

KASHEDANCE PRESENTS

RETROSPEK



APRIL 18-20, 2024 | 8PM & APRIL 21, 2024 | 2PM AT THE CITADEL



Conseil des arts
du Canada

Canada Council
for the Arts



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO
an Ontario government agency
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

TORONTO
ARTS
COUNCIL

CITADEL
+
COMPAGNIE



"Fifteen years of dance rooted in the culture, creativity and performance aesthetics of the Caribbean and African Diaspora"

Artistic Director's Message A Love Letter

Re:living: Fifteen years ago, I followed a curiosity and then it was a question, how do I begin to explore technique and movement that influenced me? Chris Walker said to me around 2002 "I should go back to my culture" a year before the inclination of forming a company manifested within me. It was at a fundraising event for Ballet Creole where I was then the Assistant to the Artistic Director that Eric Peters said "why don't you form a company" and from this invitation KasheDance was formed. After exploring many names, I settled on the email handle I created in 1994 in an attempt to be distinct and to stand out and that KasheDance have sought to unapologetically do since 2008. I have truly appreciated offering the artists creative practices that support their investigations in movement and it becomes embodied physical memory. I run a Caribbean company. Cultural nuances and attitudes are at the core; it's a return to something known yet unknown an invitation for re:connection.

I, along with the company dream big, are unrelenting in our passion for creative investigation and research leading to the work you will experience tonight. Each is different yet similar and it's been my pleasure remounting these works and also having the creative re:envisioning from the creative leads Jillia Cato and Cheryl Chan. It's with pride that we also announce the appointment of Cheryl Chan as KasheDance's Rehearsal Director.

Re:membering: I invite you on a journey of choreographies rich in rhythmic traditions, culture, social and human rights activism. Retrospek looks into the past, celebrates the present, and signals the creative ways we will work in the future.

There are so many people I should and would thank there isn't enough space in the program notes. I must mention however that this show is dedicated to my first mentor Brian Heap who during preparation for this show took his final bow. Thirty seven years is a long time to have a creative and academic mentor. Dance Immersion has been there from day one. Miriam Adams who poked me and said "you are onto something keep going"

KasheDance is nurtured by a community and it starts with the artists and their commitment to dance... as artistic leads we will always value that...

What was an email address is now a dance company that thinks globally, acts nationally and creates locally; responsive to the shifting landscape of contemporary dance informed by the Caribbean and the African Diaspora.



Re:Imaginings TPM (time, place an movement) (2022)

Re:Imaginings is an honouring the Caribbean influence in Canada, the socio-cultural traditions of the Caribbean and the music of the Caribbean. The Caribbean is a smell, a food, a sound, an accent, a language, an artifact, and a picture. A place of resistance, a commentary, a revelry, a lyme, a vibe, a ting, a portal, a stance, a riddim, a pan, a drum, a tamboo, a iron, a stomp, a chipping, a back back, a whine, a wuk up, a bubble, a fire, a flagwoman, a flagman, ah panyard, a food, a life breathing, a portal through time, It's a joy, it's a time, it's a moment in which we arrive to acknowledge the contributions of Caribbean bodies on Canada. This work is for those before, those in us and those to be birthed with the genome of the Caribbean in them; the amalgam of identities that exist within the Caribbean space and how this shapes an integral part of carnival.

In Movement, A Honouring, A Portal, A Place, Ah Time...

Creative Lead: Jillia Cato

Choreography: Kevin A. Ormsby with movement adaption by the artists

*Concept of Re:Imaginings developed in part with Ronald A. Taylor and Arsenio Andrade

Artists: Orin T. McRey, Benjamin Russell, Jillia Cato, Dwauntea Chambers,

Previous Rehearsal Direction: Ronald Taylor

Previous Dramaturg: Allison Cummings

Original Cast: Cheryl Chan, Jillia Cato, Elina Valtonen, Benjamin Russell, Orin T. McRey, Nataliya Zlotnikov, Kevin A. Ormsby

