

WCD WINNIPEG'S CONTEMPORARY DANCERS

presents

THE PRAIRIE DANCE CIRCUIT

CALGARY
EDMONTON
REGINA
WINNIPEG

5 DANCE COMPANIES
ARTISTIC DIRECTORS
WINNIPEG PREMIERES

WINNIPEG APPEARANCE
SPONSORED BY

IG Investors
Group

people who care

orig photo: Kayla Jeanson dancers: B. Lott, S. Roche

PRAIRIE DANCE CIRCUIT

CanDance Creative Exchange / CanDanse: échanges en créations is a co-presentation of The CanDance Network, Brian Webb Dance Company, Dancers' Studio West, Springboard Performance, New Dance Horizons, Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers and supported by the Dance Section of The Canada Council for the Arts and Canadian Heritage.

OCTOBER 28 & 29, 2011 • 8PM
THE RACHEL BROWNE THEATRE
Winnipeg, Manitoba

DAVIDA MONK • DANCERS STUDIO WEST
Under Cover of Darkness

BRIAN WEBB • BRIAN WEBB DANCE COMPANY
30% gone

NICOLE MION • SPRINGBOARD PERFORMANCE
Quiver

INTERMISSION 20min

ROBIN POITRAS • NEW DANCE HORIZONS
soft foot

BRENT LOTT • WINNIPEG'S CONTEMPORARY DANCERS
The Occasion of our Passing


TOTAL EVENING LENGTH APPROX 110min


www.candance.ca

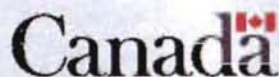


Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts
du Canada

 Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien





From the Artistic Director

Welcome to WCD's first show of our 47th season. I am so very happy that you have joined us. Once again we are beginning the year with the Prairie Dance Circuit; this time showcasing the work of the five prairie directors who established this touring network. I can assure you, having just premiered this

show at the Fluid Festival in Calgary last weekend, that you will have something to talk about as you leave the theatre today.

For the past two weeks Montreal choreographer Roger Sinha has been working with the students downstairs. On Monday however, Roger begins with the Company to create a new work for our December performances. Roger's work is an exciting blend of contemporary and Bharata Natyam, a dance style from India that combines intricate footwork, detailed hand gestures and dynamic rhythms. Rounding out the December program will be new work by both myself and our Founder, Rachel Browne. It is going to be a very exciting show and so I hope you will join us, once again.

Until then, enjoy this feast from the prairies.

Brent

WCD would like to thank
tonight's sponsor

 **Investors
Group**

people who care

DAVIDA MONK • DANCERS STUDIO WEST

Calgary

Under Cover of Darkness

Duration: 18 minutes



Choreographer: Davida Monk

Dancer: Davida Monk

Music: Habil-Sajahy

Composer: Franghiz Ali-Zadeh

Lighting Design: David Fraser

Under Cover of Darkness was premiered in November 2009 and performed with Beth Root Sandvoss on cello and Elizabeth Bergmann on piano. The Land's End Chamber Ensemble commissioned this work.

dswlive.ca



Davida Monk has recently completed the creation of *The Land Quartet*, a three-year creative project with four dancers, with the generous support of the Alberta Cultural Initiative Program of the Canada Council. In 2010/11 she performed in Vancouver, Regina and Calgary of Serge Bennathan's *Le Recours aux forêt*, and the premiere of *The Strangest Torment*, a collaborative creation with Marc Boivin of

Montreal. She will begin work on a newly commissioned solo from Battery Opera's Lee Su-Feh in September 2011. In December 2011 Monk will also be featured at the Older & Reckless series in Toronto in Bennathan's solo.

