

# MATT ZIMBEL

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR | BROADCAST EXECUTIVE | PRODUCER | HOST

## PROFILE

An effective bi-lingual (French / English), executive / creative artistic director and producer, who builds team consensus and fosters a spirit of high production values and motivated productivity. An engaging communicator, published writer and experienced media host, who communicates effectively with audiences, colleagues and stakeholders. An award-winning musician / producer, broadcast executive and creative thinker with a strong marketing, branding and sales sensibility who has managed multi-million-dollar international projects on multiple platforms (live, web, tv and radio) resulting in the production of innovative events, revenue growth and on time, on budget delivery. With more than 40 years of experience as an entrepreneurial creator and administrator, Zimbel has also raised millions of dollars for arts and media projects from private equity and government sources.

## RECENT CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

### PRODUCER

#### NANIKI IMMERSIVE, MONTREAL, QC | 2023

Creative, production and execution of Oonya Kempadoo's Caribbean Music, Art & Cirque hybrid immersive installation for four performances at Concordia's Black Box, in association with Normal Studios and Cirque 51/49. Direct responsibilities incl. production supervision of original music, sound design/mixing, immersive 5 screen projection design, budgeting, creation of marketing campaign, casting, RFP's & negotiations with technical, creative suppliers and venue.

### CREATOR / HOST / PRODUCER

#### YES WE CANADA PODCAST | 2021, 2022, 2023

Creation, writing, production & narration of 36 episodes of the social and political satire podcast Yes, We Canada. Rated in the top 20 independent podcasts on the platform Buzzsprout.

### PRODUCER

#### THE TWELFTH OF NEVER, DOLBY ATMOS IMMERSIVE AUDIO REMIX | 2023

Manteca's twelfth critically acclaimed CD originally recorded in 2016 remixed in Dolby Atmos 12.3 and released in January 2023.

### ARTISTIC DIRECTOR / PRINCIPAL GCPS-MZ

#### CANADA'S NATIONAL DAY EXPO 2020 DUBAI | 2021

GCPS-MZ is a joint venture awarded the creation and production of Canada's National Day Celebration at Dubai World Expo by Global Affairs Canada. With a budget of 1.5 million \$, GCPS-MZ created three high profile concerts adhering to strict thematic narratives with diverse Canadian International talent.

### EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

#### MANTECA PRESENTS: ROAD STORIES | 2021

Creation, production and hosting of 9x1 hour TV / Streaming music specials shot at Revolution Sound in Toronto featuring Manteca, Whitehorse, Elizabeth Shepard, Lyne Tremblay, Chelsea McBride, Clerel Djamen, John Orpheus, Aysanabee, Dionne Taylor, Stacey Kay, and Heilig Manoeuvre.

### PRODUCER

#### NETFLIX / JFL, MONTREAL, QC | 2018

32X30 MIN Produced the global comedy special "Comedians of the World" for the territories, Canada, USA, Quebec, France, U.K. Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Jordan, Egypt & Palestine. Dealing with talent, content, script, design and network. Oversaw all post production for Canada, Quebec and France.

### ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

#### CANADIAN SONGWRITERS HALL OF FAME, TORONTO, ON | 2016 - 2017

Wrote, directed & co-produced the 9th Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame Gala which inducted Neil Young, Bruce Cockburn, Beau Dommage & Stephane Venne in front of a sold out crowd at Toronto's landmark theatre Massey Hall and on CBC TV, Radio and Web.

## RECENT CAREER HIGHLIGHTS CONT.

### CO-DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER

#### FEATURE DOCUMENTARY "ZIMBELISM, GEORGE ZIMBEL'S 70 YEARS OF PHOTOGRAPHY" | 2015

Distributed by the National Film Board of Canada and Gravitas Ventures in the US. The film has been selected for The Shanghai International Film Festival, The Beijing International Film Festival, FIFA, DART Festival, The Canada China International Film Festival, Salem Doc Fest., Raindance in London and Hot Docs in Toronto where it was a finalist for the audience choice award.

### CO-WRITER / CO-DIRECTOR / CO-PRODUCER

#### "THE NIGHT I SHOT MARILYN", BRAVOFACT SHORT | 2015

### SENIOR PRODUCER / HOST BROADCASTER (CBC)

#### PAN AM AND PARA PAN GAMES, TORONTO, ON | 2014-2015

International Broadcast of the opening & closing ceremonies for the World Feed, including production of the opening film featuring the first sanctioned base jump off the CN Tower. The programs were some of the largest television productions ever undertaken in Canada and featured Cirque de Soleil, Kanye West, Serena Rider & Pitbull. The programs were seen by over 100 million people worldwide & was a finalist for 6 Canadian Screen Awards in the categories of Producer, Director, Art Direction, Sound, Host, Opening, winning in 3 categories including Best Direction.

