



20
years

Guelph
dance

Celebrating 20 years of
dance in our community

June 1-3 2018

Program

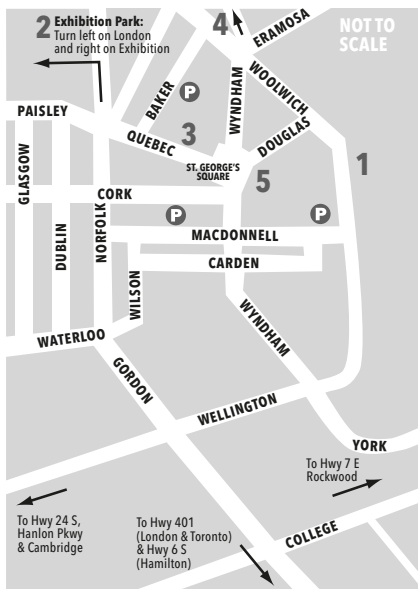
Pleased to support the
2018 Guelph Dance Festival
as it celebrates it's
20th season in Guelph.



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1 River Run Centre
35 Woolwich St

2 Exhibition Park
81 London Rd W

3 Guelph Youth Studios
42 Quebec St

4 Guelph Youth Music Centre
75 Cardigan St

5 Red Papaya
55 Wyndham St N
(Old Quebec Street Shoppes)

Cover: Tempo al Dente
(LinaCruz-Fila 13 Productions)
Maxime Daigle

Lind Design



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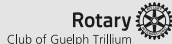
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Adult: \$20*/25

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EyeGO: \$5

In the Studio

General Admission: \$10

Youth Moves

Adult: \$18*/20

Student/Senior: \$12*/15

EyeGO: \$5

Workshops

Public: \$20

Festival Artists: \$10

Unticketed Events

In the Park

Pay what you can (\$15 suggested)

*Don't carry cash? Donate at
guelphdance.ca ahead of time!*

Panel Discussion, Dance Market and Festival After Party

Free (donations appreciated)

**Price if purchased up to May 25.*



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generosity of many people
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Festival to you every year.
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Please note that the schedule is subject to change.

Suggested donation \$15
or pay-what-you-can

Ticketed event

Fri June 1				
10:30 - Noon	12:30 - 2 pm	6:30 pm	8:30 pm	
Masterclass Suzette Sherman GYD Studios	Panel Discussion The Future of Contemporary Dance GYD Studios	In the Park Cinetic Creations Red Sky Performance TORONTO BoucharDance TORONTO Gadfly MONTREAL Exhibition Park RAIN LOCATION: QUEBEC ST MALL	 Camidian Contemporary Dance Theatre	On the Stage A Susie Burpee / Robyn Thomson Kacki TORONTO Canadian Contemporary Dance Theatre TORONTO Lina Cruz-Flia 13 Productions MONTREAL River Run Centre

Sat June 2				
9:30 - 10:30 am	Noon	1 pm	4 pm	9:30 pm - 12 am
Street Dance Workshop Mix Mix Dance Collective GYD Studios	 Red Sky Performance	In the Park Cinetic Creations TORONTO Red Sky Performance TORONTO BoucharDance TORONTO Gadfly MONTREAL Exhibition Park RAIN LOCATION: QUEBEC ST MALL	In the Studio Julia Garlisi, Amber Sherwood-Robinson, Solana Del Bel Belluz and Robert Kingsbury under the mentorship of Sharon B. Moore TORONTO GYD Studios	On the Stage B Kaeja d'Dance TORONTO Pamela Tzeng CALGARY Mix Mix Dance Collective TORONTO River Run Centre
		Dance Market and Creativity Picnic Exhibition Park		Festival Party FREE animated by Mix Mix Dance Collective and DJ Classic roots Red Papaya Cash bar

Sun June 3				
9:30 - 10:45 am	9:30 - 10:45 am	Noon	2 pm	4 pm
Masterclass Suzette Sherman GYD Studios	"Getting on Your Feet" Contemporary Indigenous Dance Workshop Red Sky Performance Guelph Youth Music Centre	 Cinetic Creations	In the Park Cinetic Creations TORONTO Red Sky Performance TORONTO BoucharDance TORONTO Gadfly MONTREAL Exhibition Park RAIN LOCATION: QUEBEC ST MALL	 Guelph Youth Dance Company
			In the Studio Julia Garlisi, Amber Sherwood-Robinson, Solana Del Bel Belluz and Robert Kingsbury under the mentorship of Sharon B. Moore TORONTO GYD Studios	Youth Moves Seven youth companies from Southern Ontario River Run Centre

INFO guelphdance.ca/festival | 519.780.2220

Message from the Artistic Director

This June, Guelph Dance will present its 20th Festival! In celebrating this landmark season, Guelph Dance remains committed to showcasing the very best in Canadian contemporary dance, while providing opportunities for people of all ages and stages of development to experience dance.

We are very excited to be offering the new **Breaking Ground Mentorship Program**, where artists are encouraged to dig deeply into the creative process with the support of mentor Sharon B. Moore. During the Festival weekend, we will open the studio doors to the general public as part of our **In the Studio** series to witness these works in progress and to discuss creative process with the artists following the show.

The Guelph Dance Festival plays an important role in building relationships and providing a platform for women, youth, people of colour and Indigenous dance artists to tell



their stories and speak their truths. This year we will be hosting a panel discussion on Friday, June 1, on the **Future of Contemporary Dance**. In celebration of our 20th annual festival, we will look to our past to recognize our accomplishments and look to the future to imagine next steps.

In an effort of inclusivity, the general public will have the opportunity to dance in Karen Kaeja's piece, *CRAVE*, performed on Saturday in **On the Stage B**. Arts Explosion campers, Funkbucket drummers and artists from the MADE



program will lead the audience from site to site during our **In the Park** series. I am very excited by the community involvement, which will continue with audiences members being encouraged to participate in the **Dance Market** demos and in our hip hop, contemporary indigenous dance and modern dance workshops.

With all that energy and enthusiasm building up over the weekend, we hope you all will join us Saturday evening for our **20th Anniversary Celebration** at the Red Payapa with pow wow techno music and hip hop dancing along with Mix Mix Dance Collective.

As we mark 20 years, I want to thank, from the bottom of my heart, **Dorothy Fisher** (stage manager) and **Taras Cymbalisty** (lighting designer) who have been part of our backstage crew for the entire 20 years. They haven't missed one festival!

I would also like to thank our incredible Board of Directors, many of whom have also not missed a festival over the last 20 years, and to all the volunteers and tech crew who work tirelessly behind the scenes. We'd also like to extend gratitude to new staff members **Leslie Fisher** and **Adriana Rosseli**, who have been phenomenal additions to our team. A very, very, special thank you goes to **Janet Johnson**, co-founder of the festival, who has put her heart and soul into the festival over its long history.

Finally, thank you to all of the sponsors, donors and funders; you all reflect so well on our pride in community and we couldn't have done it without you.

Catrina von Radecki
Festival Artistic Director



From the Mayor

Greetings and welcome!

Get ready to experience one of the most exciting, engaging and inspiring dance festivals anywhere in Ontario. Whether you are visiting us from near or far, we are thrilled to have you with us for the 20th annual Guelph Dance Festival!