* The work would not have been possible without the contributions of Aisha Nicholson, Michael Mortley, Kelly LaJuense, Dezjuan Thomas, Emille Jabouin, Allyson Trunzer, Marz Anderson, Atri Nundy, T.T. Davis, Mateo Galindo Torres, Manny Hechevarria, Shakeil Rollock, Vanessa Rose Duru, Gabriella Parson and, Elina Valtonen and Yui Ugai. Their breaths, thoughts and physical interrogation continue to shape the physical manifestation of Re:Imagining TPM

Composer: Joy Lapps-Lewis

Musicians: Joy Lapps-Lewis, Derek Thorne, Kemar Akeem Scarlett

Lighting Design: Sharon DiGenova

Costumes: Diane Sobers, Micheal Mortley / Kelly LaJuenesse

Thanks to the Toronto Arts Council, Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council for supporting the development of this work.



Until THEN Now... (2014)

(excerpts from Dreams, Desires, Possibilities (2008), In SEARCH of OURselves (2009) and Baraka (2010) Presented in our 5th Anniversary production, an excerpt from three of KasheDance's earliest works takes audiences into the imagination of Kevin A. Ormsby's first investigations in movement and in themes that supported KasheDance's multi-technical kinetic play, rhythms and physicality.

Choreography / Creative Lead: Kevin A. Ormsby

Rehearsal Director: Cheryl Chan

Artists: Kevin A. Ormsby, Dwauntea Chambers, Ariel Sim, Benjamin Russell, Orin T. McRey, Amansu Eason

Music: Fela Kuti, Don Pullen / Chief Cliff Singers, Osunlade with Oveous Maximus, with Dj Blackcatt

Costumes: Hyacinth Ormsby, Kadeem Faustin, Diane Sobers

Lighting Design: Sharon DiGenova

Previous Dramaturg: Ronald Taylor

Original Casts:

Dreams, Desires Possibilities (2008) | Krista Aggerholm, Khristina Udegbumam, Lua Shayenne, Pulga Muchochoma, Kerry Ann Wright, Kevin A. Ormsby, Jaz Adina Simone, Sharon Harvey

In SEARCH of OURselves (2009) | Darcel Frederick, Ian Huggins, Kevin A. Ormsby, Kerry Ann Wright, T. T. Davis, Jaz Adina Simone

Baraka (2010) | Lua Shayenne, Mafa Makhubalo, Kerry Ann Wright, Kevin A. Ormsby, Jaz Adina Simone



Recalcitrare (2011)

Premiering at Canada Dance Festival's "Fresh Canadian Choreography" in 2011 "to be a recalcitrant is to resist and question authority. Kevin A. Ormsby as choreographer was curious about the symbiosis of dance techniques, its relationship to art and music. Questioning perceptions of the instruments of the classical period. The Erhu, Cello and Kora drive the musical score.

Recalcitrare came out of movement explorations in Toronto and Kevin A. Ormsby's 2011 Artist in Residence at the Philip Sherlock Centre for the Creative Arts at the University of the West Indies, Kingston Jamaica. Using inspiration from research at the National Gallery of Jamaica examining the poses of renowned Jamaican artist, Edna Manley and through movement exploration with Renee McDonald. Set to the music of Ballake Sissoko and Vincent Segal among others.

Creative Lead: Cheryl Chan

Choreography: Kevin A. Ormsby

Rehearsal Direction: Cheryl Chan

Artists: Dwauntea Chambers, Gabrielle Parson, Yui Ugai, Aisha Nicholson, Benjamin Russell

Music: Kronos Quartet, Ballake Sissoko, Vincent Segal, George Gao, SuperString Theory

Previous Rehearsal Direction, Dramaturgy: Arsenio Andrade, Ronald Taylor

Lighting Designer: Sharon DiGenova

Costumes: Diane Sobers

Original Cast: Byron Beckford, Kerry Ann Wright, Kevin A. Ormsby, Jaz Adina Simone, Gabriella Parson, Aisha Nicholson, T.T. Davis

Other credits: Made possible through Creation funding from Toronto Arts Council (2011), Production Funding from Ontario Arts Council (2014). Special thank you to Anya Wassenberg, Brian Heap, Philip Sherlock Centre for the Creative Arts at the University of the West Indies (Mona Campus) and Veerle Poupeye, O'neil Lawrence and the National Gallery of Jamaica.



