



TO Live Board of Directors Meeting

Marketing Update from Jeff Rohrer, VP Marketing and Communications
December 5, 2022

•
TO Live

Season Launch

January – June 2023

Creative



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A season of culture hits
Toronto stages January - June 2023

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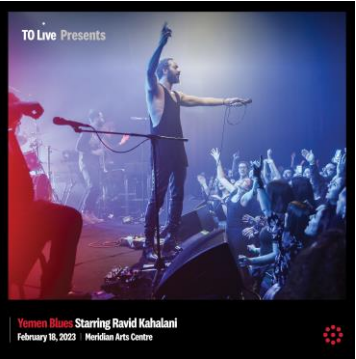
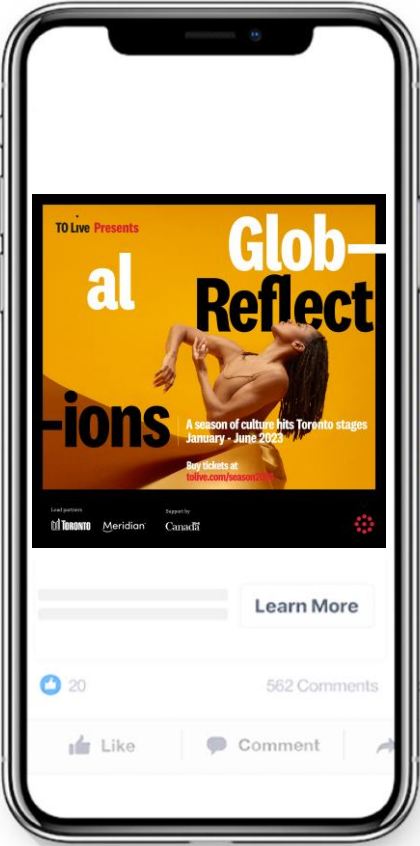
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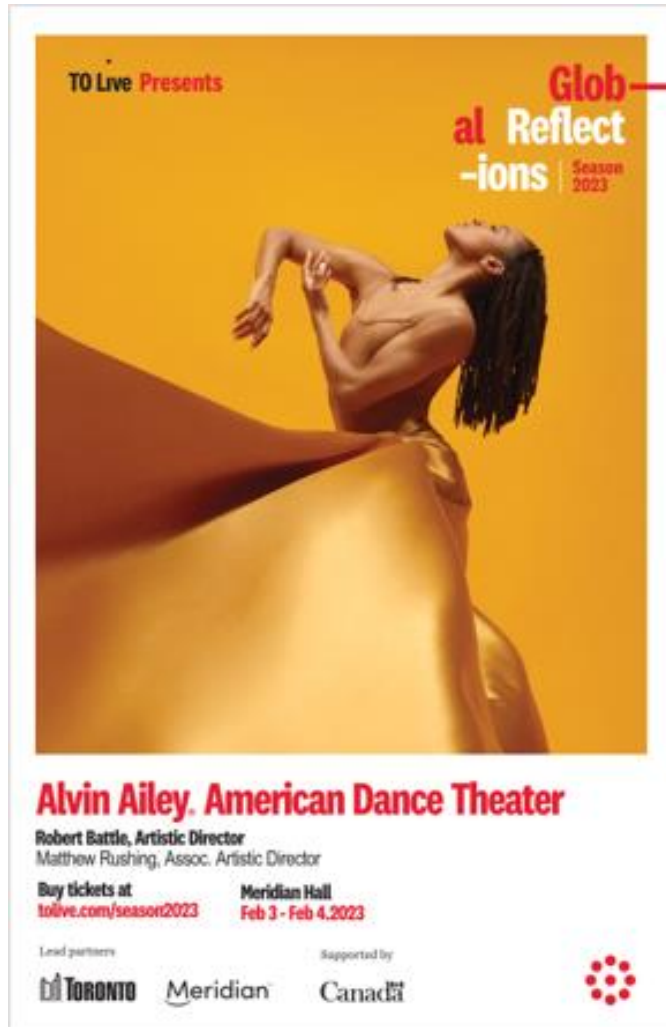
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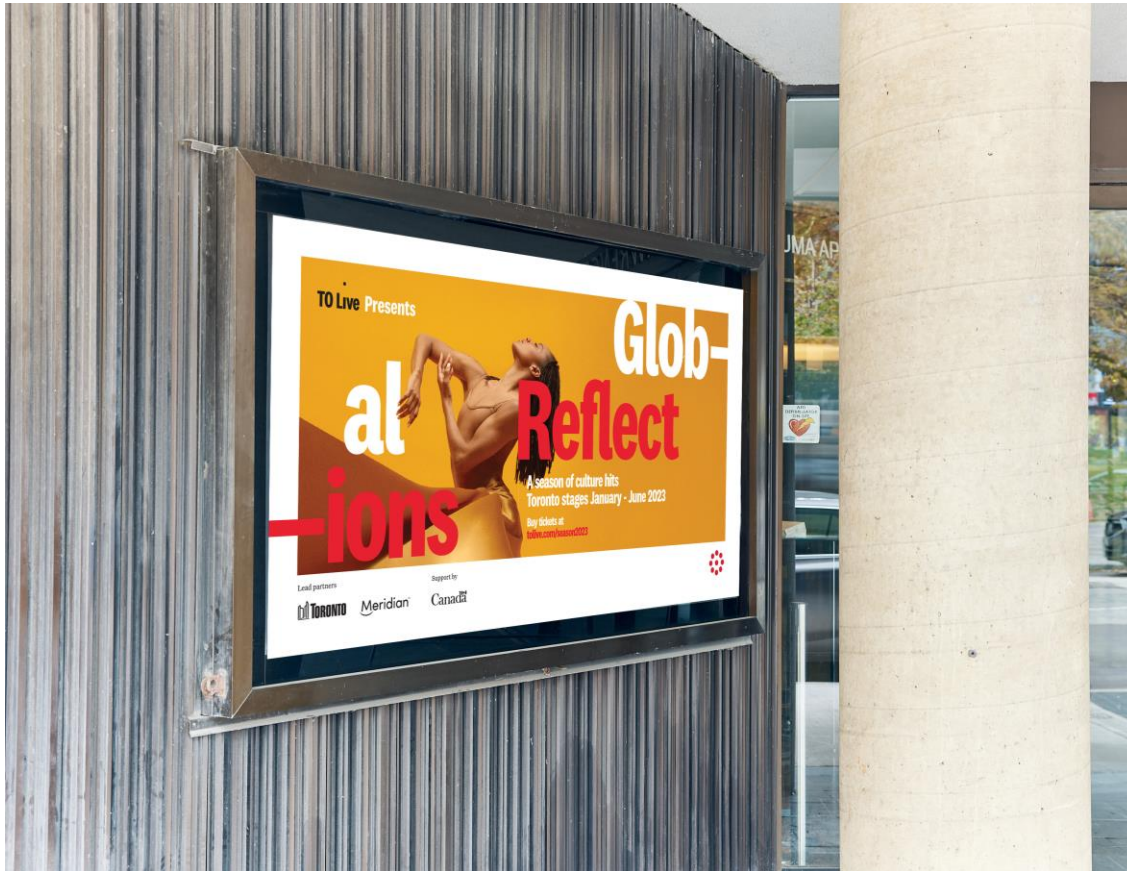
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STAGE

