

ALLIES AND FRIENDS

NOV 7–8 / 2025

MAR 20–21 / 2026

MAY 1–2 / 2026

THE CITADEL:
ROSS CENTRE FOR DANCE

PRESENTER-IN-RESIDENCE



wind
in the leaves
collective

CITADEL
LIVE ²⁵/₂₆

CITADEL.CIE.COM

PHOTO BY JENNIFER COLEMAN

wind in the leaves collective presents

ALLIES AND FRIENDS

May 1 + 2, 2026 | 8pm | The Citadel: Ross Centre for Dance

Surpluses & Deficits

Original Concept and Choreography: Roger Sinha

Performers: Roger Sinha, Emmanuelle Martin

Majestic 9 Tailed Fox

Choreographer: Emily Cheung

Poet/Performer and Dancers: Diana Tso, Cheryl Chan, Jessica Gomes, Chloe Chow

- 15-minute intermission -

If Not Now When (Excerpt from *Specimens*)

Performers: Shelly Ann McCleod, Emily Duckett, Nickeshia Garrick, Zuri Skeete,
charles c smith

Poetry by charles c. smith (from collection *specimens*)

Towing the Line

Collaborators and Performers: Jim Nason, Steph Harkness

Burn (Excerpt from *Specimens*)

Sailor's Tale (Excerpt from *Specimens*)

Performers: Alli Carey, Nickeshia Garrick, Julianna Heft, Ellie Jung, Aryana
Malekzedah, Abbey Richens, charles c smith

Poetry by charles c. smith (from collection *specimens*)

Running time approximately 2 hours

wind in the leaves collective

Artistic Director: charles c. smith

Producer: Jenny McCowan

Project Coordinator: Jillia Cato

Social Media Manager: Claire Whitaker

Administrator: Bia Rohde

Videographer: S'Quire Johnson

allies and friends

Production Stage Manager: Sharon DiGenova

Lighting Designer: Eliajah Stefura

Greetings

dear friends, colleagues, fellow artists, the interested and the curious, as artistic director of the wind in the leaves collective, i'm honoured to share with you our final program for 2025/26 in collaboration with Citadel + Compagnie. this evening, we have four amazing performances with poetry and music as mediums inspiring movement. this is what the collective loves to do – share works that intertwine dance/poetry.

we collaborate with artists whose work addresses transformative social change and genre-bending performances. this allows us to deepen our own practice of connecting dance with poetry and artists who work in this space. So, for our final performance this season, we're honoured to present:

Surpluses & Deficits is **Roger Sinha's** memoir, a tribute to a pivotal moment in his life: the decision to abandon his studies in economics to devote himself entirely to his true passion – dance. A series of life scenes, inspired by his experiences and those of his stage partner unfold and intertwine, combining different forms of expression: dance, music, theatre, spoken word and video projection. This piece explores the complex and unique relationship between choreographer and performer in dance.

Little Pear Garden's *Majestic 9 Tail Fox* is a three-part dance poem tracing a mythic journey through nourishment, fire, and sacred union. Inspired by the fox spirit archetype, the work explores feminine transformation as bodies, voices, and souls dissolve into one another through ritual acts of feeding, whispering, and ecstatic exchange.

Jim Nason's and **Steph Harkness'** *Towing the Line* looks to nature and the arts to answer difficult questions about hatred and oppression. It calls on us to speak out against social injustices while striving to celebrate beauty and cherish our uniqueness. And when the striving becomes difficult, we are reminded... *...we must hold to what is difficult; everything in nature grows and defends itself in its own way and is characteristically and spontaneously itself, seeks at all costs to be so against all opposition.* (Rainer Maria Rilke, *Letters to a Young Poet*).

wind in the leaves collective 'specimens' is based on the new book of poetry **by charles c smith**. Working with music by **Amina Claudine Myers, Meredith Monk** and **King Crimson**, the performances portray the plight of Black slave women used for medical experimentation and the dividing up of the African continent by Europeans colonization and its impact on Black bodies. Please note: there are very sensitive materials that may be upsetting in this work.

