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MAY 14-17 / 2025

NEW TRICKS



CITADEL
LIVE **24/25**

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PHOTO BY JAMES HARRISON

NEW TRICKS

May 14-17, 2025 | The Citadel: Ross Centre for Dance

CO-PRESENTED WITH CHRISTOPHER HOUSE

Choreography and Performance: Christopher House

Soundtrack: Thom Gill*

Lighting Design: Simon Rossiter

Costume Design: Sarah Doucet

Technical Director/Stage Manager: Eliajah Stefura

Consultant: Tedd Robinson

Outside Eye: Rosemary James

New Tricks uses costume, disguise, ritual and 44 years of choreographic research to explore new ways of being in the world in a veteran body. Personal and playful, it highlights the ambiguity of gesture, the poetry of inefficiency, and a queering of the imagination and the flesh.

These performances are dedicated to the memory of my dear friend and partner in crime, Tedd Robinson.

New Tricks is a co-production with the National Arts Centre, Ottawa; Citadel + Compagnie, Toronto, and Neighbourhood Dance Works, St. John's, with generous support from the Canada Council for the Arts, the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, Lindy Green and Sam Chaiton, Martha L.A. McCain, Jim and Sandra Pitblado, and Kip Southam. It premiered at The Citadel: Ross Centre for Dance in Toronto on March 24, 2022, and has subsequently been presented in St. John's, Vancouver, Victoria and Halifax.

Special thanks to Pete Crighton, Ame Henderson, Calla Lachance, Laurence Lemieux, Cathy Levy and Jordan Tannahill.

*Thom Gill and guests perform on the following tracks: *I'll Take Manhattan* (w/ Spencer Cole), *Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood* (w Lydia Persaud and Spencer Cole), *The Crooked World, Deeper Well* (w/ Spencer Cole and Josh Cole), *Alors En Prance, What Have I Done To Deserve This* (w/Veda Hille), *The Ringtone, Joga* (w/Alex Samaras), *Bluefish, Slipstream, Stance, Audrey's Dance* (w/Edwin de Goeij) and *Let Us Dance* (w Edwin de Goeij)

Running time – 60 minutes, no intermission.

Meet the Artists



Photo: David Leyes

Christopher House | Choreographer and Performer

Born and raised in St. John's, NL, Christopher House is a choreographer, performer, director and educator whose works have been performed in nineteen countries worldwide. He was resident choreographer with Toronto Dance Theatre from 1979-2020, the last twenty-six years as Artistic Director, and has worked with many companies and artists including Artistic Fraud, Ballet BC, Ballet Gulbenkian, Cirque du Soleil, Kimsooja, the Hidden Cameras and The National Ballet of Canada. His long career as a performer has included collaborations with Ame Henderson, Jordan Tannahill, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens and post-modern icon Deborah Hay. In 2019, he was named by CBC Arts as one of sixty-nine Canadian artists "who have shaped our country's rich LGBTQ history". Current projects include the curation of *Still with Us: Stories of HIV/AIDS and Dance in Canada* for Dance Collection Danse and a new project with Berlin-based visual artist Young-jun Tak. He is a Member of the Order of Canada and a 2024 inductee into the DCD Hall of Fame.

@christophehouse

@chousetanz

Meet the Artists

Thom Gill | Soundtrack

Thom Gill (he/him) is a freelance music person based in Toronto for the last fifteen years, working closely with Martha Wainwright, Sam Amidon, KNOWER, Owen Pallett, Queer Songbook Orchestra, Bernice, Public Recordings, Toronto Dance Theatre, and many more. He recently travelled to Japan with Beverly Glenn-Copeland, co-wrote songs and played on Chaka Khan's last record, and played a piece of Pauline Oliveros inside Toronto City Hall Council Chambers. Thom can be heard on recent releases by Sam Wilkes, Jeremy Dutcher, Martha Wainwright, and Fievel is Glauque, among others; and on Tanya Tagaq and Jean Martin's score for Caroline Monnet's 2021 film, *Bootlegger*.

Sarah Doucet | Costume Design

Sarah Doucet is a versatile, consent-forward artist, with a multifaceted career spanning contemporary dance, choreography, rehearsal direction, jewellery design, costume design and styling. Since 2022 she has studied intimacy coordinating for the performing arts. Costume design achievements include *LEAP(of faith)* at TOAF 2023 (also as choreographer and rehearsal director), *IF I SHOULD STUMBLE* TOAF 2018-2022, with her long-time collaborator of 25+ years Jenn Goodwin; *Decidedly Jazz* (Calgary), creating costumes for 6 bodies of work including: *JULIET AND ROMEO* in 2017, and *FAMILY OF JAZZ* in 2022. Sarah continues to work with a variety of Canadian dance makers and shakers including Sara Porter, Christopher House, Ame Henderson, Toronto Dance Theatre, Holla Jazz, Amanda Acorn, Justine Chambers, Nova Bhattacharya, Animals Of Distinction (Montreal), Propeller Dance (Ottawa), and more. In 2016, Doucet launched a class action lawsuit against the Royal Winnipeg Ballet and a former teacher who was taking and selling (without consent) naked photos of female students on school premises for 35+ years. In 2023 the RWB settled out of court.

