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JUN 18–21 / 2025

DOUBLE



CITADEL
LIVE 24/25

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PHOTO BY NAGGA ARUNA

DOUBLE

June 18-21, 2025 | The Citadel: Ross Centre for Dance

Choreographer, Director, Writer: Sharon B. Moore
Producer: Lilia Leon/Leon Arts
Performers, Co-Creators: Lilia Leon, Irma Villafuerte
Projection Designer, Co-Creator: Alejandra Higuera
Composer, Co-Creator: Edgardo Moreno
Stage Manager, Production Manager: A.J. Morra
Lighting Designer: Theo Belc
Set Design: Sharon B. Moore
Set and Props Designer: Curtis Whittaker
Costume Designer: Sarah Doucet
Assistant Producer: Em Pettet
Technical Director: Eliajah Stefura
Video Projection Collaboration: Sharon B. Moore
Associate Stage Manager: Daniel Tessy
Costume Tailor: Chris Faris
Set Construction Support: Sonja Rainey
Poster Photographer: Magda Arturo

In a universe where the dualities of logic and imagination collide, audiences are taken on a curious and surreal ride through spaces large and small. Moore's choreography plays with perspective, suspension and the beauty in the illogical, driven by a deep sense of curiosity.

Using both English and Spanish text, video design, a gravity-defying set, and themes of love and exploration, performers Lilia Leon and Irma Villafuerte are co-conspirators, seeking answers and adventure alongside us. This brand-new dance theatre piece will delight your senses with a collage of revolving and infinite possibilities.

DOUBLE was commissioned and produced by

LEONarts

The presentation of *DOUBLE* is made possible (in part) by the Government of Canada.

Running time – 60 minutes, no intermission
This performance contains adult language.

Welcome!

Tonight, we share a journey on love. Yes. That inevitable state!
That feeling - around us and in us which we long for when gone.
Fleeting, tumultuous, active - exquisite in its unformed, unfolding
multi-coloured moon deep glare. A delicate existence moving
beyond our grasp and sometimes recognition. We catch it and lose
it, hold it and uphold it. And what is love?

Join us in feeling and image, thought and proposal as our two life
units flex and bend to sort out an original equation of love. Listen
as you wish, watch where you want. Let the layers wash over you,
to form your own kaleidoscopic landscape.

Safe travels.

And with that, we wish you love!

Sharon B. Moore

Thank you!

A big Thank You to the following:

Laurence Lemieux and the whole Citadel team for believing in this work and offering valuable resources for its development and presentation.

Sharon B. Moore for dreaming up this bold and beautiful work for us and leading our team of collaborators in a wonderful journey!

Bea Pizano, Trevor Schwellnus and the Aluna Theatre team for mentorship and loaning technical gear.

Aria Evans, Michael Caldwell and the SummerWorks team; Anita la Selva, Karen Kaeja, the Leon Tovar family; Peter Genoway and the Genoway family; Mimi Beck.

Our GoFundMe campaign donors for your generous contributions.

Our promotional partners: Aluna Theatre, WhyNot Theatre, Lua Shayenne Dance Company, Kaeja D'dance, SummerWorks, Danceworks, TO Love In, Vanguardia Dance Projects, DreamWalker Dance, Kashe Dance, Dance Arts Institute, CALTAC, Dance Umbrella, Pencil Kit Productions.

This work was first presented as a work-in-progress as part of SummerWorks Performance Festival in 2023, in the SummerWorks Lab stream. Development support of *DOUBLE* has been received from Aluna Theatre through the 2023 CAMINOS Festival. Rehearsal space was provided through Aluna Theatre and Why Not Theatre's Space Project.

Leon Arts would like to acknowledge the support of the Toronto Arts Council – Long Term Dance Projects, whose funding was crucial to keep this project afloat during its early development.



Meet the Artists

The logo for Leon Arts, featuring the word "LEONarts" in a white, sans-serif font on a black background. The "O" in "LEON" is stylized with a horizontal line through it.

