

# DANCE-ONTARIO

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*We honour and acknowledge the traditional caretakers of this land: the Mississaugas of New Credit, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Anishinaabe and the Huron-Wendat. We are grateful to have the opportunity to work in their community, on this territory. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and future.*

**Saturday 26 January, 2019**

**Ritmo Flamenco Dance & Music Ensemble**

*EL FLAMENCO*

**Choreographers:** Anjelica Scannura and Valerie Scannura

**Music Direction:** Roger Scannura

**Ritmo Flamenco Music Ensemble:** Roger Scannura (flamenco guitar), Michael Murray (blues guitar), Saikha Baig (percussion), Valerie Scannura (percussion)

**Lighting Design:** Arun Srinivasan

**Dancers:** Anjelica Scannura, Sachi Ugucioni, Valerie Scannura

About the work: El Flamenco is a metamorphosis from the raucous abandon of traditional improvisational flamenco that was performed in a tablao setting into a completely different tempo that reflects a contemporary spirit.

About Ritmo Flamenco: The Ritmo Flamenco Dance and Music Ensemble was formed in 1995 by Valerie Scannura (Artistic Director, choreographer) and Roger Scannura (Music Director, flamenco guitarist). Their daughter, Anjelica Scannura is Co-Artistic Director and is an award-winning choreographer and dancer. She is face of ONE TV and her TV series "Anjelica's Dance Workout" was described as a "visual feast" by John Doyle of the Globe and Mail. Since its inception, they have enthralled audiences in music and dance festivals worldwide. They have garnered a strong reputation for their authentic brand of flamenco that is bred in the bone, ensuring their presentations are marked with the Scannura's outstanding level of excellence. They have graced the stages of Harbourfront Centre's NextSteps, have one Dora Nomination for their production Sirocco and have toured internationally with full evening works and showcases. Their next full length concert is February 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Lighthouse Festival Theatre in Port Dover, ON. "Roger Scannura brings the guitar magic of old world Spain into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with style and passion" Music Web Express

[www.ritmoflamenco.net](http://www.ritmoflamenco.net)

## **Sampradaya Dance Creations**

**Choreographer:** Parshwanath S Upadhye

**Dancers :** Atri Nundy, Nithya Garg, Renuka Iyer , Purawai Vyas , Rachana Joshi , Sowmya Karthikeyan

Described by the New York Times as '*a dance company of rare vitality*', SAMPRADAYA Dance Creations is an award winning Canadian professional dance company, based in Mississauga, specializing in the creation and production of classical and contemporary dance works rooted in the Indian Classical dance form of *bharatanatyam*.

Under the leadership of Artistic Director Lata Pada, SAMPRADAYA's strength lies in its pursuit of excellence in the creation of a stunning range of solo and ensemble works that are infused with the creativity of Indian dance vocabularies, while inspiring audiences with its innovative approaches to traditional movement.

Today, the company presents a work based on the Nirvanashtakam – the six-fold shloka written by the Hindu philosopher Adi Shankara that summarizes the basic teachings of non-dualism, the Advaita Vedanta, the verses are believed to help contemplation practices that lead to Self-Realization. This new ensemble work has been choreographed by Parshwanath Upadhye for Sampradaya Dance Creations.

Depicting also excerpts of various stories from Indian mythology, and in complete equanimity, peace and joy with the true self, Sampradaya Dance Creations presents Nirvana.

## **Nostos Collectives**

### *HEAD OVER HEELS*

**Choreographers:** Emily Spearing & Gavin Law

**Music:** Steve Bowa (original composition), Nat King Cole, Loscil, Stars of the Lid

**Lighting Design:** Emily Spearing & Gavin Law

**Performers:** Tyler Angell, Sonja Boretski, Jessica Lowe, Krista Newey, Irena Ponizova, Jake Ramos, Katherine Semchuk, Eleanor van Veen, Anastasia Wiebe

About the work: *Head Over Heels* originally premiered at our show *EXCAVATIONS* in April 2018. This newly remounted work explores and deconstructs conventional concepts of love while juxtaposing alternative representations of relationships and intimacy.

About Nostos Collectives: Nostos Collectives is an autonomous group of emerging dance artists based in Toronto and Halifax. Throughout these few years of self-discovery, we have established our identity as a diverse, inclusive group of young, talented, and hard-working dance artists from various training backgrounds. We have a passion for strong, dynamic physicality and the practice, creation, and performance of contemporary dance.

[www.facebook.com/nostoscollections](http://www.facebook.com/nostoscollections) Instagram: @nostoscollections

\*\*The work contains mature content (sexually suggestive movements).

