

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **The Dance Centre: 2010-2011 season**

*Vancouver, BC:* The Dance Centre's 2010-2011 season presents performances by artists working across contemporary and cultural genres in two series. The **Global Dance Connections** contemporary dance series features local, Canadian and international artists and includes partnerships with the PuSh and Chutzpah! Festivals and Presentation House, while the popular **Discover Dance!** noon series showcases a diverse range of BC dance. Other events include the annual **Scotiabank Dance Centre Open House**, **International Dance Day**, **Twelve Minutes Max**, the **Iris Garland Emerging Choreographer Award** (new work by Sara Coffin), **partnership presentations** (with Mandala Arts and Culture, LINK Dance, the plastic orchid factory and MACHiNENOiSY), plus ongoing residencies and research labs throughout the season.

### **Global Dance Connections** Contemporary dance series

Friday-Saturday October 1-2 Helen Walkley (Vancouver)  
Thursday-Saturday October 7-9 Susanna Hood (Toronto)  
Thursday-Saturday January 27-29 Company Drift (Zurich)  
Thursday-Saturday February 10-12 Les Productions Figlio (Vancouver)  
Thursday-Saturday April 14-16 Co. ERASGA/Complot (Vancouver/Montevideo)

### **Discover Dance!** Noon dance series

Thursday September 16 Shiamak's Bollywood Jazz  
Thursday October 28 Goh Ballet Youth Company  
Thursday November 25 LINK Dance  
Thursday February 24 Lorita Leung Chinese Dance Company  
Thursday March 31 JC Dance Co.  
Thursday April 21 Arts Umbrella Dance Company

### **Events**

Saturday September 25 The 9<sup>th</sup> annual Scotiabank Dance Centre Open House  
Thursday-Sunday November 4-7 Partnership presentation: Mandala Arts and Culture  
Thursday-Saturday November 25-27 Partnership presentation: LINK Dance  
December (dates tba) Twelve Minutes Max  
Friday April 29 International Dance Day  
Friday-Saturday April 29-30 The Iris Garland Emerging Choreographer Award: Sara Coffin  
May (dates tba) Twelve Minutes Max  
Friday-Saturday May 27-28 Partnership presentation: the plastic orchid factory  
Thursday-Saturday June 16-18, 23-25 Partnership presentation: MACHiNENOiSY

**Information: 604 606 6400 [www.thedancecentre.ca](http://www.thedancecentre.ca)**

**More information about each show and ticketing details follow below.**

**All events take place at Scotiabank Dance Centre, 677 Davie St, Vancouver except where specified**

**Global Dance Connections** Contemporary dance series

**Helen Walkley (Vancouver) *How is sleep beautiful?***

**Friday-Saturday October 1-2, 8pm** Post-show artist talkback October 2

Presented through The Dance Centre's Artist-in-Residence program: world premiere

A compelling performer whose original and deeply felt work evokes a powerful response, Helen Walkley's artistry resists simple definition. She has an uncanny sense of time and space; her fine and supple dancing is both enigmatic and engaging. Walkley's new solo is a richly-textured memoir, a story of heart, a story of wishes and dreams, of love and aspiration, of family and confusion, and of death as a transformation. *How is sleep beautiful?* has been created in collaboration with composer James Maxwell, lighting designer John Webber and sculptor John Noestheden.

**Susanna Hood (Toronto) *She's Gone Away***

**Thursday-Saturday October 7-9, 8pm** Post-show artist talkback October 8

Co-presented with Presentation House Theatre: Vancouver premiere

*She's Gone Away* is a theatrical tour de force conceived and created by the extraordinary performer Susanna Hood with co-composer Nilan Perera and director Jennifer Tarver. Sexuality, female power, healing, and loss of innocence are explored through the combined language of movement, song, poetic text, instrumental music, and visual design. A woman in the fragmented home of her mind battles to stay in her body, spinning through a cycle of animal states that provide both the escape from and the clues back to her integrated self. Featuring a courageous performance of absolute commitment from Hood, this physical and emotional journey throws us into the depths of voracity, bravado, dread, despair, and release.

**Company Drift (Zurich) *sound machine***

**Thursday-Saturday January 27-29, 8pm** Post-show artist talkback January 28

Presented with the PuSh International Performing Arts Festival: BC premiere

Consider how science might investigate some of life's more absurd scientific questions: how can the inaudible be made audible? How does a fly scream when it bumps into a burning hot light bulb? What does Mr Fish say to Ms Fish when he asks for her fin in marriage? What does the rose whisper when the sun comes up? In *sound machine*, the internationally acclaimed Swiss ensemble Company Drift gathers these and other 'inaudible' noises and mixes them with dance, theatre, sound and video to exhibit a dreamlike world that is profound and surreal, tragic and witty, and continually surprising.

