PRESENTED BY THE DANCER TRANSITION RESOURCE CENTRE

DANCING TODAY, DANCING TOMORROW: OTM/West - Session 1 of 4

How are we working now? How will we work in the future? Hear from 4 dance artists who've uniquely adapted to these times. Coming from a range of modes and practices, they share their practical experiences navigating the past year and pivoting their work to different platforms and contexts.

SAT. JAN. 23
12-2pm PACIFIC TIME
ZOOM
FREE ADMISSION
REGISTER @ DTRC.CA

Guest Artists

Sabrina Naz Comănescu
Kristy Janvier
Eric Cheung
Sophia Wolfe

Co-curated and facilitated by Joyce Rosario
With special guest opening & assertion of territory by Jessica McMann
Joyce Rosario is a performing arts curator based in Vancouver, BC, and is currently training with Liz Lerman and John Borstel as a Critical Response Process practitioner. Until June 2020 she was Associate Artistic Director at the PuSh Festival where she spent seven years in curatorial and senior leadership positions. Previously, Joyce spent 10 years in the Canadian dance milieu, leading organizations such as New Works and Made in BC - Dance on Tour. She studied Theatre Production/Design at UBC following her first foray into performance as a teenage participant in a ‘new genre’ public art project by Suzanne Lacy. Joyce is guest co-curator for OTM/West 2021 and facilitator for Dancing Today, Dancing Tomorrow.

Sabrina Naz Comănescu is a dynamic member of the Calgary dance community through her work as a performer, choreographer, dance instructor and filmmaker. As a performer, Comănescu has worked with Machel Montano, House of Dangerkat, The Bad Girls Club YYC, ILLFX Entertainment and is currently in her sixth year performing with the Decidedly Jazz Danceworks. She is also the current major force behind The Diversity Performing Arts Club of Calgary that “celebrates cultural diversity while promoting inclusion and respect for all youth”. She also created Casa De Naz in 2012, a collective with a mission to “excite and educate art hubs across Canada about the thriving Caribbean community in Calgary and the arts of the Caribbean as a whole”. (Photo: Ayobami Balogun)

Kristy Janvier was born and raised in Flin Flon and is of Dene (English River First Nation), English/Irish, and Ukrainian decent. At age 18, she began working overseas as a professional actress/dancer. After 15 years in the entertainment industry with Disney, Kristy sought out other forms of movement and dance, making work based on improvisation and interaction with bodies and space. Connecting to her roots through contemporary-Indigenous dance, she had an opportunity to explore her research on water, the rivers, bloodlines and healing. Her solo performances and video work have been presented at venues and film festivals across Canada. She has toured as an invited guest with Dancers of Damelahamid and has also worked with Raven Spirit Dance. (Photo: Sweetmoon Photography)
Born and raised in Calgary, Alberta, Eric Cheung is a Chinese Canadian emerging street dance/contemporary artist, most widely known for his specialization in the street dance style Popping. Eric is a core member of Ouro Collective and, individually, he leads a wide range of projects to expand the perception of street dance within different mediums. He recently finished his first iteration of a solo, “iye” (2019), and is recontextualizing it as a web-based interactive experience entitled “iyeism”. Eric has also developed movement short films such as Wave (2019), and E_GO(2018), which achieved international acclaim on virtual platforms and through screenings at international movement-based film festivals. Eric is currently pursuing the immersive technologies of VR to create live performance solely in VR.

Sophia Wolfe is a contemporary dance artist who also works in visual media including photography, film and video art. She typically resides in Vancouver, on unceded Coast Salish territory, and is currently in London, UK, for her Masters in Screendance at the London Contemporary Dance School. Sophia has danced and toured with companies and independent choreographers such as Company 605, Co-Erasga, Chick Snipper, Cindy Mochizuki, Kelly McInnes, Antonio Somera and Zahra Shahab. She has also worked closely with the theatre community as an actor/movement/media artist with companies such as The Only Animal, New World Theatre, Popcorn Galaxies, rice and beans theatre and The Chop Theatre. She is the Artistic Director of F-O-R-M (Festival Of Recorded Movement) (www.f-o-r-m.ca). (Photo: Sammy Chien)

Jessica McMann is a Cree (Cowessess, SK) musician, contemporary dancer and choreographer. She is also a classically trained flutist with a Bachelor of Music from the University of Calgary and an MFA in Contemporary Arts from Simon Fraser University. Her recent compositions and soundscapes explore Indigenous identity and history. She is also co-founder and co-director of Wild Mint Arts, an Indigenous arts company. Currently her personal experience, Two-Spirit identity, Cree and Blackfoot language, history of powwow and hoop dancing, and the strength of Indigenous women guide her contemporary dance work. She works regularly with Elijah Wells, a Blackfoot animator, to bring the stories of Transgender, Two-Spirit and Queer persons alive. Jessica is a special guest speaker for on the MOVE/West, offering an opening and assertion of territory for our sessions.