

KAEJA

*"The world's a stage with
Porch View Dances."*

The Toronto Star



PORCH VIEW DANCES

REAL PEOPLE DANCING IN REAL SPACES

Seaton Village, Toronto, ON

JULY 19-22, 2017 | 7PM

JULY 23, 2017 | 1PM

Photos: Monica Salazar Arcila

Developed With: Allen Kaeja

PVD Concept: Karen Kaeja

WELCOME

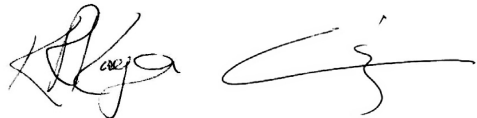
ABOUT PORCH VIEW DANCES

*REAL PEOPLE DANCING
IN REAL SPACES*

Whether you are new to Kaeja d'Dance or have experienced us before, we welcome you to our 6th annual performance of Porch View Dances in Seaton Village!

One day as I peered out the front window of our home, my curiosity swelled. I began wondering what was happening behind closed doors across the street. Imagining the possibilities through dance, I envisioned the stories of its inhabitants flowing out onto the front porches of their homes. I thought about the pulse that lies within the home and how dance could bring a distinct vitality to reflect the unique intricacies and voices of a family or its inhabitants. Thus, Porch View Dances, Flock Landing and the Vignettes were born and further developed with Allen. Now a national event, Porch View Dances transforms "normally quiet residential streets...into a dance playground" (Apt 613, Ottawa). This year our guest choreographers are: Allison Cummings, Yvonne Ng, and Lua Shayenne.

We invite you to take pleasure in our community, reflect upon what dances lie within your own home, and to enjoy inspiring talent that is right here in our very own city. Enjoy the journey! And, as always we invite you to join us in our Flock Landing finale in Vermont Square Park.



Karen (with Allen)

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 with professional choreographers and performed by local families on their porches, front yards and driveways of their own homes.

PVD was designed to celebrate the stories of neighbourhood residents and to bridge the gap between professional art and everyday people. Taking dance out of the theatre and into our daily lives, PVD engages real people dancing in real spaces, making dance accessible to the families who perform in it, as well as the audience members who come to watch. It is in this way that PVD sends the strong and powerful message that art is for everyone.

Perhaps even more significantly, PVD provides an invaluable opportunity for people to connect with their families, friends and community in meaningful ways, enjoying the precious chance to spend quality time together. They collaborate to create and perform their art through the aesthetic lens of our choreographers. Audience members are given an opportunity to get to know their neighbours and community members, as they come together to witness the sharing of personal stories through a moving cultural experience.

PVD has gone National! In addition to performances here in Toronto, we have taken PVD to Ottawa and Kitchener twice, as well as Long Branch, Etobicoke. Let us know if you want to see PVD come to your neighbourhood or if you wish to participate next year!

ABOUT KAEJA D'DANCE

Kaeja d'Dance bridges dance art and the public. The work is personal, highly physical, quirky and sensual, revealing stories, lives lived and risks we take as human beings. Since 1991, Kaeja has triggered a cascade of contemporary creations in dance performance, site works with extreme numbers of dancers and screen dance.

Living fully at the heart of Kaeja are Co-Artistic Directors Karen & Allen Kaeja. Having carved their own identity, the "Kaeja's' choreography has always stood firmly and boldly in space", Paula Citron, Globe and Mail. They break ground and weigh heavy on the inclusion of professional dance artists and real people in exclusive creative partnerships, in order to experience and perform dance art. Porch View Dances (now on it's sixth year and touring Canadian communities). Just dance J/F, Downtown Dances: Moncton, Wedding Brigade, Birds Eye View and Flock Landing, are a few of these engagements.

Distinguished in three encyclopedias including the Canadian Who's Who, they are internationally recognized award-winning choreographers and dancers for stage and film, with awards including the UNESCO Citation for the Year of Culture and Peace, the CDA "I Love Dance" Community Award for Porch View Dances, the Clifford E. Lee, Kathryn Ash, Bonnie Bird, Paul D. Fleck Fellowships for Innovation and Moving Pictures Award. Their nominations are many.