In the theatre, the studio and the parks of Guelph, this festival brings us incredible contemporary dance performances year after year. The City of Guelph is proud to provide funding support to Guelph Dance, the local arts organization behind the festival. It's my privilege to thank and congratulate them on 20 remarkable years of dance in our community.

Once again, welcome—and enjoy!

Sincerely,

Cam Guthrie
Mayor of Guelph



From the MP

On behalf of the Government of Canada, I welcome you to the 20th annual Guelph Dance Festival. Guelphites take great pride in the strong connection Guelph has to the arts.

As the Member of Parliament for Guelph, I am thrilled to represent a community with such a vibrant and growing creative presence. The government of Canada fully supports the new generation of artists sharing their vision and engagement with communities to grow the creative economy and to push imaginative boundaries.

For the next few days, as you come together to celebrate the rich tapestry that is Canadian dance, I encourage you to experience all you can while you are in Guelph. From dancers to musicians, to actors and authors, Canada's cultural diversity is enriched by dancers and artists like those attending and participating in the Guelph Dance Festival.

Over the course of the Festival, I encourage everyone to immerse themselves in the message of the artists and to reflect on how it expresses our shared values of inclusiveness and social engagement.

Lloyd Longfield
Member of Parliament for Guelph

Panel Discussion

Future of Contemporary Dance

Friday, June 1 • 12:30 pm - 2 pm

Guelph Youth Dance Studios

Free – please register in advance to ensure your spot at guelphdance.ca/festival/panel

20

As we celebrate our 20th annual festival, we will be looking to our past to recognize our accomplishments and looking to the future to set the next steps. Guelph Dance Festival would like to play a role in building relationships and providing a platform for women, youth, people of colour and Indigenous dance artists to tell their stories and speak their truths. The panel discussion will be followed by break-out sessions, where participants are encouraged to bring forth their ideas, visions and concerns.

Panelists

- **Sandra Laronde**, Red Sky Performance
- **Katie Ewald**, local dancer/choreographer
- **Suzette Sherman**, local dancer/choreographer
- **Emily Law** and **Ashley Perez**, Mix Mix Dance Collective
- **Sharon B. Moore**, Toronto-based multidisciplinary dancer and choreographer; mentor of the Guelph Dance Breaking Ground Mentorship Program
- **Hope Sarah Gumahad** and **Sydney Runions**, Canadian Contemporary Dance Theatre youth artists

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In the Park

Four choreographers present works that will make you laugh, cry and dance in your seats! Programming is suitable for all ages, so bring your families for a walk in the park.

Exhibition Park
81 London Rd W

Friday, June 1, 6:30 pm

Saturday, June 2, 12 pm

Followed by the Dance
Market and Exhibition Park
Neighbourhood Group's
Creativity Picnic, 1-4 pm

Sunday, June 3, 12 pm

Exhibition Park
81 London Rd W

Inclement weather venue:
Old Quebec Street Mall
55 Wyndham St N
Check guelphdance.ca for status.



Cinetic Creations TORONTO **CAKE! WORLD PREMIERE** Choreographer: Sharon B. Moore

A young woman set on high-voltage, wends her way through an obstacle course trying to keep all the balls of life in the air while baking a cake! Her love of life and willingness to risk it all, in a bid to achieve triumphant perfection leads her into circumstance beyond her control and unexpected physical victories through the twists and turns of life, in all it's ridiculous ways. Pans fly, flour explodes, balloons bob escaping her dream-like grasp! Confusion ensues as she keeps her five babies in the air, navigating through a veritable "everything but the kitchen sink" towards the finish line and one perfect CAKE!

PERFORMER
Hilary Knee

MUSIC Philip Glass, Etudes

A very special thank you to Derek Aasland, artistic producer, Cinetic Creations and Humber Theatre Production Program.



Red Sky Performance  Rob Divito

Red Sky Performance

TORONTO

Miigis (EXCERPT) 2017

Choreographer: Jera Wolfe

Fusing contemporary Indigenous dance with powerful music, *Miigis* explores the catalysts, trade routes and stories of a journey from the Atlantic Coast to the Great Lakes, and the seven prophecies marked by miigis.

Miigis is co-commissioned by the City of Toronto, The Bentway Conservancy and Fort York National Historic Site, with the support of the Department of Canadian Heritage.

PERFORMERS Cody Berry, Eddie Elliott, Lonii Garnons-Williams, Julie Pham, Jera Wolfe

MUSIC Executive Producer: Sandra Laronde

Julian Cote, Pura Fé, Marie Gaudet, Marc Merilainen, Pierre Mongeon and Rick Sacks.

Soundtrack available on iTunes, Google Play, Spotify and Bandcamp.



BoucharDanse TORONTO
La gigue en souvenir 2008
Choreographer: Sylvie Bouchard
(with Mélissandre Tremblay-Bourassa for the last section)

La gigue en souvenir makes the past come alive through a journey inspired by the energy, complexity and vigour of the traditional dance from Québec. Six dancers perform on the music of Les Charbonniers de l'enfer, reinventing the folk tradition of the "gigue" in a contemporary fashion. *La gigue en souvenir* becomes a bridge between past and present and an ode to this most expressive of heritage.

PERFORMERS Zhenya Cerneacov, Sebastian Hirtenstein, Molly Johnson, Kathleen Legassick, Meredith Thompson and Brendan Wyatt, with the participation of Tanisha Bennett, Gillian Blair, Hailey

Campbell, Emily Chamberlain, Sadie Clark, Natalia Garcia-Hernandez, Cybelle LeBlanc, Marissa Manzerolle, Katherine Phippen, Meagan Pitts, Isabel Segal-Grossman and Kira Thompson

MUSIC Les Charbonniers de l'enfer

COSTUMES DESIGN Nina Okens (for the Professional dancers) / Cheryl Lalonde (for the Young dancers)

PROJECT ASSISTANT
Meredith Thompson

REHEARSAL DIRECTOR FOR THE YOUNG DANCERS Lynette Segal

Sylvie Bouchard would like to thank the Canadian Contemporary Dance Theatre and Meredith Thompson for their tremendous support, and all the dancers for their talent, commitment and hard work.

Working with young dancers for *La gigue en souvenir* was made possible with the support from the Government of Ontario, through the Francophone Community Grants Program.



Gadfly  E.S. Cheah

Gadfly TORONTO/MONTREAL
KLOROFYL (EXCERPT) 2011
 Choreographers: Apolonia Velasquez
 and Ofilio Sinbadinho

Influenced by the 1964 Japanese film, *Seven Samurai*, warriors need to regain their spark when they are forced to work together for survival. Their turbulent connections with a tribe break them from their emptiness. Once all is set and done, they have the chance to make a first conscious choice: return to their primal state of survival or achieve together what many find risky and impossible: *thrive*.

This production is a representation of Gadfly's signature movement, rooted in urban and contemporary physicality and depth of theme –

dance storytelling that sits in the sweet spot between artistry and entertainment.

