

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Announcing The Dance Centre's 2023-2024 season

Vancouver, BC: The Dance Centre's 2023-2024 season presents a program of exciting performances and events by artists working across a wide range of genres. The Global Dance Connections series features Canadian and international choreographers, and the popular Discover Dance! series presents dance from diverse cultural backgrounds. Other highlights include the annual Scotiabank Dance Centre Open House featuring a new work by Isaac Gasangwa/Izo Dreamchaser, and residencies, research labs and projects throughout the season.

2023-2024 SEASON SUMMARY

Global Dance Connections series

Nov 16-18 Stand Up Dance

Dec 7-9 Ebnflöh

Jan 19-21 Tangaj Collective

Mar 14-16 Arno Schuitemaker

May 23-25 Danny Nielsen

Discover Dance! series

Sept 28 Classical Indian Dances in Focus

Nov 9 Calle Verde + Jhoely Triana Flamenco

Feb 29 Voirelia Dance Hub

Mar 28 Aché Brasil

Apr 25 Dance//Novella

Events

Sept 16 Scotiabank Dance Centre Open House + Izo Dreamchaser

April 29 International Dance Day

Residencies and Projects

Tickets and Information

- Subscriptions, and single tickets for most events, are on sale at thedancecentre.ca
- Events take place at Scotiabank Dance Centre, 677 Davie St, Vancouver

2023-2024 SEASON DETAILS

Global Dance Connections series

Stand Up Dance: *Anatomalia: anatomy + anomaly + femalia*

Thursday-Saturday November 16-18, 2023 | 8pm

From dance-theatre mash-ups and site-specific works to films and interactive installations, the work of queer Canadian dance artist Meagan O'Shea is almost impossible to categorize, crossing disciplines and continents. *Anatomalia* is an adventurous international collaboration, and a passionate collective healing of the damage done to 'femalia'. Bringing together a cast of five exceptional dancers, original sound and design, and local participants, the work cycles between shame and curiosity, repulsion and desire, fear and trust, to release the trauma stored in the body, and reclaim joy. Theatrical, playful, and imaginative, this one-of-a-kind creation celebrates survival and recovery.

Ebnflōh: *La Probabilité du Néant*

Thursday-Saturday December 7-9, 2023 | 8pm

Founded in Montreal by Alexandra 'Spicey' Landé, Ebnflōh has earned national acclaim for a distinctive choreographic approach which skilfully transposes hip hop dance and culture to the stage, in works full of urgency and resonance. *La Probabilité du Néant (The Probability of Nothingness)* is Spicey's most ambitious creation to date: it asks how we can make sense of our actions when witnessing extreme situations - are we spectators or accomplices? Eight powerful, virtuosic dancers perform with ferocious commitment, propelled by electrifying music and video. Intense and emotional, this insightful take on perceptions and choices highlights our tremendous capacity for resilience and resistance.

Tangaj Collective: *Ramanenjana*

Friday-Saturday January 19-20, 2024 | 8pm + Sunday January 21, 2024 | 2pm

Ramanenjana is a docufiction performance about a mysterious 'dance epidemic' which swept Madagascar for four months in 1863, bringing thousands of people to the streets to dance nonstop to the magnetic music of the drums. Examining conflicting accounts of the event, the work traces its political and religious implications, and how colonialism may have spread misconceptions about an extraordinary movement - and questions the role of dance itself in society. Choreographers Simona Deaconescu (Romania) and Gaby Saranouffi (Madagascar) collaborated with Malagasy ethnomusicologist and musician Olombelo Ricky and three versatile performers to create a witty and intriguing exploration of dance, disease, and revolution.

Presented with PuSh International Performing Arts Festival

Arno Schuitemaker: *If You Could See Me Now*

Thursday-Saturday March 14-16, 2024 | 8pm

Award-winning Dutch choreographer Arno Schuitemaker is renowned for mesmerizing works which generate a unique empathy between performers and audience. A highly physical, rigorous integration of movement, music and light, *If You Could See Me Now* features three performers

who take a chilled-out club dance and reinvent it through incessant movement, rhythm and endurance. From turmoil to ecstasy, from a meticulous build-up to its fracturing, the performance goes right to the core of the body and its response to change. How do we keep going and move forward? With deep longing and emotions underlying its apparent simplicity, this singular work urges us to take another, closer look.

Danny Nielsen: *The New Standards*

Thursday-Saturday May 23-25, 2024 | 8pm

One of Canada's tap dance stars, Danny Nielsen combines dazzling technique, natural musicality, and a drive to constantly innovate with a heartfelt desire to honour the rich traditions of the form. *The New Standards* is a collaboration with renowned musician Dan Reynolds which delves into the symbiotic relationship between tap dance and jazz piano. Inspired by the concept of contrafacts, where new melodies are overlaid on familiar harmonic structures, the two will co-create a performance drawing on everything from traditional and contemporary jazz to R&B, hip hop and rock. The result: a celebration of tap and musical artistry.