### SENIOR PRODUCER / HEAD WRITER

#### "THE ZOOMER" WITH DENISE DONLON & CONRAD BLACK PILOT + 26 EPISODES, ZOOMER TV, TORONTO, ON | 2013

Creation & execution of a 1 hour weekly television / web program. Running an editorial team of 5 & a production team of 12. Creating a fresh take on issues effecting the 45+ demographic by building a unique season of 26 episodes of current affairs, humour & the arts.

### ARTISTIC DIRECTOR/ CREATIVE LEAD PRODUCER

#### CANADA DAY ON PARLIAMENT HILL, OTTAWA, ON | 2010-2011

Creation of original musical, video, spoken word content - directing 2 live to air shows with a cast & crew of more than 450 people and a \$4.3 million budget. Leading creative development with Canadian and UK government, TV, Radio, Web platforms & international broadcasters. Supervising all aspects of show running, set creation, projection and production, including cirque artists 7 Doigts du la Main, Sam Roberts, Pierre Lapointe, Elisapie Isaac, Florence K, Zogma Dance, Kampania, Quartet Orphee, Great Big Sea & Corb Lund. Results: Largest attendance in the history of the event with more than 300,000 people live, 2.8 million viewed the shows on television and more on web and radio.

### GUEST SPEAKER

#### IDEA CITY, TORONTO, ON | 2007

### MEMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### CANADIAN ACADEMY OF RECORDING ARTS & SCIENCES | 1999-2006

### CREATIVE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR / EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

#### CANADIAN CULTURAL PROGRAM EXPO, NAGOYA, JAPAN | 2005

### CO-CREATOR / PROGRAMMER

#### UNESCO'S WORLD CAPITAL OF BOOKS, MONTREAL, QC | 2005

### CREATIVE CONSULTANT

#### ABORIGINAL MUSIC AWARDS | 2003 / 2004

### CREATOR / EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

#### PRIMETIME TV 26 X 30 EPS "MY MESSY BEDROOM", CANADA, U.S., ISRAEL, FINLAND | 2001

### CREATOR & SENIOR PRODUCER

#### MUCH MUSIC'S REVOLUTIONARY POLITICAL "UN-COVERAGE" | 1993

This series was aimed at engaging young viewers and was studied at Columbia School of Journalism. Winner of the Special Event Coverage Gemini Award in 1993.

### MUSICIAN & RECORD PRODUCER, LEADER

#### AWARD-WINNING NEW WORLD JAZZ BAND 'MANTECA' | 44 YEARS

The Offspring Project, the band's 14th CD was released worldwide on Sept. 15th, 2023.

### PRODUCER OF NETWORK SPECIALS FOR BLONDIE, MILES DAVIS, TITO PUENTES, BRUCE HORNSBY, MARIA JOAO, BRIAN BLADE, PATRICIA BARBER, ZACHARY RICHARD, MICHEL RIVARD, ISABELLE BOULAY

## TV PRODUCTIONS

Opening and Closing Ceremonies Pan Am Games 2015 Toronto  
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My Messy Bedroom – 26 x 30 Can, USA, Finland, Israel\*  
And Yet I Blame Hollywood – 24 Canada CBC  
Scars – 14 eps- Canada – CBC  
The Thrill on the Hill – CBC, SRC, NewsWorld, RDI, TV5\*  
Merci Montreal – Canada Day 04 CBC RC, NW, RDI, TV5\*  
Crossing the Main-CBC – Canada  
Everybody's Got a Story – Amanda Marshall – CTV\*MUSIC CHOICE USA  
Secret Language of Girls – W Network, IFC  
Posthumous Pickle Party – Canal D - Vision  
Les Juifs de Québec – Une histoire à raconter – Canal D  
Opening – Winterlude 2008 - Rogers  
World Bites – Rogers - Omni  
Jazz Box 20 x 60 – MusiMax / Spectra / Bravo  
International Aids Vigil – Newsworld  
Library Rats – 7 Doigts de la Main– Bravo  
Bowling – 7 Doigts de la Mains - Bravo  
Election Uncoverage 1993 – MuchMusic\*\*  
Banff International Television Festival – Awards 2006  
Host of Banff Television Conference – Documart 2006 + 2007

