

## **MECCA honours best in Montreal theatre**

**PAT DONNELLY**

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Just as the new season is kicking into high gear, the old one is remembered by the Montreal English Critics Circle Awards, a loose organization of local theatre reviewers which has made an admirable effort to reward talent and effort through citation over the past eight years.

The winners of the ninth annual MECCA Awards were announced last night at a gathering at the Ste. Catherine St. Theatre.

The Best Actor award went to Patrick Costello, for his role as a one-armed man in the Irish play *Trad*, by Mark Doherty.

Best Actress: Nathalie Claude, for her role as the uncouth maid in Michael Mackenzie's *The Baroness and the Pig*, which also won the Best Production Award for Imago Theatre.

Best Director: Olivier Perras for his direction of the *Tableau d'Hôte* production of Morris Panych's *7 Stories*.

Best New Text: Playwright Graham Cuthberston's *Haunted Hillbilly: The Hiram Woodside Atrocity*.

Best Ensemble: The Housekeeper's Co-op for *Housekeeping & Homewrecking*.

Best Visiting Production: *The Tricky Part*, presented by the Hearts & Eyes Theatre Collective, at the Montreal Fringe Festival.

Best Set Design: Jennifer Goodman for *7 Stories*.

Best Costume Design: Susana Vera for *Jungle Book*.

Best lighting: Steve Lucas for Black Theatre Workshop's *blood{claat}*.

Best Sound Design: Matthew Barber & Joe Grass, for *Haunted Hillbilly: The Hiram Woodside Atrocity Sidemart Theatrical Grocery* was handed the Revelation Award, with a revelation-honourable-mention kudo going to *Tableau d'Hôte* and *Altera Vitae*.

The Myron Galloway Award for Distinction: actor Alain Goulem.

For a complete list of the nominees, see the Stage and Page blog at [montrealgazette.com/stageandpage](http://montrealgazette.com/stageandpage)

[pdonnell@thegazette.canwest.com](mailto:pdonnell@thegazette.canwest.com)

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