



# DanceWeekend'24

## DANCEONTARIO

**THIRTY YEARS OF DANCE**  
WITNESS A FEAST OF DANCE STYLES  
WITH OVER 300 ARTISTS!

**January 26 - 28, 2024**  
[danceontario.ca](http://danceontario.ca)

Photo by: Denise Grant

Fleck Dance Theatre Harbourfront  
+ Virtual events



Dancers: Cecilia Escobar, Valeria Chiappetta, Willem Sadler and Jaslyn Richards  
Photo credit: Canadian Contemporary Dance Theatre By David Hou

## 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.*

## DEDICATION

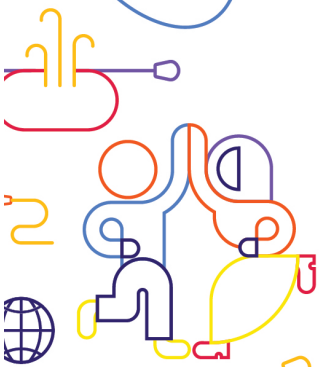
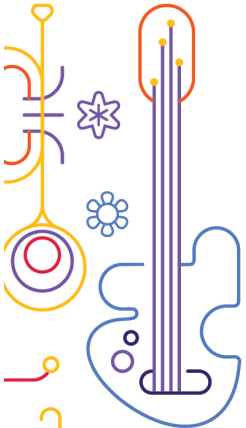
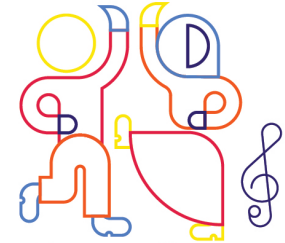
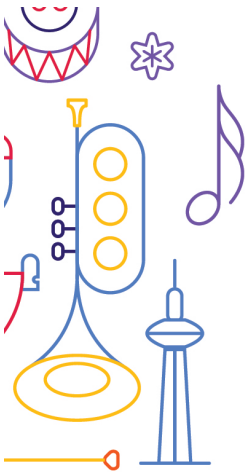
Dance Ontario would like to dedicate DanceWeekend'24 to Lola Ryan and Kate Lowe. In loving memory and recognition of their dedication and generosity to DanceWeekend, the Dance Ontario Board and to the dance community across this province. Both served on the board for over 15 years; their service is embedded into our accomplishments as we celebrate 30 years. Thank you for sharing the dance floor with us and may you forever dance in our hearts.

**+ [Click here to view Workshops.](#)**

**+ [Click here to view Friday dance events.](#)**

**+ [Click here to view Saturday dance events.](#)**

**+ [Click here to view Sunday dance events.](#)**



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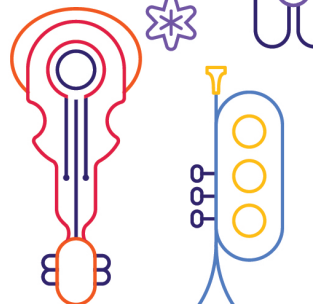
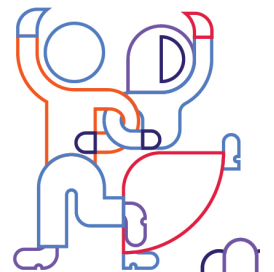
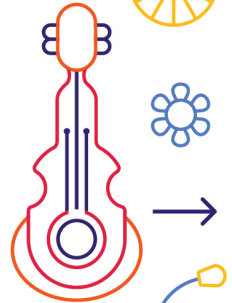
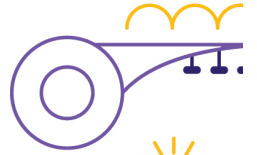
DANCING

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# Workshops

## **Beginner Flamenco with Esmeralda Enrique**

**Friday, January 26 at 5:30pm**

ONLINE over Zoom

Learn the basics of flamenco dance as we explore the rhythm of tangos flamencos. We will learn arm, hand and upper body movements coordinated with simple marking steps and some footwork.

ESMERALDA ENRIQUE is one of the most celebrated Flamenco dance artists in Canada. Lauded internationally as a choreographer and teacher, she founded the Academy of Spanish Dance in 1981 and the Esmeralda Enrique Spanish Dance Company in 1982, renowned for its innovation, versatility and artistic excellence.

## **Krump with Chris Locko/Man Inside**

**Saturday, January 27th at 11am**

ONLINE over Zoom and in person at the Fleck Dance Theatre, Upper Lobby Studio, Harbourfront

Krump dancer Chris Locko/Man Inside will share the history of Krump, his perspective on Krump, the foundation and the basics and in fact what is the Krump?

Chris Locko began his career in the Paris region, at Montfermeil, France (93), where he started and met one of the first French Krump groups in France « the Monstarz ». Chris travelled to New York to share with the Krumpers in the Bronx, meeting Tight Eyez and Mijo, the creators of Krump, and other emblematic figures of Californian Krump, Today he lives in Canada and continues to develop the krump in Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal.

## **Jazz Dance for Everyone with Joanne Baker**

**Sunday, January 28 at 11:00am**

ONLINE over Zoom and in person at the Fleck Dance Theatre, Upper Lobby Studio, Harbourfront

Through guided exploration, circle dances, and set choreography, participants will be encouraged to find their groove, release their preconceived ideas of jazz dance, and understand that jazz dance is for everybody!

After dancing and touring nationally with Decidedly Jazz Danceworks (DJD) for 7 seasons, Joanne moved into several administrative support roles for the organization including Artistic Assistant, Arts in Education Coordinator, Dance School Principal, and most recently, Artistic Outreach Associate. Teaching and sharing her love of jazz dance has been an integral part of Joanne's 30-year career.



# Friday January 26 | Film Screening

Available for viewing until February 9, 2024.

## Ever Since

### Dance Together Project/Dance Together Festival

**Concept and Choreography:** Katya Kuznetsova in collaboration with Tamara Verzhkhovska, Feliks Volodarskiy, Karina Maigur, Nikita Zeleniak, Olivia Flores, Remy Avalos

**Director of Photography/Editor:** Vitaliy Tovchiga

**Music “Gramophone” by** Eugene Doga

**Co-Producers:** Katya Kuznetsova and Roman Gubin Dance Together Project & Griffon Nest Productions

Katya Kuznetsova is a dance artist and producer with a focus on nurturing human connection and building community through dance. As the founder of the Dance Together Project, she creates dance with “non-dancers” in a way that embraces vulnerability, builds confidence and opens access to the joy of human connection. She develops and facilitates dance programs for adult learners, including mixed abilities dance programs for Wheel Dance, Canadian National Institute for the Blind, Sarah Elizabeth Centre, Sunnybrook Veterans Centre and various retirement communities in the GTA. Since 2019, together with several Toronto dance and visual artists, she has been co-producing the Dance Together Festival, which transforms city neighbourhoods through large scale dance floor murals and community dance workshops that celebrate positive and accessible dance experiences.

## Ritual Traces

### Nova Dance

**Director:** Ed Hanley

**Performer:** Nova Bhattacharya

Ed Hanley is a multi-dimensional artist – creator, performer, producer, photographer, cinematographer, recording engineer, video editor, educator, writer, and tabla player. “A remarkable player, both in his musical thoughtfulness and his technical virtuosity” (Halifax Chronicle Herald) \* Ed’s multimedia work embraces music, video and photography. Although best known as a practitioner of tabla, Ed’s recent work in the visual world (including over 100 music videos) expresses the same joy, dynamism, love of collaboration, and attention to detail as his years as a touring and recording musician. Nova Bhattacharya is an award-winning, barrier-breaking, artist and cultural leader based in Tkaronto. Her inspiration is found in identities, hybridities and diversities, manifesting creations that resonate with technical virtuosity and lush, vivid imagery. She’s always been a rebel reinterpreting traditions and reinventing rituals. In 2008, embracing the principle that if you build for the margins then everyone is included, she founded Nova Dance. Gaining increasing recognition as a vibrant cultural hub and a space for vital conversations the company serves community with kindness, compassion and generosity. Nova’s most recent choreography Svāhā! features a cast of 22 performers proficient in more than 29 dance forms currently practiced on Turtle Island. The epic work embodies her vision of a diversiform company where the perceived boundaries of culture and technique are dissolved and bodies from the margins are centered. Nova believes that dance expresses the essence of our humanity and has tremendous transformative power to bring us together.