m-body.ca

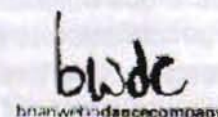


BRIAN WEBB • BRIAN WEBB DANCE COMPANY

Edmonton

30% gone

Duration: 25 minutes



Choreographer & Performer: Brian Webb

Composer: Dave Wall

Lighting Design: David Fraser

Costume Design: Sheena Haug

Lighting Design: David Fraser

30% gone is about the heart attack I had last October. It is about the reading I have been doing since then and the music I have been listening to. It is certainly informed by the shock I felt from having the attack, about my recovery and about my defiance of it [not my denial of it]. It's also about the fact that I'm not very comfortable with being 60 YEARS OLD!!! It's even about how much I love dancing.

bwdc.ca



Brian Webb graduated with distinction from the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre. He then moved to New York City, working with Eric Hawkins who had an influence on his early dance making. During the 1970's, Brian premiered many of his first dances with the Carol Conway Company in New York.

Returning to Edmonton in 1979, he formed the Brian Webb Dance Company as "company in residence" at Grant MacEwan College, where he was the Chair of the Dance Program for ten years. The company began presenting a dance season in 1991 and is now the largest season of contemporary dance west of Toronto. Since the beginning, the BWDC has been dedicated to experimentation, the new, and a collaborative creative process.

continued

His company has commissioned over 30 musical scores, numerous installations by visual artists and scripts by writers. Brian collaborates with local artists and works to give their work a broad context through tours across Canada and abroad. As Artistic Director of the Canada Dance Festival at the National Arts Centre (NAC) in Ottawa from 2001 to 2011, he also introduced much innovative programming.

In 1995, Brian was awarded the Syncrude Award for Innovation in Artistic Direction and in 1998, the Telus Award for Arts of the Future. Brian has been inducted into the Edmonton Cultural Hall of Fame (2002), and received the Queens Jubilee Medal (2002) and the Alberta Centennial Medal (2005). In 2009, Brian was awarded a University of Alberta Alumni Honour Award.

NICOLE MION • SPRINGBOARD PERFORMANCE

Calgary

Quiver

Duration: 19.5 minutes

Choreographer: Nicole Mion

Interpreter: James Gnam

Music: Kimmo Pohjonen

Lighting Design: David Fraser



On first look *Quiver* is a physical experience. But it is also the name of the container that holds arrows or a musical instrument. The choreography is the quiver for holding both sharp and beautiful experiences and a map to be navigated in performance, bringing to life internal and external worlds in a series of carefully considered frames and containers.

Quiver is a solo set on two performers, where the choreographic material is traded back and forth in creation. It has been a fun way to create, consider transmission, and look at creation with fresh eyes in new frames with the two interpreters.

springboardperformance.com

continued



Artist and curator, **Nicole Mion** creates for the stage and screen. She is a sought after director and contemporary choreographer specializing in contemporary performance, new media, dance, and installation. She is Artistic Director for Springboard Performance where she curates the Fluid Movement Arts Festival in Calgary;

Interrarium an interdisciplinary creative residency at the Banff Centre for the Arts; and ContainR, a mobile theatre and public art installation.

Recent works include direction of an animated short film *Fight for Flight* for Bravo!FACT/CTV featuring International female ski jumper Katie Willis and her fight to jump at the Olympics, *Gut Symmetries* a dance performance for the stage featuring Jeannie Vanderkerkhove, and *ContainR* a video installation, live performance venue featuring physicality in winter sports, performance and dance films housed in reconfigured shipping containers for the Vancouver Winter Olympics.

Known for her highly physical and theatrical style, Nicole won the Paula Citron award for most outstanding choreography at fFIDA (Toronto). Her stage work has been seen at OYR's High Performance Rodeo, Seattle's On The Boards Festival, Vancouver's Dancing on the Edge Festival, Alberta Scene at the National Arts Centre (Ottawa), the Banff Centre Summer Arts Festival, New Dance Horizons (Regina), Dancers Studio West (Calgary), Mile Zero Dance (Edmonton), Brief Encounters (Vancouver), Art Gallery of Calgary, fFIDA Festival (Toronto), choreography representing Canada at the DaCI conferences in Brazil and The Hague, and direction and choreography for the opening ceremonies of the IAAF World Games (Edmonton).