Patti LuPone, Scott Joplin's 'Treemonisha' and a new Canadian opera highlight TO Live programming

Fifteen shows will be presented across Toronto's three major civic theatres: St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, Meridian Arts Centre and Meridian Hall.

By Joshua Chong

Staff Reporter

Tue., Nov. 15, 2022 | 2 min. read

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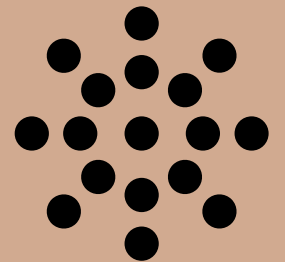
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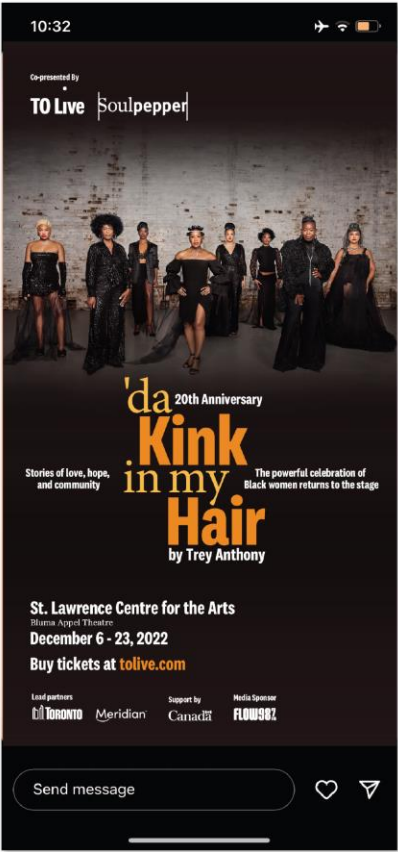
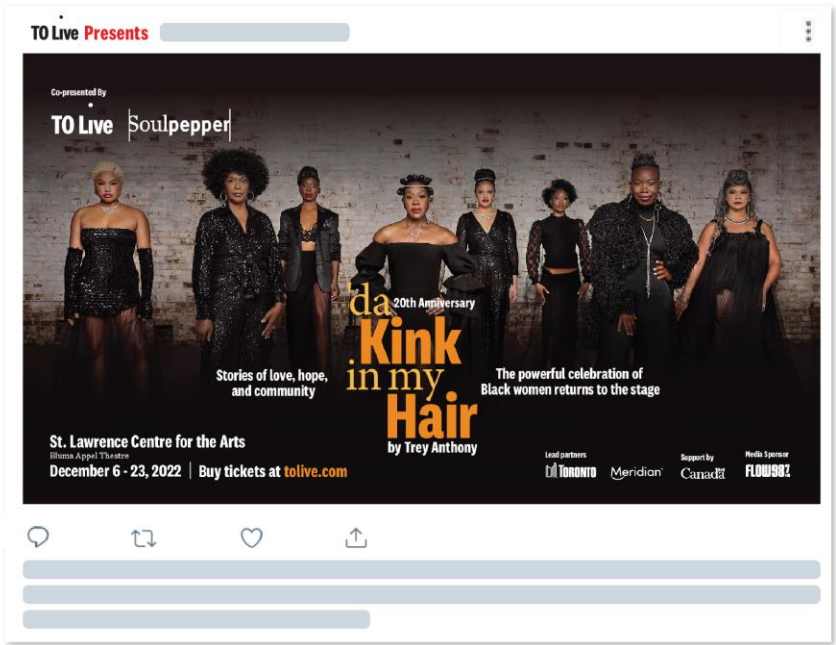
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'da Kink in my Hair