# Friday January 26 | Film Screening

Available for viewing until February 9, 2024.

## Mist Me

### Kaeja d'Dance

In a moving painting, the artist searches for her 6-year old self, finding expansive flight in aging. Filmed on the traditional lands of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation Territory, South Bruce Peninsula. Concept, Director - Karen Kaeja Choreographer, Performer - Karen Kaeja Collaborative Director, Cinematographer - Section 1- Allen Kaeja Collaborative Director, Cinematographer - Sections 2 & 3 - Drew Berry Composer - Cheryl Ockrant Cellist - Cheryl Ockrant Pianist - Steve Koven Voice - Emma Thornton Ockrant Wardrobe - Karen Kaeja Creative Advisor - Drew Berry Creative Editing Advisor - Allen Kaeja Executive Producer - Karen Kaeja Producer - Kaeja d'Dance

Karen Kaeja (she/her) is a Tkaronto born Ashkenazi. An award-winning choreographer and performer for stage and film, project instigator and mentor, she "paints portraits with moving bodies" Toronto Star and is "the mastermind behind Porch View Dances" Toronto Star. Karen develops platforms for collaborative relationships between dancers, everyday people and the body. The heart of her research, choreography and critical writing for the past 30 years, concentrates on Touch, where the celebration of body memory as a living archive are in a continuous state of rebalancing. The heart of her research, choreography and critical writing for the past 30 years, concentrates on Touch, agency and body memory in a continuous state of rebalancing.

## 17

### Impetus Movement

**Choreography:** Dawson Lloyd

**Videographer:** Phil Kim

**Editor:** Phil Kim

**Filming Studio:** Eyes Studio Inc

**Music:** Eyries Jakob Ahlbom, Infiltrator- Christoffer Ditlevsen

**Wardrobe Design:** Dawson Lloyd

Dawson Lloyd is a Toronto based dancer, choreographer and teacher currently working. Dawson earned his BFA Degree from Toronto's Metropolitan University Dance Program and is now currently teaching at various drop in studios around the city such as The underground Dance Centre, Studio North Toronto. Dawson Has has the opportunity to showcase his work in shows such as 1234 Dance Arts, showcases and his own live and film performances. Dawson has recently founded his own dance company called Impetus Movement Dance Company which is a contemporary based dance company.

# Friday January 26 | Film Screening

Available for viewing until February 9, 2024.

## Soulful Serenade (Melanin's Anthem)

### Melanin Mosaic Performance Ensemble

**Artistic Director/Silk:** Jarid Polite

**Creative Director:** Rodney Thomas Jr.

**Dancer/Silk:** Nailah Renuka

**Vocal Performance:** Markus Moses Jackman

**Director Of Photography/Editor:** Braxton Wignall

**Still Photography:** Richard Reyes

**Technical Crew:** Chris Kennedy

**Jr Organ:** Willis Hickerson

**Post-Sound Engineer:** KR Moore

Jarid Polite, the artistic director and founder of the newly formed Melanin Mosaic Performance Ensemble, brings a wealth of experience to the world of contemporary art. Their deep-rooted passion for dance, film, music, production, and entertainment fuels their ability to create immersive performances that push boundaries and captivate audiences. With a diverse background spanning multiple artistic disciplines, Jarid's visionary leadership is poised to transform the marching arts landscape, a community that has profoundly shaped their life since the mid-nineties. Drawing from their own experiences as a BlaQueer artist, Jarid infuses their work with a powerful blend of personal storytelling and impactful social commentary. Under Jarid's exceptional guidance, the Melanin Mosaic Performance Ensemble is primed to deliver groundbreaking and thought-provoking productions that celebrate diversity, while fearlessly challenging societal norms.

## Voyage

### Candace Kumar

Written by Candace Kumar directed by Candace Kumar and Ian Simon cinematography by Ian Simon featuring Christal Bautista, Caitlyn Maramba, Jessica Noriel, Diana Reyes, Candace Kumar, Faye Roncesvalles-Eduave, Kaye Peñaflor music supplied by Epidemic Sound Funded by Mississauga Arts Council's MicroGrant Program through the support of RAMA Gaming House - Charitable Gaming at City of Mississauga

Candace Kumar is a Filipino/Indo-Fijian dance artist from Mississauga and based in Toronto. She specializes in Filipino folk dance, practicing diverse styles from all across the Philippines. Her work aims to reimagine traditional dance forms from the Canadian diaspora. She believes traditional dance is not an art form of the past but can guide us through the future as we navigate life on land that is not our ancestral home. Candace is a graduate of the University of Toronto and is currently an instructor and principal dancer for Folklorico Filipino Canada. Candace has worked with Little Pear Garden Dance Company, Anandam Dance Theatre, Nova Dance Company, Creativiva Entertainment, Nautanki Creations, HATAW, A La Una, Han Han and more. Some of her notable performances include the 2015 Pan Am and Parapan Am Games, Nuit Blanche, SummerWorks Festival, and international festivals in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Mexico, Alaska, and the Czech Republic.

# Friday January 26 | Film Screening

Available for viewing until February 9, 2024.

## Oracle

### Near&Far Projects

**Dancers:** Audrianna Martin del Campo, Lukas Malkowski, Bri Clarke, Judy Luo, Sebastian “Bash” Hirtenstein

**Choreography:** Tavia Christina

**Directors:** Daniel Stewart, Tavia Christina

**Score:** Brayden Krueger

**Director of Photography:** Nicholas Maiorano

Tavia Christina is a multi-hyphenate artist. They embrace their ethereal nature as a driving force in both their artistic expression and research. Their work touches genres between dance, theatre and performance art. As the Artistic Director of Near & Far Projects, their choreographic research and development are informed by improvisation, voice work, and a deep connection with their surrounding ecology. Their practice is based in somatic movement, improvisation, and spiritual endurance. They have a background in western contemporary dance training from Toronto Metropolitan University, as well as other mediums such as: curation, acting, poetry, and film. They have been a resident artist at the Toronto Heliconian Club 2019-2022, and Naked State 2018. Their film works have been screened at Guelph Dance Festival (Guelph, ON), Mile Zero Dance Festival (Edmonton, AB) and New Blue Dance Festival (Toronto, ON). They have presented work at The Museum (Hamilton, ON), Toronto Fringe Festival, The Citadel, Long Winter and Dance Makers.

## Bears Stars and Trees

### The Chimera Project

**Produced by:** The Chimera Project

**Directed by:** Malgorzata Nowacka-May

**Director of Photography:** Max Putintsev

**Camera Operator:** Vikas Vasu

**Editor:** Jonathan Lawley

**Choreography:** Malgorzata Nowacka-May In collaborations with dancers Arik Pipe and Sarah Koekkoek

**Additional Choreography:** Arik Pipe

**Rehearsal Director:** Jeffrey Baker

**Dancers:** Arik Pipe, Elizabeth Gagnon

**Cultural Advisor:** Arik Pipe **Original**

**Concept development:** Donna Hilsinger, Shirley Horn, Malgorzata Nowacka-May

**Music composed by:** Nick Dyer and Eric Cadesky

**Sound Design:** Nick Dyer, Eric Cadesky, Malgorzata Nowacka-May

The Chimera Project is a renowned contemporary dance company led by founding artistic director Malgorzata Nowacka-May. It was established in 1999 to create and produce original dance and learning and mentorship opportunities. Described as the “most exciting” and “most original in Canada” (The Globe and Mail), Chimera’s works have garnered accolades including Top 10 performances of the year in The Globe and Mail, Toronto Star, NOW, and FASHION.