Leon Arts | Producer

Leon Arts is a new dance-theatre company founded by Lilia Leon for the purpose of creating and presenting new multidisciplinary performances. We are drawn to working with artists that challenge conventional hierarchies and practices, in order to explore the full range of human experiences—from the surreal and absurd to the intimate and mundane. *DOUBLE* is our first commissioned production, celebrating our commitment to bringing together artists across disciplines and languages, highlighting mixed identities and bilingualism.

www.leonarts.ca

Photo: Lisa



Sharon B. Moore | Choreographer, Director, Writer

Sharon creates as a choreographer, director and writer for dance, theatre, film and circus. A former member of Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers under the direction of Tedd Robinson, she was the first Canadian to receive a Bessie Schonberg Choreographic Residency at "The Yard" on Martha's Vineyard. In 2012 she was appointed Atelier Artist in Residence at Princeton University where she ran a lab in narrative and movement. Alongside Canadian composer/director Derek Aasland, she runs Cinetic Creations, a company which serves the film industry as a specialty movement/choreography design and direction unit creating large-scale, picture-wide movement worlds on features such as Sony Pictures/Impact Films/Davies Films *Resident Evil*; *Apocalypse*.

Photo: Kylie Thompson



Lilia Leon | Producer, Performer, Co-Creator

Lilia Leon is a Mexican-Canadian performing artist with Mestizo heritage, whose artistic practice has been shaped by her experiences as a Latin American immigrant; she has lived in Canada for two decades. She holds a BA in dance from York University and is a graduate of Dance Arts Institute, formerly The School of Toronto Dance Theatre. Lilia founded Leon Arts in 2024 to create, perform and produce multidisciplinary performances that highlight mixed identities. *DOUBLE* is her company's first production and commissioned work. Her multifaceted work includes performance, choreography, education, and mentoring in dance and theatre. She has been honoured to collaborate with remarkable Indigenous, Canadian and Latin American artists, including Vanguardia Dance Projects, Norma Araiza, Anita La Selva, Carlos Rivera, Penny Couchie, wind in the leaves collective, Kaeja d'Dance and Aluna Theatre. Lilia has a parallel career as a registered massage therapist since 2021; she brings her embodied wisdom into her therapeutic work.

@lilialeonarts

Photo: Stanley Omar



Irma Villafuerte | Performer, Co-Creator

Irma Villafuerte a Tkaronto based dance artist, educator, choreographer and first-generation daughter of refugees from Nahuat Territory Kuskatan, post-colonial El Salvador. Irma is the Program Director of Native Earth's Animikiig Creators Lab and a Toronto Arts Foundation 2021 Emerging Artist Finalist. She is a co-founder of CinnaMoon Collective. She's been part of works by Kaha:wi Dance Theatre, Jaberri Dance Theatre, Kaeja d'Dance, Victoria Mata, Aria Evans, Alejandro Ronceria, Diana Lopez and Michael Caldwell. Since 2017, she has led a journey nurturing her choreographic development through residencies with Dance Makers, TDT's Emerging Voices, Kaeja d'Dance's KAIR and Aluna Theatre; currently developing two important works Xilopango and Siwat Piedra. Irma's passion for social justice and human rights is her driving force for creation. She is an educator at Casa Maíz' Semillas Latinas program for Latin American children, tdsbCREATES and the Toronto Film School.

<https://www.irmavillafuerte.com/>

@southofyourfeet

Photo: Ana Maria Higuera



Alejandra Higuera | Projection Designer, Co-Creator

Alejandra Higuera is a Queer multidisciplinary, visual storyteller focused on creating poetic visuals through different mediums: illustration, animation, embroidery, and projection. One of her main interests is designing imagery for performances, focusing on the dialogue between the image, the piece, the performer[s], and a specific site. She is currently part of Aluna Theatre's learning lab where she is exploring interactive projections and video mapping using Isadora. Her work focuses on themes of migration, feminism, memory, grief, ritual, and being a solo parent by centering the intricate stories of immigrant, Queer and BIPOC resilience and exploring how healing leads us to re-imaging ourselves.

