



Winnipeg's
Contemporary
Dancers



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VERGE

Dance Dialogues



Also this Season:



BEYOND MAY 3-5 / 8PM

The World Premier of WCD's Artist-in-Residence from Montreal, **Jason Martin**'s full evening work on a cast of both Montreal and Winnipeg dancers. This will be a production that carries a voltage, a frenzy, a bestial and instinctive reality, exposing the destructive inhibition and pressure we put on ourselves in order to define one's identity and the self-acceptance that comes with it.

Trevor Pick is a graduate of the Professional Program of The School of Contemporary Dancers, and is originally from Edmonton, where he began his training at 18. He has performed works by Rachel Browne, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Ming Hon, Brent Lott, Paul André Fortier, and many others. In July, he performed with GPS Collective on a tour to Leon, Mexico. In July 2017, Trevor was chosen as a dancer for the Banff Centre for the Arts' Creative Gesture residency. He performed with Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers for the N Afro Dance Productions' Moving Inspirations Festival in November. In June 2018, Trevor will take part in Mascal Dance's BLOOM project in Vancouver.

Anna Protsiou is currently in the Fourth Year of the Professional Program of the School of Contemporary Dancers and will graduate this May with a Bachelor of Arts Honours in Dance. As well as working with multiple choreographers throughout the Program, Anna has also performed with Stephanie Ballard and Dancers 'Landscape Dancing'. Anna is excited to perform in Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers Verge.

Ilse Guadalupe Torres Orozco graduated in 2017 from the Professional Program of the School of Contemporary Dancers and is Co-Director of GPS Dance Collective. She has had the honour of working professionally with Gearshifting Performance Works, Stephanie Ballard and Dancers, Odette Heyn-Projects with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Winnipeg Contemporary Dancers Verge 2017 and with Colectivo 1.618 (Leon, Mexico). She was the artistic coordinator for the project "Creando Lazos a Través de la Danza" that was presented in León, Mexico in 2017 as part of the 150th Anniversary of Canada. During the 2017-2018 season, she will have upcoming projects with Gearshifting Performance Works and with Sinha Dance for the N Afro Festival.

***Stephanie Ballard would like to give special thanks to:**

Kathleen Hiley for the Banff Centre Slide Show

Alexandra Winters for being Ms Ballard's artistic assistant.

Faye Thomson C.M. , Odette Heyn C.M. , Gaile Petursson Hiley, Lori Natuik, Charleen Kulbaba, Dwight Chmilnisky, Brian Rougeau, Dan Wild, Robyn Thomson Kacki, Peter Quanz, Tedd Robinson, Nina Battison, Paddy Stone Arnold Spohr C.C. and Rachel Browne C.M.



Choreographer: Stephanie Ballard is a critically acclaimed choreographer, personal coach and dance educator whose work has garnered the prestigious Clifford E. Lee Award, the Jean A. Chalmers Award and the Canada Council for the Arts Jacqueline Lemieux Prize. She has been affiliated with Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers for forty five years and acted as Artistic Advisor for the Rachel Browne Tribute Tour in Jan 2013. As Artistic Advisor, Company Manager and Choreographer for the Margie Gillis Dance Foundation she toured extensively in Asia, the

U.S., Canada and Europe. Ballard has a Masters Degree in Therapeutic Counselling and was mentored by Maria Gomori. She is Artist in Residence and Archivist for the School of Contemporary Dancers Professional Program and is Artistic Advisor for Peter Quanz and QDance. She is on Royal Winnipeg Ballet's Programming Committee and is an active member of The Canadian Dance Alliance. As Director of the Winnipeg Dance Preservation Initiative she plays an active role in advocating for Dance in Manitoba and throughout Canada.

Guest Artists:

Video Artist: Kayla Jeanson is a filmmaker and dance artist who studied film at the University of Manitoba and modern dance at the School of Contemporary Dancers. Her films have been viewed at international film festivals such as Melbourne International Film Festival (Australia), Chicago International Movies and Music Festival (Illinois), and IndieCork (Cork, UK). She has created video for stage with Ming Hon, Peter Quanz, Tom Stroud, and numerous Fringe theatre productions.

Arlo Reva is a 2008 graduate of the School of Contemporary Dancers Professional Program. She has studied at the Banff Centre's Indigenous Dance Residency where she performed works by Javier Dzul and Neil Jeremia. Arlo has worked with Santee Smith's company Kaha:wi Dance Theatre in Toronto, New Mexico, Australia & Japan. She has worked with Sandra Laronde's company Red Sky Performance in Toronto, Banff, and Vancouver. In Winnipeg, Arlo has worked with Stephanie Ballard, Gaile Petursson-Hiley, Odette Heyn, Peter Quanz, Tanya Lukin Linklater, Loa Olafson, Nina Patel, Jeff Dimitriou and Zorya Arrow. Arlo is a founding member of Winnipeg's Drive Dance.