# Friday January 26 | Film Screening

Available for viewing until February 9, 2024.

## Surviving Silence

Fareh Malik

**Writer, Narrator:** Fareh Malik,


**Director:** Ian Simon

**Producer:** Safa Ali

Fareh Malik is a BIPOC artist from Hamilton, Ontario, as well as a seasoned spoken word poet and established author. Fareh was named the 2022 RBC PEN Canada New Voices Award winner and a 2022 Chalmers Art Fellow. He was the winner of Hamilton Art's Shirley Elford Prize, The 2022 October Project Poetry Award, and MH Canada's 2020 Poetry Contest. Fareh's debut book *Streams That Lead Somewhere* was published in 2022 with Mawenzi House Publishers and was listed for the Gerald Lampert Memorial Award. Fareh was named a finalist for the 2021 Best of the Net anthology, a finalist for TWUC's Prose Competition, and was honoured with the 2021 Garden Project grant to explore interdisciplinary work. Fareh has taken his writing into the spaces of dance and theatre, with *The Uncomfortable Project*, *Bodies of Nature*, and so forth, as well as into film, with Ian Simon's *LAOAG* for the Toronto Raptors, and his brand new short film *Surviving Silence*. Fareh's projects have also branched into the field of visual arts, with his new project *Listening in Colour*. Fareh hopes to continue making a positive impact in his community through his words and initiatives.

CANADIAN CONTEMPORARY DANCE THEATRE  
artistic director DEBORAH LUNDMARK

2024/25  
COMPANY AND APPRENTICE DANCERS



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MAR 3 | AGES 14 – 19

AUDITIONS

CANADIAN CONTEMPORARY DANCE THEATRE  
artistic director DEBORAH LUNDMARK

SUNDANCE



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Presented in association with the Royal Academy of Dance, SunDance is the only summer intensive in the world to combine RAD Ballet and Limón Modern.



# Friday January 26 | Film Screening

Available for viewing until February 9, 2024.

## COME DANCE WITH US 2024

### Dance Ontario Community

**Choreography:** Yvonne Ng

**Editor:** Olya Glotka

**Music:** Captain Joz - Look at that Instrumental

**Performers:** Alexandra Minakova, Abbey Hanson, Julianna Greco, Zada Britton, Jaala Prescod, Amy Hampton, Charlie Mann- Hampton, Henri Mann-Hampton

Born and raised in Singapore, Yvonne Ng|黄碧琬, B.F.A., M.A., is choreographer and artistic director of tiger princess dance projects (TPDP). TPDP's repertoire includes Yvonne's works and commissioned works. Creating original roles for Bill James, José Navas, Dominique Dumais, Marie-Josée Chartier, Stephanie Skura, Deborah Hay and Tedd Robinson, TPDP has toured to Singapore, Europe, Australia, China, Canada and the USA. Yvonne is also a certified Open Source Forms© and Dance for Dementia (Baycrest NBS Sharing Dance) teacher with training in Partners for Youth Empowerment, Dance for PD™ and functional anatomy with Irene Dowd. A recipient of 2022 Walter Carsen Prize for Excellence in Performing Arts, 2017 Muriel Sherrin Award, Jacqueline Lemieux Award, K.M. Hunter Artist Award, New Pioneers Arts Award, Chalmers Arts Fellowship, Soulepepper's Community Artist Award and Ontario Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts – New Talent.

As a full time cinematographer, Olya Glotka has worked on documentary projects for National Geographic Society and commercial projects for brands like Sunwilike Sunwing Vacations, Petro Canada, Kleinfeld, TD Bank and many more.ng Vacations, Petro Canada, Kleinfeld, TD Bank and many more

As a dance filmmaker and music video director, Olya worked with many international artists. Her work won awards at international film festivals and has over 100 thousand views on social media. She is driven by the power of storytelling to shift stories and affect social change. She is most inspired by movement and human connection.

## Looking Back At 30 Years Of Danceweekend

### Dance Ontario

**Video and Editing:** Olya Glotka

**Interviews:** Mimi Beck, Rosslyn Jacob Edwards, Yasmina Ramzy, Deborah Lundmark, Amy Hampton, Charlie Mann-Hampton

Featuring archival footage of DanceWeekend performances over the years.

## DanceWeekend Discussion

### Hosted by Samara Thompson

With artists Nova Bhattacharya, Candace Kumar and Malgorzata Nowacka-May. Our DanceWeekend Discussion, hosted by Samara Thompson, will look at the journey of creating a dance film. Hear the candid stories of successes and pitfalls directly from creators and artists!

# Saturday January 27 | Mainstage Performances

## Sacred Dances

### Ritmo Flamenco

**Choreographer:** Anjelica Scannura, Valerie Scannura

**Music:** Roger Scannura

**Dancers:** Anjelica Scannura, Valerie Scannura

**Lighting Design:** Arun Srinivasan

Sacred Dances is an homage to the original flamenco enclaves in Andalusia, Spain where flamenco is performed in intimate places also known as “cathedrals” of flamenco.

No family lives the flamenco tradition more fully than the Scannuras. They are Canada’s preeminent flamenco family, pursuing their art form with authenticity and excellence. Since 1995 they have enthralled audiences in dance and music festivals worldwide in venues across North America, Europe and the Middle East. Renowned flamenco guitarist and composer Roger Scannura has recorded over 11 CD’s of original flamenco music. Artistic Director Valerie Scannura has received acclaim for her numerous self-produced concerts and directs their school that is their training ground. Their award-winning daughter Anjelica Scannura has numerous film credits while performing dance internationally. Together, they have received acclaim for their passion and originality, garnering rave reviews for their authentic brand of flamenco that is “bred in the bone”.

**Website & Social Handles:** [www.ritmoflamenco.net](http://www.ritmoflamenco.net) [www.rogerscannura.ca](http://www.rogerscannura.ca)  
@valritmo @ritmoflam17

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**2024**

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# Saturday January 27 | Mainstage Performances

## Life Under My Skin

Newton Moraes Dance Theatre

**Choreographer:** Newton Moraes

**Music:** Edgardo Moreno

**Lighting Designer:** Sharon Digenova

**Dancers/Performers:** Maggie Armstrong, Emilio Colalillo, Rumi Jeraj, Aryana Malekzadeh, Jianna Neufeld, Alexander Herrera, Derek Souvannavong.

Life Under My Skin is an exploration of how artists deal with doubt, depression, worth and everything related how our body, image and inside of ourselves. Choreographed by renowned creator Newton Moraes, the piece examines what artists do to survive—taking on jobs and tasks that are far from the glamour of being artist, while posing the questions: Why do we do this? Why do we create art? Why do we dance? Created in collaboration with lighting designer Sharon DiGenova, composer Edgardo Moreno, and the performers, it is an imagistic tapestry of human expression, and bring together Toronto's most talented dance artists.

Newton Moraes Dance Theatre is a company dedicated to the creation, performance and production of contemporary dance works to explore, maintain and develop the links between the arts of Canada and Latin America. Newton Moraes Dance Theatre had toured in Canada and internationally to public and critical acclaim. Life Under My Skin is created with the support from Toronto Arts Council, Ontario Arts Council and Canada Council for the arts.