FACING Home: Love and Redemption (2016) (Excerpt)

Embarking on separate creative research projects, Mr. Ormsby investigating the global impact of Marley's music, and Mr. Walker, on contemporizing Caribbean dance and research project, "A Yard Abroad" evolved into "Facing Home: A phobia." This project investigated the potential that dancehall and urban popular movement vocabulary has, as language, to engage in conversations around the stigmas of homosexuality and homophobia. Both choreographers decided to creatively combine and collaborate the choreographies to create Facing Home: Love & Redemption. "FACING HOME" is meant to impact migrant populations, generate change and ignite the LGBTQ community, its supporters, and service workers everywhere it's performed and beyond. We hope, with this work, to initiate an ongoing conversation with you and provide spaces for the LGBTQ narratives of displacement from home.

Choreography: Chris Walker, Kevin A. Ormsby

Movement adaptation: Mikhail Morris (Waggonist Section)

Rehearsal Director: Cheryl Chan

Artists: Gabriella Parson, Aisha Nicholson, Yui Ugai, Orin T. McRey, Benjamin Russell, Jillia Cato, Dwauntea Chambers, Amansu Eason

Music: Monty Alexander, Matisyahu, Busy Signal, Vybz Kartel, and Collected news soundscape

Previous Rehearsal Direction, Dramaturg: Ronald Taylor

Lighting Designer: Claude Heintz, Sharon DiGenova

Costumes: Dexter Pottinger (consultation), Diane Sobers

Original Cast: Gabriella Parson, Aisha Nicholson, T.T. Davis, Mikhail Morris, Cheryl Chan, Pierre Clark, Amansu Eason, Kevin A. Ormsby, Gabriella Parson, Yui Ugai, Elina Valtonen, Shakeil Rollock, Nathayu Mildenerberger, Vanessa Duru.

Thank you Dance Immersion for supporting the foundational processes. The University of Wisconsin Foundation, the University of Wisconsin-Madison Graduate School, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison Dance Department, the Toronto Arts Council, and the Ontario Arts Council.

SPECIAL THANKS TO: Laurence Lemieux for your invitation, consideration and support for KasheDance as Company in Residence. Marianna Rosato, Citadel + Compagnie (one of the only remaining centres for dance in Toronto), Millicent Marie Johnnie for all your support and insight. Canada Council for the Arts, Toronto Arts Council, Ontario Arts Council, York University's Sensorium Centre for Digital Art and Technology, Ruth Howard and Jumblies Theatre for continuing to work with KasheDance in places and spaces where Community Arts matters. Dance Umbrella of Ontario and it's staff, Robert Sauvey, Miranda Forbes and Revan Zurub: your support in the organizational development of KasheDance before and during the CV19 period have not gone unnoticed. Evan L. Ormsby and Hyacinth L Ormsby, Delton Frank, for being a colleague, friend and cultural mentor. Leroy Clarke, may you rest in peace and the offerings of connecting art to culture through one single point have guided me. Teheria Viechweg, for unlocking the magic of Grenada Jab Jab, Danny Donleon, Spyceland Dancers, Charlene Harris and the 5678 Dance Studios, Linus Salvador, Tobago Heritage Festival, the Charlotteville Community, and there are many others...