PERFORMERS Daniel Gomez,
 Christina Paquette, Alyssa Petrolo,
 Sierra Richardson, Marissa Ricci

MUSIC Dr Draw and Sinbadinho

Leaders of the Audience
Adam Bowman GUELPH
 with his FuNkBuCkET! drummers, Guelph
 Dance Arts Explosion campers and artists
 from the MADE program.

Adam and his crew will lead the audience from dance to dance with their funky rhythms and exciting sounds of found percussion. You will even get a chance to pick up a pair of sticks and join the crew!

Dance Market

A celebration of
movement, health and
wellbeing.

Saturday, June 2, 1 pm
Exhibition Park, 81 London Rd W

Inclement weather venue:
Old Quebec Street Mall
55 Wyndham St N
Check guelphdance.ca.

Schedule

1:00-1:10	Binty Koroma & Bintou Barrow, Afro Tribal Dance
1:10-1:20	Living Yoga and Health
1:20-1:30	Barbara Darnetto, Journey Dance
1:30-1:40	LIFT Guelph, Strength Training
1:40-1:50	Loyobo Fit
1:50-2:00	Park 'n' Dance
Ongoing	Monique ten Kortenaar, The Mitzvah Technique (one-on-one mini sessions)

Creativity Picnic 1-4 pm

**CREATIVITY
P/CNIC**
hosted by
the EPNG

In partnership with Guelph Dance, The Exhibition Park Neighbourhood Group hosts its fourth annual Creativity Picnic immediately following the In the Park performances. Our family entertainment and events will delight everyone: **The Making Box** will make you giggle, the **Duelling Dames** will demo some swordplay and our new **Story Trail** will entice you to walk through a tale of adventure. Plus perennial favourites like **The Children's Art Factory**, **Kids Make Guelph**, **The Dragon** and more!

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On the Stage A

A mixed program of contemporary dance by diverse and exciting artists from across Canada.

Friday, June 1 • 8:30 pm
55 Minutes • No intermission

River Run Centre
Co-operators Hall
35 Woolwich St

Susie Burpee / Robyn Thomson Kacki

TORONTO/WINNIPEG

**Cotton Handkerchiefs and Dog's
Tears** 2017

Choreographer: Tedd Robinson

*Dancing, not dancing with boxes
and big hearts
in suits black and dog's crying,
handkerchiefs dropping,
and hands holding,
piano wailing ...
but the dog.*

– Anonymous 18th century poem
translated from the Dutch

Tedd Robinson has created an "elegiac 'Godot-esque' world in which dancers Susie Burpee and Robyn Thomson Kacki appear as co-conspirators" (Holly Harris, *Dance International*). Robinson's signature handling of objects and use of idiosyncratic gesture creates a sense of ritual purpose in this enigmatic and poignant duet.

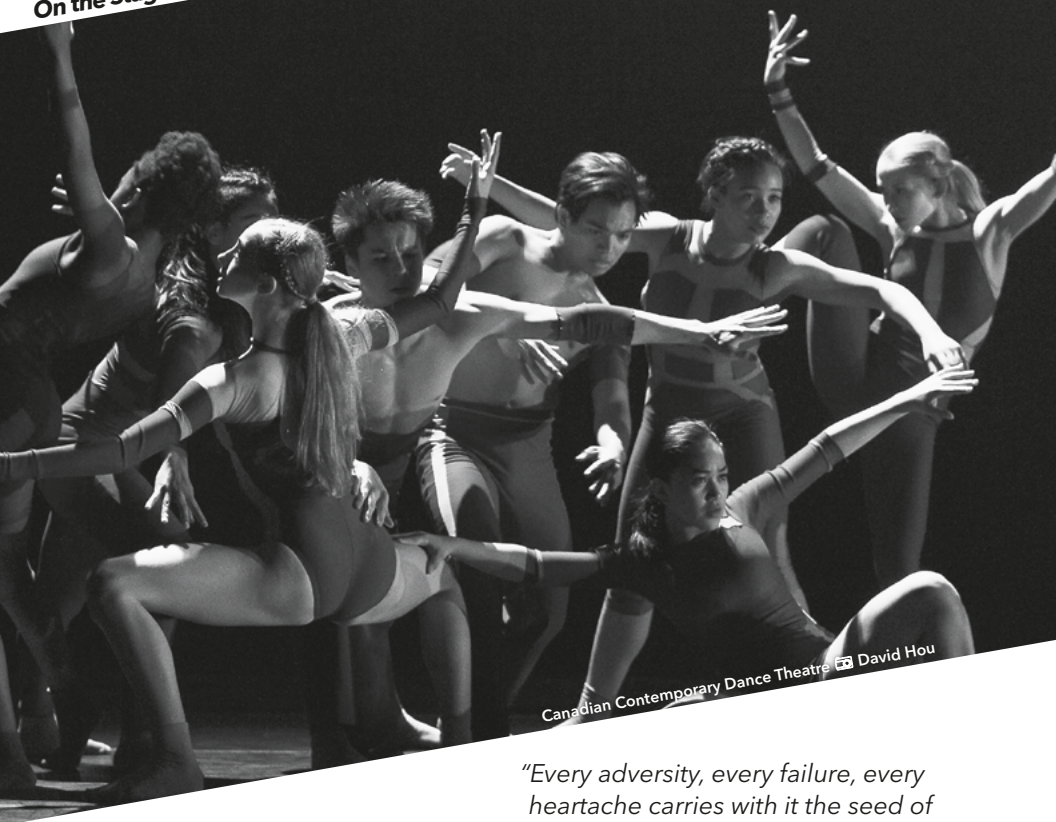


Susie Burpee and Mark Dela Cruz

ORIGINAL SCORE by Charles Quevillon, featuring Stella, Tedd's dog. Supported by the Manitoba Arts Council, the Winnipeg Arts Council, and the O'Neill Family Trust.

PERFORMERS Susie Burpee, Robyn Thomson Kacki

Special thanks to Tedd Robinson, Dan Wild, Stephanie Ballard, Faye Thomson, Marie-Josée Chartier, The School of Contemporary Dancers and Dancemakers. The creation of this work was supported by The Manitoba Arts Council, The Winnipeg Arts Council, and the O'Neill Family Trust.



Canadian Contemporary Dance Theatre © David Hou

Canadian Contemporary Dance Theatre TORONTO

SEEDS.whisper 2017

Choreographer: Jennifer Archibald

We live in a world of noise. At what point are we free enough to allow our thoughts to go below surface level? Our body is constantly communicating with us, silently but powerfully. Do we listen to it?

Choreographed by New York City's Jennifer Archibald, *SEEDS.whisper* is a fierce and powerful blend of classical ballet and hip hop, set to intense and driving music by Haushka.

"Every adversity, every failure, every heartache carries with it the seed of an equal or greater benefit."

—Napoleon Hill

PERFORMERS Paris Forbes, Hope Sarah Gumahad, Sierra Kellman, Kaiya Lee, Warren Macdonald, Rashidah Quaye, Jake Ramos, Sydney Runions

MUSIC Haushka

CCDT is grateful for the support from The Ontario Arts Council and The Ontario Arts Council's Touring Office.

