

Corey Payette

Corey Payette is an award winning storyteller, writer, composer, and director in theatre and film. He is a member of the Mattagami First Nations, with French Canadian and Irish ancestry, and lives on the unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səł'ilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) peoples. Known for his deeply moving, large-scale original musical creations, Payette's work challenges the public's notion of what musicals can be, inserting Indigenous perspectives and narratives into mainstream spaces, igniting conversations that inspire social change. Payette has been the Artistic Director of Urban Ink since 2014, past Artist-in-Residence and Associate Artist with English Theatre at Canada's National Arts Centre, and is founding Artistic Director of Raven Theatre, focusing on his new musical works.

As a musical creator, Payette writes the music, lyrics, and directs the productions. His original musical *Children of God* has been performed across Canada since 2017, *Les Filles du Roi* written with Julie McIsaac premiered in 2018 and has recently been adapted into a feature film to be released in 2023, *Sedna* created with Renelta Arluk and Marshall McMahan premiered in 2018 at Caravan Farm Theatre, and had its Vancouver premiere postponed due to the pandemic.

In 2023, his next original musical *Starwalker* premiered at the York Theatre. *Starwalker* has been in development under Warner Media / Access Canada writer's program as a television series since 2021. Most recently made his film directing debut with *Stories that Transform Us* which premiered at VIFF, *Guide My Way* concert film, and *Les Filles du Roi* feature film to be released in 2023. You can read Corey's full bio [here](#).

www.coreypayette.com