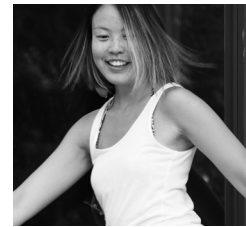
Bringing together collaborators to infuse and exchange meaningful experiences both on and off stage in local and international communities, Kaeja tours live performances, dance films, in-demand community outreach programs, lectures and educational workshops, and mentorship equations and collaborations. Kaeja has been plaformed in all avenues of their activity through presenters, exchanges, residencies, commissions have toured across Canada, the United States, South America, Europe, Asia and the Middle East, with people of all ages and identities.

PERFORMING FAMILIES



Bodiya/Qing Family

Yulan is a mathematician working at University of Toronto. She thinks about shapes and metrics. Tim is a research scientist who previous worked on detection of gravitational wave. Before coming to Toronto, the family lived in Israel for two years, where Lara was born. Lara is two and half now. She likes dancing, biking and having a blue bubble bath. Frida is 7 months old and she likes to be with everyone.



Kristin Fung is a singer, pianist, composer, ukuleleist, teacher, recording artist, ice cream connoisseur, avocado devotee, bike hyper-enthusiast, and Honest Ed's nostalgist. Born and raised on the west coast, Kristin and Toronto have been in a loving and committed long-term relationship since 2012 and enjoy long walks in Koreatown.



Adams Family are more than father and son they are Red Bear, a creative arts non-profit that uses traditional indigenous storytelling as the foundation for its programming. Owen also has his own entertainment business. Both of them love the outdoors and Owen started backcountry camping and canoeing when he was just two. Being First Nations and European in background gives them an interesting perspective on life in the city and the bush. In addition to the arts, the Adams boys love to boulder, fish, canoe, bike, ski, swim, paddle and hike. Often accompanying them on their jaunts are their two rez dogs Pup and Sam.

PERFORMANCE DETAILS

IT TAKES 4 TO TANGLE

World Premiere

Concept & Choreography..... Allen & Karen Kaeja
Created With & Performed By..... Yulan, Tim, Lara and Frida
Music..... Joy Kills Sorrow, Sallie Ford, Taylor Swift, Wax
Museum, Edward Sharpe & The Magnetic Zero
Special Thanks..... The Zappia Family (Porch Host)

KNOTS

Vignette 1

World Premiere

Concept & Choreography..... Lua Shayenne
Dancers..... Nyda Kwasowsky & Lua Shayenne
Music..... Moby
Special Thanks..... Karma Co-Op

LOOKING HOME

World Premiere

Concept & Choreography..... Yvonne Ng* member of CADA
Created With & Performed By..... Kristin Fung
Music..... Solange, Max Richter
Special Thanks..... Barbara Berson & Ed Weinberg
(Porch Hosts), Julie Dawn Smith

MEMORIES UNDER THE WILLOW TREE

Vignette 2

World Premiere

Choreography..... Lua Shayenne
Dancers..... Nyda Kwasowsky and Lua Shayenne
Music..... Ali Farka Toure with Rye Cooder

BAWDDJIGAN MUGWA (BEAR DREAM)

World Premiere

Choreography..... Allison Cummings
Created with and Performed by..... Jim and Owen
Music..... Jim and Owen Adams, Burl Ives, Stevie Wonder
and the "Travelling Song" is carried by and
used with the permission of Jani Lauzon
Special Thanks..... Liz Haines (Porch Host)

BACK IN THE DAYS

Vignette 3

World Premieres

Concept & Choreography..... Lua Shayenne
Dancers..... Nyda Kwasowsky and Lua Shayenne
Music..... Mapumba

FLOCK LANDING

Premiered in 2007, Nuit Blanche, Casa Loma Stables

Please feel free to join us in the dance!

