



KAEJA

AUG 9-12 at 7PM
AUG 13 at 2PM



**PORCH
 VIEW
 DANCES**

**REAL PEOPLE
 DANCING IN
 REAL SPACES**

PAY WHAT YOU WANT
STARTING LOCATION:
 London St in Seaton Village, Toronto
 (between Euclid & Palmerston)
 Concieved by Karen Kaeja
 Developed by Karen & Allen Kaeja
 Co-Curator and Artistic Producer - Sofi Gudifo
 Co-Curator - Sid Ryan Eilers



**SCAN FOR
 2023 INFO**



TORONTO ARTS COUNCIL
 FUNDED BY THE CITY OF TORONTO

Canadian Heritage / Patrimoine canadien
 Canada Council / Conseil des arts du Canada

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

The Green Fischer Family Trust
 The Karen Green Charitable Trust

Photo credit: SVPhotography
 Dancers: Jim & Owen Adams
 Choreographed by Allison Cummings

Porch View Dances 2023 Route



ARTS & CULTURE FOUNDATION OF THE CITY OF BATHURST



BATHURST

Legend

- Accessible Route Option
- Main route
- Start and Finish of Route
- Performance Stops
- Accessible subway station
- Accessible washroom (at Summerhill Market on Bathurst)
- Palmerston Avenue Junior Public School

PORCH VIEW DANCES LANE



Bathurst Station

BLOOR

WELCOME

We are thrilled to bring you Porch View Dances 2023 and be back in action as a fully live event. You will meet incredible humans along the way where artists and everyday folk will dance and intersect with you, sharing the absolute joy of connecting. With you in mind, this year's artists have been curated by Sid Ryan Eilers and Sofi Gudiño who created a beautiful gathering of talent. Our Porch choreographers have brought their families, everyday colleagues and friends from all over the city to perform in their dances. Seaton Village is the venue and the porches are the stages. This iteration has been an incredible journey for Allen and I, and it has been amazing working with Sofi in their Artistic Producer role! I love PVD, in all its iterations and am thankful to all who have contributed to and witnessed its 12 years of growth. A special shout out to our vibrant and fun 2023 production team!

Enjoy the journey and say hello to the folk you are walking down the street with. As always we invite you to join our Flock Landing finale at Vermont Square Park!

Thank you for being here with us and celebrating our 12th annual PVD year!



Karen Kaeja - PVD Artistic Director, Founder and Concept

CURATORIAL NOTES

We are all here, at the 12th annual Porch View Dances! What is going to happen? We are going to follow this fabulous Drag Queen, Mary Moonshine around the neighborhood for the next hour and a half. We will be pausing four times to watch dance performances on porches.

These dances were made by people who dance A LOT and performed by folx from their own communities who do not dance as much, celebrating that everyone of us is a dancer and anywhere can be a stage. There will be walking, standing, pausing, and surprise treats along the way. You will be fully guided and you need no prior experience. Just follow our fabulous tour guide Mary Moonshine, and our volunteers in the mustard shirts.

This experience is for you, so have fun, do what you need to do! We will have a grand finale in the park together. Follow along.

Tonight's artists were carefully chosen by Sid and Sofi - we intentionally wanted to bring a program to Seaton Village that celebrates People of Global Majority. These brilliant, beautiful, bold performers are here tonight because of their voice, their moves and their particular way of connecting with you. It's our first in person festival since 2019 - so you know, it has to be a celebration. Tonight we are celebrating showing up. We are all here!

- The Porch View Dances Curators
Sofi Gudiño and Sid Ryan Eilers

GRATITUDE ADDRESS

Kaeja d'Dance would like to acknowledge that we are situated upon traditional territories. Our artists, collaborators, staff and team are grateful to be creating art on this land that has been nurtured by recorded and unrecorded human activity for thousands of years. We honour and respect the traditional lands and waterways of the Wendat, Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and the Métis Nation. We are in the 'Dish with One Spoon' territory - a treaty between these nations reflecting a commitment to share the territory and protect the land. We also recognize the enduring presence of diverse Indigenous peoples on this land.