Photo: Violeta Puente



Edgardo Moreno | Composer, Co-Creator

Edgardo Moreno has been commissioned for projects in Canada, Venezuela, Mexico, Sweden, Argentina, England and USA. He has written scores for films produced by CBC, Bravo, City TV, NFB, OMNI, Ontario Arts Council, History Channel, TVO. He has worked extensively with contemporary dance choreographers creating sound design and musical scores. Edgardo is presently working in creating video and live sound pieces that are part of his Firefly project. Edgardo has worked with Indigenous contemporary dance choreographers and artists including Penny Couchie, Alejandro Ronceria, Rulan Tangen, Muranko Starr, Carlos Rivera, Sara Roque, Clayton Windatt, Justyn Manyfingers, and Tasha Faye Evans.

Photo: Sooj Kim



Theo Belc | Lighting Designer

Theo Belc is a production freelancer based in Toronto. They graduated from the Performance Production Program at Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson), where they focused their studies in lighting design and scenic arts. Their motivation lies in using their multi-disciplinary interests to engage, support, and create meaningful stories that contribute to the Toronto arts scene. Recent works: Technical Director, *I Love the Smell of Gasoline*, Nightwood Theatre, 2023; assistant lighting designer, *Fall for Dance North* (2022); assistant lighting designer, *Svāhā!*, Nova Dance, 2022; lighting designer, Winchester Prize Showcase, SummerWorks Festival, 2022.

Photo: David Leyes



A. J. Morra | Stage Manager, Production Manager

Based in Toronto, A.J. is a graduate of the Technical Theatre Program at Toronto Metropolitan University and has enjoyed an active career as a technical director, production manager and stage manager for contemporary dance, circus, and theatre. Selected credits include work with Toronto Dance Theatre, Groundling Theatre Company, Zero Gravity Circus, Dreamwalker Dance Company, Zata Omm Dance Projects, Soundstreams, and Signal Theatre.

Photo: Curtis Whittaker



Curtis Whittaker | Set and Props Designer

Curtis Whittaker is a technical director, scenic carpenter, sound designer, musician, and visual artist who splits their time between Toronto and Nova Scotia. Selected credits include technical director: Opera Atelier (2023 to present) and Festival of Dance Annapolis Royal (FODAR) 2021 - present. Also: Sarah Porter Productions, RiserX, Theatre Gargantua, and Rochester Opera House. Head scenic carpenter credits: Factory Theatre (2022 to present); Theatre Passe Muraille, Tapestry Opera, Lower Ossington Theatre, *Fall for Dance North*. Designer and head of audio credits: Wychwood Theatre; Lower Ossington Theatre; Travis Knights: *The Mars Project*; Fujiwara Dance Productions (projections & audio). Head carpenter credit: Art Shelter and Dome, *Frog in Hand*.



Sarah Doucet | Costume Designer

Sarah Doucet, a versatile consent-forward artist, embraces a multifaceted career spanning contemporary dance, choreography, rehearsal direction, jewellery design, costume design and styling, and more recently, a sharp focus on intimacy coordinating/directing. Costume design credits include: *Leap(of faith)*, Toronto Outdoor Art Fair, 2023 (also as choreographer and rehearsal director); *If I Should Stumble*, Toronto Outdoor Art Fair, 2018-2022; a 25+ year collaboration with Jenn Goodwin; *Family of Jazz*, Decidedly Jazz Danceworks, 2022; *Juliet and Romeo*, Decidedly Jazz Danceworks, 2017. Sarah continues to work with a variety of Canadian dance makers and shakers such as Sara Porter, Christopher House, Amé Henderson, Toronto Dance Theatre, Holla Jazz, Amanda Acorn, Justine Chambers, Nova Bhattacharya, Animals of Distinction (Mtl), Propeller Dance (Ottawa) and others. She is thrilled to be working with Lilia, Irma, Sharon and the rest of the crew on this mystical journey into time and space.