Lina Cruz-Fila 13 Productions MONTREAL

Tempo al Dente 2017

Choreographer: Lina Cruz

What to do with a two-faced clock running around like a chicken



Lina Cruz-Fila 13 Productions Maxime Daigle

PERFORMERS Raphaëlle Fougères,
Geneviève Robitaille

MUSIC Philippe Noireaut

Special thanks to Catrina von Radecki and all the team of the Guelph Dance Festival. Lina Cruz and Fila 13 are happy to be part of the 2018 festival edition, celebrating its 20th anniversary: congratulations, GDF!

Tempo al Dente is a coproduction of Fila 13 Productions and XYZ Collective. The piece benefitted of a creation residency offered by La Rotonde at Maison pour la danse (Quebec City) in October 2017.

Fila 13 thanks the Canada Council for the Arts, Le Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec and Le Conseil des arts de Montréal for the support received for the creation of this work.

without a head? Domestication, domestication! Carefree and nonchalant, two adventurous characters depart on a grand voyage. A pet clock, finally perfectly domesticated, follows obediently at their feet...

Highly marked by an individuality, the dancers' movements interconnect symbiotically, as if a contagious clockwork mechanics was, after all, overpowering them.

Besides clock domestication, this duet is composed of: ship horns announcing departure, little sensitive humming cries, vivacious physicality, unison text, music, a ravaging resolution, quirky dance vocabulary, on-and-off singing, odd vocal expressions and a profound love of time.

On the Stage B

A mixed program of contemporary dance by diverse and exciting artists from across Canada.

Saturday June 2 • 8 PM
80 Minutes • No intermission

River Run Centre
Co-operators Hall
35 Woolwich St

Kaeja d'Dance TORONTO

Crave 2013

Choreographer: Karen Kaeja

Quadrupal 2017 Dora Mavor Moore-nominated and winner for outstanding male, *Crave* is poignant, romantic, whimsical and chaotic. A duet that mines intimacy while navigating loneliness, unsettledness and the hope that keeps us hanging on, Sarah Shugarman's stunning score partners with the duo's journey. As part of the pre-show, audience members are invited to join in an intimate slow dance on stage with a partner, friend or stranger—the perfect prelude.

CHOREOGRAPHER'S NOTES

Perceived intimacy can feel so different than how we imagine our hopes and dreams to be. *Crave* is rooted in that which keeps one hanging on—ephemeral, distinct and not always palpable. What we crave today in a relationship can change tomorrow. I am grateful to have *Crave* performed in many



iterations in Toronto, Mexico, Ottawa and Guelph.

CREATED WITH PERFORMERS Michael Caldwell, Stéphanie Tremblay

ORIGINAL SCORE Sarah Shugarman

STRING QUARTET/MUSICIANS Carina Reeves, Drew Jureka, Alex McMaster, Yuichiro Inoue, and Brenda Kovrig, Lisa Lambert (lyrics, You Forever)

LIGHTING DESIGN Simon Rossiter

ORIGINAL LIGHTING DESIGN
Kimberly Purtell

DRAMATURGY Pil Hansen

COSTUME DESIGN Cheryl Lalonde

PRODUCTION/STAGE MANAGER
Kennedy Brooks

Thank you to: Guelph Dance Festival, Rebekah Wolkstein, Praise Lam, Anna Atkinson, Lydia Munchinsky, Ana Claudette Groppler, Mairi Greig, Beata Rasitsan, Chelsey Fawcett, The community members who danced with us in the prelude in 2013 and 2017, Lana Morton and Yvonne Coutes of Series Dance of ODD Ottawa Dance Directive, Sharon DiGenova, Harbourfront NextSteps, Claudia Moore, Allen, Aniya and Mika.

Pam Tzeng CALGARY
"A Meditation on the End"
 by Jo-Lee 2017
 Choreographer: Pam Tzeng

With death in arms, then at her feet, Jo-Lee muses on what has given her unconventionally conventional life meaning. In this bare bones duet, Tzeng leaps into fragmented memories of an imagined "other", crafting a poetic and playful theatrical dance that embraces existential longing and mortality.

"A Meditation on the End" by Jo-Lee artistically mines the emotional landscape of grief. The work draws from a fascination with the Buddhist concept of "bardos" – the state of existence between two lives, after death and before one's next birth and the phenomenon of life flashing before one's eyes in near death experiences.

PERFORMER Pam Tzeng

MUSIC Sound Design by Krzysztof Sujata. Music of Marsen Jules, Colleen and Hildur Guðnadóttir.

A special thanks to lighting designer Nicole Olson Grant-Suttie and Helen Husak, Linnea Swan and Andy Curtis for their critical eyes and encouragement in



Pamela Tzenf ☞ Marc J Chalifoux

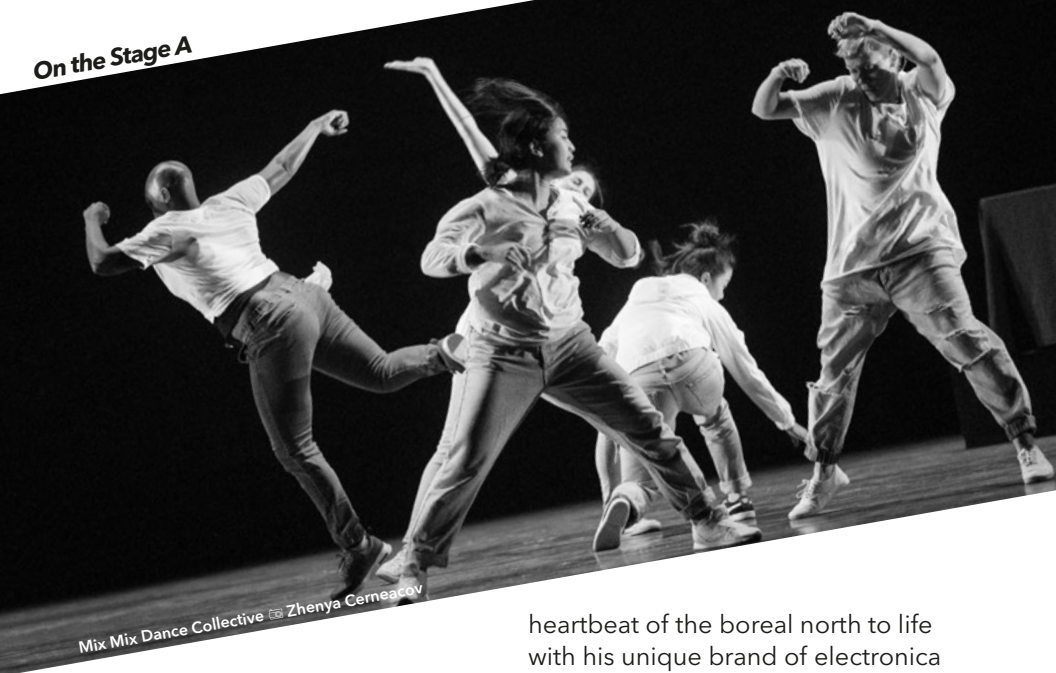
the development of this work. Creation and presentation of this work has been generously supported by Alberta Foundation for the Arts, Azimuth Theatre Expanse Festival, Canada Council for the Arts, One Yellow Rabbit, Risk/Reward Festival of New Performance Portland and W&M Dance Projects.



