



# LOON

RETURNS

JULY 31, AUGUST 1, 9:00 PM  
McLEAN LAKE

FREE BY DONATION • FOR MORE INFO: [nakaitheatre.com](http://nakaitheatre.com)

NAKAI  
THEATRE



Yukon



LONGEST NIGHT  
SOCIETY  
[longestnight.ca](http://longestnight.ca)

## Loon Returns

July 31 & August 1 2021  
McLean Lake

Composed and directed by:  
**Daniel Janke**

With guest artists:  
**Lara Secord-Haid - Soprano**

Kwanlin Dághálhaan K'e Dancers

**Sarah Johnston Smith**  
**Sean Smith**  
**Natalie Thompson**  
**Terell Brockman**  
**Ann Smith**  
**Lewis Thompson**  
**Alaya Sutherland**  
**Dylan Charlie**  
**Azaria Smith**

The song Haa khu.ooú hasdu jiyís át tooshí  
(We sing for our people) was composed by  
**Sarah Johnston Smith**, and commissioned  
by Longest Night Society

Members of the Problematic Orchestra:

**Toby Moisey** – flute  
**Marie Gallagher** – bassoon  
**Erinn Komschlies** – clarinet  
**Jake Paleczny** – bass clarinet  
**Adrian Burrill** – trumpet  
**Andrea McColeman** – marimba  
**Kimberley Hart** – percussion  
**Brian Gaas** – percussion

Set Design and Construction:  
**David Skelton** and **Scott Price**

For Nakai Theatre:

**Jacob Zimmer** – Artistic Director  
**Norah Paton** – Managing Producer  
**Liam Russell** – Production Assistant  
**Claire DeBruyn** – Production Co-ordinator  
**Todd Vanderlinden** – Loon Wrangler

Poster design: **Mike Rice, Catalyst  
Communication**

Silkscreen printing: **Adam Green,  
Greenscreen Printing**

Sound Recording: **Jim Holland**

Video: **Marten Berkman** and **Willow  
Berkman**

## From Sean Smith - Kwanlin Dághálhaan K'e Dancers

The loon is a representative figure in first  
nation's history and culture that signifies  
connection between our world and the world  
that lies below the surface of water. Stories of  
connection also speak of abilities to heal and  
bring wellness to those that need it.

Like those from many stories before, if you  
hear the loon in its unique sounds and  
majestic look it is a reminder of how healing  
can be a part of our journey as well.

### "Loon" in Yukon First Nation languages:

*Chù tsày* – water cry - Southern Tutchone

*Kaghít* – Kagèet – Lingít

*Daadzaii* – Gwitchin

*Te'itreh* – Gwitchin

*Tsàlmbeet* - Upper Tanana

*Tachàatsüü* - Upper Tanana

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### From Daniel Janke, Longest Night Society

The loon Genus 'Gavia' is the oldest and most  
primitive living bird on earth, with an ancestry  
of up to 20 million years. The 5 species of  
loons are: Common [Gavia immer], Pacific  
[Gavia pacifica], Arctic [Gavia arctica], Red-  
throated [Gavia stellata], and Yellow-billed  
[Gavia adamsii].

Loons return to their same natal territory every  
summer for nesting.

*Loon Returns* is a celebration of this notion of  
returning, as we emerge from the global  
pandemic perhaps a little wiser, and begin the  
return to a new and improved sense of  
normalcy.

PS - hats off to the 'Loon Rangers' - Over 300  
volunteers that protect and monitor loons and  
their habitat in Michigan, USA.

## **Loon Returns posters are for sale**

as a fundraiser for Longest Night  
Society

The 20" X 40" embossed and  
numbered artist prints

Designed by **Mike Rice**

Silk-screen printed by **Adam Green** at  
Greenscreen Printing

\$250 or \$500 framed with glass.

**Buy online at [nakaitheatre.com](http://nakaitheatre.com)**

Loon Returns is a production of  
Longest Night Society and Nakai  
Theatre. Thanks to the funders and  
supporters who make it possible



Special thanks to Greenscreen  
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School Music Dept.; Ron Newsome,  
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Todd Vanderlinden; The Guild Hall;  
Music Yukon; Yukon Arts Centre;  
all our families and friends and to you  
for coming.

**Part of**