<https://waddellphillips.ca/class-actions/royal-winnipeg-ballet-class-action/>

Meet the Artists

Simon Rossiter | Lighting Design

Simon Rossiter is a lighting designer who occasionally designs scenery. A long-time collaborator with Citadel + Compagnie he has created designs for more than 18 of the company's works, including *Contes pour la fin du temps*, *A Perfect Day*, *Four Old Legs*, *#lovesexbrahms* (Dora award), *Looking for Elvis* (Dora nomination), *Against Nature*, *Les Paradis Perdus*, and *From the House of Mirth* (Dora nomination). Elsewhere, he has created more than 275 designs, which have been honoured with 3 Dora awards from nine nominations for Outstanding Lighting Design. Simon is also Business Agent for the Associated Designers of Canada, IATSE Local ADC659.

Elijah Stefura | Technical Director and Stage Manager

Elijah Stefura (He/Him) is a technician in the city of Toronto. He began working professionally in the industry after his graduation from Toronto Metropolitan University in 2019. Eli joined the C+C team in 2021 and is now The Citadel's Technical Director, also acting as engineer of the company's livestream programming.

Rosemary James | Outside Eye

Rosemary James assumed the role of Rehearsal Director in 1992 after a successful career performing with Toronto Dance Theatre. She has mentored, taught, coached, and remounted the choreographies of Christopher House, former Artistic Director of TDT from 1994-2020. In this position she continues to direct rehearsals, teach, and participate in collaborations with artistic, administrative, and production teams. James has taught in the Professional Training Program at DAI (formerly The School of Toronto Dance Theatre) since 1987 and was the Training and Performing Associate from 2009-2021. She has taught modern dance courses at York University, is currently a contract lecturer at Toronto Metropolitan University, and she is the Education and Outreach Coordinator at TDT. In 2023, James was honoured with The Charles Augins Inspirational Artist Award from the International Association of Blacks in Dance for her dedication and contribution to the dance community. James holds a Bachelor and Master of Arts in dance from York University. For Rosemary's collaborations with colleagues go to <https://tdt.org/about/history/> and for tributes to former TDT company members at @torontodancetheatre

Citadel + Compagnie is an artistic and community entity with a dual purpose.

It is at once both place and people.

The Citadel: Ross Centre for Dance is a remarkable building nestled in the Regent Park neighbourhood of Toronto. Since 2012, The Citadel has established itself as an open and welcoming space for artists to rehearse, create and perform, and where the community can learn, communicate, and share.

The Citadel plays host to a range of presentation platforms and residency programs for some of Canada's most interesting choreographers and dance companies. It is also the home of the Citadel Dance Program, providing free dance education to local children and youth, and neighbour Toronto Council Fire's Indigenous dance program, First Fire.

Compagnie de la Citadelle is the professional dance company within Citadel + Compagnie. Founded in 2000, the Compagnie is known for its creative processes and intimate performances of classic works and new creations. Through remount initiatives, the Compagnie also dedicates itself to the preservation of important Canadian dance work, making available iconic repertoire to a new generation of dance artists.

Citadel + Compagnie

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*on maternity leave

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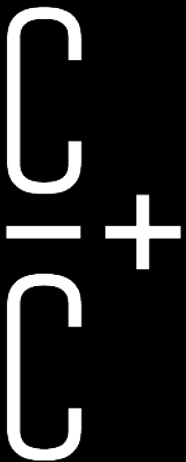
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Citadel + Compagnie wishes to express its deep gratitude towards the following supporters whose significant lifetime giving of over \$100,000 has helped us create not only The Citadel: Ross Centre for Dance but has also helped with our operations, productions and tours. Thank you!

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*Monthly donor

This list represents all donations made between March 1, 2024 - March 31, 2025. It has been updated as of April 20, 2025. We apologize in advance for any omissions.

“

Congratulations to entire Citadel team on twenty-five inspiring years! Thank you for creating such a vibrant, welcoming hub for dance in this city and for doing all the wonderful things you do with such kindness, generosity and respect for artists. I am deeply grateful for the support I have received from The Citadel and for the performances, classes and community events I've attended in your theatre and studio- I am proud to count myself among your supporters and wish you all the very best for the next twenty-five years!

”

- Christopher House

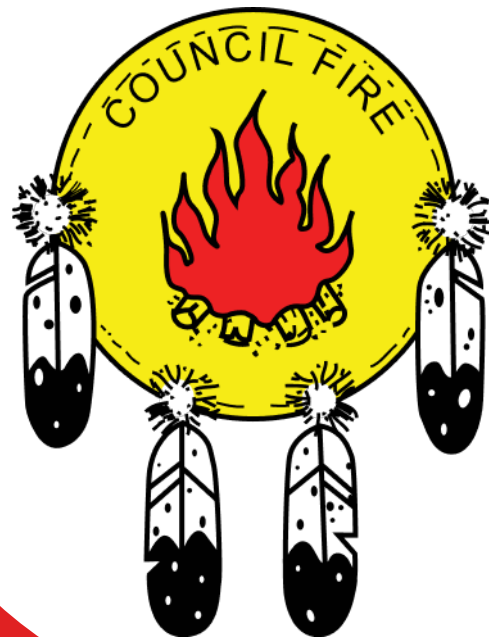
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For 25 years, Citadel + Compagnie has been driven by a passion for sharing exceptional dance with diverse communities and opening meaningful dialogue between artists and the public.

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