



**GOVERNOR GENERAL'S  
PERFORMING ARTS AWARDS FOUNDATION  
FONDATION DES PRIX DU GOUVERNEUR GÉNÉRAL  
POUR LES ARTS DU SPECTACLE**

### **Gordon Pinsent (1930-2023)**

Canadian icon Gordon Pinsent has passed away. He was 92 years old. Mr. Pinsent received a GGPAA in 2004. In 2010 he mentored Kevin Loring, currently the artistic director of the National Arts Centre's Indigenous Theatre department, through the Mentorship Program, supported by The Keg Spirit Foundation.

Born in Grand Falls, Newfoundland in 1930, Mr. Pinsent began his career in theatre in Winnipeg. He was active in the Stratford Festival beginning in 1962 with roles in *Macbeth*, *The Taming of the Shrew* and *The Tempest*. In 2016 he received the Stratford Festival's Legacy Award. Brigitte Berman's documentary *The River of My Dreams: A Portrait of Gordon Pinsent*, a thorough examination of Mr. Pinsent's storied career, was also released in 2016.

Mr. Pinsent lent his distinctive voice to many radio and animation projects, including as King Babar in the *Babar* TV shows and movies. Some of his best-known film and television work includes the 2006 film *Away From Her*, directed by Sarah Polley, *The Rowdyman* (1972), the CBC TV series *Quentin Durgens*, *M.P.* (1965-1969), *John and the Missus* (1986), which he wrote, directed and starred in, and *The Grand Seduction* (2013).

Gordon Pinsent was a joy to be around. He returned to the celebrations as a Mentor in 2010 and for the Awards 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2012 and 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2017. All involved with the Governor General's Performing Arts Awards were touched by his kindness and quick-witted sense of humour. Our sincere condolences to the Pinsent family, and all those who cared deeply for him. Mr. Pinsent was predeceased by his beloved wife Charmion King in 2007.

[Gordon Pinsent's Legacy Interview \(2017\)](#)