While this is our season finale, we look forward to our 2026/27 season both at The Citadel where will be presenting works by Aryana Malekzedah, Alexander Herrara, Nyata Nyata from Montreal and the next phases of the collective's new work called 'specimens', some of which you'll see tonight. And stay tuned for our performances at Mallo Bistro where we present emerging dancers and writers. Check out our website for more details (<https://windintheleavescollective.com/>) and you can connect with us on Facebook and social media. Also, feel free to reach out to us at windintheleavescollective@gmail.com. We'd love to hear from you, especially from artists who share values similar to ours!



Surpluses & Deficits

Original Concept and Choreography: Roger Sinha
Performers: Roger Sinha, Emmanuelle Martin
Dramaturge: Menka Nagrani
Tango Coach: Marjolaine Auger
Costumes: Sabrina Miller
Video and Motion Design: Jérôme Delapierre
Lighting Design: Tim Rodrigues

Poems and Spoken Word: Roger Sinha
Emmanuelle's Solo Poem: Roger Sinha,
Emmanuelle Martin
Sound Design: Roger Sinha
Live Music – RAV: Roger Sinha, Emmanuelle Martin
Live Music – DIDGERIDOO: Roger Sinha
Original Music for the Video: Kai Dobbartin

Recorded Music:

Create Culture by Quantas; *Quizas, Quizas, Quizas* by Nat King Cole; *La Gloria* by Gotan Project; *Prelude* by John Hanks; from *Burning Skin* by Himmat Singh Shinhat; *Danube Blue* by Johanne Strauss II; *A Chorus Line* by Eric Kunze; *Sleeping Beauty* by the New Philharmonic Orchestra; *Speaking in Tongues* by Sheila Chandra; *The Rite of Spring* Igor Stravinsky; *Chapati* by Undercover; Buddhist Throat Singing Monks; *Gisèle Act II Final* y the London Symphony

Surpluses & Deficits is a powerful and intimate memoir by Roger Sinha that traces his bold decision to leave economics behind and fully embrace dance as his life's calling. Blending movement, theatre, music, and multimedia, the piece intertwines personal stories of identity, partnership, and artistic creation. By exploring power, race, and belonging, it shows dance as a vital force for healing, connection, and survival.

Special Thanks:

Thanks to Sara Porter for our first creative workshop process that gave us the impetus for this project. Thanks to Benoit Leduc for coaching the remount of the tango from Roger Sinha's creation *Benches* in 2005.

Funding Partners:

Voir annexe, Canada Council for the Arts / Conseil des arts du Canada, Emploi Québec, CALQ Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, Fondation of Greater Montréal, Conseil des arts de Montréal

The creation of SINHA DANSE came about due to the need of its founder to reclaim his Indian heritage and make use of the tradition using contemporary expression. The company explores a universe forged from contemporary dance, Bharata Natyam (traditional southern Indian dance), martial arts, theatre and slam. Stories hold an important place for Roger, especially those of authors, poets, travelers and the story of the choreographer himself. Making use of irony and poetry, the pieces are created with energy and daring while perusing human existence and celebrating its universality and its diversity. Roger Sinha's works take a critical look at current events, racism and culture shock. Over the last few years, the company has sought to focus on the integration of new technology and the creative interdisciplinary process, alternating and associating interactive technology, video and music. Pursuing the idea of a discussion with the audience, Sinha Danse is resolutely focused on the evolution of dance as a form of art.

Majestic 9 Tailed Fox

Choreographer: Emily Cheung

Poet/Performer and Dancers: Diana Tso, Cheryl Chan, Jessica Gomes, Chloe Chow

Music: Serge Quadrado, Surprising Media

Song Composer: Chloe Chow

In this three-part dance poem, *9 Tail Fox* follows a mythic journey through nourishment, fire, and sacred union, inspired by the ancient fox spirit archetype. Through ritual acts of feeding, whispering, and ecstatic exchange, bodies and souls dissolve into one another, moving from womb-like intimacy into a blaze of celestial awakening. Sensual, feral, and deeply symbolic, the work becomes a visceral meditation on feminine power, shapeshifting identity, and the wild longing to merge.