ABOUT PORCH VIEW DANCES

‘REAL PEOPLE DANCING IN REAL SPACES’

Porch View Dances (PVD) is an award-winning community dance festival that engages everyday people as creators, storytellers and performers – many of whom have never danced before. Audience members travel from house to house to see new dance works created by professional choreographers and performed by everyday folk on porches, front yards, and driveways. PVD was initially designed to celebrate the stories of neighbourhood residents and has developed into citywide inclusion of folks from all over who want to perform. PVD bridges the gap between professional art and everyday people. Our Tour Guide journeys audiences through the streets bringing dance out of the theatre and into our daily lives. PVD was founded by Karen Kaeja and developed with Allen Kaeja.

PVD has taken place in-person across Ontario with events in Ottawa, Kitchener, and with Lakeshore Arts in Long Branch, New Toronto, and Mimico in South Etobicoke. During the pandemic, Porch View Dances went online for two consecutive years and reached people across Canada and internationally. We have prioritized working with creators, performers and collaborators with racialized identities who are underrepresented in the dance community on this project. PVD engages ‘real people dancing in real spaces’ and in this way sends the strong and powerful message that art is for everyone.

ABOUT KAEJA D’DANCE

Kaeja d’Dance is driven by a commitment to innovation in the performing arts through the expression of dance and gesture. We explore identity, personal stories and the complexity of the human experience by integrating the interconnected mediums of live performance, dance film, and community engagement. Kaeja provides platforms for and fosters the creation of new Canadian professional dance works which are featured locally and internationally that inspire connections between professional artists and the broader community.

Established in 1990, Kaeja creates award-winning contemporary dance performances for stage, film & communities that have toured the world for 30 years. We design large & small-scale events that integrate community & professional dance artists, site-specific work & audience inclusive arts practices.

Kaeja is driven by two distinct artistic forces, Artistic Directors Karen & Allen Kaeja. Kaeja bridges their visions while the space between invites others in to be key collaborators. The Company has created 200+ works, performed, created & taught worldwide: the UK, Europe, China, Japan, USA, Mexico, Scandinavia, India & Israel among others. Alongside creation & performance, Kaeja has been committed to developing & exposing Canadian talent through festival platforms, training & mentorship. Kaeja has received 40+ national & international awards & nominations.

In addition to Kaeja’s live performances, touring shows, residencies, commissions, and dance films, Kaeja also works to bring dance into communities through public space animations, community performance projects, inclusive exchanges with everyday people, appearances and dance education workshops.

For more information, visit:

www.kaeja.org.

PERFORMANCE

DETAILS



PORCH 1

Title: A House Party

Description: Welcome the House Party, performed by the dynamic trio gathered for Porch View Dances to celebrate friendship, music, and movement. In the exhilarating piece, they explore the captivating influence of music, the timeless connections among people, and the liberating power within oneself. The rhythmic style of house dance draws us to be present and invites us to move to the beats.

Choreography: KINAJ (Kin Nguien and AJ Velasco)

Performers: Rebecca Lim, Mélanie Payrou, and Jonathan D'mello

Music: Curated by Jonathan D'mello

Special Thanks: House Dance, Porch View Dances

VIGNETTE 1

Title: Shedding to Becoming Pt 1

Choreography: Matthew "Snoopy" Cuff

Performed by: Jocelyne Cajamarca

Music Credits: sad gyal ha - vjthedj



PORCH 2

Title: I wish for...

Description: Victoria Mata and Irma Villafuerte are facilitating a creative process with a group of children of immigrant Latin American parents. The children tell a story about their love for nature. Using intuition, improvisation and play, the group explored a movement-based creative process that showcases the girls' wishes and dreams for clean water and air and their passion for our four legged and insect friends.