Alexandra Winters has worked with Stephanie Ballard and Dancers, Company Constance Cooke, Gearshifting Performance Works, Janelle Hacault and Kayla Jeanson through the Young Lungs Dance Exchange Research Series, and Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers. She was a guest artist with GPS Dance Collective on their tour to Leon, Mexico and participated as a dancer at Banff Centre for the Arts and Creativity in the Creative Gesture – Collective Composition Lab for Music and Dance. She looks forward to working with choreographer Jason Martin in WCD's spring show and has an upcoming project with @tendance/C.Medina in Austria. She is a 2015 graduate of the School of Contemporary Dancers Professional Program.

VERGE Artists:

Jennifer Bonner is a 2016 graduate of the School of Contemporary Dancers Professional Program. She has had the privilege to work twice in Calgary with Dancer's Studio West's Professional Bridging Program under the mentorship of Davida Monk. Jennifer has also performed across country in Robert Desrosier's 50 Dancer Project: *Timeframe* for CDF 2016 in Ottawa, and twice in Regina's Fire and Ice festival. In the past she has performed works by Susie Burpee, Constance Cooke, Bill Evans, Odette Heyn, Gaile Petursson-Hiley, Jennifer Mascal, Roger Sinha, and many others. She has also had the honour to work with Stephanie Ballard and Dancers, and is happy to be completing her second year with WCD's Verge.

Allison Brooks is a 2017 graduate of The School of Contemporary Dancers Professional Program, and is excited to be a part of this year's VERGE. In July, she danced with GPS Collective on a tour to Leon, Mexico, and worked with choreographer Meagan O'Shea in Newfoundland as part of Stand Up Dance: Pop up Dances for the World Dance Alliance Global Summit. She has also worked with Roger Sinha for NAFro's Moving Inspirations Dance Festival. She will be working with Montréal choreographer Jason Martin as part of WCD's spring show, and looks forward to working with Company Constance Cooke in 2018.

Mark Dela Cruz is in his graduating year in the School of Contemporary Dancers. He has had the privilege of performing in professional projects with Drive Dance, Stephanie Ballard and Dancers, Gearshifting Performance Works. During this season, he has an apprenticeship with Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers for the Danielle Sturk project. He performed in Robert Desrosier's 50 Dancer Project: *Timeframe* for CDF 2016 in Ottawa and anticipates returning to

perform in CDF 2018. Mark created DWNSTRM which was performed at the MTYP for Losing Tides: A Watershed Awareness Gala, Blueprints, and for SCD's Public School Tours. Mark is a Hip Hop Dance Instructor, Choreographer and Performer; projects he's undertaken include BOSS Dance Company's The Artist Within and NBS's Sharing Dance Day.

Emma Del Monte is in her graduating year in the Professional Program of the School of Contemporary Dancers. Emma has had the opportunity of working closely with Doug Letheren, Mikaila Wallace and Dario Dinuzzi. She has had the honour of working professionally with Stephanie Ballard and Dancers as well as Sinha Danse. She will also be working with Mascall Dance in Vancouver this summer. Emma is very excited to be a part of Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers' Verge.

Neilla Hawley is in her final year of the Professional Program at the School of Contemporary Dancers and will graduate with a BA Honours in Dance. In the fall of 2017, she performed with Sinha Danse for NAfro Dance Productions' Moving Inspirations Dance Festival. She has also performed with Stephanie Ballard and Dancers 'Landscape Dancing' on several occasions. She is honoured to be working with Ms. Ballard again in WCD's Verge.

Shawn MacLaine graduated from the Professional Program of the School of Contemporary Dancers in 2017. In July, he performed with GPS Collective on a tour to Leon, Mexico, and worked with choreographer Meagan O'Shea in Newfoundland as part of Stand Up Dance: Pop up Dances for the World Dance Alliance Global Summit. In the past season, Shawn performed in a work by Marie-Josée Chartier with Gearshifting Performance Works. He is honoured to have a mentorship with Gearshifting Performance Works for the 2017-2018 season and looks forward to performing in Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers' Verge.

The Company

Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers is Canada's first and longest running contemporary dance company, now in it's 54th season. WCD enables vital intersections, linkages and exchange among dance creators, dance interpreters, spectators and communities. Our values, programs, and activities are based on the ongoing development of artists, our place in the community, and respect for our history.

WCD STAFF

Founding Artistic Director: Rachel Browne, C.M., 1934-2012

Interim Company Manager: Johanna Riley

Administrative Assistants: Lise McMillan, Alexandra Winters

Production Manager/Technical Director: James Thurmeier

Graphic Designer: Chris Lee

House Manager: Rebecca Sawdon

VERGE Stage Manager: Emily Barker

WCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Randall Newman-Chair

Lisa Stiver

James Robinson

Adriane Porcin

Andrew Yankiwski

Lindsay Stewart Glor

Artistic Advisor to the Board: Stephanie Ballard

WCD FUNDERS

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