Nicole enjoys creating solos inspired by specifically wonderful and unique individuals. These biographical choreographies include solo work and commissions for Momo Mixed-Ability Dance Theatre, Luciane Pinto, Carol Greyeyes, Andrea Gunnlaugson, and Stephen Thompson.

continued

Nicole has also created over 20 short films as director and choreographer which are broadcast on CTV, Bravo!FACT, the Comedy Network, Knowledge Network, Comedy Central, the Women's Television Network, the Independent Film Channel, and presented in festivals around the world. Recent video work includes *That Thing Between Us*, a single channel broadcast and 3-channel video installation, and over 40 commercials for Shaw Communications where she choreographed their People Powered National campaign.

James Gnam is a Vancouver based performer, improviser and choreographer. He received his training at the National Ballet School of Canada and in 1998 began working with Les Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montreal. In 2003, he joined Ballet British Columbia where he performed in works by Jiri Kylian, Twyla Tharp, Mark Morris and Lar Lubavitch; and created roles with choreographers Crystal Pite, John Alleyne and Simone Orlando. As a freelance dance artist, James has collaborated with Lee Su-Feh/Battery Opera, Peter Bingham/EDAM Dance as well as Thomas Lehman/SINS. In 2008, James and his wife Natalie LeFebvre Gnam incorporated the plastic orchid factory. Since then, the factory has engaged in creative residencies at the Dance Centre in Vancouver, The Shadbolt Centre for the Arts in Burnaby, Circuit-Est in Montreal and Opera Estate in Bassano Italy; Creating work that has been presented by The Vancouver International Dance Festival, Dancing on the Edge, The Dance Centre, The Chutzpah! Festival, The Vancouver Art Gallery and The New Forms Festival. James has created new works for the Bouand Dance Company in Portland Oregon, The Contingency Plan Dance Collective, EDAM Dance and the School of Contemporary Arts at Simon Fraser University.

ROBIN POITRAS • NEW DANCE HORIZONS

Regina

soft foot

Duration: 20 minutes

Choreographer: Robin Poitras

Commissioned & Performed by: Ziyian Kwan

Sound Design: Jeff Morton

Text: Robert Bringham

Lighting Design: David Fraser

Bear Shoes: John Noestheden

Dramaturgical Consultant: Jo Leslie



Ursa Major, is well known in the prairie sky. Her mythological inheritance lingers on the horizon. *soft foot* draws from a body of work that began many years ago, including an Ursa character created for Ziyian Kwan in Rouge-gorge's recent group work, *in fur till spring*.

soft foot, a term coined by prairie movement maverick Amelia Itcush, is a constellation of images and actions in an inter-play of myth and body memory. This work is an ode to Amelia, choreographed by Robin Poitras, commissioned and performed by Ziyian Kwan.

newdancehorizons.ca

A prolific dance and performance creator **Robin Poitras** co-founded Regina's New Dance Horizons in 1986, where she continues to act as Artistic Director. In 2008 she launched a creation company Rouge-gorge. Robin holds a B.F.A. special honors degree in dance from York University and has received many grants and awards including the 2004 Women of Distinction Award for the Arts and the 2006 Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2006 Mayor's Awards for Business & The Arts in Regina. Her works have been presented across Canada, in Spain, France, Germany and Mexico.

continued

Since 1989, **Ziyian Kwan** has performed in an eclectic range of dance, theatre and film productions. Of note has been work by battery opera, Co.Erasga, David Pressault Danse, Kokoro Dance, Lola Dance, Mascall Dance, parB.L.eux, The Plastic Orchid Factory, Rouge-gorge, Peter Bingham, Jennifer Clarke, Daniel Danis, Susan Elliott and John Ottmann. In the last few years, the technique of Amelia Itcush has been at the core of Ziyian's daily practice. *soft foot* is the first in a series of solos that Ziyian has initiated in response to the lifework of Amelia Itcush. Following this commission of Robin Potiras, Ziyian will dance *the neck to fall*, her own solo creation that is inspired by Amelia's physical poetry. "In loving memory of Amelia Itcush, who moves my body and touches my heart." ~ Ziyian Kwan.