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# Saturday January 27 | Mainstage Performances

## Surrendered Spirits

**CinnaMoon Collective**

**Presented with dance Immersion**

**Co-Commission by Curatorial and Producing Partners, dance Immersion and Kaeja d'Dance.**

**Choreographer:** Nickeshia Garrick and Irma Villafuerte

**Dramaturgy:** Dedra McDermott

**Music:** Viktor Kei

**Designers:** CinnaMoon Collective

**Dancers/Performers:** Nickeshia Garrick and Irma Villafuerte

'Surrendered Spirits' is influenced and inspired by the impact of familial displacement and our upbringing as children of racialized, marginalized and immigrant families.

This work encompasses the relationship of two femme, queer black and brown women who face each other seeking to heal the inherited ancestral and familial wounds. They find support in their sisterhood and the power of collective care.

This presentation is a work in progress and excerpt of a full-length work.

CinnaMoon Collective is founded by Irma Villafuerte and Nickeshia Garrick, a Central American and Afro-Caribbean contemporary dance duo that is dedicated to reclaiming and honouring ancestral stories from a decolonial perspective, with the mission to ignite collective healing and recontextualize identity through the lens of black, indigenous and racialized femme presenting queer bodies. We are committed to forming part of the movement that is dedicated to magnifying the voices that have been silenced and erased. We aim to share works that reach our audiences and communities on a human level.

**Website & Social handles:** [www.cinnamooncollective.com](http://www.cinnamooncollective.com) @cinnamoon.collective  
[info@cinnamooncollective.com](mailto:info@cinnamooncollective.com)

dance Immersion is a charitable non-profit organization established by Vivine Scarlett in 1994 to produce, promote, and support dancers and dances of the African Diaspora\*. Our award-winning programs offer presentation, artistic skill development, and networking opportunities for Blacks in dance, serving artists who practice contemporary and traditional movement forms from Africa, the Caribbean, North America, South America, and Europe. With decades in service, dance Immersion experiences considerable success in connecting dance artists across Canada and around the world. Vision: To bring opportunity and inspiration through dance. Mission: dance Immersion advances and connects communities through producing, promoting, and supporting dancers and dances of the African Diaspora. We provide our services via three interconnected platforms: • Presentation of dance works to the public • Incubation of choreography by emerging and established artists • Education for artists and communities of all ages.

**Website & Social handle:** [www.danceimmersion.ca](http://www.danceimmersion.ca) @danceimmersion



## Saturday January 27 | Mainstage Performances

### following

#### The Creative School, Toronto Metropolitan University

**Choreographer:** Alysa Pires in collaboration with the dancers

**Music:** Clint Mansell, Hauschka & Hildur Guðnadóttir, Louis Armstrong, Vivaldi

**Designers:** Lighting - Gabriel Cropley, Costumes - Hannah Marie Dulong

**Dancers/Performers:** Maya Collie, Andrew Clifton, Nadia Dardano, Emily Gratton, Alexandra McChesney, Marisa Sherk, Kathleen Wishart, Demetri Apostolopoulos, Szezelem Dutton, Meredith Gaston, Shona Kiyama, Zoe Knipfel, Natasja Macdonald, Julia Mak, Emma Searles, Leon Shvaitser

I am fascinated by cult groups and religious fanaticism. In the name of community, belonging, and a larger purpose, our individual moral codes can easily dissolve. This work explores the power of the group and the abandoning of personal responsibility.

For the School:

Dance at The Creative School is the most intensive and comprehensive program of its kind in Canada, earning international respect within the industry. Students in this conservatory-style program receive rigorous training in multiple forms of dance, including ballet, modern, contemporary, jazz, West African, street styles and partnering. This core training is combined with classes in improvisation, composition, music, acting, film and other creative practices. With plenty of opportunities to collaborate and perform with highly acclaimed guest artists and arts organizations, students gain the experience necessary to build a successful career as a performer, choreographer, educator and more.

**Website:** [www.torontomu.ca/performance](http://www.torontomu.ca/performance)





# Saturday January 27 | Mainstage Performances

## Dance Ontario Creative Partnerships Commissions

The Dance Ontario Creative Partnerships Program Dance Ontario's Creative Partnership Program provides production/creation support to two choreographers for NEW work to be premiered at DanceWeekend each January.

**Commissioning Committee:** Jennifer Watkins, Lola Ryan, Yasmina Ramzy

### She of ten thousand names

**Madeleine Twyman**

**Choreographer:** Madeleine Twyman

**Original music composed and written by:** Patrick Bardos

**Costumes/Styling:** Madeleine Twyman

**Dancers:** Safiyah Brito, Daisy Leach, Emma Leach, Olivia Myers, Nicholas Zupanic

**Lighting Design:** Arun Srinivasan

\*This work is intended for mature audiences as there is some light swearing in it

SHE OF TEN THOUSAND NAMES is a meditation on the Divine feminine, called by many names for all traditions recognize Her. (SOTTN) is an abstract narrative presented in three stages based on Nietzsche's parable of the lion, the camel and the child. This work explores themes stemming from the silent messaging that permeates our collective feminine consciousness in 2024.

Investigating life's nuances through the multiplex lens of the feminine narrative, Madeleine is curious about creating multi-dimensional work that floats effortlessly between social commentary and the metaphysical alike; specifically in relationship to myth and collective culture. Madeleine Twyman is a Canadian Dancer, Choreographer and Educator, Artistic Director of The Blue Institute, co-founder of The Durham School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance and a single Mother of two. Receiving her post-secondary education at The Ailey School and The Martha Graham School in New York City, Madeleine has worked with many Dance Companies including The Martha Graham Ensemble, Forces of Nature Dance Theatre of Harlem and Creative Outlet Dance Theatre of Brooklyn. Her work has been presented throughout Ontario, New York City, Montreal, Orlando and Los Angeles.

**Website:** [www.madeleinetwyman.com](http://www.madeleinetwyman.com)

# Saturday January 27 | Mainstage Performances

## Manifestations

**BaKari I. Lindsay**

**Choreographer:** BaKari I. Lindsay

**Music:** Ndere Adeifa Nimon (Nimon Music)

**Designers:** BaKari Lindsay

**Dancers/Performers:** BaKari Lindsay (Understudy Michael Mortley)

**Lighting Design:** Arun Srinivasan

Manifestations; Within each soul resides a cosmos of sensations and emotions, a tapestry woven with unspoken dreams longing to be born. Movement, the gentle dance of expression, acts as the bridge between our inner world and the outer, nurturing healing, embracing self, and weaving threads of empathy. “Manifestation” breathes life into renewal, unveils the path to self-discovery, and constructs anew through the canvas of physical exploration.

BaKari Ifasegun Lindsay, has been perfecting his crafts for over 40 years, and excels across diverse artistic realms. His mastery spans dance, singing, music, costume design, and research. With a rich educational background from York University—holding a craftsman diploma in Style and Design, a Master’s in Dance Ethnology, and a Bachelor’s in Education—BaKari pioneered “A-Feeree, The Physical Language” an innovative dance method for Africanist movement. Co-founding COBA Collective Of Black Artists, performing globally, and crafting acclaimed works for stage and film, his journey reflects a lifelong commitment to artistic excellence and cultural reverence. Presently a vice-principal, he ardently champions equity and arts education within the Toronto District School Board.

**Website:** [www.afeeree.com](http://www.afeeree.com) **Instagram:** @BaKariIlf

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/bakari.lindsay](http://www.facebook.com/bakari.lindsay)

## Jit / Movement

**Mi Young Kim Dance Company**

**Choreographer:** Mi Young Kim

**Music:** Traditional Korean

**Dancers/Performers:** Hyang Ok Kim, Eun Ji Kim, Jeffrey Chang, 8 core members of the MYK DC

“Jit” showcases a variety of traditional Korean Dances, including the Seol Janggo, Arirang Fatazy, Kkalchum, Kkwaenggwari dance, and Creative Korean Fan Dance.

Mi Young Kim Dance Company is an award-winning professional dance group that harmonize traditional and contemporary Korean styles. It’s dedicated to its founder’s vision to preserve and spread awareness of the rich Korean heritage, while achieving artistic excellence and commitment to creativity influenced by Canadian culture in line with the times.

