

Show #2 Artist Bios:

Robin Poitras:

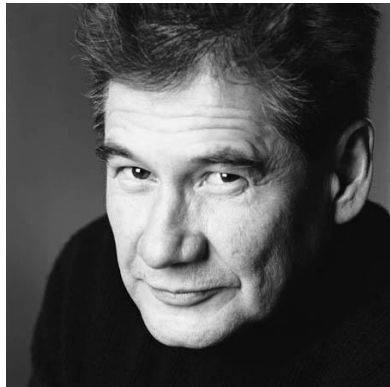


Robin Poitras, C.M. is one of Saskatchewan's most prolific dance and performance creators. Creating dance, performance, and installation works, she has been actively engaged in contemporary dance practice since the early 80s. For many years Robin has traversed the formal worlds of dance and performance art. She co-founded New Dance Horizons in 1986, with Dianne Fraser where she continues to act as Artistic Director. She is a recipient of the 2021 Order of Canada, the 2016 Lieutenant Governor's Lifetime Achievement Award, the 2006 Mayor's Awards for Business & The Arts' Lifetime Achievement Award, and the 2004 Women of Distinction Award for the Arts.

About Robin's creative process:

My practice is rooted in a physical world comprised of choreography, dancing and actions/acts. My performance works often involve the use of found or formed objects, texts, images, sound and/or other media. I am curious about relationships and resonance among the worlds of art, science and nature and in exploring how these worlds feed back and forth in mythical, mysterious, elusive and sometimes obvious ways.

Edward Poitras:



Edward Poitras is a member of the George Gordon First Nation and a resident of Treaty Four Territory. He is an artist who has always recognized his mixed heritage – Métis/Cree/Saulteaux – as a powerful source of energy, creativity, and contradiction. Themes of colonization, assimilation, integration, genocide, displacement, migration, survival, nationalism and transnationalism permeate his work as he explores tensions, contradictions, narratives, and interactions.

Andrew Menara:

Andrew Menara, is an Instructor in the Theatre Department in the Faculty of Media, Art, and Performance where he teaches technical production and stage management. He is a passionate, devoted, and outspoken supporter of emerging artists, community engaged artistic practices, and independently run non-profits. In 2016, Andrew founded the not-for-profit and charitable organization *Artesian Performing Arts Inc.* and became the organization's first Artistic and Executive Director. He remains an in-demand consultant, collaborator, and mentor in production management, technical design, and theatre craft.

Mohana Das:



Mohana Das is a professional Indian Classical dancer with 25 years of experience and a Dance teacher for over 14 years. She is the recipient of the prestigious Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Scholarship. She is a “National dance Competition “winner in her home country and performed as a soloist in major dance festivals in India, Bangladesh, Singapore. She also won prestigious dance awards from Government in different times. She is trained in different classical and folk-dance forms and learned under the tutelage of famous classical dance artists and Guru: Sharmila Banerjee, Shaswati Garai Ghosh, Benazir Salam, Vidushi Arushi Mudgal, Nritya Upadhyay Sandip Mallic and many more. She is enlisted as an Artist in National Television. She is the artistic director of her dance school in Regina named 'Nritya Kalpa Yog'. She along with her team performed in different festivals in Saskatchewan. Besides she is also

working as Data scientist Manager at SaskTel.

“Clinker” Gary James Joynes:



Gary James Joynes, also known as Clinker, is an award-winning visual and sound artist based in Edmonton, Canada. He blends the beauty and physicality of sound’s auditory and visual elements in rigorous and emotional installation works, and in Live Cinema AV performances. Joynes' innovative and thought-provoking works have earned international recognition, with exhibitions and performances held at art galleries and festivals worldwide. His artistic practice invites audiences to experience the profound beauty of the unseen and to encourage a slowed and attentive state in viewers - to have them interrupt busy-ness

for prolonged moments of being-ness.

