

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Dance Centre Programs: Enhancing Artistic Growth, Building New Audiences

The Dance Centre offers a range of activities that is unparalleled in Canadian dance. Its extensive programs support the professional development of dance creators and performers, nurture new audiences, and introduce new ideas into the cultural landscape. Over fifty artists, at all career stages and from many cultural and artistic backgrounds, participate in The Dance Centre's programs every season. These programs are at the heart of the many activities taking place at Scotiabank Dance Centre, the facility operated by The Dance Centre, and contribute towards the establishment of a stronger dance scene in BC and Canada.

Program Summary

- **Dance In Vancouver** is a biennial event showcasing performances by some of BC's most exciting contemporary dance artists. Popular with the public, the event brings dance presenters from around the world, and also features studio presentations and roundtable discussions.
- The **Artist-in-Residence** program supports choreographers in creation, teaching, outreach and performance activity over an extended period of time.
- **DanceLab** provides fully subsidized studio space for artists to engage in intensive research with other artforms such as visual art, film, music and theatre, culminating in an informal public studio presentation.
- **Global Dance Connections** is a contemporary dance performance series which presents artists from BC, Canada and across the world. Past visiting artists include Dana Michel (Montreal), Hiroaki Umeda (Japan), Francesco Scavetta (Italy/Norway), Ballet Preljocaj (France), Jan Martens (Belgium/the Netherlands), Simon Mayer (Austria), Sharon Fridman (Spain), Victoria Hunt (Australia), and Focus Cia De Dança (Brazil).
- **Discover Dance!** is a series offering accessible noon-hour shows combining performance and discussion, and feature local artists working in a diverse array of styles ranging from ballet, flamenco, and classical Indian dance, to Chinese, African, and Indigenous forms.
- **12 Minutes Max** supports the creation of work by emerging artists through studio research, feedback and dialogue. **Open Stage** offers an opportunity for artists to show short works in a non-curated, shared performance. **Reboot** provides micro-grants to help artists develop their work in the studio.

- **Choreographic Projects:** The Dance Centre initiates a wide range of local, national and international projects. Recent projects include The Roots of Dance / Korzenie tanca, an international cultural exchange project based in Poland exploring how traditional dances and folklore can inspire and enrich the development of contemporary dance.
- **International Dance Day** is celebrated on and around April 29 with a series of events around Vancouver, including performances, workshops and other events.
- The annual **Scotiabank Dance Centre Open House** offers a day of open classes, events and performances every September.
- **The Power of Dance** program offers workshops to immigrant and refugee youth, elementary and high school students, and seniors.
- The **Isadora Award** is presented each year to honour artists who have made an exceptional contribution to dance in BC. The **Iris Garland Emerging Choreographer Award** is presented every two years to a young choreographer who shows outstanding promise, and the biennial **Lola Award** supports mid-career and senior choreographers.

- 30 -

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