**Website:** [www.koreandance.net](http://www.koreandance.net)

**Facebook:** @kdssc, **Instagram:** @thekoreandancestudies,

**YouTube:** The Korean Dance Studies Society of Canada

# AGRIMONY

*Choreography by  
Sophie Dow &  
Music by Laura  
Rezek*



# SOFT

*Choreography by  
Malgorzata  
Nowacka-May  
Music by Eric  
Cadesky*



# UNCLEARING

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**THE CHIMERA  
PROJECT**  
DANCE THEATRE



# Saturday January 27 | Mainstage Performances

## Hikidashi

ten ten + kiyo

**Choreographer:** Kiyoko Asaoka

**Music:** Aki Takahashi (ten ten)

**Dancers/Performers:** Aki Takahashi (ten ten), Heidi Chan (ten ten), Kiyoko Asaoka

'Hikidashi' which means 'drawers' was a project that Aki and Kiyoko worked on to feel each other's rhythm, melody and flow in motions and music in each other's art form, and to create material and put it in our hikidashi.

'ten ten + kiyo' collaborates Japanese traditional music and Spanish art form flamenco. ten ten sings Japanese traditional folk songs and plays Japanese traditional musical instruments such as Shamisen (string) and Taiko (drum). Kiyoko is the flamenco dancer. The creation from the collaboration is new yet traditional. Their mission is to showcase how beautifully the two completely different art forms from two different countries can come together.

**Website and social handles:** For ten ten - [www.tentencanada.com](http://www.tentencanada.com)

**For Kiyoko - Facebook:** [kiyo.asaoka](https://www.facebook.com/kiyo.asaoka), Instagram: [@kiyoasaoka](https://www.instagram.com/kiyoasaoka)

## The Legend of Chang'e, Immortal Goddess of the Moon

Little Pear Garden Dance Company with Phoenix Ensemble

**Choreographer:** Emily Cheung

**Music:** Erhu - Patty Chan, Harp - Sanya Eng, Guzheng - Lina Cao, Vibraphone - Ryan Scott

**Dancers/Performers:** Chang'e - Jessica Gomes, Hou Yi and Peng Meng - Zachary Cardwell

The Legend of the Immortal Moon Goddess Chang'e is a retelling of the tale upon which the annual Mid-Autumn Festival is based. Through music, dance, and narration you will be transported to a world of power, passion, greed, sacrifice, and eternal love.

Inspired by the rich and diverse tapestry of Chinese dance vocabularies, Little Pear Garden Dance Company has created an acclaimed and powerful body of work that encompasses both classical and contemporary productions, warmly received by audiences of all ages and cultures.

The Company is actively involved in many projects of dance development and promotion and has enjoyed a consistent presence in festivals, performing seasons and tours. Since 2013 the company has toured nation-wide and performed more than 200 shows in various venues and locations, and reached more than 76,000 audiences. The Company continues to tour annually.

**Website:** [www.littlepeargarden.com](http://www.littlepeargarden.com) [www.phoenixensemble.com/projects](http://www.phoenixensemble.com/projects)

# Saturday January 27 | Mainstage Performances

## uncoupling

Nina Milanovski

**Choreographer:** Nina Milanovski

**Music/Composer:** Jane Berry

**Designers:** Costume Designer: Aaliyah Sundar

**Dancers/Performers:** Victoria Gubiani & Paige Sayles

uncoupling follows a complex relationship between two women, punctuated with beautiful moments of intimacy and their eventual breaking apart. By examining the highs and lows of a relationship the dancers perform the truth that exists behind closed doors: the vulnerability, pleasure, and pain of relationships.

Nina Milanovski is a producer and choreographer in Toronto. A graduate of the York University Dance program, Nina specialized in choreography and performance. As the 2021 Artist in Residence for Good Women Collective, Nina developed "uncoupling", a duet that explores the unraveling of a romantic relationship between two women. As part of DanceWork's 2021 CoWorks series, Nina produced and choreographed 12 short dance films that were configured in a "Choose Your Own Adventure" interactive format. Looking forward, Nina is excited to develop new presentation opportunities that prioritize experimentation and the development of queer art.

**Social handle:** @ninamilanovski



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Photo Denise Grant

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# Saturday January 27 | Mainstage Performances

## Fan Dance

### Ballet Jörgen

**Choreography:** Bengt Jörgen

**Music:** 3 Thoughts by  
Einsturzende Neubauten

**Dancer:** Márcio Teixeira

## There Were TWO Excerpts

### Ballet Jörgen

**Choreography:** Katlyn Addison

**Music:** Jonathan Sanford

**Costume Design:** David Heuvel

**Dancers:** Esther Zignaigo & Leandro Prado,  
Ana Zamora & Daniel Da Silva

## Two & Three

### Ballet Jörgen

**Choreography:** Hanna Kiel

**Music:** Nocturne in C sharp Minor (No.20) by Frédéric Chopin

**Dancers:** Lydia-Laure Germain, Adam Davidson, Adrián Ramírez Juárez, Callum McGregor  
Nutcracker Excerpt- Loons

**Choreography:** Bengt Jörgen

**Music:** Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

**Costume Design:** Sue LePage

**Dancers:** Ana Zamora, Leandro Prado

For 37 years Jörgen Dance has brought the joy of dance to countless individuals, families, and communities across Canada and beyond. While we are firmly rooted in our history as an exceptional professional ballet company, we have grown to be so much more! Today we offer a wide range of training and community programs across many dance styles to ensure dance is truly accessible for all Canadians. Whether you are looking to attend a performance, learn to dance, or engage with the arts for the first time; there is something for you under the Jörgen Dance umbrella. You will be welcomed, educated, entertained, and be a respected member of our in-person and virtual community. As an organization we genuinely believe in our motto Dance for All.

**Website:** [www.Jorgendance.ca](http://www.Jorgendance.ca)

**Facebook:** [jorgendance](https://www.facebook.com/jorgendance)

**Instagram:** [jorgendance](https://www.instagram.com/jorgendance)

**Twitter:** [jorgendance](https://twitter.com/jorgendance)

## Audience Activation with Alan Faigal/Culture Shock Canada

Through structured hip hop inspired dance-based education and enrichment programs for children/youth and community, Culture Shock Canada Charity (CSCC) addresses issues of social isolation & self-esteem, and builds relational, teamwork, and leadership skills.

Dance Weekend Audience Activator is Alan Faigal from CSCC. Alan is a passionate, energetic, intuitive, empathetic, dancer, mentor, movement specialist, and bookworm who inspires and motivates.

**Website:** [www.cultureshockcanadacharity.org](http://www.cultureshockcanadacharity.org)

# Sunday January 28 | Mainstage Performances

## Strive

### Jade's Hip Hop Academy Performance Company

**Choreographer:** Jade Jager Clark

**Dancers:** Awina M. Alexandra B. Allen R. Aaliyah R. Cassius F. Cruz F. Cheyanne CC. Ella D. Giada D. Jada W. Kiara WB. Kaileyah L. Oneesa G. Olivia W. Rossi D. Shaumiga R. Shyla N. Sahara N. Sophie CM. Valeriya T. Victoria S. Xavier W. Zion RY. Zahriya C.