Thank you wind in the leaves collective, Diana Tso (writer, spoken word), Jessica Gomes (dancer), Cheryl Chan (dancer/coordinator)

Funding Partners: Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council and the Toronto Arts Council

LITTLE PEAR GARDEN DANCE COMPANY is one of Canada's leading Chinese contemporary dance companies, dedicated to advancing the rich legacy of Chinese performance through innovative creation, education, and cross-cultural collaboration. The organization bridges traditional Chinese aesthetics with contemporary movement vocabularies, creating works that resonate deeply with today's audiences. Under the artistic leadership of Emily Cheung, the company has become known for visually striking productions, immersive storytelling, and interdisciplinary performances that explore mythology, diaspora, identity, and transformation.

Based in Toronto, Little Pear Garden Dance Company champions both emerging and established artists while fostering meaningful dialogue across cultures through performances, workshops, lectures, and community engagement initiatives. Its repertoire reflects a bold artistic vision rooted in authenticity, excellence, and the evolving expressions of Chinese Canadian experience, offering audiences work that is at once timeless, poetic, and powerfully contemporary.

Towing the Line

Collaborators and Performers: Jim Nason, Steph Harkness

Poems (in order of recitation): *Canada Day*, *Towing the Line*, *Zanate*,
The Great-Tailed Grackle

Music: *That Night Together With Her* by Pablo's Eye, *Sweet 'Tater Pie* by Mongo Santamaría

Towing the Line is an interdisciplinary performance where language meets movement—where the body becomes a second voice. Through the interplay of spoken word and dance, this piece explores political tension, personal choice, and the fragile boundary between control and surrender. It examines the idea of “the line” as both constraint and expression, using metaphor, movement, and voice to navigate identity, instinct, power and rhythm.”

JIM & STEPH first met and performed together as part of Mallo Nights: an evening of poetry and dance in 2023. Three years later, they are thrilled to be working together again, finding inspiration in each other's artistry and delight in their naturally flowing creative process.

If Not Now When (Excerpt from *Specimens*)

Performers: Shelly Ann McCleod, Emily Duckett, Nickeshia Garrick, Zuri Skeete,
charles c. smith

Poetry by charles c. smith (from collection *specimens*)

Music by Amina Claudine Myers

Burn (Excerpt from *Specimens*)

Performers: Alli Carey, Nickeshia Garrick, Julianna Heft, Ellie Jung, Aryana Malekzedah,
Abbey Richens, charles c. smith

Poetry by charles c. smith (from collection *specimens*)

Music by Meredith Monk

Sailor's Tale (Excerpt from *Specimens*)

Performers: Shelly Ann McCleod, Emily Duckett, Nickeshia Garrick, Zuri Skeete,
charles c. smith

Poetry by charles c. smith (from collection *specimens*)

Music by King Crimson

These excerpts from *Specimens* are based on the new poetry collection by charles c. smith of the same title. Set to music by Amina Claudine Myers, Meredith Monk, and King Crimson, each piece explores the experience of Black women subjected to medical experimentation from slavery onward, alongside the enduring impact of European colonization in Africa on racialized bodies.

Much appreciation to Claire Whitaker (Social Media), S'Quire Johnson (Videographer), Jenny McCowan (Producer), Bia Rohde (Administrator).