Concept & Choreography..... Karen Kaeja
Leaders..... Ana Claudette Groppler, Lilia Leon, Josh Murphy and Merideth Plumb
Original music..... Edgardo Moreno

PERFORMERS



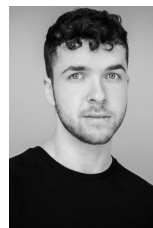
Ana Claudette Groppler (*Flock Landing*) was born in Toronto. She discovered her love of dance at Rosedale Heights School of the Arts, and pursued her training further, graduating from The School of Toronto Dance Theatre in 2011. Groppler has worked with Toronto Heritage Dance, Kemi Contemporary Dance Projects, Nancy Latoszewski, Signal Theatre, Fiona Griffiths, Kaeja d'Dance, Peggy Baker Dance Projects, The Go To Company, and Social Growl Dance. Groppler has performed her own work in shows with Dance Matters, Nextfest, the Parahumans and Maggie Dances. She toured across Mexico with Kaeja d'Dance in 2016.



Nyda Kwadowsky (*Vignettes*) is intrigued with movement languages that share knowledge and facilitate an understanding of their space and history in time to foster acceptance of the body, mind and soul. She has a background of classical technique from her studies at The National Ballet School of Canada. She studied a large scope of movement styles in Montreal with the student company Le Jeune Ballet du Quebec, where she worked with choreographers Ron de Jesus, Helene Blackburn, Annabel Lopez Ochoa, Shawn Hounsell, Gioconda Barbuto, James Gregg, Mario Radacovsky, Winifred Brunet-Smith, Taina Morales, Eric Beauchesne along with many other mentors. She learnt from works by Matz Ek, Ohad Naharin, Nacho Duato and more. She also worked closely with Ami Shulman at Springboard danse Montreal on Marie Chouinard's *Prelude's* and with Danielle Agami (of Ate9 Dance Company). She danced with Citie Ballet in Edmonton, AB for two seasons. Currently, she is based out of Toronto her native home and has worked with Opera Atelier, Cadence Progressive Contemporary Ballet, Ballet Creole, Kemi Projects, Les Grand Ballet Canadiens, Bill Coleman (Spark Collective) along with many others and is currently dancing with Lua Shayenne Dance Company in her first season.



Lilia Leon (*Flock Landing*) is a Mexican-Canadian performing artist with Mestizo heritage, with a versatile career as a dancer, actor, choreographer and arts educator. She has collaborated with Indigenous, Canadian and Latin American artists, who have left an imprint in her artistic practice. She has built a long-standing relationship with Kaeja d'Dance through multiple roles including teaching, performance, volunteer coordination and being mentored by Karen and Allen in many areas of her career. Lilia holds a B.A. in dance from York University, and is a graduate of The School of Toronto Dance Theatre. lilialeon.com



Josh Murphy (*Flock Landing*) has been training for seven years in modern/contemporary and ballet technique. A native of Corner Brook, Newfoundland he has 10 years of performance experience with Theatre Newfoundland and Labrador, including an international tour to Australia. Murphy trained at York University for 4 years wherein he spent two seasons as a company member with the York Dance Ensemble. During his time at York, Murphy has performed in original works by Susan Lee, Michelle Silagy, Holly Small, Carol Anderson, Julia Sasso, and Michael Greyeyes. Murphy is currently pursuing a career as a dance artist and scholar.



Maurycy (*Tour Guide*) is a body double for many ballet stars around the world, when not herding sheep, nor chasing Werewolves in the Old Country. He returns to Toronto, ON every summer to re-enact his favourite role, as tour guide for Porch View Dances, in this glorious city, where he was finally reunited with his stolen bride, Lilye (Lilye was kidnapped at the altar in their home town of Kutno, by a group of rogue dance artists, not just that, but Contemporary dance artists). These days he loves to travel with his wife Lilye and their 17 children to many exotic and adventurous lands.