Concept & Choreography: Victoria Mata & Irma Villafuerte

Created With & Performed by: Les Brujix next generation

Music: Sounds from the south mixed by Victoria Mata & Irma Villafuerte

Special Thanks: To the incredible parents that are raising our children with love, tenacity, bravery and their connection to the Americas: Alejandra Higuera, Ana Graciano, Augusto Gomez, Diana Agudelo, Diego Galeano, Fernanda Yanchapaxi, James Campbell, LaloLorza, Latoya Jackson, Lynnea Marie Jones, Luis Rojas, Tara Malek-Osseyfians.

VIGNETTE 2

Title: Shedding to Becoming Pt 2

Choreography: Matthew "Snoopy" Cuff

Performed by: Kelly-Ann Johnson

Music Credits: Vjuan Allure - Runway Diva (Neana On The Trak)

PERFORMANCE

DETAILS



PORCH 3

Title: *TIME*

Description: Five lively beings from diverse corners of the world unexpectedly converge and come together in unexpected ways as they navigate through the constraints of time in order to re-discover play and curiosity with themselves and each other. Time, the ever-moving force, offers glimpses of what lies ahead and what has passed. Our lives ride the waves of time, often neglecting to embrace the present. As young children, time was expansive and playtime felt like forever. As we grow older, that feeling of expansiveness begins to disappear. But the inner child inside still yearns to play.

This piece highlights how time can be unyielding in our daily routines, but by pausing and slowing down, we can tap into our inner creative abundance, where play is cherished, encouraged, and celebrated.

Concept and Choreography: Ashima Suri

Created with and Performed by: Malihah Deyhim, Romy Rosalin Alza Meza, Zehra Abrar, Aabritti Chakraborty and Ashani Phulesar

Music: Melting Glass - Eden Avery, Sliding Doors - Helmut Schenker

Voiceovers: Malihah Deyhim, Romy Rosalin Alza Meza, Ashima Suri

Special Thanks: to Bobby Singh for sound edits



PORCH 4

Title: *Inawendiwin (Inaw-wen Da-win) Relationship, Biwissin (Bee-wish peen) Erasure, Nin Gigendam (Neen-Geeg-n-dam) Resilience*

Description: This piece is conceived by father and son team, Jim and Owen Adams, also known as Red Bear. It explores the universal connection that all Indigenous people have with the land, the subjugation and erasure suffered at the hands of the colonizers, and resilience of their ceremonies, language and teachings that have fuelled the global resurgence of Indigenous peoples. This is the final of a four part series that explores growing up Indigenous in a city, specifically created for Kaeja d'Dance's Porch View Dances.

Concept and Choreography: Heryka Miranda and Jim (Many Hats) Adams

Performance: Jim and Owen Adams

Music: All songs were gifted to Jim (Many Hats) Adams

Special thanks: Red Bear is grateful for the gifts that choreographer Heryka Miranda has shared in growing this idea from inception to creation. Heryka's passion, sensitivity and kindness have helped provide a safe place to explore the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual aspects of this dance.

VIGNETTE 3

Title: *Shedding to Becoming Pt 3*

Choreography: Matthew "Snoopy" Cuff

Performed by: Jocelyne Cajamarca and Kelly-Ann Johnson

Music Credits: Ron Carroll - Walking Down The Street

PERFORMANCE

DETAILS

FLOCK LANDING

Concept - Karen Kaeja

Flock Landing Dancers - Mio Sakamoto - Lead, Rajvi Dedhia, Kiah Francis, Yui Ugai

Music - Edgardo Moreno

Description: Flock Landing invites audience members to participate in a gentle and inclusive group movement ensemble experience. Connecting us in the here and now, Flock Landing embraces simple gestures that are accessible to people of all ages and abilities. Since 2007, we have established 130 Flock Landings from Toronto to Japan - appearing in our annual Porch View Dances, Guelph Dance Festival, Nuit Blanche, Downtown Dances Moncton and Yokohama, Japan. We encourage you to join in our Flock Landing and dance with us!

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED WITH KAEJA D'DANCE!



1. DONATE
2. VOLUNTEER
3. JOIN OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS
4. DANCE WITH US - SIGN UP TO BE PART OF OUR STUDIO MOVEMENT RESEARCH
5. BE PART OF NEXT YEAR'S PORCH VIEW DANCES

Contact urban@kaeja.org

CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

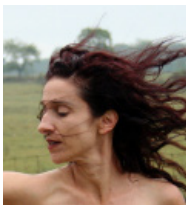


Photo: Ella Cooper

Karen Kaeja (CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, CHOREOGRAPHER, PVD FOUNDER) (she/her) is a Toronto born Ashkenazi. An award-winning performer, choreographer, project instigator and mentor, she is "The mastermind behind Porch View Dances" Toronto Star. Karen develops platforms for collaborative relationships between dancers, everyday people and the body. Co-Artistic Director of Kaeja d'Dance with Allen Kaeja, she is in The Canadian Who's Who and Dance in Canada Encyclopedia. Her awards include the 2022 George Luscombe Mentorship Award, 2020 Dance Ontario Lifetime Achievement Award, CDA "I Love Dance" Community Award, and Paul D. Fleck Fellowship for Innovation. A finalist for the TAF Celebration of Cultural Life Award, the TAF Muriel Sherrin Award for International Achievement, NOW's Best Local Choreographer and Best Dance Company, she is twice named one of NOW's top 10 dance artists. A 7-time Dora Mavor Moore nominee, she has recently been nominated for the 2023 Eldred Family Dance Award. Her work Crave received 4 Dora nominations, winning one. The heart of her research, choreography and critical writing for the past 30 years, concentrates on Touch, where the celebration of body memory as a living archive are in a continuous state of rebalancing. Commissioned and presented by performance series around the world, she collaborates and dances with many of Canada's brilliant choreographers. www.kaeja.org



Photo: Lois Chan

Allen Kaeja (CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, CHOREOGRAPHER, FILM DIRECTOR, EDUCATOR, developed PVD with Karen) is an internationally recognized and award-winning Choreographer and Dance Film Director. The child of a refugee and Holocaust survivor, Allen has created 27 years of Holocaust inspired stage and film works. Overall, he's created over 210 stage works and Choreographed/Directed 35 films. Co-Artistic Director of Kaeja d'Dance with Karen Kaeja, Allen's works have been featured in commercials, films and festivals around the world. He has received numerous national and international commissions, teaches Kaeja Elevations and Dance Film master classes worldwide.

Karen and Allen received the DanceOntario Lifetime Achievement Award; were Finalists for the TAF-2020 Celebration of Cultural Life Award and are nominated for the Eldred Family Dance Award for lifetime achievement in dance. Allen was very excited creating with Director Keira Loughran, choreographing Wendy / Peter Pan until COVID closed Stratford Festival in 2020. Allen and Karen recently created Kitchen Dances Web Series with Moze Mossanen and In Case of Emergency, celebrating eighteen dance artists in our community. The Kaeja's will be touring to the USA, New Brunswick and British Columbia in 2023.

CHOREOGRAPHERS



Ashima Suri (PORCH CHOREOGRAPHER) is a story-teller and an artist that is driven by the desire to share individual and collective stories in order to amplify voices that are often not heard. Ashima is an award-winning Established Dance Artist and the Artistic Director of Limitless Productions, a company that uses performance art and story-telling as a tool for social change. In addition to being an Artist & an Educator, Ashima is also a Wellness Coach and Yoga Instructor. In her spare time, she loves long walks in nature, spending time with her daughter and making fun dance videos.