We depend upon the generosity of many people to bring the Guelph Dance Festival to you every year. Please join our circle of supporters and make a donation today! Easy online donation at guelphdance.ca or mail a cheque:

2J-42 Carden Street
 Guelph ON N1H 3A2

On the Stage A



Mix Mix Dance Collective Zhenya Cernecov

Mix Mix Dance Collective

TORONTO

Follow Me 2017

Choreographed by Emily Law & Ashley Perez, with live music by DJ Classic Roots

Follow Me was created for the 2017 Games of La Francophonie in Abidjan, where they were selected to be part of Team Canada as part of the cultural component. Their motivation for competing in the games was to celebrate the excellence in artistry, athleticism, and expression that Canada has to offer. The group performs with live music by DJ Classic Roots, who brings the sexy

heartbeat of the boreal north to life with his unique brand of electronica and pow wow techno.

PERFORMERS Sarah Tumaliuan, Caroline Fraser, Kristine Flores, Emily Law, Ashley Perez. Live music from Classic Roots

MUSIC Original music by Classic Roots mixed with I Think I Like It by Fake Blood, Ame REJ covered by Tehno Marching Band and Brighter Days, Cajmere, featuring Dajae (Cassian Rework)

Special thanks to Guelph Dance Festival. Thank you for having us.

Festival After Party

Saturday, June 2, 9:30 pm to midnight
Red Papaya, 55 Wyndham St N · Free · All ages

Join us at the Red Papaya for the 20th anniversary Festival After Party where members of the Mix Mix Dance Collective will be animating the party to the tunes of DJ Classic Roots. Follow the dancers to the dance floor after the performance. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

In the Studio

Breaking Ground Performances

Saturday, June 2 • 4 pm | Sunday, June 3 • 2 pm
Guelph Youth Dance Studios • 42 Quebec St

New this year, the Guelph Dance In the Studio series will include four works by artists breaking new ground. **Julia Garlisi, Amber Sherwood Robinson, Solana Del Bel Belluz** and **Robert Kingsbury** all have worked under the mentorship of choreographer **Sharon B. Moore** (Toronto). During a four-day intensive, artists had the opportunity to discover new tools in developing their craft, as well as the time and space to explore, all with the support of their peers along the way. The In the Studio series performances are the results of this process!

Solana Del Bel Belluz

MONTREAL

Titan 2018

Choreographer: Solana Del Bel Belluz

Titan is a physical meditation on the adaptive, responsive, and powerful architecture of the human body. The work is a continuous, folding and unfolding revolution of two bodies engaged with space and one another. It is also a duet intended to highlight the tender, striking, and personable qualities of the two interpreters: Nickle Peace-Williams and Magali Casaubon. How do we form a miniature

maquette of our surroundings and place it at our core, allow it to move us? How can we become the tiny puppeteer which conducts the colossal titan of ourselves?

PERFORMERS Magali Casaubon, Nickle Peace-Williams

MUSIC 9 Petals by Susumu Yokota

Thank you to Sharon Moore for her time mentoring us; Silvy Panet-Raymond for her time as our choreography teacher; Michelle Miller and my parents for hosting us so generously in Guelph; Catrina von Radecki for reaching out and giving me this opportunity, among a thousand other things.

Amber Sherwood-Robinson GUELPH

Unknown 2018

Choreographer: Amber Sherwood-Robinson

This piece was originally developed with eight dancers aged nine to 13 and seemed to turn into something



In the Studio Participants ☞ Nicholas Loess

dealing with conformity vs. individuality. Since re-working the piece on older dancers, it has taken on a new meaning, driven by the music and the group's experiences during the mentorship process. It was fascinating to see how the dancers' ages and life experiences shaped the piece and was so inspiring that it greatly informed the creative process. Incorporating elements inherent in both versions of the piece was important, as was the input of all those involved in the mentorship.

PERFORMERS Maggie Bolton, Esmé McBride, Rowen McBride-Pilon, Brooke Powell, Corinna Shelley; understudied by Emma Gray-Lamont

MUSIC First Snow by Emancipator

I would like to acknowledge the Attawandron people on whose traditional territory we occupy, as well as all other Indigenous people who were impacted by the colonisation that occurred and continues here.

My utmost thanks to Sharon Moore and the dancers for their contributions to the creation of this piece, and to the other Breaking Ground artists for their inspiration and creativity. Thanks as well to Janet Johnson for the invitation to create the original piece, and the eight Apprentice I dancers who brought my vision to life.

**not applicable
productions** TORONTO

Re:set 2018

Choreographer: Robert Kingsbury

An exploration of interfacing with virtual technologies that mines a

decade of videogame playing for sensations, movements and internal meanings. Is performative dance in its Western art canon context already a technology of virtual embodiment? How does a body wear a technology of movement?

PERFORMER Robert Kingsbury

MUSIC Robert Kingsbury

Thanks to Sharon & Jono.

Julia Garlisi JERSEYVILLE, ON
now and at the hour 2018
Choreographer: Julia Garlisi

This piece explores anguish, defeat and personal resilience. In the moment of loss, there is a silence so loud it breaks the soul. The heart might beat, but the pounding haunts the body evermore. This singular moment in time is the essence of the piece. How do we carry on alone after losing a significant part of ourselves and our lives?

PERFORMERS Jenna Oxley,
Julia Garlisi

MUSIC Arvo Part

I would like to thank Sharon Moore for mentoring me through this process and allowing my vision and creation to develop and evolve. Thank you to the Guelph Dance Festival for providing this program and opportunity for local choreographers. Thank you to Jenna Oxley who has been so open and resilient as an interpreter and performer.

Youth Moves

Dancers 18 and under take the stage with rich and playful contemporary works. Come and see the latest work from seven Ontario dance schools.

Sunday, June 3 • 4 pm

River Run Centre
Co-operators Hall
35 Woolwich St

Guelph Youth Dance

Company (EXCERPT) GUELPH

The Four Seasons Project: Winter
2018

Choreographer: Lacey Smith

Director: Miko Sobreira

The Four Seasons Project was developed by Dasein Dance to bring youth together from different cities and to engage them in a collaborative creative process. Four youth groups from four cities will collectively create a reimagining of Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*. The vocabulary has been developed, together with the youth, through a

creative process provoked solely by Vivaldi's score.

The Guelph Youth Dance Company have collaborated with Lacey and Miko to embody the music of Winter. We invite you to enjoy the rich layers, textures and images that Vivaldi's winter movement inspired.

The full *Four Season's Project* will premiere in 2019.

PERFORMERS Emmett Bradshaw, Lily Burpee, Molly Case, Elizabeth Gibson, Emma Gray Lamont, Ailsa Haennel, Kadyne Kaplain, Isabelle Middleton, Sadye Middleton, Sophie Sharp, Ellie Stewart

MUSIC Antonio Vivaldi

We would like to thank Janet and the GYD dancers for coming on this journey with us. To the dancers, your creativity and dedication has inspired a breathtaking winter score, congratulations.