\*nominated Gemini Awards

\*\*Gemini Winner Best Special Event Coverage w. D. Donlon & Avi Lewis

## AWARDS

1991 Juno  
Best Instrumental band:  
Manteca  
1993 Gemini Award  
Best Special Event:  
Much Music Election Un-Coverage\*  
2001 Gold Pinnacle International  
Festival & Events Ass.:  
Canada Day  
2005 Swing  
Video of the Year:  
Prix Trille Or  
Gemini Awards (TV)  
8 Time "Finalist"  
Juno Awards  
6 Time "Finalist"  
Canadian Screen Awards  
6 Time "Finalist":  
Pan Am Games Opening

\*w/ Denise Donlon & Avi Lewis

## PUBLICATIONS

Has written feature articles in the Globe & Mail, Toronto Star, Canadian Musician etc. focusing on Political Satire, Humour and Pop Culture. He is currently writing his first book, "Yes We Canada, The Progressives Guide to Getting the Fuck Out".

## NOTES

Matt Zimbel holds Canadian & American citizenship and lives in Montreal & Toronto. He speaks English and French & is a member of SOCAN, AFM, ACTRA, ACTOR'S EQUITY, CARAS, CMG & holds High Level Security Clearance for Parliament Hill.

## ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

### CONSULTANT

#### **AVALANCHE PRODUCTIONS, VEGA MUSIC & M FOR MONTREAL FESTIVAL MANAGEMENT CO., LABEL & ALT MUSIC FESTIVAL, MONTREAL, QC | 2008-2010**

Restructured business units following the unexpected passing of the foundering owner. Developed a new 3 year business plan for merged company. Implemented improved methods for project reporting, harmonized fiscal network & HR. Developed "Project Working Group" structure to better serve artists, clients and increase productivity to 'do more for less'. Sales & grant revenue increased by 30% in one year. Created & produced ad campaigns (Radio, TV, Print, Outdoor, Web) for Sylvain Cossette Vol. II, (certified platinum), Beast (certified gold), & Elisapie Isaac. Produced & Directed Video's including Lucky Uke #1 on MusiMax (see mattzimbelyoutube).

### VICE PRESIDENT

#### **MUSIMAX, MONTREAL, QC | 2007-2008**

Led the network during the highest ratings period in it's ten year history with a team of 15 employees responsible for creating new programming and improving the quality and branding of both in house and independent productions. Managed 3.5 million dollar budget while creating and launching new programs and broadcast strands and Integrating new reporting and research structures. Improved employee motivation and productivity and supervised international purchasing and sales. Oversaw marketing and season launches. Developed TV, Radio & Web integration at Astral.

### PRESIDENT/ EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

#### **COPIE ZERO TELEVISION & MEDIA, MONTREAL, QC | 2000-2007**

Created & produced (in association with co-producer Campbell Webster) more than 70 television and web programs / DVDs including documentary, animation, comedy, lifestyle, galas & large scale bilingual state celebrations. Programs received numerous awards & have been licensed around the world. Responsibilities included creation, production, marketing, financing, human resources & budgeting. Company would vary from 5 employees to 100 pending on production. Clients included CBC, CTV, WTN, NCC, PCH, MuchMusic.

### PRESIDENT / CREATIVE DIRECTOR

#### **OYE! CANADA | 2004-2006**

With partners Donald Tarlton and Steve Herman, Executive Produced and Artistic Directed the 3 million dollar cultural program for the Canadian government at Expo 2005 in Nagoya, Japan. Produced large scale state celebrations including Canada Day on Parliament Hill (2001 + 2005). Led teams of over 100 people in highly complex bi-lingual live and television productions building consensus between a wide variety of stakeholders including foreign, domestic, First Nations and provincial governments.

### PROGRAM DIRECTOR

#### **MUSIMAX, MONTREAL, QC | 1997-1999**

Created original television productions and programmed acquisitions into new programming strands which led to increased viewership and revenue. Created new revenue streams with international programming sales. Produced international specials for Blondie, Bruce Hornsby and domestic specials with Isabel Boulay, Michel Rivard and Zachary Richard.

### MUSICIAN | 1975-Present

Performed with Leonard Cohen, Daniel Lanois & is leader of Manteca, an award-winning New World Jazz band founded in 1979 that has toured the world, sharing stages with Miles Davis, Weather Report, Van Morrison and others. Manteca has released 12 recordings the most recent of which is "The Twelfth of Never" released by Pheromone Music in 2016 and produced and co-written by Zimbel. The 13th recording "Augmented Indifference" will be released in 2019. [www.manteca-music.com](http://www.manteca-music.com).