Funding Partners: Canada Council for the Arts, Department of Culture and Heritage, the Ontario Arts Council and the Toronto Arts Council

[Click here for poem texts](#)

Meet the Artists



Alli Carry, Performer *Burn*

Alli Carry is a Toronto-based emerging multidisciplinary dance artist. Her recent performance credits include Marina Robinson's *Unfurl* at the Toronto Fringe Festival, *Ball Pit* in the Dance Made in Canada Festival and Mallo Nights by Wind in the Leaves Collective. Aside from performing as a dancer, Alli is inspired to explore her artistry and produce work through the mediums of choreography, film, photography, and theatre. Most recently, she participated in a two-week choreographic residency (Open Space) provided by The National Ballet of Canada. There she continued to develop her current choreographic work entitled *A subject*. Alli celebrates collaboration as a pillar for her art practice and creates work through a feminist lens. She aims to make work that is meaningful to a diverse audience while remaining authentic to her unique voice. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Performance Dance with distinction from TMU.



Cheryl Chan, Performer *Majestic 9 Tailed Fox*

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, and festivals such as Nuit Blanche, SummerWorks, Luminato, Dance Ontario, Moving Inspiration Dance Festival (Winnipeg), and others. Cheryl has worked with companies such as The Chimera Project, The Parahumans, and various independent artists. Cheryl has been dancing with KasheDance for 10 seasons, touring multiple works throughout the Caribbean, Canada & USA, and is also the Rehearsal Director for the company. She is also the co-creator of MC² with Michael Mortley.



Emily Cheung, Choreographer *Majestic 9 Tailed Fox*

Emily Cheung is a Toronto-based artistic director, choreographer, and cultural leader renowned for advancing Chinese contemporary dance in Canada and internationally. As Artistic Director of Little Pear Garden Dance Company, she creates visually immersive and emotionally resonant works exploring mythology, identity, diaspora, and transformation. Cheung was recognized as one of the 15 Canadians in Voices of Chinese Canadian Women for her contribution to building a strong community. She is a finalist for the Muriel Sherrin Award and the Johanna Metcalf Performing Arts Prizes / Les Prix Johanna-Metcalf de la scène, while her works received two Dora Award nominations in 2024, affirming her impact on Canada's contemporary performance landscape.



Sharon DiGenova, Production Stage Manager

Sharon is a Production Stage Manager and award-winning Lighting Designer, who began her career in a Broadway touring house in Massachusetts. She has since been engaged in many capacities in a multitude of disciplines – designing for dance, theatre, multi-media, circus and even freak shows, and stage-managing music venues, producing dance, running her own venue, and touring internationally to over 350 cities (several times over) in more than 30 countries. She has collaborated with scores of artists, companies and festivals ranging from The Royal Winnipeg Ballet, and Esmeralda Enrique Spanish Dance Co to Lua Shayenne Dance Co., and Canada's internationally acclaimed Holy Body Tattoo.



Emily Duckett, Performer *If Not Now When*

Emily Duckett (she/they) is a Black, queer, dance artist residing in the region originally known as Tkaronto. Their artistic expression is profoundly influenced by their intersecting identities. Emily's practice is based on the belief that creating and manipulating art is a communal endeavor and the idea that dance is a vehicle for de-socialization, leaving deeply embedded societal constraints behind and instead existing whole heartily in the body. Since graduating from York University with a BFA in Dance and a Specialized Honor in performance and choreography in 2022, Emily has collaborated with esteemed companies such as Nia Centre For The Arts, Toronto Dance Theatre, Buddies In Bad Time Theatre, and Mocean Dance. At present, their artistic exploration centers on themes of unity, chaos, visceral instincts, pleasure, paradoxes, and risk taking.



Nickeshia Garrick, Performer *If Not Now When*, *Burn*, *Sailor's Tale*

Nickeshia is an unapologetically Black, queer performing artist who believes in the healing power of breath through raw emotion, movement, and storytelling. They are an award-winning, multi-nominated artist who holds a BFA in Dance from Simon Fraser University (Vancouver) and is a Co-Founder of CinnaMoon Collective, a 2x Dora-nominated dance collective. Nickeshia Garrick is currently working on the next iteration of her solo work, *the ties that Bind us*, *the ties that Bond us*, which was recently presented as part of Toronto Dance Theatre (TDT) Eyes on Beginnings Sharing Fall 2025 at the Winchester Street Theatre.



