

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Announcing The Dance Centre's 2020-2021 season**

Vancouver, BC: The Dance Centre's 2020-21 season will feature a diverse range of dance from different genres, in a program of digital and small-scale live events adapted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Fall events including the annual Scotiabank Dance Centre Open House and Discover Dance! series will be online, with live events for small audiences resuming in November complemented by digital streams. Residencies and research programs will run throughout the season with digital streams of showings and discussions, along with other specially curated digital content.

"The pandemic has been especially challenging for dance, an art form which requires bodies and spaces to work in," says Mirna Zagar, The Dance Centre's Executive Director, "and like all arts organizations we have seen a major impact on our revenues. However we are committed to supporting artists and connecting audiences to dance to the best of our ability in these difficult times. We have been re-opening our building Scotiabank Dance Centre gradually with thorough safety protocols, and artists have been adapting their projects to follow public health guidelines. By proceeding cautiously, staying flexible, and fundraising vigorously, we hope to have a full – if somewhat different - season, which will nurture the art of dance."

### **Global Dance Connections** series

November 19-21 Mary-Louise Albert

December 3-5 Arash Khakpour & Emmalena Fredriksson

February 11-13 Joshua Beamish/MOVETHECOMPANY

April 22-24 Hillel Kogan

May 13-15 Alexa Mardon | Erika Mitsuhashi | Francesca Frewer

### **Discover Dance!** series

September 24 Shot of Scotch Vancouver

October 15 Sujit Vaidya

November 26 TomoeArts

March 25 Mozaico Flamenco

May 20 Goh Ballet

### **Events**

September 12 Scotiabank Dance Centre Open House

April 29 International Dance Day

May 3 Open Stage #2

May 28-29 TWObigsteps Collective

June 4 12 Minutes Max

June 19-21 V'ni Dansi

### **Residencies and Projects**

## **Tickets and Information**

Tickets for live shows will go on sale approximately two months prior to each performance. Details TBA.

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

**Events take place at Scotiabank Dance Centre, 677 Davie St, Vancouver and/or online.**

## **Global Dance Connections series**

**Mary-Louise Albert**

**Solo Dances/Past into Present**

**Thursday-Saturday November 19-21, 2020 | 8pm**

**Scotiabank Dance Centre**

Two generations of Canadian contemporary dance artists come together in an evening of vibrant solo works helmed by Mary-Louise Albert. Having retired from performing twenty years ago following a distinguished career as a dancer, Albert is reviving three solos she commissioned from leading Canadian choreographers, for a new generation of outstanding female performers. Peter Bingham's *Woman Walking (away)* will be danced by Livona Ellis; Tedd Robinson's *(o)LOS* features Vanessa Goodman; and Allen Kaeja's *Trace Elements* will be performed by Rebecca Margolick. Joyful, yearning, vivacious, and dramatic, these eclectic, beautifully crafted solos encompass a world of emotions. Albert herself returns to the stage at the age of 65, after many years as the Artistic Director of the Chutzpah! Festival, for the premiere of a new solo commissioned from Serge Bennathan. This inspiring and deeply personal project celebrates the equal creative fusion of dancer and choreographer and pays tribute to the enduring cycle of lives in dance, and to the continuing evolution of choreography itself.

Limited seating: tickets go on sale in the Fall.

**Arash Khakpour & Emmalena Fredriksson**

**UNTITLEDISTANCES**

**Thursday-Saturday December 3-5, 2020 | 8pm**

**Scotiabank Dance Centre**

UNTITLEDISTANCES weaves an intricate web of duets within an ensemble, about people who grew up far from here - and far from each other. Deploying dance and text, these encounters investigate notions of 'self' and 'other', cultural identity, race and gender. Seven virtuosic performers dance, entertain, inquire and challenge each other, touching on universal themes from togetherness, ageing and love, to climate change and migration. Moving between the political and the poetic, the provocative and the abstract, seriousness and silliness, the work attempts to feel and reveal this moment in time. Choreographed and performed by Arash Khakpour and Emmalena Fredriksson, with dancers Isabelle Kirouac Arevalo, Luciana D'Anunciacao, Natalie Gan, Juolin Lee, and Diego Romero.

Presented through the Artist-in-Residence program.

Limited seating: tickets go on sale in the Fall.