## **Mi Young Kim Dance Company**

1. Jang Go Chum- 3 Dancers
2. SanJo Chum- Solo by Ji Yeun Sung
3. TaePyung Mu -Solo by Gui Ran Choi
4. Sadang Chum by Min Seo Kim
5. New Beginning Dance-by 10 dancers

About MYKDC: Korean Dance Studies Society is affiliated with the Mi Young Kim Dance Co and the School of Korean Dance and Drum. MYKDC's repertoire spans the full range of Korean ancestral dances from group performances such as the graceful and colourful Fan Dance, to the solo Buddhist Nun's Dance as well as ritualistic dances of Korea's native shaman religion. The company also presents original creations based on traditional forms.

## **Zata Omm Dance Projects**

### *SKOW*

**Choreographer:** William Yong / ZATA OMM

**Music:** Apocalyptica, FlashQuartet, Alexandre Desplat.

**Dancer:** Johanna Bergfelt

**Costume Designer:** William Yong

About the work: This is a 20 minutes excerpt from a full-length dance piece SKOW that will be presented by Citadel + Compagnie through Bright Nights Series from January 30-February 2, 2019 at

The Citadel theatre (304 Parliament Street). SKOW is an acronym derived from 'Some Kinds Of Wonder'. This choreographic work is inspired by those things in Johanna Bergfelt's life that define a sense of wonderment and fascination.

About Zata Omm Dance Projects: Zata Omm is 'Zen And The Actualization Of Modern Movement'. Zata Omm is a contemporary dance company based in Toronto, Canada. The company is in a state of constant development with on-going artistic research to explore the artistic climate, reflect contemporary culture and lead the emerging artistic trends. For more info, please visit: [www.zataomm.org](http://www.zataomm.org)

## **Makeda Benitez & Persamenco**

### *DENTRO* (commission)

**Choreographer and Dancer:** Makeda Benitez  
**Persamenco:** Bahram Aghakhan: Flamenco Guitar  
Pedram Khavarzamini: Tombak (percussion)  
Araz Salek: Tār (strings)  
**Lighting Design:** Arun Srinivasan

*DENTRO*, referring to flamenco's inward turn of the hands, speaks to a gesture of welcoming and drawing in. In this dance, we welcome each other's creative voices as fellow travelers and invite audiences to step inside the work to feel the power of *duende*, the flamenco spirit, as we have found it in our individual artistic journeys. In creating this piece together, we examine how we are separately drawn inward to flamenco, while joining artistic spirits that transcend geographical boundaries.

About the Artists: The recipient of the 2014 Dance Ontario Youth Award, Makeda Benitez graduated from Toronto's Academy of Spanish Dance and is pursuing advanced studies in Seville, Spain at the Fundacion de Flamenco Cristina Heeren. She has also studied with Inmaculada Ortega (Madrid), Juan de los Reyes, "La Lupi", Ursula and Tamara Lopez (Seville), and taken Master Classes with Manuel Betanzos, Javier Latorre, Myriam Allard, and Adela Campallo. Makeda has performed at various Ontario festivals with the Esmeralda Enrique Spanish Dance Company as well as choreographing and performing in shows with Tablao Flamenco Toronto, at cabarets in Seville, at numerous private events, and as a guest artist in the TV series *Shadowhunters*.

Founded in 2016, Persamenco is a Toronto-based, Persian-derived musical ensemble. Makeda and Persamenco first collaborated on performances for the 2017 Tirgan Festival of Persian Culture at Harbourfront. Makeda and Persamenco would like to thank Dance Ontario for their support in commissioning this piece. Special thanks also to production coordinator Lisa Nabieszko.

## **Decades Collective**

### *SIX* (commission)

**Choreographers/Performers:** Mi Young Kim, Maxine Heppner, Sashar Zarif,  
Mafa Makhubalo, Jennifer Dallas, Atri Nundy  
**Creative Facilitators:** Banuta Rubess  
**Concept Development:** Jill Carter, Lee Maracle, Troy Emery Twigg,  
**Sound Scape and Costume:** The ensemble  
**Lighting Design:** Arun Srinivasan

About the work: Together across decades to dance this earth, Decades Collective is collaboratively questioning ideas of ownership v.s. relationship, here and now. We would like to thank all the First Nations artists and their ancestors for the wisdom that has been illuminating this inquisitive journey. We would like to thank Dance Ontario, Toronto Arts Council and Hub14 for supporting this work.

Decades Collective is an ad hoc dance ensemble that spans generations (7 Decades). They work within a variety of ancestral influences, their inherited forms, and at the same time the diversity of the contemporary world they live in. This commission is their first creation.