**Musical Artists:** Rihanna, Aqua, Mark Ronson, Andrew Wyatt, Nicki Minaj, Ice Spice, Todrick Hall, Dua Lipa, Beyonce, Drake, J Cole, Kenichi Kasamatsu, Armani White, Maestro Fresh Wes, Logic, M.I.A, TroyBoi, Aaliyah, Aliyah's Interlude, Skrillex, Missy Elliot and Joe Budden

**Music Compilation Production:** Jade Jager Clark with special credit to Edz Gyamfi creator of Barbie themed Master Mix

Jade's Hip Hop Academy Performance Company (JHHA PC) is an internationally renowned dance company specializing in preserving, teaching and performing authentic Hip Hop and Street Dance Styles. The company is located in Brampton, Canada and was founded in 2006 by 18yr old Jade Jager Clark. JHHA PC's impressive reputation has landed them on Ellen DeGeneres, features on all major Canadian media/TV channels from CTV to Breakfast Television from YTV to TVO Kids. They are the current provider of Half Time Shows and Jr. Dance Teams for MLSE. Unique in its focus on Youth, JHHA continues to prove young people can achieve incredible feats when given the chance and platform to do so. The company's main aim is to make a difference and create calls to action by raising awareness about world and social issues through dance.

**Website:** [www.jadeshiphopacademy.com](http://www.jadeshiphopacademy.com)

**Social media:** [www.instagram.com/jadeshiphopacad](https://www.instagram.com/jadeshiphopacad)

[www.facebook.com/jadeshiphopacad?mibextid=ZbWKwL](https://www.facebook.com/jadeshiphopacad?mibextid=ZbWKwL)

Twitter @jadeshiphopacad

## Oron'ónhta – Beings of Light

### Kaha:wi Dance Theatre

**Director/Choreographer/Designer/Dancer:** Santee Smith

**Dancers:** Irma Villafuerte, Katie Couchie, Nickeshia Garrick

**Composition:** Fall from Skyworld: Donald Quan featuring instrumentation by David R. Maracle and vocals by Semiah Smith

**Sunflower Dance:** Adrian Dion Harjo featuring recorded singer/songwriters Semiah Smith and Pura Fe

**Seed Carriers:** Semiah Smith with arrangement by Donald Quan

**Pottery:** Steven T. Smith

**Company Sponsors:** Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council, Toronto Arts Council

## Sunday January 28 | Mainstage Performances

### Oron'ónhta – Beings of Light (Cont.)

**Kaha:wi Dance Theatre**

Oron'ónhta (O-lun ' un-da) means sunflower in Kanyen'kéha. Smith's vision for Oron'ónhta - Beings of Light is to celebrate our kinship to non-human entities, to extend greetings, love, and respect to nature, to embody the journey of their life-giving energies. In 2021, Santee planted a 360 Sunflower stage at Talking Earth Studio and Gardens, Six Nations. Each season the work in the land and Sunflower stage inspires dancers to embody the seed journey which is inspired by the Rotinonhsión:ni - Creation Story and interconnection to the web of life, dancing alignments with Indigenous metaphysics and horticultural practices.

**Website:** [www.kahawidance.org](http://www.kahawidance.org)

**Social media:** @kahawidance, @santeesmith

### A Sonata of Shadows

**Canadian Contemporary Dance Theatre**

**Choreographer:** Hanna Kiel

**Original Music:** Adam Campbell

**Lighting Designer:** Arun Srinivasan

**Costumes Designer:** Aaliyah Sundar

**Rehearsal Director:** Steph Harkness

**Dancers/Performers:** Akin Mponjika, Ayla Vandenberg, Eva Teece-Soter, Isabel Dela Cruz, Jamarie William, Larissa Christoff, Marie-Elena LeBlanc Bellissimo, Naomi Tyson, Sanora Souphommanychanh, Shaina Momeni, Tessa Ziemba Lee, Tristyn Murray, Zada Britton, Zoe Houpt

**Understudies:** Lucy Dolenko, Mia Vogel-Alexiou, Tallis Coleman

Created for CCDT's annual celebration of the winter solstice, Sonata connects the season's seemingly endless and lengthening darkness with the lingering despair that challenges in our lives can bring. Her work seeks the enduring beauty that facing and surmounting these challenges can reveal.

Canadian Contemporary Dance Theatre is a Toronto based repertory company of exceptional next-generation artists founded in 1980 by Artistic Director Deborah Lundmark and Managing Director Michael deConinck Smith. Highlights include appearances at Toronto's Princess of Wales and Royal Alexandra Theatres, five invitations to the Canada Dance Festival and tours to Singapore, Malaysia, China, Scotland and NYC. The company has inspired more than 350,000 young people, from Sioux Lookout to Lion's Head, through its Arts Access Ontario tours and has been featured at both Fall For Dance North, Toronto's premiere international dance festival, and Harbourfront Centre's inaugural International Junior Festival.

**Website:** [www.ccdt.org](http://www.ccdt.org)

**Instagram:** [www.instagram.com/ccdtcompany](https://www.instagram.com/ccdtcompany)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/CanadianContemporaryDanceTheatre](https://www.facebook.com/CanadianContemporaryDanceTheatre)

## Sunday January 28 | Mainstage Performances



### **Jacquie Foesier Youth Dance Award Presentation** **2023 Recipient: Tristyn Murray**

Tristyn Murray is a talented young contemporary dancer, currently attending Regional Arts Program at Cawthra Park SS and performing with Canadian Contemporary Dance Theatre in their 2023/24 season. In addition to being a member of the Oakville Academy for the Arts award-winning competitive dance team, Tristyn helps inspire children who are recipients of Jump Start, Big Brothers/Sisters and the Pinball Clemons Foundation for at Risk Youth funding at the After School Program.

This annual award seeks to recognize exceptional young dancers ages 19 & under who are not only pursuing excellence in their craft but go above and beyond making a difference in the lives of others and/or contributing to the dance community. The Award is named after Jacquie Foesier, long-time Dance Ontario Board member and dedicated dance teacher who made significant contributions to the dance community in the province.

**Awards Committee:** Emily Cheung, Newton Moraes, Jennifer Watkins

## Sunday January 28 | Mainstage Performances

### The 4th Pyramid

#### Yasmina Ramzy Arts

**Choreographer:** Yasmina Ramzy

**Music:** Oum Kalthoum Montage by Arabesque Orchestra (Palestinian musicians)

**Arrangement & Lead Vocals:** Bassam Bishara

**Designers:** Yasser Abd El Rahmon

**Dancers/Performers:** Christina Djokoto, Leanna MndI, Katy Solo, Anastassia Lada, Rhythm Vekariya, Sofia Filipe, Isabel Kaim Onofre, Sarah Mayne, Ashley DeVos, Jennifer Tether, Gretchen Clare, Stacie Noel

“The Voice of Egypt”, “Lady of Arabic Song” and “Egypt’s Fourth Pyramid” are some of the many titles given to the icon of Arabic music, Oum Kalthoum. Originally staged in 2010 at Fleck Dance Theatre with live musicians, today’s performance represents sections of that choreography.

Yasmina Ramzy Arts (formerly Arabesque Canada) performs Raqs Sharqi (Middle Eastern Dance) since 1987. Since then, the company has performed in Jordan, Syria, Greece, USA and across Canada while director Yasmina Ramzy has taught and performed in more than 70 cities around the world. The company’s mission is to share the rich dance and music arts of the Middle East in an effort to dispel common misconceptions. This will be the 25th year YRA has performed at Dance Ontario Dance Weekend. The core eight Toronto company members are joined by four YRA dance artists from Washington DC and Grand Rapids, Michigan.

**Website:** [www.YasminaRamzyArts.com](http://www.YasminaRamzyArts.com)

**Facebook:** @yraperformance

**Instagram:** @yra.performance

**Twitter:** yra.performance



## Sunday January 28 | Mainstage Performances

### heat death

Lucy Rupert

**Choreographer:** Lucy Rupert

**Music:** excerpts from William Basinski's "Distintegration Loops"

**Dancers/Performers:** Lucy Rupert

heat death is inspired by Dr. Katie Mack's book "The End of Everything (astrophysically speaking)". This improvised solo responds to the sound, light and temperature of the theatre and the heat death model of the end of the universe.