Irma Villafuerte (*Flock Landing*) is a Latin American dance artist based in Toronto. She began her training as a competitive Latin Dancer, going on to become a graduate of the Dance Performance Studies program at George Brown College. Her training also extends to Latin, Caribbean dances and Cuban Contemporary technique. This training has led her to perform and study in Cuba and with Ballet Creole in Toronto; styles include: Dunham Technique, afro-cuban, and cuban modern/contemporary. She is honoured to be part of Kaeja D'dance community initiatives this year including Porch View Dances and other community productions, as it forms part of her artistic mandate.

CHOREOGRAPHERS



Allison Cummings (*Choreographer*) is a Toronto-based performer, choreographer, director and installation artist operating under the umbrella name 'Sore for Punching You'. Her work has been presented at The Theatre Centre, Hysteria, Edgy Women/Montreal, Toronto Dance Theatre's 'Four at the Winch', M:ST Performative Art Festival, The Moving Pictures Festival, Trinity Square Video, Summerworks, Compeung-Chiang Mai Thailand, and has self-produced many other interdisciplinary works. Selected commissions include Okotobrigya in Ghana, West Africa presented by the Canadian High Commission as part of Le Semaine de la Francophonie '08, Older and Reckless, School of the Toronto Dance Theatre and Theatre Passe Muraille. She is the recipient of the Toronto Emerging Artist Award in Dance (2000), was shortlisted K.M. Hunter Award '06 and '08, Chalmers Professional Development Grant '10, and the John P. And Susan D. Fellowship in recognition of her residency at Djerassi Resident Artists program in Woodside California '12. Her most recent full length piece Final Savage Land premiered at Oz Studios in Toronto, January 2013 and has since been remounted at SummerWorks, Toronto-August 2013, Canada Dance Festival – Ottawa, June 2014 and Fluid Festival, Calgary – October 2014. soreforpunchingyou.com



Allen Kaeja (*Co-Artistic Director, Choreographer*) is an internationally recognized and award winning Dance Film Director and Choreographer, who has created over 160 stage works and choreographed for 27 films. Runner-up of NOW Magazine's BEST DANCE COMPANY award for Kaeja d'Dance, Allen is also co-founder of the CanAsian Dance Festival. Allen has co-developed many site-specific and audience interactive engagement performance strategies with Karen Kaeja over the past 30 years. Together they have recently completed a full company tour to Mexico and were just in Newfoundland, Vancouver, Moncton, UK and Japan. Their next major production is Extraordinary TO Dances for both film and stage.



Karen Kaeja (*Co-Artistic Director, Choreographer, PVD Concept*) is an award winning performer, choreographer, educator, community builder and project instigator. She thrives on developing performance platforms provoking collaborative relationships between dancers, everyday people and the body. Commissions and residencies take her around the world from NFLD to Japan. She is Co-Artistic director of Kaeja d'Dance with Allen Kaeja and of Cloud 9 with Claudia Moore.



Yvonne Ng (*Choreographer*) is a choreographer, presenter, arts educator & artistic director of princess productions (1996): tiger princess dance projects(tpdp) and dance: made in canada Festival. tpdp umbrellas Yvonne's artistic activities. Yvonne is a certified Open Source Forms, C-I Training™ and Ashtanga Yoga teacher. Yvonne is a recipient of the 2017 Muriel Sherrin Award, 2016 Jacqueline Lemieux Prize, Soulepper Community Arts Award, K.M. Hunter Artist Award, the New Pioneers Arts Award, Chalmers Arts Fellowship and a Dora Mavor Moore Award for best performance (ensemble) and in 2007, the Ontario Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts – New Talent Award. Yvonne was also the Artistic Director of Series 8:08 (1994 - 2015). princessproductions.ca



Lua Shayenne (*Vignette Choreographer and Dancer*) is a 2016 and 2017 K.M. Hunter Dance and 2013 TELUS Newcomer artist award nominee and winner of Neighbourhood Arts Network 2013 BMO SEEDS FUND, Lua Shayenne's dance practice is rooted in her African ancestry. Her company, Lua Shayenne Dance Company (LSDC), presents dance works that explores current subject matters with the aim to be a vehicle for spiritual and social progress. LSDC has presented five productions and was recently featured in Fall for Dance North at the Sony Centre. Lua recently performed in Brendan Fernandes' (Us/Canada) In Touch, Lars Jan's (NYC/LA) Holoscenes (Toronto/Florida/ Miami/London,UK/Abu Dhabi tours) and Lemi Ponifasio's (New Zealand) Apocalypsis - Luminato Festival. luashayenne.com