**Les Productions Figlio (Vancouver) *Conversations***

**Thursday-Saturday February 10-12, 8pm** Post-show artist talkback February 11

Co-presented with the Chutzpah! Festival: world premiere

Serge Bennathan, Artistic Director of Les Productions Figlio, is not only an award-winning and internationally renowned choreographer, but also a writer, painter and opera director whose works move between dance, theatre and text with fluent ease. *Conversations* is an imaginary encounter between the great Spanish poet and playwright Federico Garcia Lorca, who was murdered by pro-Franco militias in 1936, and his assassin, Juan Luis Trescastro. Meshing movement, text, music, lighting and set design, the work examines the poetic

and philosophical exchanges between the two men, portrayed on stage by the magnetic Billy Marchenski and Danny Wild.

**Co. ERASGA/Complot (Vancouver/Montevideo) Expose**

**Thursday-Saturday April 14-16, 8pm** Post-show artist talkback April 15

World premiere

*Expose* brings together two exceptional male solo artists: Co. ERASGA's Alvin Erasga Tolentino, whose innovative and sophisticated works have toured around the world, and Complot's Martin Inthamoussú, a driving force in Uruguay's contemporary dance scene, whose passionate works often grapple with provocative socio-political ideas. Linked by their distinctive cross-cultural sensibilities, and a personal creative expression rooted in the experiences of gay life, their first collaboration creates a spellbinding theatrical and physical dialogue. Identity, gender, isolation, displacement, sex and acceptance drive an evocative choreographic landscape mapped from two striking choreographic visions.

**Global Dance Connections tickets** \$28/\$20 students & seniors available from Tickets Tonight 604.684.2787 (service charges apply) and online at [www.ticketstonight.ca](http://www.ticketstonight.ca) **except** for *Conversations* February 10-12: single ticket info at [www.chutzpahfestival.com](http://www.chutzpahfestival.com) after December 15, 2010. **Subscription packages and group rates** available from 604.606.6420 [tickets@thedancecentre.ca](mailto:tickets@thedancecentre.ca).

**Discover Dance!** noon dance series

The popular noon series offers informative and inspiring shows by BC-based dance companies which combine performance, question-and-answer sessions with the artists, and sometimes even audience participation.

**Shiamak's Bollywood Jazz Thursday September 16, 12 noon**

India's top choreographer, Shiamak Davar has revolutionized modern Indian dance through his choreography for Bollywood blockbusters and his international teaching institute, which now extends across Canada with Shiamak Davar International (Canada) Inc. Shiamak's Bollywood Jazz Team Vancouver showcases his dynamic fusion of Western jazz and hip hop with Indian dance techniques, in a performance bursting with energy and fun.

**Goh Ballet Youth Company Thursday October 28, 12 noon**

The grace, elegance and precision of ballet comes to life with this exhilarating performance by the Goh Ballet Youth Company, comprised of young dancers who train at the Goh Ballet Academy. Recognized as one of the world's finest training institutes, the Academy's graduates dance with companies across North America, Europe and Asia. The dancers will perform a rich selection of ballets ranging from the classical repertoire to modern works by the choreographers of today.

**LINK Dance Thursday November 25, 12 noon**

Dance collides with science in *Experiments*, Gail Lotenberg's exciting new work for her company LINK Dance. A collaboration with four ecologists – specialists in the study of movement and behaviour – it combines fluent dancing with sound, light and video, to investigate how two separate disciplines embrace logic, experimentation and creativity. In this special presentation, Lotenberg introduces excerpts from the work and leads a dialogue around the concepts which drive it.

The full length work *Experiments* runs at Scotiabank Dance Centre November 25-27

**Lorita Leung Chinese Dance Company Thursday February 24, 12 noon**

Established in 1970, the Lorita Leung Chinese Dance Company is regarded as one of Canada's leading Chinese dance groups, producing spectacular shows which illustrate the astonishing diversity and beauty of Chinese dance. From the poise and control of the classical style to the joyful exuberance of ethnic folk dances, the company will take the audience on a journey through Chinese art, culture and traditions.

