

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **The Dance Centre's 2017-2018 season**

*Vancouver, BC:* The Dance Centre's 2017-2018 season presents a program of exciting performances and events by artists working across contemporary and cultural genres. The **Global Dance Connections** contemporary dance series features Canadian and international choreographers, the popular **Discover Dance!** noon series presents a varied range of dance from diverse cultural backgrounds, and the biennial **Dance In Vancouver** showcases work by local artists. Other highlights include the annual **Scotiabank Dance Centre Open House**, events celebrating **International Dance Day**, and ongoing residencies and research labs throughout the season.

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

September 20-23 Joshua Beamish/MOVETHECOMPANY

October 12-14 Compañia Sharon Fridman

January 17-19 Nicola Gunn

February 1-3 Daina Ashbee

April 5-7 WEE/Francesco Scavetta

April 19-21 Rachid Ouramdane

May 24-26 Aeriosa

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

September 21 Historical Performance Ensemble

October 12 Vancouver Tap Dance Society

November 30 Flamenco Rosario

February 22 OURO Collective

March 15 Mandala Arts and Culture

April 26 Arts Umbrella Dance Company

### **Events**

September 16 Scotiabank Dance Centre Open House

October 27-28 Iris Garland Emerging Choreographer Award: Deanna Peters | Mutable Subject

November 22-26 The 11<sup>th</sup> biennial Dance In Vancouver

April 29 International Dance Day

May 12 TomoeArts

June 8 12 Minutes Max

### **Residencies and Projects**

#### **Tickets and Info**

Tickets Tonight 604.684.2787 [www.ticketstonight.ca](http://www.ticketstonight.ca)

Info 604.606.6400 [www.thedancecentre.ca](http://www.thedancecentre.ca)

**Events take place at Scotiabank Dance Centre, 677 Davie St, Vancouver.**

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

### **Joshua Beamish/MOVETHECOMPANY: *Saudade***

**Wednesday-Saturday September 20-23, 8pm** Post-show talkback September 21

*Saudade* - a Portuguese word that represents a deep, constant desire for a reality that does not, and probably cannot, exist - investigates loss, memory, and the longing for something unattainable. Six male dancers merge elegant balletic lines with street-style dynamism and drive, conjuring up fleeting intimacies in a series of ghostly solos, duets, and group passages, accompanied by Hildur Guðnadóttir's hauntingly beautiful cello score. A British Columbian choreographer who has achieved international success, Joshua Beamish brings together an ensemble whose collective credits include leading companies such as Nederlands Dans Theater, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Sasha Waltz & Guests, and La La La Human Steps.

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### **Compañía Sharon Fridman: *Hasta Dónde...? + All Ways***

**Thursday-Saturday October 12-14, 8pm** Post-show artist talkback October 13

One of a new generation of sensational Israeli choreographers, Sharon Fridman has taken the dance world by storm since establishing his company in Madrid a decade ago. His athletic, adventurous work is rooted in contact improvisation techniques, filtered through an innate musicality and an eye for design. *Hasta Dónde...?* explores the relationship between two men as it evolves through dependency, struggle and harmony. The endlessly fluid lifts and tumbles are propelled by a wonderful surging score. Fridman's latest work *All Ways* is a meditation on the multiple paths before us: seven outstanding dancers power through an extreme physical and emotional spectrum, which ranges from fierce urgency to calm contemplation.

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### **Nicola Gunn: *Piece for Person and Ghetto Blaster***

**Wednesday-Friday January 17-19, 8pm** Post-show artist talkback January 18

Presented with PuSh International Performing Arts Festival

*Piece for Person and Ghetto Blaster* is a provocative muse on peace and conflict, moral relativism and the very function of art, inspired by an incident where a woman saw a man throwing stones at a sitting duck, and she yelled at him. The result is a gloriously off-kilter dissection of the excruciating realms of human behaviour, and a navigation of the moral and ethical complexities of intervention. Australia's Nicola Gunn is an irresistible performer, delivering a dizzyingly witty text littered with anecdotes, digressions and philosophical theory, at the same time performing non-stop choreography that shifts from the comically incongruous to the strangely affecting.

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### **Daina Ashbee: *Pour***

**Thursday-Saturday February 1-3, 8pm** Post-show artist talkback February 2

Presented with PuSh International Performing Arts Festival

A dark and devastating solo, *Pour* explores the vulnerability and strength of women, using the taboo subject of the menstrual cycle as a departure point and turning it into an object of painful beauty steeped in symbolism. The piece applies imagery from the seal hunt to boldly tackle complex questions about femininity, blood, and the loss of control, deploying the body and voice in an unflinching depiction of suffering and catharsis. Daina Ashbee has quickly become a prolific and prominent Canadian choreographer, whose work is rooted in her relationship to the land, the environment and her ancestors. A BC native of Cree, Métis and Dutch heritage, she is now based in Montreal.