Jessica Gomes, Performer *Majestic 9 Tailed Fox*

Jessica Gomes is a Toronto based artist who has a passion for performing. She is a graduate from George Brown's Dance Performance Studies program and well-versed in many styles including jazz, contemporary, ballet (RAD and Russian), pointe, modern, tap, hip-hop and musical theatre. Jessica brings energy, positivity and a committed work ethic to everything she does in her performing career. She was recently on set for *Killer Clues* and performed in Cirque Revolution's "*A Wicked Good Time*" at the Canadian National Exhibition last summer. She has also performed in Alessia Cara's *L & H* music video, as well as Jenna Scafer's short film, "*Friend of a Friend*". Jessica has performed with artists such as Rêve, Deborah Cox, One Republic, SonReal, Keisha Chante & Patrick Pentland. She has had the opportunity to perform in Candlelight Concerts, Canada's Walk of Fame Athlete of the Year, Haunted Cinema at Ontario Place, Winter Fest's production of *Tinker's Toy Factory*, touring to Dubai to perform the production of *Aladdin*, *Legends of Horror* at Casa Loma, dancing for the Toronto Argonaut's Cheer Team and was featured in PhoeNX Ensemble's first online digital offering of "*the Legend of Chang'e, Immortal Goddess of the Moon*" with Little Pear Garden. Jessica continuously performs in projects and shows across the GTA.



Steph Harkness, Performer *Towing the Line*

Steph (they/them) is an emerging choreographer, teacher, and Dora-Award winning performer based in Tkaronto. Steph holds a BFA in dance and a BA in anthropology from Purchase College, SUNY (2022). As a freelance performer, Steph has performed works by Angela Blumberg, Alyssa Martin, Eilish Shin-Culhane, and Colleen Snell to name a few. Steph is a faculty member at the School of Canadian Contemporary Dance Theatre and a frequent guest teacher at various institutions across Ontario. Steph's choreography has been presented at the Toronto Fringe Festival (2024), the Guelph Dance Festival (2025), and the Citadel Live Series as part of Citadel Dance Mix (2025).

Photo, Ali Carry



Julianna Heft, Performer *Burn, Sailor's Tale*

Julianna Heft is a contemporary artist based out of Tkaronto (Toronto). Heft is a graduate of Dance Arts Institute and has trained in various styles across Canada. Most recently Heft was an intern for SummerWorks exploring creative archival practices through new media, under the mentorship of Chimerik Collective. She is passionate about collaboration and innovation in the field of dance, using softwares such as Isadora/Reaper/Touch Designer, crossing between disciplines such as music, theatre, poetry, film and new media. Heft believes in movement as a catalyst for community, connection and a tool for liberation of our bodies. She strives to continue facilitating spaces that reflect those values both artistically and in her everyday life.

Photo, William K



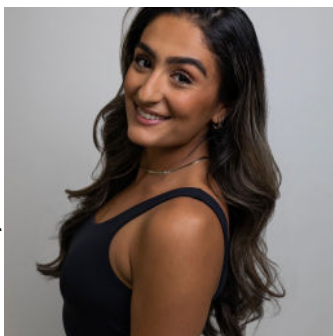
Ellie Jung, Performer *Burn, Sailor's Tale*

Ellie Jung is a contemporary dancer from Korea. She trained from a young age and worked professionally before expanding her practice internationally, performing in Spain and Poland. Leaving Korea became a natural progression as she engaged with diverse environments, histories, and artistic communities, shaping an ongoing journey in dance. Her interests lie in interdisciplinary practices at the intersection of contemporary art, language, and movement. She first connected with Toronto-based choreographers Hanna Kiel and Heidi Strauss through auditions and workshops in Korea. She was later invited to Canada through a residency with Ottawa Dance Directive and is now based in Toronto.