Through the convergence of analog and digital technologies, Joynes crafts intricate audiovisual compositions that push the boundaries of perception and sensory experience. His works often involve the transformation of audio signals into kinetic video sculptures and fine art photographic works, unraveling the hidden beauty and emotional potential of sound. His installations delve into the relationship between sound and physical matter, offering an enthralling glimpse into the interconnectedness of the senses.

Collaboration, also a major focus of his practice continues to see Joynes composing, scoring and performing sound and music for various avant-garde filmmakers and contemporary dance companies. Most recently he has enjoyed working with dancers [Brian Webb](#) and [Robin Poitras \(C.M.\)](#), media artists Edward Poitras, [Dr. Brad Necyk](#), [Aron Munson](#) and musician [Dr. Deepak Paramashivan](#) to name a few.

Anne Neudorf:

Anne Neudorf is a contemporary dancer and choreographer originally from the Treaty 4 territory of Regina, Saskatchewan and currently based in Treaty 6 territory, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Anne holds a Bachelor of Arts Honours in Contemporary Dance from the School of Contemporary Dancers and the University of Winnipeg, under the direction of Odette Heyn and Faye Thomson. Anne has worked with organizations and artists such as Stephanie Ballard and Dancers: Landscape Dancing, Deaf Arts Manitoba Magic of ASL, New Dance Horizons (Stream of Dance 2022, 2023 and Rouge-gorge 2023), Youth Ballet of Saskatchewan, Arts Accessibility Network Manitoba, Winnipeg’s Contemporary Dancers (Emerging Artist Initiative 2022) and Free Flow Dance Company (Emerge 2023) and Peter Quanz. Anne is also a dance teacher and is inspired by movers of all ages, she continues to explore finding joy and connection through dance.

Peter Quanz:

Peter Quanz is a Canadian choreographer of international renown known for his groundbreaking choreographic collaborations in dance, music, and visual art. His diverse aesthetic encompasses classical and contemporary ballet, contemporary dance/theatre experiences, and classical Chinese dance. Cultural immersion is a significant component of Peter's work and he is attracted to projects that offer opportunities to build international cooperation.

Natalie Sluis:

Natalie Sluis is a contemporary dance artist located in Winnipeg, Manitoba. She is a graduate of The Professional Program of The School of Contemporary Dancers. She has been the recipient of several scholarship awards from the Manitoba Arts Council. Natalie is now fully engaged in the artistic beauty of contemporary dance, and it has become her life's passion. She has completed multiple professional projects in both choreography and dance.

Natalie's recent and upcoming projects include Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers Emerging Artists Initiative Project, Odette Heyn-Projects and the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, New Dance Horizons / M-Body Project (Regina), Free Flow Dance Theatre Company / Q Dance (Saskatoon), SABO Project: Marie-Josée Chartier and Darryl Tracy (Toronto), Lina Cruz: Fila 13 Productions (Ottawa), Stand Up Dance (Potsdam / Berlin, Germany).

She is honoured to perform Peter Quanz's "241" in New Dance Horizons Stream of Dance Festival 2024.

George Stamos:



I am a Montréal-based choreographer, dancer, educator, filmmaker, consultant, and administrator working in contemporary dance. I have a BFA in Choreography from Amsterdam University of the Arts. I work at an intersection between physical labour, Queer aesthetics and ideas. My creations are invitations to reflect on aspects of the human condition. The major themes in my body of work are resilience, resistance, gender play and transformation. My studies of a wide range of Occidental and African dance practices with master choreographers/teachers have significantly nourished my artistic practice and worldview. My academic studies of the history of communication studies, gender, neurodiversity, and sexuality inform my creative projects. My body/mind is a library I continually update and share with others as a place of reflection, expression and incantation.

The Professional Program of The School of Contemporary Dancers:

Under the direction of Odette Heyn C.M. and Faye Thomson C.M., The School of Contemporary Dancers is recognized as a leading national centre for professional contemporary dance training in Canada. The School's Professional Program is renowned across the country for the excellence of its training methods and high calibre of its students and graduates. Read more on schoolofcontemporarydancers.ca .

The School of Contemporary Dancers gratefully acknowledges the support of:



