley rampersad | neptune theatre | 2019\*  
"i call myself princess" by jani lauzon | directed by majorie chan | cahoots, native earth & paper canoe projects | 2018  
"bombay black" by anosh irani | directed peter hinton | factory theatre | 2015\*  
"sweet charity" by neil simon | directed morris panych | shaw festival of canada | 2015  
"pygmalion" by bernard shaw | directed by peter hinton | shaw festival of canada | 2015  
"passion play" by sarah ruhl | directed by alan dilworth, aaron willis & mitchell cushman | sheep no wool, convergence theatre & outside the march | 2014\*

## playwright

librettist | "aportia chrypytych: a black opera for portia white"  
by hai x sean mayes in collaboration with neema bickersteth | canadian opera company, | 2024\* (*upcoming*)  
"peter, pigling, puddle duck" | carousel players tya | 2023 (*upcoming*)

## poet

"emancipation poem" | freedom cabaret: spirit and legacy of black music curated by beau dixon | stratford festival of canada | | 2021  
"emancipation poem" | freedom: a mixtape directed by marcel stewart | suitcase in point multi-arts company | 2020

## producer

producer | diaries of a dowry | eave (european audiovisual entrepreneurs) x national screen institute & canada media fund | 2022  
assistant producer | red snow by marie clements | zhoh daatsik pictures | feature film | 2019\*

## prof

x university school of performance | race, gender & intersexions of shakespeare  
brock university | transformation and adaptation in theatre pedagogy and training  
national theatre school | mentor in video/projection design  
university of waterloo | teacher in projection design  
musical stage company | mentor in directing/design one song glory  
york university | seminar on physical theatre and classical text analysis  
x university school of performance | 1 on 1 coach tutorial in laban movement notation

# in-development

devised dance work created with jera wolfe | patroclus & achilles\*  
devised work with director peter hinton-davis and tenor isaiah bell | die wintereise by franz schubert | adapted by peter hinton-davis  
director & writer & producer | my wide sargassi

# \*accomplishments

2022 | winner | douglas campbell guthrie award | stratford festival of canada  
2022 | recipient | aportia chrypytych: a black opera for portia white | national arts creation fund  
2021 | recipient | patroclus & achilles | oac theatre creators reserve grant (obsidian theatre and native earth)  
2021 | winner | jack king award | associated designers of canada  
2021 | winner | best feature film | windrush film festival  
2021 | winner | aportia chrypytych: a black opera for portia white | canada council for the arts  
2021 | winner | canadian stage microgrant  
2020 | winner | mixed↑ | people's choice award best director | byblacks.com  
2020 | winner | mixed↑ | people's choice award best film | byblacks.com  
2020 | recipient | aportia chrypytych: a black opera for portia white | ontario arts council  
2020 | recipient | aportia chrypytych: a black opera for portia white | oac theatre creators reserve grant  
2020 | winner | the colour purple | outstanding production | meritt award  
2020 | nominee | simone half & half | best contribution to theatre | meta award  
2019 | winner | red snow | popular canadian feature | vancouver international film festival  
2019 | winner | red snow | best canadian feature drama | edmonton international film festival  
2019 | recipient | aportia chrypytych: a black opera for portia white | oac theatre creators reserve grant  
2018 | winner | people's choice | best director | byblacks.com  
2018 | winner | sikhokele | la best shorts competition | music video  
2018 | winner | c'est moi | la best shorts competition | short doc  
2018 | recipient | shaw festival newton award  
2018 | winner | c'est moi | people's choice best film | byblacks.com  
2017 | nominee | c'est moi | best festival short | mvsa awards  
2018 | recipient | theatre ontario theatre training program  
2016 | nominee | bombay black | best production | dora mavor moore award  
2014 | winner | passion play | best ensemble | dora mavor moore award  
2014 | winner | raymond clarke award | x university