Shelly Ann McLeod, Performer *If Not Now When*

Shelly Ann began formal dance training at age eleven with Les Enfants Dance Company in Trinidad and Tobago. She represented Trinidad and Tobago at Caribbean dance festivals, sharing her practice through workshops and teaching. In 2004, she received a scholarship to study Dance and Dance Education at the University of the West Indies, followed by a 2006 COBA (Collective of Black Artists) scholarship supporting her artistic development. In Toronto, she has taught at Seneca College, Toronto Film School, and Emery Collegiate Institute. She continues to work as a performer, educator, and mentor, using dance for cultural expression and community connection.



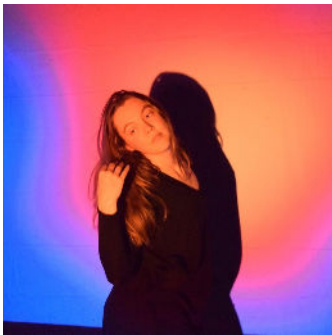
Aryana Malekzadeh, Performer *Burn, Sailor's Tale*

Aryana Malekzadeh is an Iranian Canadian performing dance artist, choreographer, and dance educator based in Toronto. She is a graduate of Dance Arts Institute and holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts with Honours from York University where she was awarded merit scholarships. Throughout her professional career, Aryana has worked for renowned choreographers such as Hanna Kiel, Roshanak Jaberri and Syreeta Hector amongst others and has performed as a company member with Little Pear Garden Dance Company. Most recently, Malekzadeh toured across Canada with Shannon Litzenberger Contemporary Dance in their work *World After Dark*. Alongside performing, Aryana is a contract faculty member at York University, where she pursues her passion of teaching movement. In her own practice, Aryana's work explores themes of identity and cultural inheritance. As an artist of the Iranian diaspora, she is interested in investigating the layered experiences of migration and dual identity, and what it means to exist between cultures.



Jim Nason, Performer *Towing the Line*

Artist and teacher, Jim Nason, is the author of eight volumes of poetry, a short story collection, and three novels. He has been a finalist for the CBC Literary Award in both the fiction and poetry categories. His poetry book *Rooster, Dog, Crow* was shortlisted for the 2019 Raymond Souster Award, and his poems have been included in anthologies across the United States and Canada, including *The Best Canadian Poetry* in English 2008, 2010 and 2014.



Abbey Richens, Performer *Burn, Sailor's Tale*

Abbey Richens is a dancer, multidisciplinary artist, and community arts facilitator. Abbey is a graduate of York University's BFA dance program, with specialized honours in performance and choreography. She performs and creates in Toronto, most recently with Tuya Vale, UKAI Projects, windintheleaves collective, and co-exis dance. Abbey also has travelled to present work in Montreal for 'Goblin Market' and in Seoul, Korea for 'Arts in Tank Festival.' As co-director of Meaningful Movement, she is community driven and motivated to create spaces for artists that promote connection, experimentation, and authenticity. For Abbey, art is the only way forward.

Photo, Remi Hermoso



Roger Sinha, Choreographer and Performer *Surpluses & Deficits*

Roger Sinha is a Montreal-based, award-winning choreographer and dancer. Over a 35-year career and more than twenty major creations, his work has become known for its distinctive fusion of contemporary dance, classical Indian dance, martial arts, spoken word, live music, and new technologies. Recently, he received a Dancer Transition Resource Centre – Parallel Training Grant to study Ableton music software, opening new artistic directions in his creative practice.

Photo, Natasha Smith



Zuri Skeete, Performer *If Not Now When*

Zuri Skeete (she/her) is a queer emerging dance artist within the Toronto community. Zuri is a graduate from York University's Choreography/Performance Specialized Honours BFA in Dance. She is a performer and choreographer with a focus on improvisation and contemporary fusion who has recently worked with Emily Duckett, Toes for Dance, and Tracey Norman. Additionally, she is the co-founder of The Meaningful Movement which aims to create spaces, events and conversations for all artists and art lovers. Zuri is constantly striving to explore her identity and movement aesthetic, persistently questioning if she can go deeper in everything she works on.