Jeff Morton (Sound Designer) is a composer and performer currently based in Regina, SK. His music and media art are playful, experimental explorations of sound, sound-making, and compositional processes using found and musical objects and materials. His work includes traditional and graphic notation for instrumental chamber music, DIY audio building and bending, and electroacoustic performance. Jeff has a Masters Degree in Music Composition from the University of Victoria in 2008, and he has performed in festivals, concert halls, and off-site locations around Canada and Europe.

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE

\$250 will affix your name for ten years to one of the new deluxe seats in the theatre.

Visit our web site and click on 'Support WCD' or call the office and speak with GM Kathy Fenton.



BRENT LOTT • WINNIPEG'S CONTEMPORARY DANCERS

Winnipeg

The Occasion of our Passing

Duration: 12.5 minutes



Choreographer: Brent Lott in collaboration with Sarah Roche

Dancers: Sarah Roche and Brent Lott

Music: Haushka & Hildur Guðnadóttir - Pan Tone #283 & #294

Lighting Design: David Fraser

Rehearsal Director: Johanna Riley

The Occasion of our Passing contemplates what can grow out of really seeing and hearing what those younger and/or older than ourselves have and are experiencing. Many thanks to Rachel Browne, Stephanie Ballard and Johanna Riley for their perspectives as outside eyes.

Brent Lott danced for Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers (WCD) under the direction of Tom Stroud from 1999 to 2004. During this time he was also provided the opportunity to become Tom Stroud's assistant. Brent was appointed the Artistic Director of WCD in June of 2005.

Brent's first full-length work for WCD, *STRUCK*, was called 'a work of mystery and beauty' by the Globe and Mail's Paula Citron. His other full length choreographic endeavours include *Coming in to Autumn* with actor Naomi Cooke, *His Banner Over Me* with clarinetist Lori Freedman and a co-production with Christina Medina entitled *as long as now*. Brent's work also includes directing and choreographing Winn Wells' play *Gertrude Stein and a Companion*, which toured both Canada and England and the video *i went by a clean name* which premiered at Contemporary Dancers' 35th Anniversary Festival. Brent's choreographic contribution to England's physical theatre company, Foursight Theatre, was recently seen across England in the production of *Can Any Mother Help Me?*

continued

Sarah Roche graduated from the Senior Professional Program of the SCD with a B.A. Honours in dance from University of Winnipeg. She began working with WCD in 2006 as an apprentice and this is Sarah's 6th season with the company. She has performed works by a variety of choreographers around Canada and has recently begun choreographing her own short solos for Young Lungs Dance Exchange. In addition to performing Sarah has taught and choreographed in rural Manitoba, at SCD, and in the Winnipeg School Division with Learning Through The Arts.

DAVID FRASER

Lighting Designer for the Prairie Dance Circuit

As an Edmonton based artist, David works extensively across the country in dance, theatre, and opera. His theatrical designs have been seen from The National Arts Centre in Ottawa, to The Belfry Theatre in Victoria, and his designs in Dance have been seen both nationally and internationally with Edmonton based Choreographer Tania Alvarado. David has been the resident designer with the Brian Webb Dance Company for the last twelve years, and has also collaborated with Robin Poitras on *Built: a Sheltering Mirage* in 2008. Most recently David designed the lighting for *Death of a Salesman*, with The Citadel Theatre, Lucia di Lammermoor, with the Vancouver Opera, and the New York City premier of *Any Night* at the 14th Street Y Theatre. He has been nominated for a Jessie Richardson Award, A Betty Mitchell Award, and ten Elizabeth Sterling Haynes Awards, and he has been the recipient once for his lighting design.