Em Pettet | Stage Manager, Production Manager

Em is based in kijipuktuk/Halifax on the unceded territory of the mi'kmaq people. They work as a writer, editor, creator and producer and are currently raising a puppy and a kitty cat near the ocean while dreaming and scheming ways to support and uplift community in these challenging times. They are thrilled to be working with Lilia and their team on such a transformative piece of dance theatre. Em trained as a dancer, creator and actor in Canada and the UK and studied gender studies and applied ethics at the University of Victoria. They very much love swimming in surreal worlds that centre curiosity and playfulness.



Elijah Stefura | Technical Director

Eli (he/him) is a technician in the city of Toronto. He began working professionally in the industry upon his graduation from Toronto Metropolitan University in 2019. Eli danced recreationally and professionally for 19 years before transitioning to a career in production. Eli Joined the Citadel team in 2021 and has enjoyed being able to blend his love of dance with his passion for technical production.

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.

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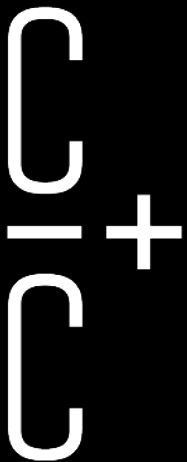
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CREATE.
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Our Supporters

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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**Donation directly supports C+C's Citadel Dance Program, providing free dance education to children and youth living in Regent Park.

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This list represents all donations made between May 1, 2024 - May 31, 2025. It has been updated as of June 13, 2025.
We apologize in advance for any omissions.

25 Years and Beyond

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.

We are deeply committed to the development of Toronto's dance community, and this is what moves us to create, present and inspire.

This commitment is expressed through our dance company, **Compagnie de la Citadelle**, our presentation series **Citadel LIVE**, and the cultivating of the next generation of dancers through our **Citadel Dance Program**.

Citadel + Compagnie is a force within the Toronto dance community, and we need your support to continue our extraordinary programming well into the future.

CLICK HERE to help us finish this anniversary season strong by raising \$50,000 by June 30, 2025.



LEONarts

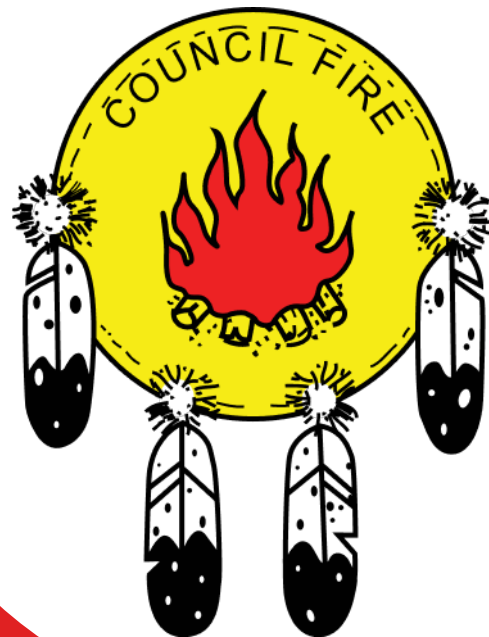
Leon Arts is a brand-new company, and *DOUBLE* is our first production! Thank you for joining us tonight. We are committed to compensating our team with rates above living wage and we are currently not receiving any funding for the project and the company.

CLICK
HERE

If you enjoyed tonight's performance, please consider donating to our GoFundMe campaign



TORONTO COUNCIL FIRE NATIVE CULTURAL CENTRE



Get to know our neighbours

Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre is one of many Aboriginal service providers in the Greater Toronto Area that work together to address the social, health, education, economic, and cultural needs of the Toronto urban Aboriginal population.

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