## The School of Toronto Dance Theatre

*RELOSSLSS* (November 29, 2018)

**Choreography:** Ofilio Sinbadhino

**Outside Eye:** Apolonia Velasquez

**Soundtrack:** Ofilio Sinbadhino **Vocals:** Apolonia Velasquez **Lyrics:** Ofilio Sinbadhino

**Lighting Design:** Ofilio Sinbadhino with Noah Feaver

**Costume Design:** Cara Johnson

**Dancers:** Tanveer Alam, Morgyn Aronyk-Schell, Noah Blatt, Yiming Cai, Emily Fonda, Justin Fraser, Heather Jefferys, Ryan Kostyniuk, Kari Labrentz, Gwendolyn Mitchell, Chelsea Mulholland, Chloe Sandrelli, Lucie Schmidt, Claire Whitaker

***RELOSSLSS - Lost. At the right time.***

*There's two sides to every coin.*

*3 sides to every story*

*Fumbled. Not blind.*

*Lost. At the right time.*

*Drop fame. Reruns of flopped glory.*

*Remind wrecking minds to Remember*

*There's 3 sides to each story.*

*My take on having a good ride is creating work with people who are willing to jump head first. Shoutout to the way the team at the School nurtures these dancers to come straight in full curious mode and eager to deliver at every rehearsal. Patricia Fraser and the School team, nothing but respect for the vote of confidence and for this privilege to put my thoughts into art. – O.S.*

About the work: This work was commissioned by The School of Toronto Dance Theatre

About The School of Toronto Dance Theatre: The School of Toronto Dance Theatre has been at the forefront of dance training for over 50 years. Our full-time, three-year, post-secondary Professional Training Program is delivered by world-renowned faculty and guest artists who are fully invested in fostering the next generation of dance artists. The program provides strong technical training through concentration on extensive studio work, well-rounded and challenging curriculum, and exceptional opportunities to create, collaborate, and perform. The graduates of the School are recognized as outstanding teachers, creators, and artistic leaders throughout Canada and around the world.

## tiger princess dance projects/Yvonne Ng

*THAT MOMENT WHEN* (an excerpt)

**Choreography:** Yvonne Ng with the artistic collaboration from

**Performers:** Johanna Bergfelt and Luke Garwood

**Costumes:** Angela Cabrera

**Lighting Design:** Arun Srinivasan

A duet for Johanna and Luke.

tiger princess dance projects (tpdp) founded by Yvonne Ng in 1996, values dance/movement as an important component of communication that allows us to understand ourselves, share with each other and express ourselves as multifaceted beings. Luke Garwood is a hybrid media artist, dancer, and choreographer based in Toronto has worked for Toronto Dance Theatre, Citadel + Compagnie, Adelheid, Hit and Run Dance Productions, Christoph Winkler and with *tpdp* since 2012. A sought-after dance artist from Sweden, Johanna Bergfelt has created original roles for artists, Robert Glumbek, Christopher House (TDT), William Yong and Kevin O'Day to name a few. Johanna's been with *tpdp* since 2012.

[www.princessproductions.ca](http://www.princessproductions.ca) Facebook /tigerprincessdanceprojects Twitter @yveing  
Instagram @tigerprincessdanceprojects

## **Arkan Dance Company & The Ukrainian Academy of Dance**

A selection of pieces from the Company's repertoire

**Music:** assorted pieces from varied Ukrainian & Canadian composers

**Dancers:** Members of Arkan Dance Company and the Ensemble.

About Arkan Dance Company: The Ukrainian Academy of Dance has trained over 1500 dancers since it was founded in 1987. This year the school is celebrating its 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary. Arkan Dance Company was launched as the performing ensemble of the Academy. Since their formation, Arkan has performed at International festivals in Florida, New York and Boston, U.S.A, Taiwan, Brazil, at Canada's National Ukrainian Festival in Dauphin, Manitoba, Drummondville, Quebec, Nova Scotia, China, Mexico, Turkey, Italy, Korea, Ukraine and Indonesia. This summer Arkan will be travelling to Ukraine to participate in several international dance festivals as well as take classes with world renowned companies such as Virsky.