Guelph Youth Dance Company Dean Palmer





Julia Garlisi JERSEYVILLE, ON
Bildungsroman 2017
 Choreographer: Julia Garlisi

This piece explores the emotional growth and spiritual journey of a young woman transitioning from adolescence to adulthood. This highly dynamic solo dance blends moments of personal struggle with the perseverance of the human spirit. There are moments of power, loss, pain, urgency, grace and beauty as the dancer progresses and evolves in time and space. Though the term *Bildungsroman* has literary derivatives and is primarily applicable in novels and prose, it is the chosen medium to express this story.

PERFORMER Sarah Gravelle

MUSIC Agnes Obel

YMI Dancing TORONTO
Girl Interrupted 2012
 Choreographer: Bethany Litner

Inspired by the novel by Susanna Kaysen, this piece explores the issue of mental health within society, predominately among young women. Within the piece, the dancers express how it feels to be affected and overcome by emotion, as well as the importance of supporting others who are undergoing the same internal struggles. The piece begins orderly and structured; as it builds so does a sense of chaos and anxiety. This sense of loss of control shadows the feeling of hopelessness that people with mental health experience.

PERFORMERS Alaia Rustecki Lopes, Cadence Parsons, Maya Middleton, Sophie Archiblad, Ya'ad Bat-Kol, Zita Campbell

MUSIC Múm

CSD Dance Company,
Contemporary School of
Dance WATERLOO
Be The Change 2018
 Choreographer: Georgina Rombough

The music motivates the choreography and inspires movement that embodies giving and receiving, caring and understanding, hope and peace. Through improvisation tasks, we explore movement inspired by the characteristics of human nature such as kindness, mercy and sympathy, and how gesture and contact movements can

develop the meaning to the work. We highlight the struggles and conflicts in society, as we promote being the change and not just waiting for the change! Each dancer directly supports a charitable organization, at local or global level, by purchasing a t-shirt from their chosen organization, to be worn as their costume.

PERFORMERS Hannah Bousfield, Mikayla Clermont, Julia Dafoe, Lauren Dafoe, Abby Dietrich, Megan Doig, Sophia Gingerich, Lexie Ingoldsby, Madeline Schneider

MUSIC John Mayer, Waiting On The World To Change

Swansea School of Dance

TORONTO

Shoalmates 2015

Choreographer: Christy Stoeten

Shoalmates playfully ponders the shoaling and schooling patterns of fish. At times we'll witness the dancers working together as a unit, and at other times moving independently. The challenge to remain connected to the group as a whole, both visually and spatially is present throughout the work. Though the movement qualities and spatial patterns are inspired by fish, human characteristics reveal themselves, as the dancers work towards their common goals.

PERFORMERS Genevieve Ajudah, Autumn Casado Prokupek, Olivia Georgiou, Brigitte Gervais, Elizabeth MacDougall, Lia Mayhew, Jaiden Reive, Clara Van Bellinghen, Emilie Van Bellinghen

MUSIC Interlude 1 by alt-J, Ocean Waves Inside Rocks by Nature Sounds, (Sittin' on) The Dock of the Bay by Otis Redding

Dasein Dance Young Company

LONDON

From Darkness 2018

Choreographer: Lacey Smith

Inspired by Gregorio Allegri's stunning *Miserere Mei*, *From Darkness* explores the idea that light can only be found in darkness.

"In our day and age, global society has been saturated with the wrong teaching of false positivity. The denial of darkness never equates the abundance of light. And the denial of your actual character never equates to the reality of your best character.... The caterpillar does not become a butterfly by telling everybody it has wings. It actually buries itself in darkness and grows those wings." – C. JoyBell C.

PERFORMERS Emily Brereton, Erin Brereton, Zoe Brown, Cameron Crowder, Lauren Crowder, Amy Gras, Rachel Gras, Dharby Harrison, Clare Partridge, Allyson Zheng

MUSIC Gregorio Allegri

We would like to thank the beautiful young dancers who continue to bring light into our lives. Their youthfulness, openness and desire to grow has inspired this work.



**Carousel Dance
Company** WATERLOO
Colouring 2017
Choreographer: Ken Pham

Dedicated to a friend, *Colouring* explores the difficulties of mental health in a toxic relationship from one person's perspective. Unaware of the reflections we've created of ourselves within all the people we meet who are trying to help.

PERFORMERS Gillian Brook, Alyssa Churchill, Hannah Clark, Franziska Eisenhuth, Sarah Elop, Caitlin Luening, Avery McCorkell, Clara Sheehan, Ella Sheehan, Marina Simonovic, Christina Wolf

MUSIC Coloring by Kevin Garrett

A special thanks to Ken Pham for challenging the dancers to push themselves in new ways and for inspiring the dancers with this beautiful piece of choreography.



CALL FOR ENTRIES

Dance with Guelph Dance

Applications must include video links, \$25 membership fee and must be post-marked or electronically submitted by September 15, 2018.

Entry forms available at
guelphdance.ca/festival/call / info@guelphdance.ca / 519.780.2220

Workshops

Master Class with Suzette Sherman

Friday June 1

10:30 am to 12 pm

Sunday June 3

9:30 to 11 am

Guelph Youth Dance Studios
42 Quebec St.

Suzette Sherman, longtime associate of master choreographer and teacher David Earle, will teach technique classes in his Graham-based dance language. These classes are open to Festival participants and professional/advanced dancers. Express yourself through beautiful movement accompanied by exciting live percussion music.

Mix Mix Dance Collective Street Dance

Saturday June 2

9:30 to 10:45 am

Guelph Youth Dance Studios
42 Quebec St.

Learn to groove, jack and skate to soulful house beats. The class is designed for beginner-level dancers, with an interest in street/urban dance forms/styles. Previous experience in street/urban dance styles is not required. Comfortable clothing for movement, including socks and sneakers/running shoes. We hope you will then show us your new moves at the **Guelph Dance Festival After Party** at the Red Papaya!

"Getting on Your Feet" Contemporary Indigenous Dance with Red Sky Performance

Sunday June 3

9:30 to 11 am

Guelph Youth Music Centre
75 Cardigan St.

Red Sky associate artist Eddie Elliott is a Maori performer who will lead you in traditional Maori dance forms and traditional storytelling methodologies. Participants will be extremely fortunate to engage in a cultural exchange with this young Indigenous performer from New Zealand. Over the course of the workshop, you will see inhibitions diminish and replaced by enthusiasm, openness and joy.



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Artists' Bios

In the Park

Cinetic Creations TORONTO

Sharon B. Moore creates around the world as a choreographer and director for dance, theatre, film and circus. She was the first Canadian honoured with a Bessie Schönberg Choreographic Residency at The Yard on Martha's Vineyard, and recently held the position of atelier artist in residence and international faculty at The Lewis Centre for the Performing Arts at Princeton University. She is a graduate of and choreographer in residence at the School of Toronto Dance Theatre. Alongside Canadian composer/director Derek Aasland, she runs Cinetic Creation, a company dedicated to picture wide movement worlds for feature film and large scale theatrical works. Their recent work, *The Thirst for Love and Water*, presented by Panamania Live! in Toronto's City Hall reflecting pool, was viewed by over 80,000 people.

Red Sky Performance TORONTO

Red Sky Performance is a leading company of contemporary Indigenous performance in Canada and worldwide. Led by Artistic Director Sandra Laronde of the Teme-Augama-Anishinaabe (People of the Deep Water), we are currently in our 18th year of dance, theatre, music, and media. Our mission is to create inspiring experiences of contemporary Indigenous arts and culture that transform society. We create, produce, and disseminate new creations and events that illuminate themes, aesthetics, and values of importance to Indigenous peoples.