KasheDance 2008 - 2024

Lua Shayenne, Mafa Makhubalo, Kerry Ann Wright, Kevin A. Ormsby, Jaz Adina Simone, Krista Aggerholm, Khristina Udegbumam, Sharon Harvey, Darcel Frederick, Ian Huggins, T. T. Davis, Byron Beckford, Mikhail Morris, Gabriella Parson, Aisha Nicholson, T.T. Davis, Allison Trunzer, Rolston Ryan, Chelcia Creary, Shavaun Brown, Allatunje Connell, Dammecia Hall, Richard Dell, Joy Adejamine, Yui Ugai,, Elina Valtonen, Shakeil Rollock, Nathayu Mildenerberger, Vanessa Duru, Kadeem Faustin, Michael Mortley, Dezjuan Thomas, Kelly LaJuenesse, Nataliya Zlotnikov, Emille Jabouin, Marz Anderson, Atri Nundy, T.T. Davis, Mateo Galindo Torres, Manny Hechevarria, Jillia Cato, Cheryl Chan, Orin T. McRey, Benjamin Russell, Dwauntea Chambers, Ariel Sim.

Guest Artists: Pierre Clark, Amansu Eason, Amal Bryson, N'jelle Gage-Thorne, Candance Thompson Zackary, Nekeisha Garrick, Alistair Graphine, Sebastian Bash Hirtenstein.

KasheDance Board Members 2008 - 2024

Rod Cummings, Christopher Cushman, Susan Ronald, Cian Knights, Carole Andrade, Mealica Money Smith, Orisha Burns, Kris Daley, Gordon Mack Scott, Jaqueline Simm, Aina-Nia Ayodele, Kevin Howell, Alleah Erica Clarke.

Biographies



KEVIN A. ORMSBY | Artistic Director of KasheDance, Kevin is also Curator of Programming at Cultural Pluralism in the Arts Movement Ontario (CPAMO). He has performed with companies in Canada, the United States, and the Caribbean. He has been featured in works by Marie-Josée Chartier, Allison Cummings, Patrick Parson, Ronald Taylor, Ron K. Brown, Menaka Thakkar, ` Garth Fagan, Liz Lerman, Bageshree Vaze, Lemi Ponifasio, Christopher Walker, Denise Fujiwara among others. Nominee for the Johanna Metcalf Performing Arts Prize 2023 and finalist for the Arts Prize 2021, he is a recipient of Canada Council for the Arts' Victor Martyn Lynch – Staunton Award, an Ontario Arts Council Chalmers Fellowship, and Toronto Arts

Council Cultural Leaders Fellow.. Kevin is on the faculty of Centennial College's Dance Performance Program and has been a Guest Artist in Residence at the Philip Sherlock Centre for the Creative Arts at the University of the West Indies (Mona), University of Wisconsin-Madison, Northwestern University and University of Texas-Austin. He is on the Boards of Dance Collection Danse, Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts and has served on the Boards of Canadian Dance Assembly, Prologue to the Performing Arts and Nia Centre for the Arts where he was Chair of Canada's first professional multi-disciplinary centre for African-Canadian art.



JILLIA CATO | Beginning her career in 2003 Jillia Cato actualized her unstoppable passion in creative practices grounded in Caribbean inspired performing arts with her positive, solution oriented personality. She is an afro-indo-Caribbean artist and is assistant artistic director at KasheDance, program associate at CPAMO, project coordinator and dancer with Wind in the Leaves Collective and an independent artist born in Trinidad and Tobago with experience in music, theatre, dance education, production and stage management. Utilizing her Performing Arts degree (Suma Cum Laude, Valedictorian) and project management from her Engineering degree, she functions also as a Production Stage Manager for a variety of event types

within the creative sector. She has danced and toured internationally with Machel Montano and Kes The Band (2008-2019). She's worked with the National Theatre Arts Company of Trinidad and Tobago, Caribbean Arts Festival (CARIFESTA), Centennial College, Etobicoke School of Arts, Kaeja d'Dance, Luminato and Jumblies Theatre.



CHRIS WALKER | Director of the Division of the Arts at University of Wisconsin Madison, Professor in the Dance Department and founding artistic director the the First Wave Hip Hop and Urban Arts Program at UW-Madison. Walker is a multi-hyphenate contemporary dance and performance artist from Jamaica who's creative research reengages the technology at the core of the traditional and urban ritual practices across the African diaspora. His research intersects dance choreography for the concert stage, movement as dramaturgy for theatre as well as devised movement collaborations with visual and performance artists for museum, alternate spaces, and video/film.