WCD Supporters

Sustainer \$1000 and over

Rachel Browne C.M.
Patrick Kutney
Patrick & Deborah Riley
CIBC Asset Management
CIBC Wood Gundy
Fidelity Investments

Benefactor \$500 - \$999

Bruno Gossen & Solange Chabannes
Wendy Josephson
Brent Lott
Talia Pura
Brandes Investment Partners
Wawanesa Insurance

Patron \$250 - \$499

In honour of Charlie Aiello & Family
Gordon Andrus
Babs Asper
Gail Asper & Michael Patterson
Carol Budnick
Lil & Rae Josephson
Lawrence Lobo
Marlene Milne
Lisa Stiver
Capital Group
Clarington Investments
TD Asset Management

Contributor \$100 - \$249

Andy & Linda
Robert & Ina Abra
Earl Barish
Edward Carriere
Bea & Lawrie Cherniack
Dena Decter
Kate Evans
Cyndi Forcand
Patrick Krawec
Fraser & Joan Linklater
Shawn McIntaggart
Darlene Payne
Thomas & Nancy Roche
Ruth BZ Thomson
ICARMA Fund
MB All Charities Campaign

Supporter up to \$99

Doris R. Bass
Karla Berbrayer
Lawrie & Bea Cherniack
Joanne Cormier
Carman Johnston
Amy Karlinsky
Siegfried Laser
Gordon P. Linney
Ruth Matas
Clare McArton
Pauline Russell
Leslie Stafford
Hien Tran
Peak of the Market

Keep in touch with us via our
e-Newsletter, RSS, Twitter and Facebook.
(Google+ coming soon)



It all starts at our web site
winnipegcontemporarydancers.ca

Our next show is only a month away!

ROGER SINHA

with Brent Lott & Rachel Browne

For the first half of the performance Roger Sinha has been commissioned to create a new work on WCD's company dancers. The latter half of the performance will feature company dancers in new work by WCD Artistic Director Brent Lott and WCD Founder Rachel Browne c.m.

December 1 thru 3, 2011 • 8pm
Matinée December 4 • 3pm

Roger Sinha's vocabulary merges the classical Indian dance with contemporary dance, martial arts, theatre and Bharata Natyam, a dance from India. Stories are important in Sinha's work, stories from poets and writers and stories of his own. He explores story telling in many ways, always with humour and simplicity.

WCD WINNIPEG'S CONTEMPORARY DANCERS

Staff

Artistic Director
General Manager
Communications
Production Manager
Technician
Company Dancers

Brent Lott
Kathy Fenton
James Botailis
Steven Hunnie
James Jansen
Kristin Haight, Lise McMillan,
Johanna Riley and Sarah Roche
Mark Medrano
Emma Rose
Dean Cowieson
Stephanie Ballard

Company Apprentices

Resident Lighting Designer
Archivist

WCD Founding Artistic Director: Rachel Browne, C.M.

Board of Directors

President
Vice President
Treasurer/Secretary
Directors

Darlene Payne
Lyndsay Ladobruk
Carolyn Paterson
Rachel Browne, Claudine Majzels,
Corey Sigurdson, Jason Smith,
Lisa Stiver, Kevin Walters

Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers' activity is made possible
with the generous assistance of:



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts
du Canada

We acknowledge the support of the Canada Council for the Arts
which last year invested \$18.7 million in dance throughout Canada.



MANITOBA ARTS COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES ARTS DU MANITOBA



WINNIPEG
ARTS COUNCIL

MEDIA
SPONSOR

The Free Press
We're there for you

THE
WINNIPEG
FOUNDATION

Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers
Canada's oldest modern dance company



Because we care about our communities

We know there's more to life than dollars and cents. There's passion, endurance, commitment and community. As part of the community, Investors Group is proud to share in this and all of life's special moments.

Imagine Canada Company
des entreprises
canadiennes

**IG Investors
Group**

In Support Of
Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers

people who care

www.investorsgroup.com

* Trademark owned by IGM Financial Inc. and licensed to its subsidiary corporations.
* Imagine Canada's logo, "Imagine Canada", Imagine's logo and "Imagine" are all trademarks used by Imagine Canada, and are used with permission.