**Joshua Beamish/MOVETHECOMPANY**

**New Works**

**Thursday-Saturday February 11-13, 2021 | 8pm**

**Scotiabank Dance Centre**

Joshua Beamish is a British Columbian dance artist who has achieved worldwide success as a prolific choreographer and an exceptional performer: this thrilling program is a chance to see both aspects of his work. Beamish performs three exciting and varied new solos, created by internationally-acclaimed Belgian-Columbian choreographer Annabelle Lopez Ochoa; Ballet BC's Kirsten Wicklund; and Beamish himself, with inspirations ranging from the Odyssey to fallen angels. The evening also includes a new duet by Lopez Ochoa, danced by Beamish and Kidd Pivot's Renée Sigouin, drawing on the dramatic universe of Canadian Indigenous visual artist Shawn Hunt, whose paintings and masks combine elements of humans and animals with a haunting and powerful beauty.

Presented through the Artist-in-Residence program.

Limited seating: tickets go on sale in the Spring.

### **Hillel Kogan: We Love Arabs**

**Thursday-Saturday April 22-24, 2021 | 8pm**

**Scotiabank Dance Centre**

April 23 performance in French

*We Love Arabs* dives headlong into the toughest of questions - how can we co-exist within conflict?

Somewhere in Tel Aviv, a Jewish choreographer enlists an Arab dancer to help create a work that will overcome fears and carry a message of peace. But as the work progresses, power struggles ensue; bodies resist control. Skewering choreographic fads as well as unconscious bias and misplaced good intentions, the piece unfolds as a corrosively funny takedown of politics, ethnic stereotypes, and contemporary dance itself. Hillel Kogan is one of Israel's most successful independent choreographers, blending biting political and social commentary with a highly physical movement language, and this award-winning work has been a hit on stages all over the world.

Presented with Theatre La Seizième.

Limited seating: tickets go on sale in the Spring.

This performance is subject to international travel guidelines from public health authorities.

**Alexa Mardon | Erika Mitsunashi | Francesca Frewer**

**New Work**

**Thursday-Saturday May 13-15, 2021 | 8pm**

**Scotiabank Dance Centre**

Three young Vancouver-based dance artists known for their adventurous and sophisticated explorations join forces to present the first iteration of a three-part project. Highlighting each of their multidisciplinary approaches to text, performance and installation, this show will explore themes of the continuous present, the multiple, and how we change and are changed by each other.

Limited seating: tickets go on sale in the Spring.

### **Discover Dance! series**

**Shot of Scotch Vancouver**

**Thursday September 24, 2020 | 12 noon PST**

**Streaming online**

According to legend, the roots of Highland dance go back centuries, with warriors imitating epic deeds from Scottish folklore. Dancers from Shot of Scotch Vancouver will demonstrate the athleticism and artistry this

form requires, emphasizing precise footwork, timing and technique, and talk about its history, traditions, and ongoing evolution.

This performance will be streamed at [youtube.com/thedancecentrebc](https://youtube.com/thedancecentrebc)

### **Sujit Vaidya**

**Thursday October 15, 2020 | 12 noon PST**

#### **Streaming online**

One of Vancouver's leading exponents of the exquisitely beautiful South Indian dance style of bharata natyam, Sujit Vaidya also creates work which reflects a modern sensibility and questions arbitrary limitations set in the name of 'tradition'. In this stimulating presentation, Sujit will perform short solo works, and discuss how he and other artists are increasingly challenging the traditional hierarchies, politics and stereotypes surrounding bharata natyam.

This performance will be streamed at [youtube.com/thedancecentrebc](https://youtube.com/thedancecentrebc)

### **TomoeArts**

**Thursday November 26, 2020 | 12 noon PST**

#### **Streaming online**

In *The Many Faces of Japanese Dance*, Fujima Sayū - Artistic Director of Vancouver's TomoeArts - joins forces with Nishikawa Kayo, Artistic Director of Burnaby's Satsuki-kai, and dancers from both companies for an illuminating presentation of nihon buyoh, or Japanese classical and traditional dance. Ranging from theatrical kabuki to joyful folk-derived pieces and shin-buyoh or 'new' dances to popular music, they share some of the styles of nihon buyoh, its rich history and culture, and its distinctive tradition of training, with knowledge handed down from teacher to disciple.

This performance will be streamed at [youtube.com/thedancecentrebc](https://youtube.com/thedancecentrebc)

### **Mozaico Flamenco**

**Thursday March 25, 2021 | 12 noon**

#### **Scotiabank Dance Centre**

A vibrant celebration, *Viñetas del Mozaico* is a series of brilliant vignettes demonstrating the diverse cultural, musical and aesthetic influences of flamenco. Led by Artistic Director Kasandra 'La China', the dancers use Spanish castanets, Chinese fans, Sevillian silk shawls, bata de cola and flamenco's famous rapid-fire footwork, in a showcase of technical virtuosity, passion and rhythms.