Photo: Heryka Miranda

Heryka Miranda (PORCH CHOREOGRAPHER) aims to bring the power of movement and dance to the lives of many and is committed to making dance as accessible, fun and magical as possible. She is a dance artist with training in ecological land dance, dance and expressive arts therapies, hatha yoga, sacred dance and a variety of dance genres (contemporary and modern, creative movement, Afro-Cuban and Afro-Brazilian, flamenco and hip-hop). She holds a M.A. in Health and Physical Education and teaches dance as education and wellness at local universities.



Irma Villafuerte (PORCH CHOREOGRAPHER) Irma Villafuerte is a Central American dance artist and educator based in Tkaronto. She is a first-generation daughter of refugees from Nahuat-Pipil Territory Kuskatan (Place of Jeweled necklaces), post-colonial El Salvador. She is a graduate of George Brown Dance; Her experience and training extend to Latin American and Caribbean dances, and Cuban Contemporary technique. She is a 2021 Toronto Arts Foundation Emerging Artist Finalist.



Photo: Maria Victoria

Victoria Mata (PORCH CHOREOGRAPHER) Venezuelan-Canadian Dancer, Choreographer and Director with a background in expressive arts therapy. Mata's career was first sculpted by pedagogic, self-directed training, which proceeded with training under internationally renowned choreographers. A settler in T'Koronto, Mata's sensibility to inclusion and border stories are due to her eclectic upbringing across three continents before the age of fifteen. Mata's contemporary style is rooted in traditional Venezuelan genres, harness-dance and installation-performance.



Photo: Axel Villamil

KINAJ (PORCH CHOREOGRAPHERS) are internationally recognized dance creatives led by Kin Nguen and AJ Velasco. Their mission: to challenge norms and foster collaboration across art disciplines. Through captivating performances and film, KINAJ blends dance styles, improvisation, and partnering techniques. Guided by storytelling, their work addresses social issues with wit and relatability, inspiring audiences with stories and movement. KINAJ believes in the strength of unity and that everything is better together.

CHOREOGRAPHERS



Mathew "Snoopy" Cuff (VIGNETTE CHOREOGRAPHER)

Vogueing over 7 years, Snoopy was a part of Canada's first official Ballroom house (House of Monroe). Mathew "Snoopy" Cuff was introduced to Vogue through YouTube, and was amazed by the performance driven dance style. Snoopy helped introduce Vogue internationally by being featured on So You Think You Can Dance Canada and CBC Arts: The Move. Honing his skills in New York City, Snoopy has also learned from and battled some of the greatest Voguers! Also a graduate of School of Toronto Dance Theatre, Snoopy has a background in Contemporary Dance. This love for Vogue can be influenced and interpreted from any dance style bringing Snoopy's performance to higher heights. With numerous accolades, Snoopy continues to participate in Toronto's thriving Ballroom Scene. Through the art of Vogue, Snoopy hopes to inspire creativity while sharing his passion for dance.

PERFORMERS

VIGNETTES



Kelly-Ann Johnson (VIGNETTE DANCER) At a tender age in her native land sweet Jam Dung (Jamaica) was where her talents were first discovered. She was born with art in her blood. Constantly being around cousins, other family and friends who danced, sang, acted, modelled, played instruments, and painted are roots that she will never forget as they have been apart of shaping the young artistic woman she is today. She has entered competitions in musical genres of Soca, Contemporary, Dancehall, Kumina and other Afro-caribbean Folk-dance forms.



Photo: Yann Gracia

Jocelyne Cajamarca (VIGNETTE DANCER) is a queer non-binary latinx artist based in Toronto who shares their unique skills and authenticity as a professional dancer, teacher and ballroom performer. They are highly dedicated to working alongside queer artists, creating and exploring new work, and connecting with the community. Joce continues to further their craft by discovering new ways to evolve their foundation in street dance by continuously learning other forms of performance and movement. They have had the opportunity to contribute to multiple works of live performances, festivals, competitions, music videos and creative concepts for local Toronto choreographers such as Fall For Dance North, PUMA, Footnotes, Eye Candy, and more.