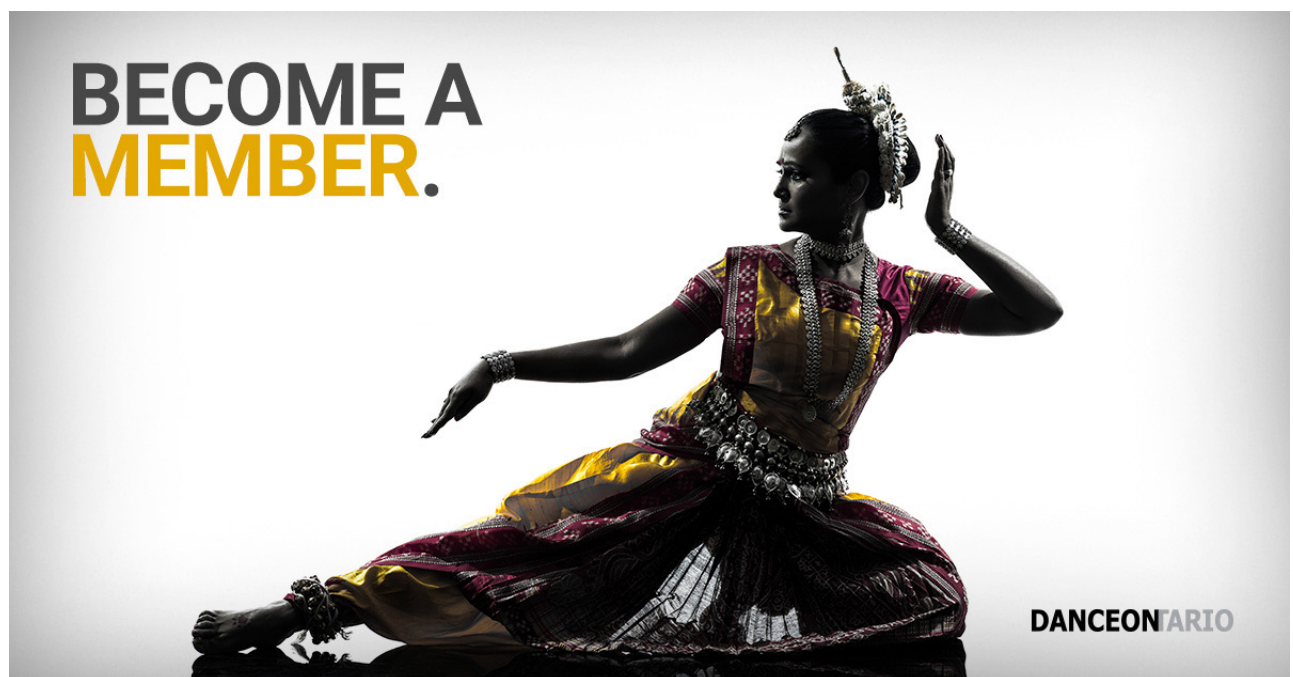
Blue Ceiling dance embraces environmentalism, imagination, interconnectivity, passion, and quirk to peer into the mysterious corners of the universe. We make works about the natural systems of our planet and the universe, collaborating with researchers in many fields to bring abstract concepts into human form. We work with intergenerational casts of performers from a range of backgrounds to create contemporary dance, where contemporary isn't a technique, but an expansive, inclusive, and imaginative approach. We aim to spark compassion and curiosity, celebrating the mystery of discovery through rigorous and dynamic dance created for theatrical, site-specific, and intimate performance settings.

**Website:** [www.blueceilingdance.com](http://www.blueceilingdance.com)

**Instagram:** @blueceilingdance

**Facebook:** /BlueCeilingDance

**Blog:** [blueceilingdancer.blogspot.com](http://blueceilingdancer.blogspot.com)



## Sunday January 28 | Mainstage Performances

### Entre las tormentas de la vida (amongst the storms of life)

¡Arte Flamenco!

**Choreographer:** Elena la Comadre

**Music:** Flamenco (traditional)

**Dancers:** Sonia Bibershtein, Yurika Hinkle, Jonathan de la Cruz, Rosalie Thenor- Louis, Deborah Casado, Elena la Comadre

**Flamenco guitarist:** Jose Vega, **Flamenco Singer:** Gina Tantalo

A tapestry of traditional Flamenco beginning with intense dances - Granainas and Martinete. Guitarist Jose Vega weaves in his interpretation of Peteneras - cantes and rhythms that symbolize 'the storms in one's life'. The presentation ends on a lively note with a Bulerias de Cadiz.

Elena la Comadre is the artistic director for ¡Arte Flamenco! Originally formed to represent Spain during the CNE's 'Say Si to Spain'. From its conception in 1990, her goal was to present Flamenco dance keeping in the style of traditional Flamenco. In the late 90's, ¡Arte Flamenco! embraced the idea of Flamenco dance theatre – whereby means of the dance, cante, guitar, and poetry – a story was portrayed. Themes that were chosen were profound in nature rooted in human experience. Mid years of 2000 marked a transition for La Comadre where she placed more focus on the school. From 2008 to 2019 her school presented annual concerts with tremendous success. The Covid years of 2020-22 marked yet another major transition for her. With school doors closing, this isolation period propelled her to go inward rediscovering herself as a now much older and more wounded dancer striving to express her individuality through dance.

**Website and social handles:** [www.arteflamenco.com](http://www.arteflamenco.com)



# Sunday January 28 | Mainstage Performances

## Dance Ontario Creative Partnerships Commissions

The Dance Ontario Creative Partnerships Program Dance Ontario's Creative Partnership Program provides production/creation support to two choreographers for NEW work to be premiered at DanceWeekend each January.

**Commissioning Committee:** Jennifer Watkins, Lola Ryan, Yasmina Ramzy

### She of ten thousand names

**Madeleine Twyman**

**Choreographer:** Madeleine Twyman

**Original music composed and written by:** Patrick Bardos

**Costumes/Styling:** Madeleine Twyman

**Dancers:** Safiyah Brito, Daisy Leach, Emma Leach, Olivia Myers, Nicholas Zupanic

**Lighting Design:** Arun Srinivasan

\*This work is intended for mature audiences as there is some light swearing in it

SHE OF TEN THOUSAND NAMES is a meditation on the Divine feminine, called by many names for all traditions recognizer Her. (SOTTN) is an abstract narrative presented in three stages based on Nietzsche's parable of the lion, the camel and the child. This work explores themes stemming from the silent messaging that permeates our collective feminine consciousness in 2024.

Investigating life's nuances through the multiplex lens of the feminine narrative, Madeleine is curious about creating multi-dimensional work that floats effortlessly between social commentary and the metaphysical alike; specifically in relationship to myth and collective culture. Madeleine Twyman is a Canadian Dancer, Choreographer and Educator, Artistic Director of The Blue Institute, co-founder of The Durham School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance and a single Mother of two. Receiving her post-secondary education at The Ailey School and The Martha Graham School in New York City, Madeleine has worked with many Dance Companies including The Martha Graham Ensemble, Forces of Nature Dance Theatre of Harlem and Creative Outlet Dance Theatre of Brooklyn. Her work has been presented throughout Ontario, New York City, Montreal, Orlando and Los Angeles.

**Website:** [www.madeleinetwyman.com](http://www.madeleinetwyman.com)

# Sunday January 28 | Mainstage Performances

## Manifestations

**BaKari I. Lindsay**

**Choreographer:** BaKari I. Lindsay

**Music:** Ndere Adeifa Nimon (Nimon Music)

**Designers:** BaKari Lindsay

**Dancers/Performers:** BaKari Lindsay (Understudy Michael Mortley)

**Lighting Design:** Arun Srinivasan

Manifestations; Within each soul resides a cosmos of sensations and emotions, a tapestry woven with unspoken dreams longing to be born. Movement, the gentle dance of expression, acts as the bridge between our inner world and the outer, nurturing healing, embracing self, and weaving threads of empathy. “Manifestation” breathes life into renewal, unveils the path to self-discovery, and constructs anew through the canvas of physical exploration.