CHERYL CHAN | graduated from the GBC Dance Performance Studies Program and has studied a year at The School of Toronto Dance Theatre. She has performed for Pan Am Games, Prologue, and festivals such as Nuit Blanche, SummerWorks, Luminato, Dance Ontario, Moving Inspiration Dance Festival (Winnipeg), and others. Cheryl has worked with companies such as Little Pear Garden Dance Company, The Chimera Project, The Parahumans, and various independent artists. She has danced in short films and music videos like The Grey, Wind Dancer, and Her & Her, which has been awarded at film festivals. Cheryl is also the co-creator of MC² with Michael Mortley, to which they have created their first work Treading: Same, Same But Different. She has been dancing with KasheDance for eight seasons, having toured multiple works throughout the Caribbean, Canada & USA. She debuted as Rehearsal Director for Trilogy of BEing and was recently appointed KasheDance's Rehearsal Director..



ORIN T. MCREY | A multifaceted artist and facilitator. In addition to screen credits (including Arrow and Magicians), she has performed across Canada and internationally. As a member of Her Tribal Roots Collective she has performed with Afrobeats artist Nanya (opening for Burna Boy), co-facilitated youth residencies and engaged in land based arts practices. Orin's training spans Salsa, Afro Cuban/Brazilian Dance, Capoeira, Contemporary, Ballet, Jazz, Hip Hop, Kickboxing, Circus Arts, and Musical Theatre. On extended trips to Cuba and Brazil, she immersed herself in the cultural roots of their dances. Orin's drive to contribute to the education and empowerment of her community has inspired her engagement as MC for Shine Dance Festival;

Teaching Artist for Luminesque Dance, iDance, & BAMDance; and Social Media Manager for various individuals and organizations. Since moving to Toronto in 2021, Orin has been immersed in creative exploration with KasheDance, choreographing for Cheyenne Sapphire, and launching her sensual embodiment classes LUSH FLUX.



BENJAMIN RUSSELL | Dancer, Instructor, with an interest in languages and music, Ben is an avid YouTuber with diplomas in both Mechanical Engineering Technology - Design and Dance Performance which he studied at Centennial College. As a next-generation artist, he has performed with KasheDance, Wind In The Leaves Collective and Little Pear Garden. When not working with dance companies in the city, he teaches recreationally in the Greater Toronto Area (Angela's School of Performing Arts). He has toured with KasheDance to Winnipeg and complete a Creative Residency at the University of Wisconsin - Madison where he had the opportunity to work as an understudy in the further development of Kevin A. Ormsby's Trilogy of

BEing... solo project work under the artistic support of Professor Chris Walker (University of Wisconsin's - Madison's Director of the Division of the Arts). Mr. Russell has an astute interest in cultural ethnography with plans to further his curiosity in the future.



DWAUNTEA CHAMBERS | Graduate from the Edna Manley College of Visual and Performing Arts, he received a Bachelors in Performance and Choreography (BFA). He was a dancer with National Dance Theatre Company of Jamaica (NDTC) and performed with the Plié for the Arts Collective while also gaining professional development from artists like Matthew Rushing of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre. He was the Entertainment coordinator (Bahia Principe, Grand Jamaica). During his BFA he spent two years as a teacher in EMCVPA's Summer School Youth Program program as a Jazz Fusion. Mr. Chambers demonstrates a nuanced understanding of collaboration in creative processes through leadership, participation, and critical reflection. This is his first Season with KasheDance and is also on the Creative Team for Wind in the Leaves Collective's most recent work "Searching for Eastman" presented by Canadian Stage premiering April 2024.



ARIEL SIM | is a Toronto-based multi-genre artist. A lifelong student of dance and music, Ariel has trained and performed with artists across Canada, the United States, France, Ghana, and Côte d'Ivoire. Ariel also pursues work in community development and research, exploring the interconnectedness of our human and more-than-human worlds.