In-market Creative, media coverage and content



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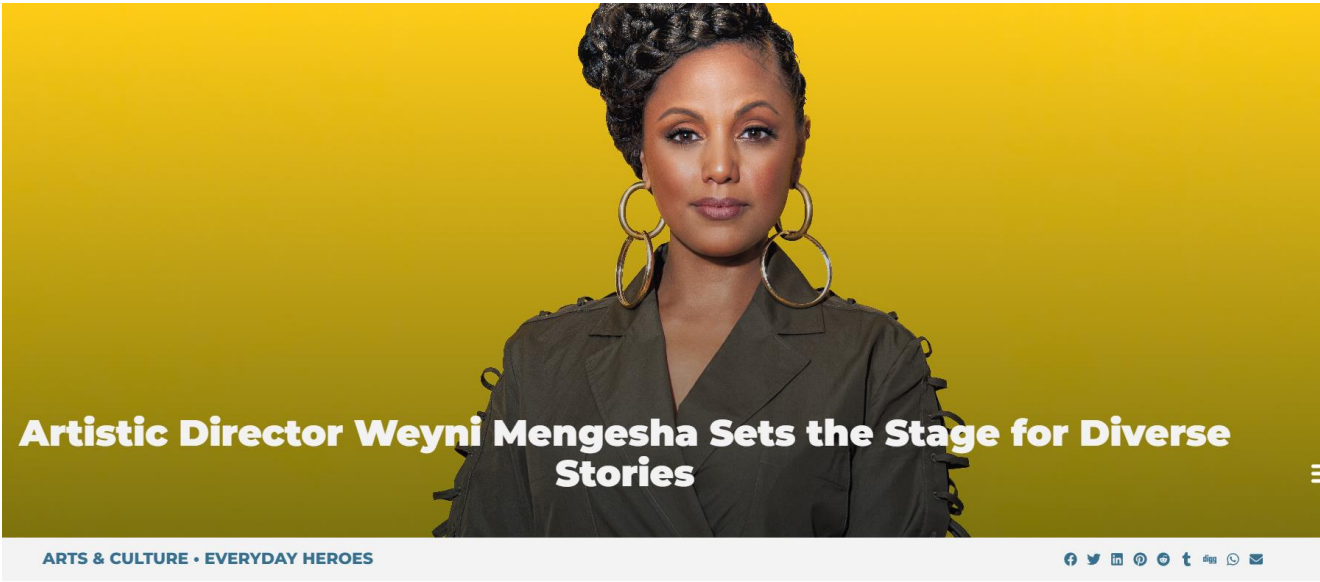
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Editorial Content



Global Heroes (Online and in print in the Globe and Mail, Toronto Star and National Post)



Top Image: Weyni Mengesha 2021 © Mikka Cia

By Vanessa Grant

Weyni Mengesha tells the stories we don't often hear. As one of the first Black artistic directors of a major theatre company who's directed hit plays like *'da Kink in my Hair* and *Kim's Convenience*, she's spent her career shining the theatrical spotlight on stories by and about people of colour.

"We live in a city where we celebrate our diversity, but people don't often get to speak openly about their lived experiences to one another," Mengesha shared. "The theatre is a place where we get to hear each other's secrets in the dark. There's an intimacy to theatre that creates an ideal temporary community where we're all together, sharing stories."