PERFORMERS

FLOCK LANDING

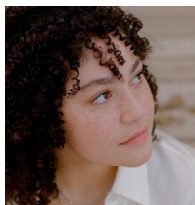


Photo: Emily Battaglini

Kiah Francis (FLOCK LANDING DANCER) (They/she) is a queer mixed-race performer, born and raised in Tkaronto. They attended Rosedale Heights School of the Arts followed by the School of Toronto Dance Theatre, graduating in 2020. This year, they participated in Nightwood Theatre's Innovators program (2022-2023) and helped to produce the program's annual charity fundraiser. Most recently, they have been a collaborator in residencies with Kéïta Fornier-Pelletier for their work "Pillar of You", and with Sofia Ontiveros for a new creation. They have also performed in Ana Groppler's work "SOLOsupport" in Night/Shift at the Citadel, and "Civilization Day" for Wind in the Leaves Collective.



Photo: Yugo Takahashi

Mio Sakamoto (FLOCK LANDING DANCER) is a Toronto based performer, choreographer and dance educator originally from Japan. She is also a founder and Co-Lead Member of MillO Dance Projects since 2020. Sakamoto's choreographic work (selected), Submerge, Lucid Space (dance film), Systematic, Oblivious or Naive, and Cater To You, were presented in Canada, Brazil, Slovenia, Germany and Japan. She was also Kaeja Elevation Choreography Assistant for the Wendy & Peter Pan production of the Stratford Festival in 2019/2020.



Photo: Aidan Tooth

Rajvi Dedhia (FLOCK LANDING DANCER) is a dancer from India with a passion for pushing the boundaries of movement. She has performed in numerous stage and TV shows, including the Netflix movie "Yeh Ballet," and is skilled in ballet, Bollywood, contemporary, modern, Graham, Horton, Limón, Indian classical, hip hop, and jazz. Rajvi moved to Toronto in 2021 to study at the School of Toronto Dance Theatre, where she received awards and worked with leading choreographers. She has also gained teaching experience at the School of Classical Ballet and Western Dance and excelled in graded ballet, modern, and jazz exams. Rajvi is eager to establish herself as an artist, choreographer, and teacher, inspiring others to pursue a thriving career in the performing arts.



Photo: Kunio Imamura

Yui Ugai (FLOCK LANDING DANCER) was born in Hiroshima, Japan. She majored in drama at high school and studied dance and music at Kobe Jugakuin University. Yui holds a BFA in honours and an MFA in Dance from York University in Toronto. She has danced and toured nationally and internationally with The Toronto Blue Jays, Skindivers, Limitless Productions, The Parahumans, Little Pear Garden Dance Company, Ballet Creole, Kashe Dance Company, Kaeja d'Dance, Anima Inc. (Mexico/Peru) and more. Yui also has her career as an actress began with the film "Summer Days" (Toho) directed by Nobuhiko Obayashi, and she has worked with the Hollywood casting director Yoko Narahashi and has appeared in Netflix, Disney Channel, Apple TV, and Sony Pictures. In Japan, she produced the annual dance festival, "Dance Kotoen" sponsored by Nishinomiya City in order to support youth dance artists and community since 2011.

PRODUCTION TEAM



Adam Scime (MANAGING DIRECTOR) is a composer, performer, educator, and arts administrator based in Toronto/Tkarón:to who works in varying collaborative environments related to opera, theatre, music, and sound. Adam's work is rooted in learning from his collaborators so that open, safe, and supportive meaning-making environments are created collectively and in tandem with the evolving needs of the individual artists and the wider community. Adam's music has received many awards and has been performed widely across Canada, Europe, and Asia. As the Music Director of FAWN Chamber Creative, he works to foster new directions in horizontal operatic creation processes. Adam has completed the Dandelion Initiative Equity and Anti-Harassment Program, the Certificate in Leadership and Inclusion from the Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion, and the Non-Profit Leadership for Impact Professional Certificate from The University of Toronto in addition to holding a Doctorate of Music, also from UofT. As an arts administrator, Adam seeks to learn from his colleagues and community members toward equitable collaboration and leadership environments and he is thrilled to become part of the Kaeja d'Dance community. When not out enjoying a show, Adam can likely be found cooking or reading a book in the park.