AMANSU EASON | is a dancer, choreographer and teacher of African/Diaspora dance. He is a certified instructor in the Katherine Dunham Technique and offers classes in West African, Afro Caribbean as well as his exploration of "Afro Grooves." Eason serves on the technique committee for the Institute for Dunham Certification. He was the guest instructor for Edna Manley School of Dance summer intensive in Kingston, Jamaica and was invited to give a dance workshop series at the direct request of the Ga'aton Kibbutz dance commune in Israel. Eason began training at an early age in ballet, jazz, tap, modern, and musical theater. He also received extensive training in West African folklore and after high school began

touring with Muntu Dance Theater of Chicago, the oldest traditional African Dance Company in the US. In the 18 years he performed with Muntu, Eason was lead dancer, rehearsal director, assistant artistic director and choreographer. His tribute to Michael Jackson won two Black Excellence Awards for Best Choreography in Chicago. Amansu has performed with and opened for pop artists Ben Harper, Omarion and Mary Mary, and has been a soloist for Chris Walker and a guest artist with KasheDance.



YUI UGAI | is a dance artist from Hiroshima, Japan, now residing in Toronto, Canada. She has collaborated with diverse dance companies globally, performing on numerous national and international stages. Yui's journey began with drama studies at Takarazuka North High School, followed by intensive training in dance and music at Kobe College, Japan. She holds both a BFA and an MFA in Dance from York University, Toronto, where she serves as contract faculty. Yui's talents extend to acting, debuting in Summer Days directed by Nobuhiko Obayashi, and collaborating with Hollywood casting director Yoko Narahashi. She plays a lead role in Raptura which premiered at the imagineNATIVE Film+Media Arts Festival at TIFF, her talent has graced screens worldwide, including Netflix, Disney+ and Sony Pictures.



AISHA NICHOLSON | Artist, Choreographer, Teacher, Spiritual Being and Reiki Practitioner hails from Toronto; creator of the Movement CheckIn a program that brings artist together on Instagram live. She has worked with various choreographers and companies such as Lua Shayenne Dance Company, Ronald Taylor Dance Arsenio Andrade, C.O.B.A (Collective Of Black Artist), Garth Fagan, Aria Evans and KasheDance to name a few. Aisha has performed in Obeah Opera for the Luminato festival and the Carifesta XIV festival in Trinidad and Tobago. In 2021 she Choreographed her first inaugural solo called Abandonment and is currently working on remounting this work. Her artistic practice is rooted in Caribbean, West

African, Contemporary and Afro-contemporary dance styles and her exploration of movement is multilayered, polyrhythmic and rooted in the Black experience. A goal that Aisha strives to stick by is to grow from strength to strength both as a dancer and person. @movementcheckin



DEREK THORNE | was born and raised in Trinidad and Tobago. In 1991 he began teaching himself congas while earning his bachelor's in English Literature at McGill. He later studied Latin and Caribbean percussion with Cuban legend Changuito and Toronto salsa doyen Luis Orbegoso, and traditional percussion in Burkina Faso, West Africa. Abandoning an IT career for music in 2003, Derek has become a staple percussionist in Toronto's music scene: as a dance class accompanist; as in-house talent at event companies Bongo and B Entertainment, ONQ Live, and Main Event Music; and touring with calypso legends David Rudder and Calypso Rose, JUNO winners Kobo Town, The Soul Motivators, Amadou Kienou and Djeli Sira, Ballet Creole, Alpha Rhythm Roots, and award-winning arts-in-education company Hoza!,

amongst others. His classical music collaborators include the Bach Children's Chorus, the St. Michael's Cathedral Boys Choir, and the Canadian Children's Opera Company. Touring commitments have seen Derek take countless stages throughout Canada, the USA, and Europe, plus stops in west Africa and Malaysia.