Elijah Stefura, Lighting Designer

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.



Diana Tso, Poet and Performer *Majestic 9 Tailed Fox*

Diana Tso 曹楓 is a theatre artist and Dora award winning actor. She's a graduate of the University of Toronto in English Literature and of Ecole Internationale de Théâtre de Jacques Lecoq in France. Recent performances include: Theatre Smith-Gilmour's *Pu Songling Strange Tales and Les Misérables*, Luminato's *The 52 Live*, Stratford Festival's *Bakkhai* and *The Komagata Maru Incident*. Her drama plays empower women's voices: *Red Snow* and *Comfort* shine light on the resilience of women in war, *Monkey Queen* re-imagines mythology from the female perspective and *Carried by the River* is inspired by the daughters of China's one-child policy. www.redsnowcollective.ca Her plays are available at the Canadian Play Outlet.



wind in the leaves collective

Presenter-in-Residence at The Citadel

The 'wind in the leaves collective' has developed a significant body of work over the past decade. Our unique approach to multi-disciplinary performance takes its lead from the artistic director's poetry which is explored and choreographed by dancers, musicians and video artists.

This collaboration across disciplines has been successful in engaging audiences and building a profile for this type of performance. The 'collective' is now staging performances with other artists that involve similar elements, i.e., connecting poetry with dance and music in creation and performance.

The 'collective' has been approached by the Citadel to curate performances and is now Presenter in Residence at the Citadel where selected artists will share the stage and advance the notion of poetry and dance as a seamless art form practiced by racialized and Indigenous artists and drawing from historic pre-colonial practices made contemporary.

www.windintheleavescollective.com

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

Artistic Director: Laurence Lemieux

General Manager: Kaitlin Standeven

Production Manager: Marianna Rosato

Artistic Producer: Sierra Chin Sawdy

Outreach + Box Office Coordinator: Rachana Joshi

Financial Director: Simon Rossiter

Digital Producer: Juliette Coleman

Assistant to the Artistic Director: Christina Litt Belch

Front of House Coordinator: Kéïta Fournier-Pelletier

Technical Director: Eliajah Stefura

Bookkeeping: Morgyn Aronyk-Schell

Poster Design: Messenger

C+C BOARD OF DIRECTORS

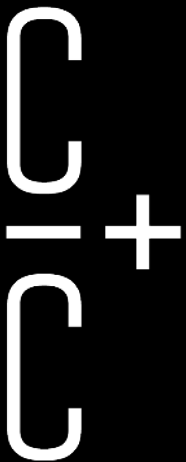
Terry Gardiner, Chair

William Milne, Treasurer

Patricia Fraser, Secretary

Janet Minor

Micheline McKay



CREATE.
CURATE.
CULTIVATE.

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!

Gretchen & Donald Ross	Felicia Ross
David & Torunn Banks	Delaney Family Foundation
Lindy Green Family Foundation	Gail Hutchison
Janice Lewis & Mitchell Cohen	Jerry & Joan Lozinski
Jim & Sandra Pitblado	Robin Vaile Robinson

The 2025/26 season is generously supported by



PRESENTING PARTNERS

Night Shift 2025 is co-presented with Fall for Dance North

Citadel Dance Exchange is presented in collaboration with The National Ballet of Canada's Creative Action Programme

Venue Sponsor ArtHubs Events and Daniels Spectrum

GOVERNMENT SUPPORTERS

Canada Council for the Arts
Government of Canada
Ontario Arts Council
Government of Ontario
Toronto Arts Council

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Delta Bingo & Gaming

FOUNDATIONS

Lindy Green Family Foundation
The Joan and Jerry Lozinski Foundation
Metcalf Foundation
Bulmash-Siegel Foundation
Kingfisher Foundation
IATSE Local 58 Charitable Fund
Janice Lewis and Mitchell Cohen Foundation
Edward A. Krucker Charitable Foundation