Photo: Dahlia Katz

Sofi Gudiño (ARTISTIC PRODUCER & CO-CURATOR) is a dance artist, curator and producer based in Toronto. Raised in flamenco and established in contemporary dance, Sofi's work is marked by emotional intensity and choreographic risk. In 2014, Sofi founded the Inamorata Dance Collective as a site to explore flamenco outside of its traditional presentations. Choreographic premieres include *Nuit Blanche*, *Pride*, *New Blue Dance Festival*, and with their award-nominated piece, *Picaza*, in Toronto Fringe. Sofi was the Lead Curator at *Dusk Dances* in 2022 and is currently acting as Supporting Curator in their 2023 season. Sofi has been nominated in the 2023 Johanna Performing Arts Prizes for their recognized impact on the field, and great promise in the ongoing pursuit of their practice.



Photo: David Hou

Malgorzata Nowacka-May (PVD PRODUCTION MANAGER) is the founding Artistic Director of The Chimera Project, Malgorzata Nowacka-May created over 20 critically acclaimed works described as "most exciting" and "most original in Canada" (The Globe and Mail) and garnered accolades including Top 10 performances of the year in The Globe and Mail, Toronto Star, NOW and FASHION. Her work showcased at the Canada Dance Festival, Dancing on the Edge Festival, DanceWorks Mainstage Series, Dance Victoria, and internationally. Between 2015-2018 Nowacka-May created works seen across Canada for Canada's Ballet Jörgen. In 2014 she created *Bears Stars and Trees* for the Algoma Fall Festival, guided by Missanabie Cree First Nation elder Shirley Horn which has been touring since. Nowacka-May also created Chimera's Company B, a program that supported 33 young dance artists since 2010, and in partnership with Harbourfront Centre, *FRESH BLOOD* (2009-2016), an annual festival that brought 297 artists to stage. Mal is thrilled to be part of PVD.



Shajiba Sooriyakumar (MARKETING ASSISTANT) (she/her) is a graduate of the Arts Administration and Cultural Management program at Humber College. In the past, she has taken on a marketing coordinator and social media manager role to produce *Much a Do*, at the Davis Shakespeare Festival - the sister festival organization to the Stratford Festival. Additionally, she has completed a 6-week, virtual placement with the Florence University of the Arts in Music and Performing Arts Administration. Shaji is passionate about sustainability, accessibility, and inclusivity in the arts. She hopes to spark conversations on these topics in her future endeavours and is excited to be joining Kaeja for her third year in a row!

PRODUCTION TEAM



Sid Ryan Eilers (CO-CURATOR) (they/them) is a dance artist: director, choreographer, mentor, dramaturg, producer and performer. Recently attending COLOURS International Dance Festival (Stuttgart, Germany) with Shahar Binaymini (mentor OAC Chalmers Professional Development Grant 2021). Sid has worked with Andrea Nann, Kathleen Rea, Peggy Baker, Industry and most recently Karen and Allen Kaeja. A graduate of the York University dance program (2004), Sid worked with Motus O Dance Theatre (2000-2006). In 2014 Sid founded Aeris Körper Contemporary Dance, through which Sid has choreographed a number of immersive site specific performances in Hamilton, Toronto and across the GTA. Acknowledging the oppressive constructs of how Canada was founded and continues to be shaped; Eilers engages in anti-oppressive work through Public Delegation with the City of Hamilton, Workshops with: Righting Relations, Neighbour 2 Neighbour, Sharing Privilege and Dodem Kenosha.