**JC Dance Co. Thursday March 31, 12 noon**

Waltz, Foxtrot and Quickstep; Cha Cha, Samba, Rumba and Jive. Ballroom dance is enjoying a massive resurgence in popularity all over the world. Directed by former ballroom champions Joel Marasigan and Clara Shih, JC Dance Co's performance team will be joined by competitive ballroom dance students for a thrilling showcase packed with artistry, athleticism and sheer glamour.

**Arts Umbrella Dance Company Thursday April 21, 12 noon**

The energy and skill of a new generation takes the stage with this performance by the exceptional young dancers of the Arts Umbrella Dance Company. Trained through Arts Umbrella's renowned dance program, these talented dancers, many of whom will go on to dance professionally, will perform a program of contemporary ballets created by choreographers from across Canada and around the world.

**Discover Dance! tickets** \$10/\$8 students, seniors and children from Tickets Tonight 604.684.2787 (service charges apply) and online at [www.ticketstonight.ca](http://www.ticketstonight.ca). **Subscription packages and group rates** available from 604.606.6420 [tickets@thedancecentre.ca](mailto:tickets@thedancecentre.ca).

**Events**

**9th Annual Scotiabank Dance Centre Open House**

**Saturday September 25**

A day of open classes, workshops, studio showings and events celebrating Canada's flagship dance facility. Participating artists and companies include Co. ERASGA, Dance 4U, Kidd Pivot Frankfurt RM, Mandala Arts and Culture, Shiamak's Bollywood Jazz and Spanish Passion Productions. Full schedule to be announced. Presented as part of Culture Days

***Gait to the Spirit: A Festival of Indian Classical Dance***

**Thursday-Sunday November 4-7**

Presented by Mandala Arts and Culture in partnership with The Dance Centre

*Gait to the Spirit* brings together local, national and international artists working in the classical dance forms of India. A packed program of performances, master classes and lectures features artists including: Anusha Fernando of Shakti Dance, and Sujit Vaidya (Vancouver); Janaki Rangarajan (Washington DC); Scheherazaad Cooper (Vancouver/London); Shruti Javali (Toronto); and Lata Pada of Sampradaya Dance Creations (Toronto). Conceived by Jai Govinda, Artistic Director of Mandala Arts and Culture and an outstanding exponent of Indian classical dance in Canada, *Gait to the Spirit* aims to provide a platform for a new generation of dance artists.

Full schedule, registration and ticket information: [www.mandalarts.ca](http://www.mandalarts.ca)

**LINK Dance *Experiments: Visceral Investigations into Behavioural Ecology***

**Thursday-Saturday November 25-27 at 8pm**

Presented by LINK Dance Foundation in partnership with the Simon Fraser University Centre for Dialogue and The Dance Centre: world premiere

LINK Artistic Director Gail Lotenberg's new work *Experiments* is a stimulating dialogue between dance and science, which probes the parallels and contrasts between both disciplines as they employ creativity, experimentation, logic and intuition to understand the world around us. Created in collaboration with four world-class ecologists specializing in the study of movement and behaviour, this ensemble piece interlaces movement, sound, video and lighting. *Experiments* highlights Lotenberg's choreographic trademarks: a restless curiosity, and a passion for art that is interactive and dialogue driven.

Tickets \$26/\$18 from Tickets Tonight 604.684.2787 [www.ticketstonight.ca](http://www.ticketstonight.ca)

**Twelve Minutes Max**

**December and May (dates tba) at the Firehall Arts Centre**

Co-hosted with the Firehall Arts Centre

Now in its fifteenth year, Twelve Minutes Max showcases the latest in interdisciplinary live performance with a selection of eclectic works lasting twelve minutes or less. Dates, program and artist details to be announced. Tickets 604.689.0926 [www.firehallartscentre.ca](http://www.firehallartscentre.ca)

**International Dance Day Friday April 29**

A series of events celebrating the art of dance for International Dance Day, which was instituted by UNESCO in 1982. Full program to be announced.

**The Iris Garland Emerging Choreographer Award: Sara Coffin**

World premiere of a new work

**Friday-Saturday April 29-30 at 8pm**

Regarded as one of BC's most exciting and original emerging choreographic voices, Sara Coffin has already developed a body of work that is characterized by bold ideas, arresting movement, and an adventurous exploration of technology and new media. Her new work will seek to investigate the concept of open source culture through dance. With so much of our lives on display through blogs and other social media, are we in a constant state of performance? How many identities do we have? Are we actually what we project? This piece will touch on wide ranging ideas including authorship, trust, and private versus public.