BoucharDanse TORONTO

In 2008 Sylvie Bouchard formed BoucharDanse, a company that serves as an umbrella for her artistic endeavors. A fascination for narratives

and an aim to find continuum and a sense of journey in dance works propels Bouchard's artistic search. BoucharDanse is dedicated to projects and collaborations that bring together Francophone and Anglophone artists as well as dance and theatre artists. During the last few years, BoucharDanse has initiated many creations, productions and touring projects, to name a few: The presentation of *Histoire d'amour*, *L'Implorante* and *L'éternel voyage* at the Harbourfront Centre (Toronto), the creation of *L'envol* and *Petits rêves* for the Canadian Contemporary Dance Theatre, and tours of *A Flock of Flyers: remix*. *Les moutons* and *La gigue en souvenir* in Québec and Ontario. BoucharDanse also commissions talented Canadian choreographers, most recently Denise Fujiwara and Yvonne Coutts in a project titled *A Congruence of Arrivals*.

GADFLY TORONTO/MONTREAL

Gadfly's artistry sits where urban dance roots and other creativity collide and tune together. Artistic directors Ofilio Sinbadinho and Apolonia Velasquez merge art with entertainment through the authenticity, artistry, and athleticism found in their signature Aybrid Movement. Gadfly's body of work includes full-evening works, performances at Ted Talks Toronto, Nuit Blanche, Luminato, Festival DansEncore, and for several charitable organizations. With *Klorofyl*, Gadfly was the recipient of the Dora Mavor Moore Award for Outstanding Performance. Gadfly is a Repertoire Dance Company that has been moving people, pulsing questions and cooking worlds since 2007. gadfly.ca #AlaGadfly

ADAM BOWMAN GUELPH

As a touring drummer/percussionist, Adam has been heard on stages across five continents with artists such as Juno-award winners Kellylee Evans and Carlos Morgan, Canadian independent music trail blazer Ember Swift, improvising guru VINX and country-folk

songstress Dawn Langstroth, among many others. In the studio, Adam has become the drummer of choice for producers and songwriters on dozens of recordings. 2015 saw Juno-nominations for Eccodek's *Singing in Tongues* and Alysha Brilla's *Womyn* albums. In 2018 Alysha's *Rooted* album received another nod. Currently, Adam can be heard playing with Elise LeGrow, Alysha Brilla, Jeff Eager and Jason Raso as well as providing accompaniment for modern and contemporary dance classes with IMAGEO artworks, Dancetheatre David Earle and Guelph Dance and leading FuNkBuCkET! A group drumming experience exploring the exciting sounds of "found percussion" (buckets, pails, bins, etc). You can find out more about Funkbucket at facebook.com/funkbucket

On the Stage A

Susie Burpee / Robyn Thomson Kacki TORONTO/WINNIPEG

Tedd Robinson first rose to prominence in 1984 as Artistic Director of Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers, where a teenage Susie Burpee sat in the audience and watched his astonishing dance theatre works take the stage. In the late 90s, as a dancer at Ottawa's Le Groupe Dance Lab, Susie would finally dance in Tedd's work, and a long-term artistic relationship was forged. Fast forward to 2008, when a younger Winnipeg-based dancer, Robyn Thomson Kacki, came to study with Tedd and Susie in a summer workshop. A triangle was formed – three different generational points of view, connected by a history of place and memory. This is the foundation for Cotton Handkerchiefs and Dog's Tears – "a metaphysical post-modern treatise on 'home'" (Holly Harris, Dance International).

Canadian Contemporary Dance Theatre TORONTO

Canadian Contemporary Dance Theatre is a repertory company of exceptional

young artists founded in 1980 by Artistic Director Deborah Lundmark and Managing Director Michael deConinck Smith. With a diverse repertoire of over 100 international commissions, presentation highlights include appearances at Toronto's Princess of Wales and Royal Alexandra Theatres and five invitations to the Canada Dance Festival. CCDT has introduced 300,000 young people to dance through its Ontario Arts Access program, and has toured to Singapore, Malaysia, China and Scotland. CCDT performed to standing ovations at New York City's Joyce Theater as part of the José Limón Dance Company's 70th anniversary International Dance Festival.

Lina Cruz/ 13 Fila Productions MONTREAL

Lina Cruz has a background in ballet as much as modern/contemporary styles and takes interest in martial arts and various forms of stage expression. She has presented her work in festivals and events at local, national and international levels. She is a two-time Dora Mavor Moore Award recipient for Outstanding Original Choreography (2012 and 2017) and a second place award in the 1998 international choreographic competition of the St-Sauveur Arts Festival (Quebec). She founded Fila 13 Productions in 2003. fila13.com

On the Stage B

Kaeja d'Dance TORONTO

Karen Kaeja is an award-winning performer for stage and film, choreographer, community builder, project instigator and educator. Co-AD of Kaeja d'Dance with Allen Kaeja, her awards include the CDA "I Love Dance" Community Award and the Paul D. Fleck Fellowship for Innovation. A six-time Dora Mavor Moore nominee for Choreography and Performance, including four Dora's for *Crave*, which won one, she is distinguished in The Canadian Who's Who, was a finalist for TAF Muriel

Sherrin Award for International achievement in dance, CDA Innovation Award, NOW's Best Local Choreographer and Best Dance Company. She was the first resident dance artist for MUN/Dance NL and the Guelph Dance Festival (GDF). Karen has mentored many flourishing dance artists and is Co-AD of Cloud 9 with Claudia Moore. Recent projects include: XTOD: Solo Dance Xchange, residencies at DJD—Calgary, Mukogawa Women's University—Japan and Ochre House—NL. Upcoming commissions include Blue Ceiling, Chimera and Form Dance Companies, TOAE, Downtown Dances Moncton and PVD. kaeja.org

Pam Tzeng CALGARY

Pam Tzeng is a Calgary-based choreographer, performer, curator and movement educator. A biologist turned dance artist, her journey has taken her to create and perform across Canada, Europe, Taiwan, United States and Brazil. Known for creating visceral and animated performances, her practice integrates tools and perspectives from various artistic worlds: clown, puppetry, theatre and performance art. Coloured by her identity as a Canadian born Taiwanese woman, Tzeng's work examines the negotiation between cultural borders and the tensions between traditional and contemporary mores within the Canadian mosaic. Tzeng's choreographies have been presented across Canada and in the United States. She has been awarded residencies through Dancers' Studio West, Decidedly Jazz Danceworks, Mile Zero Dance, Springboard Performance and W&M Dance Projects. Current projects include: creation a new ensemble work titled *That ch*nk in y/our armour* for CanAsian KickStart Festival 2018 (Toronto) and the premiere of *SHE*, a second solo featuring her alter-ego Jo-Lee, at On the Boards NW New Works Festival June 2018 (Seattle). pamtzeng.com

Mix Mix Collective TORONTO

Mix Mix Dance Collective is outrageous, fierce and thoughtful in their investigation of diversity in movement, music and art practice. They have been extensively training, performing, teaching and competing in various street dance forms for more than 10 years. Their work is loud, colorful, groovy, accessible yet poignant, sharing their love of under-represented street dance forms with a wider audience. The work of the collective deals with issues of equality and challenging socially-constructed identities such as gender and race, aiming to represent the diversity of Toronto, with a varied cast of performers. They hope the audience members who may not usually get a chance to witness the culture, learn about the music, dance, and subtleties involved in certain street dances—and feel represented and inspired.