### **Kaeja d'Dance**

*CLOSE PROXIMITY* (November 29, 2018)

**Choreography:** Allen Kaeja (in collaboration with the dancers)

**Rehearsal Direction:** Patricia Fraser, Karen Kaeja, Mio Sakamoto

**Original Music:** Edgardo Moreno

**Lighting Design:** Noah Feaver

**Costume Design:** Cara Johnson

**Dancers:** Tanveer Alam, Morgyn Aronyk-Schell, Noah Blatt, Yiming Cai, Emily Fonda, Justin Fraser, Heather Jefferys, Ryan Kostyniuk, Kari Labrentz, Gwendolyn Mitchell, Chelsea Mulholland, Chloe Sandrelli, Lucie Schmidt, Claire Whitaker

*The shadow of the self drifts through the sea of humanity. Connection happens in moments and leaves the traces of community embedded in impressions of immediacy.*

*Special thanks to the dancers for their creative brilliance, energy, and commitment. Also to Karen, Mio, Pat, Sue, the School staff and crew, Aniya, and Mika for their unwavering support. – A.K.*

About the work: This work was commissioned by The School of Toronto Dance Theatre

### **Shavar Blackwood**

**in partnership with dance Immersion**

*LIQUID NOIR*

**Choreographer:** Shavar Blackwood

**Performers:** Derick Robinson, Derick Agyemang, Peter D'Souza, Armando Cruz, Cleon Wong, Luke Zuliani, James Batacan, Mark Uy, Lauren Lyn, Amber Teolis, Kiana Smith, Alessia Gerasolo, Kirstie Cameron, Saskia Raparanta, Amanda Videla

**Musical credits:** Michael Jackson – *Dangerous*, Phony Ppl – *That's why iii love the moon*, D'Angelo - *Lady*, Maxwell - *This woman's work*

**Lighting Designer:** Shavar Blackwood

**Other Credits:** Assistant Choreography By Leon Blackwood (Dangerous)

#### **PATRONS**

**Please remember to turn off all electronic devices.**

**Photography and videography of the performances are strictly prohibited unless contracted by the company for archival purposes**

## **Peggy Baker Dance Projects**

### *KRISHNA'S MOUTH*

**choreography:** Peggy Baker (2006)

**music:** Karen Tanaka (*The Song of Songs*)

**vocal coach:** Fides Krucker

**lighting design:** Gabriel Cropley after the original by Marc Parent

**costume:** original pieces by Caroline O'Brien with bodice by Robyn Macdonald

**dancer:** Sonja Boretski

*Sometimes, a story that we need to hear finds its way to us. And there is a story about Lord Krishna, as a baby, that I love.*  
PB

Since 1990 Peggy Baker Dance Projects has taken dance into theatres, art galleries and public spaces; provided classes and training to young people, dance students, dance professionals and dance educators; and created engagement projects with community participants.

Next up: *who we are in the dark* / Feb 21 – 24 Canadian Stage. [peggybakerdance.com](http://peggybakerdance.com) / [@peggybakerdance](https://twitter.com/peggybakerdance)

## **Canada's Ballet Jörgen**

### *FAN DANCE*

**Choreography-** Bengt Jörgen

**Music -** "3 Thoughts" Einsturzende Neubauten

**Dancer:** Annelie Liliemark

About the Work: Fan Dance is based on the work by Brooklyn based Daniel Wurtzel, best known for kinetic sculptures and installations using air and lightweight materials that fly.

### *The Nutcracker: A Canadian Tradition (Loons Pas De Deux)*

**Choreography-** Bengt Jörgen

**Music -** Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

**Dancers –** Akari Fujiwara and Hiroto Saito

About the Work: Canada's ballet Jorgen's delightful re-working of the timeless classic is set in and around Algonquin Park in 1912 and features Trillium flowers, loons and other distinct Canadian representations replacing the traditional Nutcracker dances. Designed by award-winning designer Sue Lepage, the sets and costumes take audiences on a grand journey through northern landscapes filled with snowflakes, Mounties, raccoons, chipmunks, bears and other creatures of the woods.

### *Coppélia: A Comedy with Love (Act II Excerpt)*

**Choreography-** Bengt Jörgen

**Music-** Léo Delibes

**Dancers –** Hannah Mae Cruddas and Leandro Prado

About the Work: Currently touring across Canada, *Coppélia: A Comedy with Love* is a bold and entertaining ballet that takes us into the mind of the mysterious toymaker, Dr. Coppélius. CBJ's contemporary twist on this comedic classic makes Coppélia one of the company's most popular family productions.

### *The Nutcracker: A Canadian Tradition (Grand Pas De Deux)*

**Choreography—** Bengt Jörgen

**Dancers –** Momoka Matsui and Junior Gaspar Caballero

**About Canada's Ballet Jörgen:** Currently celebrating its 31th season, CBJ enriches our lives by bringing professional ballet to communities - large and small, urban and rural - across Canada. Known for the warmth and beauty of its productions, CBJ reaches every province, delivering more than 1,000 performances, ballet classes and community engagement events involving over 150,000 participants annually. Find out more at [www.canadasballetjorgen.ca](http://www.canadasballetjorgen.ca).