Presented through the Artist-in-Residence program

Tickets Series subscriptions (3-show and 5-show packages), single tickets from \$26 available at thedancecentre.ca.

Discover Dance! series

Classical Indian Dances in Focus

Thursday September 28, 2023 | 12 noon

Experience two beautiful and contrasting styles of classical Indian dance, famed for their intricate movements, percussive rhythms and rich storytelling. Kathak artist Fiana Kawane, Bharata Natyam dancer Shilpa Shankar, and special guests illustrate the range, complexity and musicality of these constantly evolving art forms.

Calle Verde + Jhoely Triana Flamenco

Thursday November 9, 2023 | 12 noon

Calle Verde (comprising Maria Avila, Michelle Harding, and Peter Mole) and Jhoely Triana are in the vanguard of a wave of Vancouver artists who honour the traditions of flamenco while experimenting with the form. This double bill features their latest creations in a thrilling performance that showcases flamenco's technical brilliance, emotional power, and heart-stirring music and singing.

Voirelia Dance Hub

Thursday February 29, 2024 | 12 noon

Voirelia's highly original contemporary dance works draw on sources ranging from psychology and philosophy to literature. Choreographed by Alina Sotskova, *De/Formed Revival* is inspired by Renaissance art and sculpture: three expressive, finely honed dancers take us on a journey of transformation, exploring how we can emerge from a mould that someone else has built around us – to release the past and embrace change.

Aché Brasil

Thursday March 28, 2024 | 12 noon

A performance by Aché Brasil is an explosion of colour, energy and music that embodies the exuberant culture and rhythms of Brazil. The company will demonstrate folkloric Afro-Brazilian dances and music, including the famous dance-martial art of capoeira - an astonishing display of acrobatics, breathtaking kicks and self-defence tactics, accompanied by the irresistible sound of the berimbau.

Dance//Novella

Thursday April 25, 2024 | 12 noon

Dance//Novella was founded by former Ballet BC artists Racheal Prince and Brandon Lee Alley, and in four short years has gained a reputation for bold and inspiring creations which blend superlative dancing, rich theatricality, and a commitment to illuminating universal stories with generosity and imagination. This is an exciting opportunity to experience specially selected work from the company's repertoire.

Tickets Series subscriptions, single tickets from \$13 available at thedancecentre.ca.

Events

Scotiabank Dance Centre Open House

Saturday September 16, 2023

The 22nd annual Open House offers a chance to experience a host of different dance styles, in a day of free classes, workshops, studio showings and events at Scotiabank Dance Centre, one of Canada's flagship dance facilities. Details TBA.

Izo Dreamchaser: *The African Dream*

Saturday September 16, 2023 | 8pm

Rwandan-born Isaac Gasangwa (aka Izo Dreamchaser) founded Afrobeats Van to connect audiences to African culture and history. *The African Dream* is his first full-length creation: it follows the life of a young man growing up in the midst of the 1994 Rwandan genocide, and his determination to create a better world for the future. Featuring ten dynamic performers, the intricate choreography draws on African dance, Afrobeats, hip hop, martial arts and more,

blending thrilling dance with text and storytelling. This inspiring work is a tribute to Black resilience and hope, and reasserts the power of art to overcome racism and oppression.

Tickets from \$22 at thedancecentre.ca

International Dance Day

Monday April 29, 2024

Various locations

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 free events celebrating the vitality and diversity of dance in Vancouver. Details TBA.

Residencies and Projects

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

Artist-in-Residence: Adam Grant Warren | Sophie Dow

DanceLab Interdisciplinary Research: Celeste English, Isak Enquist, Kaia Shukin | Rebecca Margolick | V'ni Dansi

Special Projects and Partnerships: Circuit-Est centre chorégraphique | Co.ERASGA | Matriarchs Uprising Festival | Nellie Gossen | New Works | Raven Spirit Dance | Shakti Dance Society

Information: 604 606 6400 www.thedancecentre.ca

www.facebook.com/thedancecentre www.instagram.com/thedancecentrebc

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 is 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.

The Dance Centre is situated on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the xwməθkwəy'əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səl'ílwəta?/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

- 30 -

Media contact: Heather Bray, Director of Marketing
T: 604 606 6412 marketing@thedancecentre.ca

Media sponsors: Stir; The Georgia Straight.
Discover Dance! series media sponsors: City TV, OMNI Television

The Dance Centre gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Province of British Columbia, the BC Arts Council, Canada Council for the Arts, the Government of Canada, and the City of Vancouver through the Office of Cultural Affairs.

The Dance Centre
Scotiabank Dance Centre, Level 6, 677 Davie Street, Vancouver BC V6B 2G6 Tel 604 606 6400 www.thedancecentre.ca