

# □ **The Shortlist:** **Professional Artists**

## **Mark Sirrett**

Dr. Mark Sirrett is the Artistic Director of the Cantabile Choirs of Kingston. Since founding the Cantabile Choirs in the fall of 1996, the choirs have received numerous distinctions including first prizes and trophies at the Ontario Provincial Music Festival and the National Music Festival Finals. Mark is a native of Kingston and a graduate in Choral Conducting and Pedagogy from the University of Iowa. Dr. Sirrett has won two international awards in choral conducting: the Jury Prize for Imaginative programming and Artistry at the Cork International Choral Festival, 2002 in Ireland, and the Outstanding Conductor award from the Young Prague 2004 Music Festival. Dr. Sirrett is also an award-winning choral composer and this season has been commissioned to write works for the National youth Choir, La Jeunesse, the Oriana Singers, and the London Fanshawe Symphonic Chorus.

## **Otis Tamasauskas**

Master Printmaker, Otis Tamasauskas combines lithography with collage, drawing, photography, hand-colouring, and other printing methods to create dynamic printed surfaces that expand the boundaries of traditional printmaking. Otis was born in Terschenreuth, Germany and was Master Printer and Director of Etching at Open Studio in Toronto. He has taught at the University of Toronto, McMaster University and is currently an Assistant Professor in the Bachelor of Fine Arts Program at Queen's University.

## **Greg Wanless**

Born in Brockville, Greg Wanless graduated from the National Theatre School Acting Program in 1972. He received his BA in Drama and English from Queen's University in 1972. He spent five years acting at the Stratford Festival and performed in such productions as *Romeo and Juliet*, *King Lear*, and *The Merchant of Venice*. He appeared in twenty-one productions and during this time also became an assistant director with the company. In 1982, he founded the Thousand Islands Playhouse in Gananoque where he remains the Artistic Director and General Manager today. Greg joined the Queen's University Drama Department in 1982 and has taught courses each year since that time.