PRODUCTION TEAM



Sharon DiGenova (*Production Manager*) is a native of Montreal, who began her career (a very long time ago) in a Broadway touring house in Massachusetts working in all aspects of technical theatre during a season which housed 9 B'way tours. She has since worked in numerous capacities in a multitude of disciplines – touring internationally to more than 350 cities (several times over) in over 30 countries throughout North & South America, Europe, Australia, Asia and the Far East. She has collaborated with scores of artists and companies including The Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Desrosier Dance Theatre, Ronnie Burkett Theatre of Marionettes, Esmeralda Enrique Spanish Dance Co. and for 10 years was resident Technical Director, Production Stage Manager and Designer for Canada's internationally acclaimed Holy Body Tattoo among others. Sharon also runs a company (voluntarily) called Holly's Hope - mounting events to raise funds for animals in need.



Shanna Miller (*Technical Director*) is 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); I Send You This Cadmium Red - 2014 (Art of Time Ensemble); Kaeja d'Dance 25th Anniversary Concert (Kaeja d'Dance); Rocking Horse Winner - 2016 (Tapestry Opera); Sleeping Beauty and Peter Pan in Wonderland (Ross Petty Productions). 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.

Co-Artistic Directors.....Allen & Karen Kaeja
General Manager.....Graham Curry
Productions and Outreach Coordinator.....Olivia Faveri
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Resident Videographer & Editor.....Aria Evans
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Publicity & Public Relations.....Sue Edworthy Arts Planning
Graphic Design.....Alyson von Massow
Photography.....Edwin Luk

SPECIAL THANK YOU

We have a multitude of amazing friends, families and volunteers to thank for their dedication, time and belief in our work. Special thank yous go out to and our funders: Ontario Arts Council, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Toronto Arts Council, Arts In The Parks, Canada Council for the Arts, Metcalf Foundation, TD Bank Group, and Bulmash-Siegel Fund.

A big thank you to our Community Hosts for sharing their resources and volunteering their time with Porch View Dances: Toronto Public Library, St. Alban's Boys & Girls Club, TD Canada Trust, Park People, Basecamp Climbing, and Karma Co-Op.

We'd also like to thank the Toronto Police Service for volunteering their time to ensure the safety of everyone who participates in Porch View Dances!

To our many volunteers who return each year. To the Street, Bike, and Hub Squads, the neighbours, the families, and to everyone who gave their time to support Porch View Dances, thank you. Without you, all of this would not have been possible.

A special thank you goes out to our Porch View Dances Community Host Volunteers who dedicate their time in 2017 to the community outside of this production, as well.: TD Canada Trust, Park People, Basecamp Climbing, and Karma Co-Op.

And last but certainly not least, the most special of thank yous goes to our former Community Animator, Nadine Villasin Feldman. Her passion for PVD and devote craftsmanship toward its development, is behind its success and why we are here today. We love you, Nadine!

TO ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS:

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WANT TO BRING PVD TO YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD?

Want to bring PVD to your neighbourhood? Talk to a volunteer or any staff member today. Visit our PVD Interactive Hub to place a sticker on the map, to let us know where you are from.

Email us directly for more information at urban@kaeja.org

INTERESTED IN BEING A VOLUNTEER?