In the Studio

Solana Del Bel Belluz has just finished her last year in the dance program at Concordia University, where she has spent three years developing her choreographic skills. She grew up and discovered her love of dance here in Guelph, Ontario, starting first with African dance classes at the Guelph Youth Music Centre with Adwoa Badoe. Solana danced for a number of years with the Guelph Youth Dance Training Program and became one of the first graduates of the studio. Solana is in love with learning, and looks forward carrying what knowledge and experience has been gifted to her out into the world.

Amber Sherwood-Robinson has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Guelph, which she now uses in the fields of social work and dance. She graduated from the Guelph Youth Dance Company in 2011, and has been a Rehearsal Assistant there since 2012. In this capacity, she has had the honour

of working with such choreographers as Janet Johnson, David Earle, Suzette Sherman, Jordana Deveau, Robert Desrosiers, Lacey Smith, Karen Kaeja, and more. She received her choreographic start at John F. Ross CVI under the artistic direction of Enza Gaumond and Lisa MacNeil, with much artistic mentorship from Tom Slater.

Robert Kingsbury is a multi-disciplinary artist practicing somatic and conceptual approaches to choreography. A graduate of York University's Fine Arts program, Robert works in the fields of videography, music composition and dance. He has performed across Ontario, in Montreal, Berlin & NYC. Robert was honored to receive the 2011 Premiere's Award for Emerging Artist. In 2014 with the support of the OAC Chalmers he mentored in facilitating somatic research with Shannon Cooney of Berlin for a summer. Training highlights include five intensives with the Trisha Brown Dance Company and a period of internship with Dancetheatre David Earle.

Julia Garlisi has been performing with Dancetheatre David Earle since 2003. She is a graduate of the School of Toronto Dance Theatre Professional Training Program. Along with being a Senior Dance Artist of Dancetheatre David Earle (DtDE) she has the pleasure of working with numerous Canadian companies, choreographers, film directors and music producers. Independently, Julia has been fortunate to work with Denise Duric, Janet Johnson, Newton Moraes, Suzette Sherman, Lacey Smith, Toronto Heritage Dance and The Niagara Dance Company. Choreographically, her work has been commissioned for the Guelph Dance Festival, Stratford Spring Works Indie Theatre & Arts Festival, DtDE, The Suzuki String School, Dusk Dances Hamilton and internationally (Austria, Germany, Italy) for the SIBA Ballet Workshop Gala

Performance Tour. Julia also has an active life teaching and passing along the principles of Modern Dance to young adults and aspiring professionals. She teaches technique, composition and repertory to full day private school dancers at the Hamilton Academy of Performing Arts.

Youth Moves

Guelph Youth Dance Company GUELPH

The GYD Company was formed in 2008, by Janet Johnson and Catrina von Radecki as a means of further celebrating, enhancing and training young dancers. The GYD Company have worked with diverse & skilled choreographers from across Canada including David Earle, Suzette Sherman, Katie Ewald, Julia Garlisi, Kelly Steadman, Janet Johnson (Guelph area), Lina Cruz & Suzanne Miller (Montreal), Jordana Deveau, Robert Desrosiers, Kate Hilliard, Julia Aplin, Karen Kaeja, Lacey Smith (Toronto) and Anik Bouvrette (Ottawa). The GYD Company are joining the Suzuki String School of Guelph on an international tour of Spain in the winter of 2019. guelphyouthdance.ca

For more information on Dasein Dance and The Four Seasons Project please visit: [@daseindance](http://daseindance.com)

Julia Garlisi – see *In the Studio*

YMI Dancing TORONTO

Young Movement Incorporated Dancing is an established professional youth company (1991), whose mandate is to bring dance performance to the general community. The company performs at festivals, public schools, libraries, for fundraising events and charitable organizations. The company has enjoyed the teaching of professional performers such as Julia Aplin, Susie Burpee, Meagan O'Shea, Malgorzata Nowacka, Julia Sasso and Darryl Tracy. The com-

pany has an annual performance every spring featuring works by noted Toronto dance creators. YMI Dancing provides an exciting opportunity for students to hone performance skills.

Contemporary School of Dance WATERLOO

The Contemporary School of Dance opened in September of 1997 and has grown to be recognized as one of the most reputable schools in the Kitchener-Waterloo area. The CSD Dance Company is a group of approximately 50 dancers, ages 9-18, who want to expand their knowledge of dance and choreography through additional performance opportunities. CSD has performed at local and regional events including the Guelph Dance Festival, Starlight Youth Festival, Cambridge Arts Festival, and Muskoka Ballet Gala, as well as other ceremonies, flashmobs and parades in the K-W community. We have also had the distinguished opportunity to perform with both the Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Orchestra and the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony Orchestra.

Swansea Dance Company TORONTO

Led by Artistic Director Michelle DeBrouwer, the Swansea Dance Company is part of the Swansea School of Dance in Bloor West Village Toronto. The company is a place for enthusiastic young dancers who want extra performance opportunities. The company has six divisions, the youngest, our Apprentices, are ages 10-12 and the eldest group is 16-18. The company works with its excellent resident choreographers such as Julia Aplin, Sunny Horvath and Hillary McCarrel. The company also works with guest artists such as Gerry Trentham (lbs/sq") and Allen Kaeja (Kaeja d'Dance). *Shoalmates* was created by resident choreographer Christy Stoeten.

Dasein Dance Young Company LONDON

Dasein Dance was founded in 2011 by Lacey Smith, who started the company as a platform to create and perform in London, Ontario. Since then, Dasein has expanded its vision and currently operates out of both Toronto and London under the co-direction of Lacey Smith and Miko Sobreira. We are proud to unite the creative work we do with our professional and young companies and our educational programming. Together these branches create a sustainable artistic environment that is developed on the foundation of a collective creative structure. Dasein's Young Company is comprised of dancers age 9-18 who are currently enrolled in our Aspirant Ballet Program. daseindance.com

Carousel Dance Company WATERLOO

The Carousel Dance Company is a children's dance group which is affiliated with the Carousel Dance Centre, a large children's dance school in Waterloo, Ontario. Under the direction of Heidi Churchill and Laura Prada, the 89 member company consists of dancers ranging in age from 7 to 18 years. The company creates dance pieces as well as full length children's productions which are performed for local elementary schools. Members of the company have gone on to train with such prestigious companies as The Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Toronto Dance Theatre, The National Ballet School and Quinte Ballet School, and have performed with Stratford, Charlottetown Festival, and various cruise lines. In addition to local performances at Arts Festivals, The Guelph Contemporary Dance Festival and other local events, the Company has also performed nationally and internationally at Dance and the Child International conferences in Taiwan, Holland, Finland, Utah, Denmark and Canada.

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