A first-generation Canadian, Mengesha is the daughter of Ethiopian immigrants who was born in Vancouver and grew up in Scarborough. She was inspired to become an artist when she had trouble reconciling two versions of her home country: the bleak Ethiopia she saw in the news and the rich culture she experienced first through family tales and later when she travelled there in person.

"This discrepancy taught me the importance of multiple narratives. And that there's power in story," she explained.



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Editorial Content



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Photo credit: Irish Times

Backstage With...d'bi.young anitafrika

One of the stars of *'da Kink in my Hair* opens up about sharing this iconic play with audiences again, falling in love, and why Toronto has the best food in the world.

Backstage with...is TO Live's glimpse behind the scenes and inside the minds of the artists and creators of the shows currently on stage.

d'bi.young anitafrika is a Jamaican-Canadian multidisciplinary artist and educator with a long and celebrated career in dub poetry, theatre, and academia. The Canadian Poet of Honour is the author of 12 plays, seven albums, and four poetry collections. Identifying as a Black, queer feminist, [d'bi.young](#) centres race, class, gender, sexuality, and the humxn experience in their work.

[Read full story](#)

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Backstage With...Ordena Stephens-Thompson

One of the stars of *'da Kink in my Hair* opens up about their relationship with hair, the salon and being an artist.

Backstage with...is TO Live's glimpse behind the scenes and inside the minds of the artists and creators of the shows currently on stage.

Ordena Stephens-Thompson is used to spending time in Toronto for work. The actress can often be found here lighting up theatre stages or filming appearances in hit TV shows like *The Handmaid's Tale*, *The Umbrella Academy*, and *Designated Survivor*. Now, the Dora nominee is in town for a very exciting reason—to reprise her role as Novelette in the acclaimed show, *'da Kink in my Hair* by Trey Anthony.

[Read full story](#)

Video Interviews



Embracing ‘da Kink with the cast from the hit show

[Watch full video](#)



Salon stories featuring the stars of ‘da Kink in my Hair

[Watch full video](#)

Media Coverage



Caribbean Camera and Toronto Star

Sunday, December 04, 2022

Republicans are in the ascendancy despite Biden's legislative record

Diwali leading us from darkness to light

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Pretty in Black and Kinky too

By The Caribbean Camera Inc. on November 12, 2022

Black Lives Matter, Business, Canada, Canadian, Community, Education, Entertainment, Music, News, Ontario, Toronto, Women

This December 6th the Souleppper Theatre Company and TO Live open the 20th Anniversary production of Trey Anthony's 'da Kink in My Hair at the Bluma Appel Theatre. Set in a vibrant and bustling West Indian hair salon in Toronto's Caribbean community of Eglinton West, 'da Kink in My Hair untangles the triumphs and [...]

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647-478-0118

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STAGE

Revisiting 'da Kink': Playwright Trey Anthony on theatre, hair and Black self-love

"The staying power of "da Kink in My Hair" is rooted in authenticity. And truth," says Anthony. "Everyone wants to feel seen, heard, listened to, loved, accepted."

By Aisling Murphy

Staff Reporter

Fri., Dec. 2, 2022

4 min. read

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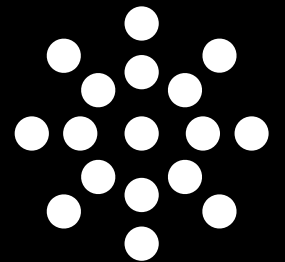
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Fall 2022

Media Coverage Highlights





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Fun & Games

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TV Listings

STAGE

Nova Bhattacharya's 'Svāhā!' celebrates female energy with a mash-up of diverse dance styles

The cast of 22 women represents more 30 forms of dance, including Bharatanatyam, jazz, hip hop, tap, modern and classical ballet.

MC

By **Michael Crabb** Special to the Star
Wed., Sept. 14, 2022 4 min. read

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Arts

Once on the verge of quitting, Nova Bhattacharya is putting on a new kind of dance spectacle in Svāhā

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The Canadian choreographer's new production brings 22 dancers to the stage in an explosion of dance styles

Aparita Bhandari · CBC Arts · Posted: Sep 16, 2022 3:00 PM ET | Last Updated: September 16

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The Storyville Mosquito



Toronto Star and CP24



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Rite of Spring / common ground[s]



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Comics

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STAGE

New production of Pina Bausch's version of 'Rite of Spring' features African dance troupe

Bausch would almost certainly have been delighted by what the foundation dedicated to preserving her artistic legacy, in partnership with Senegal's internationally renowned African contemporary dance centre, École des Sables, has made possible.

By **Michael Crabb** Special to the Star
Wed., Oct. 12, 2022 | 5 min. read

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Thank you