Tickets \$25/\$18 from Tickets Tonight 604.684.2787 [www.ticketstonight.ca](http://www.ticketstonight.ca)

**the plastic orchid factory *\_post***

**Friday-Saturday May 27-28 at 8pm**

Presented by the plastic orchid factory in partnership with The Dance Centre's Artist-in-Residence program: world premiere

the plastic orchid factory seeks to create work that lives within interconnected systems of movement, visual design and sound to focus elements of classical structure and form through the lens of contemporary culture. Choreographed by James Gnam, *\_post* is an evening length quartet that uses classical dancers and a deconstructed piano score to investigate how perception, resonance and chance operation can be used to implicate self perception and the role it plays in our interpretation of context and meaning.

Tickets \$25/\$18 from Tickets Tonight 604.684.2787 [www.ticketstonight.ca](http://www.ticketstonight.ca)

## **MACHiNENoiSY *plaything***

**Thursday-Saturday June 16-18, and June 23-25 at 8pm**

Presented by MACHiNENoiSY in partnership with The Dance Centre's Artist-in-Residence program: world premiere *plaything* is a vividly imaginative new solo created and performed by MACHiNENoiSY's Co-Artistic Director, Delia Brett, in collaboration with puppeteer Tamara Unroe, animator Jordan Bent, and composer Chris Kelly. Inspired by the contrasts of motherhood, and violent child's play, the work will employ a multilayered approach to performance to create a dreamlike world, where beauty emerges from the mundane, and the subversive topples the sublime.

Tickets \$26/\$20 (2 for 1 on Thursdays) from Tickets Tonight 604.684.2787 [www.ticketstonight.ca](http://www.ticketstonight.ca)

## **Residencies and Labs**

Informal studio presentations and discussions coming out of The Dance Centre's research and development programs will take place throughout the season – dates and times to be announced:

The **Artist-in-Residence** program provides support and fully subsidized studio space at Scotiabank Dance Centre to assist dance professionals in the development of new works, with activities ranging from creation and teaching to public events such as studio showings, discussions and performances.

2010-2011 Artists-in-Residence:

**Delia Brett** (MACHiNENoiSY)

**Jennifer Clarke**

**James Gnam** (the plastic orchid factory)

The **DanceLab** interdisciplinary research program supports collaboration between choreographers and artists working in other disciplines, providing fully subsidized studio space for research into how cross-art form collaboration can enhance artistic growth and the development of new work. At the end of the Lab the artists open up the process to the public with an informal free studio presentation.

The 2010-2011 DanceLab choreographers and collaborators are:

**Eleonora Acuna** with Bahar Bolourian (dancer), Leah Giselle Field (mezzo), Fernando Aguirre (guitarist), Hoang Ngujen Jazmin (stage designer/photographer), Maliheh Mandegar (stage designer).

**Yvonne Chartrand** with Winston Wuttunee (storyteller), David MacMurray Smith (creative consultant/clown artist).

**Shannon Moreno** and **Farley Johansson** with Ruth MacIntosh (dramaturg), Alison Denham (dancer).

## **Choreographic Labs**

*Triptych* is a new international choreographic project hosted by the Opera Estate Festival Veneto, Italy; Circuit-Est Centre Chorégraphique, Montreal; and The Dance Centre, Vancouver. Three choreographers from each city (Chiara Frigo, Emanuel Jouthe and Jennifer Clarke respectively) come together in each of the host locations in turn to undertake choreographic research, and to network with their peers in those artistic communities, under the guidance of the internationally renowned Belgian dramaturge Guy Cools.

**Information: 604 606 6400 [www.thedancecentre.ca](http://www.thedancecentre.ca)  
[www.facebook.com/thedancecentre](http://www.facebook.com/thedancecentre) [www.twitter.com/dancecentre](http://www.twitter.com/dancecentre)**

**About The Dance Centre** Established in 1986 as a resource centre for the dance profession and the public in British Columbia, The Dance Centre has expanded into a multifaceted organization offering a range of activities unparalleled in Canadian dance. It presents performances and public events; operates Scotiabank Dance Centre, Canada's flagship dance facility; promotes BC dance to the public and to presenters of dance; and provides resources and services for the dance profession, through its team of experienced professional staff.

- 30 -

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Official hotel sponsor: **the Holiday Inn Vancouver Downtown Hotel & Suites.**

Media sponsors: **The Georgia Straight** (Global Dance Connections series)  
**OMNI Diversity Television, Citytv, Vancouver Courier** (Discover Dance! series)

The Dance Centre  
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