Very limited seating: tickets go on sale in the Spring

### **Goh Ballet**

**Thursday May 20, 2021 | 12 noon**

#### **Scotiabank Dance Centre**

The elegance and precision of ballet comes to life with a performance featuring the award-winning dancers of the Goh Ballet Youth Company and Goh Ballet Academy. Recognized as one of the world's finest training institutes, the Academy produces graduates who go on to dance with major companies across North America, Europe and Asia. The dancers will perform a selection of solos and duets ranging from the classical repertoire to contemporary works.

## **Events**

### **The 19<sup>th</sup> annual Scotiabank Dance Centre Open House**

**Saturday September 12, 2020**

#### **Streaming online**

The 19th annual Open House offers a chance to experience a host of different dance styles, in a program of free classes and studio showings celebrating Scotiabank Dance Centre, one of Canada's flagship dance facilities. Full details and schedule TBA.

This event will be streamed live at [youtube.com/thedancecentrebc](https://youtube.com/thedancecentrebc)

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### **International Dance Day**

**Thursday April 29, 2021**

#### **Scotiabank Dance Centre**

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. Details TBA.

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### **Open Stage #2**

**Monday May 3, 2021 | 8pm**

#### **Scotiabank Dance Centre**

Open Stage features five dance works spanning a varied range of styles and approaches by Anya Saugstad and Artists, Lamondance, Linda Hayes, Rachel Maddock, and Voirelia Hub.

This program offers an opportunity for dance artists to present short works in an uncurated, shared performance.

Presented by the artists with the support of The Dance Centre.

Limited seating: tickets go on sale in the Spring.

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### **TWObigsteps Collective: Marissa Wong/Katie Cassady**

**Friday-Saturday May 28-29, 2021 | 8pm**

#### **Scotiabank Dance Centre**

Co-founder of the innovative emerging collective TWObigsteps, Marissa Wong explores the impact of past experiences in relation to behaviour patterns in her new solo *Departure*. The program also includes a new work by fellow collective member Katie Cassady.

Presented by TWObigsteps Collective with the support of The Dance Centre.

Limited seating: tickets go on sale in the Spring.

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### **12 Minutes Max**

**Friday June 4, 2021 | 8pm**

#### **Scotiabank Dance Centre**

12 Minutes Max supports the development of innovative new works lasting twelve minutes or less. Three times per season, 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 in June 2021.

Limited seating: tickets go on sale in the Spring.

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**V'ni Dansi**

**La Mitchin di Mitchif**

**Saturday-Monday June 19-21, 2021**

**Scotiabank Dance Centre**

Led by Artistic Director Yvonne Chartrand, V'ni Dansi ('Come and Dance' in Mitchif) is dedicated to sharing the stories and culture of the Mitchif (Métis), through both traditional and contemporary dance. *La Mitchin di Mitchif (Mitchif Medicines)* is a new Indigenous contemporary dance work created through an international collaboration with Santa Fe's Dancing Earth. Co-choreographed by Chartrand and Dancing Earth Artistic Director Rulan Tangen, the work is inspired by cultural ancestral knowledge of Mitchif plant medicines. Supported through the Artist-in-Residence program.

Presented with V'ni Dansi.

Limited seating: tickets go on sale in the Spring.

**Residencies and Projects**

Residencies, labs and projects run throughout the season, supporting choreographic research and the development of new work.

**Artists-in-Residence:**

Alana Gerecke

Idan Cohen/Ne.Sans

Jeanette Kotowich

Joshua Beamish/MOVETHECOMPANY

Naomi Brand/All Bodies Dance Project

Paras Terezakis/Kinesis Dance somatheatro

Shay Kuebler/Radical System Art

Ziyian Kwan/dumb instrument Dance

**DanceLab:**

Arno Kamolika

Josh Martin & Lisa Gelley/Company 605

Lee Su-Feh

Rachel Meyer

Ralph Escamillan/FakeKnot

Susan Nase/Shot of Scotch

**Projects:**

Carolina Bergonzoni

Colleen Lanki/TomoeArts

Michelle Olson/Raven Spirit Dance

P. Megan Andrews

**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)  
[www.instagram.com/thedancecentrebc](http://www.instagram.com/thedancecentrebc)**

**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, one of Canada's flagship dance facilities; and works to promote BC dance.

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The Dance Centre  
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