Sharon Digenova (PVD STAGE MANAGER) is an award-winning Lighting Designer, who began her career in a Broadway touring house in Massachusetts (long long ago) - working in all aspects of technical theatre, on numerous Tony Award winning productions. She has since been engaged in numerous capacities, in a multitude of disciplines, production managing and designing for dance, theatre, music, multimedia and circus shows. Sharon spent the better part of 25 years touring internationally - to more than 350 cities throughout North & South America, Europe, Australia, Asia and the Far East. She has had the pleasure of collaborating with scores of Canadian artists including The Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Ronnie Burkett Theatre of Marionettes, Lua Shayenne Dance Company, Esmeralda Enrique Spanish Dance Co., and 10 years touring with Canada's internationally acclaimed Holy Body Tattoo. She has also had the privilege of lighting numerous international dance artists including Patricia Guerrero and Joaquin Grilo. Sharon has enjoyed riding her bike for PVD since its inception.



Shanna Miller (PVD TECHNICAL ASSISTANT) is currently a Production Coordinator at The Four Season's Centre for The Performing Arts. Shanna was the Technical Director at Young Peoples Theatre. She works with many theatre and dance companies. Credits include: Stria (ChartierDanse); Svadba - Wedding (Queen of Puddings Music Theatre); Agokwe (Buddies in Bad Times Theatre); Spin by Evalyn Perry (Outspoke Productions); Penny Plain, Billy Twinkle; Requiem for a Golden Boy and 10 Days on Earth, Provenance (Ronnie Burkett Theatre of Marionettes); A Craigslist Cantata - 2014 Alberta Tour (Acting Up Stage Company). Shanna is a graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada Technical Program. Shanna feels very privileged to be working again with Porch View Dances.



Photo: Sydney Harding

Mary Moonshine (EMCEE & TOUR GUIDE) Jake is a theatremaker, musician and producer based in Toronto. A studious kid, Jake began training in classical piano at 4 years old, and as a teenager, outside of a devotion to maths, sciences, and programming, Jake developed a love for musicals. Since training as an actor at George Brown Theatre School and the Birmingham Conservatory for Classical Theatre, Jake has worked as an actor, musician, playwright, and producer for companies such as The Stratford Festival, Cahoots Theatre, Young People's Theatre, Clay and Paper Theatre, and Theatre by the Bay. Selected acting credits include The Neverending Story, Henry VIII (Stratford Festival); I and You (Outlook Theatre); The Secret Garden (Young People's Theatre).

KAEJA D'DANCE

STAFF & BOARD

Co-Artistic Directors - Karen & Allen Kaeja

Managing Director - Adam Scime

PVD Production Manager - Malgorzata Nowacka-May

Project & Communications Coordinator - Ashley Hoy

PVD Production Stage Manager - Sharon DiGenova

Social Media and Marketing Assistants - Shajiba Sooriyakumar & Alex Mistreanu

Bookkeeper - Ifeyinwa Oguchi

PVD Technical Assistant - Shanna Miller

Videographer - Drew Berry

Photographer - SVPhotography

Publicity - Murray Paterson Publicity Group

Board of Directors - Lori Endes (President), Amanda Baloukas (Secretary), Patricia Fraser (Director), Lori Pacan (Director), Maureen Murray (Director)

KAEJA D'DANCE

VOLUNTEERS

Lisa Miller

Jennifer Carr

Geraldine Browne

Johanne Wilkins

Anne Fleming

Minuet Charron

Brennan Roy

Linda McKitterick

Natasha Moller

Batemans Cycle: Will, Mike, Sheelagh, Beckett, Michele, Justin

TD Bank Team

THANK YOU

We have a multitude of amazing friends, families and volunteers to thank for their dedication, time and belief in our work. Thank you to our fantastic Production Team, Beata Rasitsan and Sarah Caraher. To the Street, Bike, the neighbours, the families, our Board of Directors, and to everyone who gave their time to support Porch View Dances, thank you. Without you, all of this would not have been possible.

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