BaKari Ifasegun Lindsay, has been perfecting his crafts for over 40 years, and excels across diverse artistic realms. His mastery spans dance, singing, music, costume design, and research. With a rich educational background from York University—holding a craftsman diploma in Style and Design, a Master’s in Dance Ethnology, and a Bachelor’s in Education—BaKari pioneered “A-Feeree, The Physical Language” an innovative dance method for Africanist movement. Co-founding COBA Collective Of Black Artists, performing globally, and crafting acclaimed works for stage and film, his journey reflects a lifelong commitment to artistic excellence and cultural reverence. Presently a vice-principal, he ardently champions equity and arts education within the Toronto District School Board.

**Website:** [www.afeeree.com](http://www.afeeree.com) **Instagram:** @BaKariIlf

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/bakari.lindsay](http://www.facebook.com/bakari.lindsay)

## Sankhya - Excerpts

**Sampradaya Dance Creations**

Sankhya – a work by Sampradaya Dance Creations that premiered in October 2022 offers an intriguing look into the fascinating world of numbers from 0-10, through the tenets of wisdom and knowledge that it embodies.

Each Sankhya or numeral signifies its essence and its capacity to be a vital part of our lives. Drawing from Indian philosophy and mythology, the dancers showcase two excerpts from the Sankhya repertoire – the numbers 1 and 5, and how the numbers embody the physical and the spiritual through concepts that are both rich and potent.

**Dancers:** Hemantika Maheshkumar, Purawai Vyas, Rachana Joshi & Srushti Rajgopal

**Choreographers:** Lata Pada & Suma Nair in collaboration with the dancers

**Dancers:** Hemantika Maheshkumar, Purawai Vyas, Rachana Joshi & Srushti Rajgopal

**Rehearsal Director:** Atri Nundy

**Music:** Praveen Rao

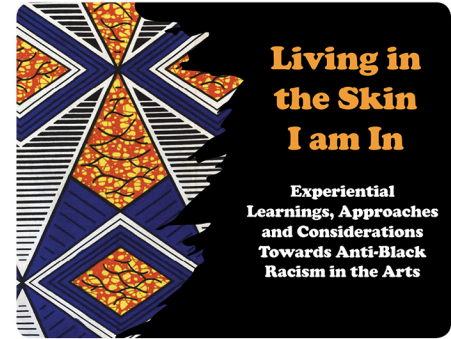
**Website:** [www.sampradaya.ca](http://www.sampradaya.ca)





CPAMO is a movement of Indigenous and racialized artists engaged in empowering the arts communities of Ontario. CPAMO seeks to open opportunities for Indigenous and racialized professionals and organizations to build capacity through access and working relationships with cultural institutions across Ontario that will result in constructive relationships with Indigenous and racialized professionals and organizations.

Visit our website [www.cpamo.org](http://www.cpamo.org) for EDI Reports and Resources, Model Policies & Action Plans, and recordings of workshops and panels. Recent Publications available for purchase on our website: <https://cpamo.org/reports-and-resources>



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**Gathering Divergence Multi-Arts Festival  
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The GDMAF/C focuses on Indigenous, racialized, deaf, disabled and mad, women and other historically – marginalized arts communities. Held in-person in Toronto and online via Zoom, the GDMAF/C features performances, literary readings, panels, workshops and creative investigations from diverse practices. For more details, visit our website [www.cpamo.org](http://www.cpamo.org) or follow us on social media @cpamoontario



## Sunday January 28 | Mainstage Performances

### Sankhya - Excerpts (cont.)

#### Sampradaya Dance Creations

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

SAMPRADAYA Dance Creations' maintains a strong presence in the Canadian dance scene through its national tours and festival participation. SAMPRADAYA Dance Creations has toured across Canada and internationally to India, the United States, Indonesia and Ireland.

### again again - Excerpt

#### Tracey Norman

**Choreographer:** Tracey Norman in collaboration with the performers

**Composer:** Gregory Reid

**Performers/Collaborators:** Phylicia Browne-Charles, Justine Comfort, Jesse Dell, Jen Hum, Niko Markakis, Zuri Skeete, Denise Solleza, Derek Souvannavong

**Costumes:** Jesse Dell

**Outside Eye:** Sky Fairchild-Waller

This is an excerpt from a full-length work we're currently creating. Beginning again and again is the one thing we can count on. How does starting over influence our relationships? Our choices? Our impact on each other?

**Website and social handles:** @tnorms.dance www.traceynorman.com



# Sunday January 28 | Mainstage Performances

## Sentience Meets Sonder Unapologetic Dance Company

**Choreographers:** Kahvontay Slaughter, Zina Begovic, Hannah Cohen, Bronwyn Cole, Emilia Deprisico, Heidi Boileau, Maria Tereshchenko, Andrea Canujra, & Sophie Willet.

**Music:** My House Instrumental by Beyonce, Crew Love Instrumental by The Weekend, Mr. Morale Instrumental by Kendrick Lamar, Urban wandering By Noble music, One Twenty Detail by Jimmy Edgar, Reality crash by Jah Wobble & Marconi Union, Memoria by Murcof – Martes + Utopia & Gira Omundo.

**Designers:** Unapologetic Dance Company

**Dancers/Performers:** Kahvontay Slaughter, Zina Begovic, Bronwyn Cole, Emilia Deprisico, Heidi Boileau, Maria Tereschchenko, Andrea Canujra, Olivia Burling, Alyssa Kryger, Danaca Bell, Kayleigh Dobbs, Liyah Simbulan, Lorin Calabretta & Sophie Willet.

“Sentience meets Sonder” is a powerful statement that speaks volumes about the journey of this company. The founder started this venture with a vision, and it’s amazing to see how far they’ve come. It’s truly inspiring to witness the growth and success of the company, which owes its achievements to the talented artists who have contributed their skills and creativity. The work that they produce is a testament to their unapologetic approach to dance, and the upcoming show “Sonder” promises to be another masterpiece. It’s exciting to see how the company continues to push boundaries and create new experiences for its audience. The show is a tribute to the hard work and dedication that has gone into building Unapologetic to where it is today, and it’s a testament to the power of art.

Unapologetic Dance Company is a Toronto based dance company composed of dance artists who explore their truths and vulnerabilities through movement. Our company has become a safe haven for artists both professional and pre-professional, allowing them to grow, excel, and illustrate who they are unapologetically.

**Website:** [unapologeticdance.com](http://unapologeticdance.com)

**Instagram:** [@unapologeticdancecompany](https://www.instagram.com/unapologeticdancecompany)

## DanceWeekend Discussion

**5:30 pm** DanceWeekend Discussion hosted by Samara Thompson with Carmen Romero, Suma Nair, Santee Smith and Lucy Rupert. Exploring anniversaries and milestones in the dance community.

## ABOUT DANCE ONTARIO

Founded in 1976 to support the advancement of the discipline, Dance Ontario is a dynamic cross-section of the dance sector with a membership that reflects this province's diversity through internationally renowned companies, emerging collectives, teachers, studios, choreographers, dancers, and production specialists. Key to the province's dance community, we are central to its communications, networking and capacity building. Dance Ontario continues to have a significant impact on the art form, the artists, their audiences and communities. Since 1992, Dance Ontario's DanceWeekend has showcased over 10,000 incredible artists working in over 30 dance forms. The Creative Partnerships Program has commissioned over 40 original works, supporting both emerging and established choreographers. Our vision is to develop a vibrant, diverse, inclusive and sustainable dance community reflecting all Ontarians.

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Stage Technicians at Harbourfront Centre are represented by IATSE Local 58 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts of the United States, its territories, and Canada



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