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**WEE/Francesco Scavetta: *Hardly Ever***

**Thursday-Saturday April 5-7, 8pm** Post-show artist talkback April 6

Presented with the support of Il Centro Italian Cultural Centre

Italian-born but based in Norway, Francesco Scavetta's wildly inventive work is at the forefront of the Nordic dance scene and has toured all over the world. *Hardly Ever* looks at truth and falsehood, in the theatre and in life, testing the gap between expectations and the unexpected. Four multi-talented performers dance, talk, and sing, playing on and with a splendidly quirky stage set. Verbal statements provoke physical responses and strange mismatches: the body becomes a fiction, on which an endless array of other fictions can be articulated in movement. Offbeat, funny, poetic and surprising, *Hardly Ever* negotiates questions of reality, untruths, and who we can trust.

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**Rachid Ouramdane: *TORDRE (WROUGHT)***

**Thursday-Saturday April 19-21, 8pm** Post-show artist talkback April 20

Co-director of the CCN2 - Centre chorégraphique national de Grenoble, French choreographer Rachid Ouramdane is known for blurring the line between dance and documentary, and reflecting on the specific identity of the performers. *TORDRE* is an intimate portrayal of two women, whose unique physicalities define their relationship with the world. Annie Hanauer has a prosthetic arm, which is both an extension and an integral part of her body; and Lora Juodkaite spins on the spot, using a technique she has developed since childhood. Each performer paints a compelling self-portrait through dance, articulating the interior impulses that drive her. *TORDRE* is hypnotic and enchanting, with a spare beauty which intensifies its deep emotional impact.

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**Aeriosa: *Second Nature***

**Thursday-Saturday May 24-26, 8pm** Post-show artist talkback May 25

Presented in partnership with Aeriosa

Aeriosa's breathtaking aerial productions combine the techniques of dance and rock-climbing, using rope rigging systems to find new movement possibilities in the realm of suspension. Equally at home on buildings, in treetops or on mountainsides, the company blends art, environment and adventure. Artistic Director Julia Taffe's latest creation brings Aeriosa back into the theatre: *Second Nature* explores the many qualities, forms and lifecycles of bamboo, both as a transformative substance and a metaphor for our own journeys. Performed by a cast of fearless dancers, with music by award-winning composer Jordan Nobles, the work examines ideas of organic architecture and natural materials, and traces a path through complex, shifting perspectives.

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**Global Dance Connections tickets** Subscription packages available/single tickets from \$32 from [TicketsTonight.ca/](http://TicketsTonight.ca/) 604.684.2787.

**Discover Dance! noon dance series**

**Historical Performance Ensemble**

**Thursday September 21, 12 noon**

Experience the elegance, courtly manners and discreet wit of dance from centuries past. Historical Performance Ensemble presents authentically recreated social and theatrical European Baroque dances,

incorporating beautifully constructed costumes, and entrancing music played onstage by specialists on reproductions of period instruments. The performers will demonstrate some of the intricate dances that preceded the development of ballet, from an era which was formative to the modern world.

### **Vancouver Tap Dance Society**

**Thursday October 12, 12 noon**

Get set for *VanTap Romp*, a percussive extravaganza with a troupe of accomplished and entertaining dancers! Featuring guest artist Terry Brock and friends, this exhilarating program showcases the infectious rhythms, technical skill and musicality of tap, tracing its vibrant history and its contemporary innovations. The dancers will 'lay down some iron' and create a rhythmic conversation full of zest and charm.

### **Flamenco Rosario**

**Thursday November 30, 12 noon**

A mainstay of Vancouver's flamenco scene for over 25 years, Flamenco Rosario honours the authentic traditions of flamenco while nurturing the evolution of the art form through artistic experimentation, crossing boundaries of history and cultures. Celebrated Artistic Director Rosario Ancer and Musical Director Victor Kolstee lead a flamenco performance that is full of emotional power, technical brilliance and stirring music and singing.

### **OURO Collective**

**Thursday February 22, 12 noon**

OURO Collective is fast gaining a reputation for its cool hybrid movement, fusing hip hop, waacking, breaking and contemporary dance. Its dynamic dancers hail from diverse backgrounds, and bring the drive and energy of street dance to the stage. The company will perform excerpts from *TANGENT*, which explores themes of private and public behaviour, self-absorption, and extreme individualism.