JOY LAPPS-LEWIS | (Composer) is a Canadian musician, composer, academic and arts educator of Antiguan and Barbudan descent. She was awarded a Masters in Music Composition at York University, and her proficiency with the tenor pan is known internationally. Lapps-Lewis' diverse performance range has led to engaging audience experiences and deserving recognition from professional pannists and a dedicated fanbase. She has performed at festivals including Toronto's Afrofest, Toronto's TD Jazz Festival and Antigua's Moods of Pan Festival. She leads The Joy Lapps Project, an ensemble exploring Afro and Latin-Caribbean Jazz, with a hint of R&B and soul. Lapps-Lewis has educated hundreds of people through her demonstrations at schools, libraries and community spaces. Lapps-Lewis recently released "Girl in the Yard" (2022) to critical acclaim.



KEMAR SCARLET | Kemar started his musical career at the age of 4. He studied with various renowned djembe masters at home and abroad including Les Ballets Africains in Conakry Guinea West Africa, Fareta School of Dance & Drum in Harlem New York and many more. He has worked closely from a young age with master Drummer M'bemba Bangoura and many more from the respected Djembe community. Kemar performs regularly with Ngoma Drum and Dance Ensemble and Lua Shayenne Dance Company. Performance highlights include; Dance Immersion Showcases and In-Studio presentations, Sharing The Stage (National Ballet of Canada and Harbourfront Centre), common ground festival, Toronto Raptors Giants of Africa celebration, The Power of Trust Conference, and many more.



GABRIELLA PARSON | is an accomplished dancer who studied dance at The Etobicoke School of Arts, Ryerson University, under the direction of Patrick Parson at Ballet Creole. Gabby performed with the Kids Creole Ensemble and was one of its founding members. Her talents have been showcased on TV Ontario programming on several occasions and she has performed in such events as Caribana and Kick up Your Heels. As a Ballet Creole company member, Gabby tours and performs with the company across Ontario and parts of Canada and has pursued professional development with Lula Washington Dance Theatre in Los Angeles (2012) and with Zab Mabungou/Compagnie Nyata Nyata in Montreal (2013). She is also a Registered Massage Therapist.



DIANE SOBERS | A member of the Film and Television local IATSE, Costume Department. A graduate of George Brown College; Creative Fashion and Design. Costume Supervisor and Design credits include: Ballet Jorgen, Caribbean Dance Theatre, Roots and Branches, Club Med (Ixtapa, Cancun, Turks and Caicos). Head of Wardrobe for STARVOX stage production of Sherlock Holmes. Other Costume Design credits include LOT Once Upon this Island, Little Mermaid, 9 to 5, Aladdin, Beauty and the Beast. Honored to celebrate and contribute to creative of Kashedance



SHARON DIGENOVA | Lighting Designer/Technical Director began her career (a very long time ago) in a Broadway touring house in Massachusetts. She has since worked in numerous capacities in a multitude of disciplines touring internationally to more than 350 cities (several times over) in over 30 countries throughout North & South America, Europe, Australia, Asia and the Far East. She has collaborated with scores of artists and companies including Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Desrosier Dance Theatre, Ronnie Burkett Theatre of Marionettes, and Canada's internationally acclaimed Holy Body Tattoo, to name a few. Sharon is a full - time animal rights advocate, and Founder of Holly's Hope, a company she runs on a voluntary basis, which produces events to raise money for animals in need.

CITADEL + COMPAGNIE

Artistic Director: Laurence Lemieux

General Manager: Kaitlin Standeven

Production Manager: Marianna Rosato

Programs Coordinator: Sierra Chin Sawdy

Marketing + Communications Coordinator: Chloé Leblanc

Audience Engagement + Box Office Coordinator: Rachana Joshi

Financial Director: Simon Rossiter

Administrative Assistant + Digital Producer: Juliette Coleman

Facility Manager + Outreach Coordinator: Kéïta Fournier-Pelletier

Technical Director: Eliajah Stefura

Bookkeeping: Morgyn Aronyk-Schell