SEASON SUPPORTERS

\$25,000 and above

Jerry & Joan Lozinski
Jim & Sandra Pitblado
Larry Williamson

\$10,000 - \$24,999

David Binet
Bob and Mary Gore
Gretchen Ross
Michael Trent and Kirk Bryant

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Bruce Cooper
Ricardo Gomez-Insausti
William Milne
Peggy Baker Dance Projects
Simon Rossiter

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Terry Gardiner
Christopher House
Lucille Joseph
Laurence Lemieux
Lynn McDonald
Micheline McKay and Richard
Comparey*
Janet Minor
Gretchen Ross
Robert Sirman

\$500 - \$999

Anonymous
Sandra Dudley
Janice Oliver
James Robertson
Karen Sparks - In Memory of
Donald Ross

\$10 - \$499

Barry Adam
Miriam Adams
Heather Alloway
Peggy Baker
Laurie Barrett
Mimi Beck
Sylvie Bouchard
Linda Brett

*Monthly donor

Jon Buckley
Canada's National Ballet School -
In Memory of Donald Ross
Ginelle Chagnon
Marie-Josée Chartier
Andree Chenier
Barbara deKat*
Raquel delCarmen
Miran Desoysa
Yasmin Emery
Mary Fogarty - In Memory of
Laura Wiebe
Gordon Foster
Patricia Fraser
Judith Gallant
Jessie Garon
Ken Gass
Judith Gelber - In Memory of
Donald Ross
David Genoway
Randy Glynn
Peter Goring
Peter Gossage
Lux Gow-Habrich
Pamela Grundy
John Gzowski
Andrew Hartley
Maxine Heppner
John Holcka
Joanna Ivey
Karen Kaeja
Niki Kemeny
James Kudelka
Benoit Lamarche
Coreen Lapointe
Christiane Lemieux
Lilia Leon
Janice Lewis
Deborah Lundmark
Susan MacPherson
Christopher Mahepath
Tom McGillis
Coralee McLaren
Jean McNeil
Hedy Minten
Connor Mitton and Carleen
Zouboules

Keith Morino
A.J. Morra
Jeff Morris
Derek Morton
Christine Moynihan
Yvonne Ng
Selma Odom
Kaz Ogino
Gail Packwood
Joan Phillips
Haley Polinsky
Natasha Poon Woo
Spencer Poon Woo
Shan Richardson
Ralista Rodriguez
Karen Sasaki
Deema Shahin
Lane Slayer
Jane Spooner
Nancy St-Pierre
Vicky St. Denys*
John Stanley
Myra Stephen
Jacqui Strachan
Annie Szamosi
Anisa Tejpar
Kylie Thompson
Gail Vanstone
Blair Voyvodic
Anne Watrous
Dianne Weinrib
Mary Ann West
Phyllis Whyte - In Memory of
David Leibson
Karen Wierucki
Suzanne Wilcox
Laura Wills
Claire Wootten
Christine Wright
William Yong
Takis Zourntos
K S

Your Name Here



Interested in
supporting C+C?

Click HERE for
more info.

This list represents all donations made between January 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026.
It has been updated as of March 31, 2026. We apologize in advance for any omissions.

We are thankful to the original caretakers of the traditional territory on which we present this work: the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat peoples. We acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.

Alongside this acknowledgement, we encourage you to get to know our neighbours and learn more about how you can support the important work they do in our community.



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.

On an annual basis they interact with over 200,000 clients made up of youth, adults, seniors, and families who are established in the community or in transition.

**CLICK
HERE
TO LEARN
MORE**



SPRING FORWARD

JUN 5–6 / 2026

THE CITADEL:
ROSS CENTRE FOR DANCE

COMPAGNIE
DE LA CITADELLE

CHOREOGRAPHERS
NOVA BHATTACHARYA
LAURENCE LEMIEUX

**CLICK
HERE**
for more
info and
tickets

**CITADEL
LIVE** 25
26