### **Mandala Arts and Culture**

**Thursday March 15, 12 noon**

Classical Indian dance is famed for its beauty and complexity, and Mandala's Artistic Director Jai Govinda has pioneered its growth and development in Canada. Govinda hosts this inspiring and informative presentation of bharata natyam, featuring leading dancers from his company, and highlighting the principal elements of the style: bha (bhava) emotion, ra (raga) melody, ta (tala) rhythm, and natyam (dancing).

### **Arts Umbrella Dance Company**

**Thursday April 26, 12 noon**

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

**Discover Dance! tickets** Subscribe to all 6 shows for \$55/single tickets \$14/\$12 students, seniors from [TicketsTonight.ca/](http://TicketsTonight.ca/) 604.684.2787.

## **Events**

## **The 16<sup>th</sup> annual Scotiabank Dance Centre Open House**

### **Saturday September 16**

A day of free open classes, workshops, studio showings and special events, featuring a host of different dance styles at Canada's flagship dance facility. Full schedule of events to be announced.

#### **Free events 11am-5pm.**

Presented with the support of Scotiabank.

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### **Deanna Peters | Mutable Subject: *META***

#### **Friday-Saturday October 27-28, 8pm**

Presented through the Iris Garland Emerging Choreographer Award

*META* proposes that our body is not one thing, but that we are fluid, messy and protean. Created and performed by Deanna Peters in collaboration with performers Justine A. Chambers and Kim Sato, with costumes and set design by Natalie Purschwitz, this new work dismantles expectations of what a body can be, generating a richly imaginative and engaging experience.

Tickets \$26/\$22 from TicketsTonight.ca/604.684.2787.

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### **Dance In Vancouver**

#### **Wednesday-Sunday November 22-26**

The 11<sup>th</sup> biennial Dance In Vancouver celebrates the energy and innovation of our contemporary dance scene: join us for five days of performances, studio showings and events, showcasing some of British Columbia's most exciting companies and artists. Featured companies and artists include: Aeriosa, Co.ERASGA, Julianne Chapple, Lesley Telford | Inverso, Margaret Grenier & Karen Jamieson, Nicole Mion, Wen Wei Dance, Ziyian Kwan | dumb instrument Dance, and more. Full details to be announced.

Curator: Adam Hayward, Hyde Productions (New Zealand)

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### **International Dance Day**

#### **Sunday April 29**

Initiated in 1982 by UNESCO, International Dance Day is marked annually on April 29 across Canada and around the world. Each year The Dance Centre presents a program of events celebrating the vitality and diversity of dance in Vancouver. Full program of events to be announced.

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### **TomoeArts: *Yūko-kai***

#### **Saturday May 12 8pm**

Presented through the Artist-in-Residence program

TomoeArts is BC's leading exponent of nihon buyō (Japanese classical dance), presenting traditional and contemporary dance theatre works that are steeped in Japanese forms and aesthetics. *Yūko-kai* ('a gathering for Yūko') celebrates the late, great dancer and teacher Fujima Yūko, who trained and inspired Tomoe's Artistic Director, Colleen Lanki. This illuminating presentation features performers from Japan and Canada in a selection of classical dances from Yūko's repertoire.

Tickets go on sale fall 2017.

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### **12 Minutes Max**

#### **Friday June 8, 8pm**

The 12 Minutes Max series supports the development of innovative new works lasting twelve minutes or less. Three times per season a rotating panel of guest curators will select up to four artists who will develop their works in the studio, followed by public studio showings. Artists and showing dates will be announced throughout the year. A selection of the works will be presented in performance on June 8, 2018. Tickets go on sale spring 2018.

### **Residencies and Projects**

#### **2017-2018 Artists-in-Residence**

Rosario Ancer, Flamenco Rosario

Colleen Lanki, TomoeArts

Kasandra Lea, Kasandra Flamenco

Helen Walkley

#### **2017-2018 DanceLab choreographers**

Naomi Brand (integrated dance, live audio description)

Idan Cohen (music, opera)

Margaret Grenier, Dancers of Damelahamid (Pacific Rim Indigenous dance and song, design)

Aryo and Arash Khakpour, The Biting School (theatre, text)

#### **Yulanda M. Faris Choreographers Program**

Daina Ashbee, Justine A. Chambers, Vanessa Goodman

#### **Projects**

Martha Carter, Marta Marta Productions

Walter Kubanek

Alexa Mardon

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

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**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; provides programs, resources and support for dance professionals; operates Scotiabank Dance Centre, Canada's flagship dance facility; and works to promote BC dance.

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Official hotel sponsor: the Holiday Inn Vancouver Downtown Hotel & Suites.  
Media sponsors: The Georgia Straight (Global Dance Connections series, Dance In Vancouver)  
The Vancouver Courier, Westender, OMNI Diversity Television, City TV (Discover Dance! series)

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The Dance Centre  
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