Talk to a volunteer or any staff member today, visit our PVD Interactive Hub to sign up for our e-news or visit kaeja.org , or email us directly for more information at outreach@kaeja.org



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people



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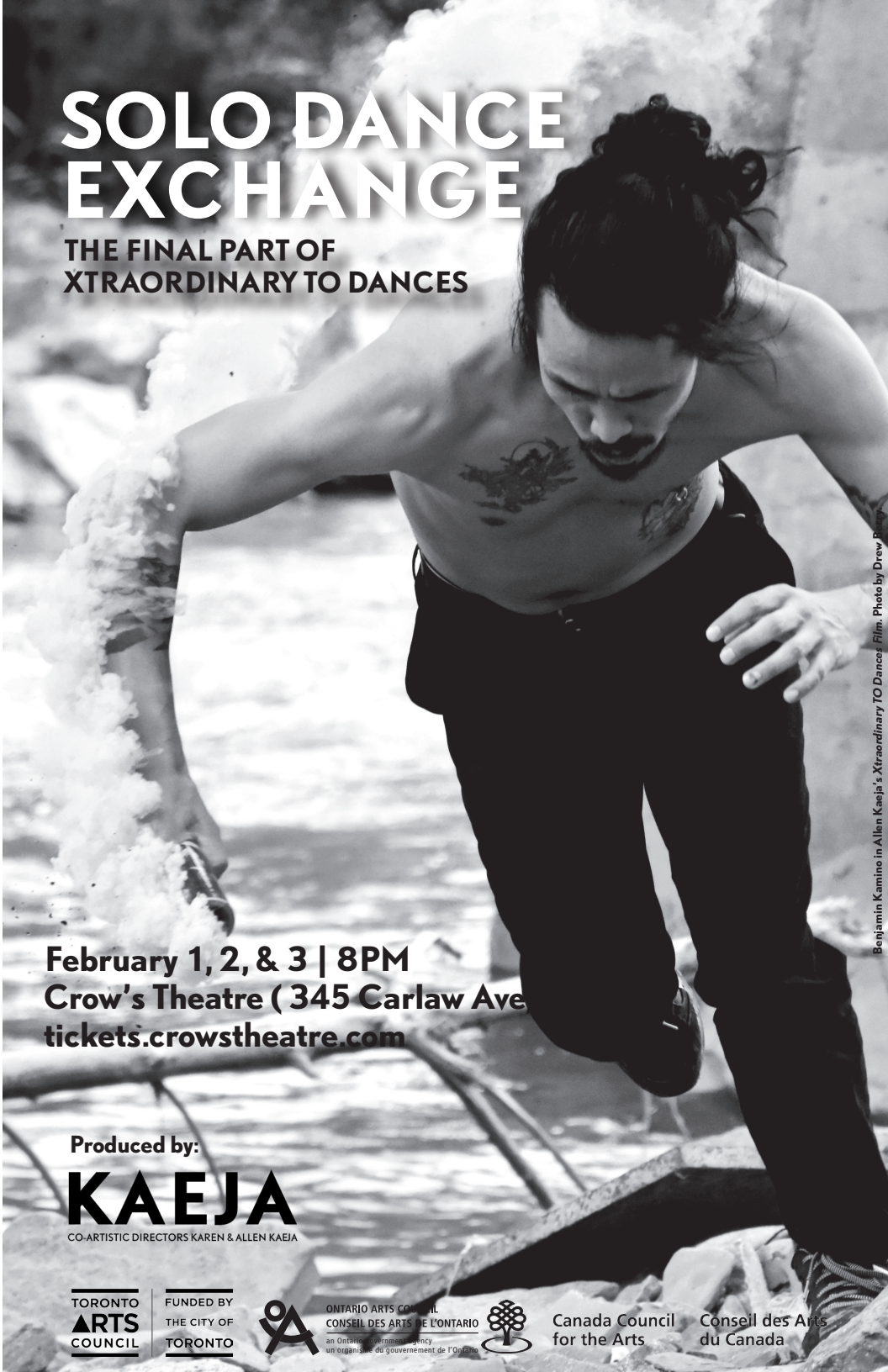


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Benjamin Kamino in Allen Kaeja's Xtraordinary TO Dances Film. Photo by Drew P.

February 1, 2, & 3 | 8PM
Crow's Theatre (345 Carlaw Ave)
tickets.crowstheatre.com

Produced by:

KAEJA

CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTORS KAREN & ALLEN KAEJA



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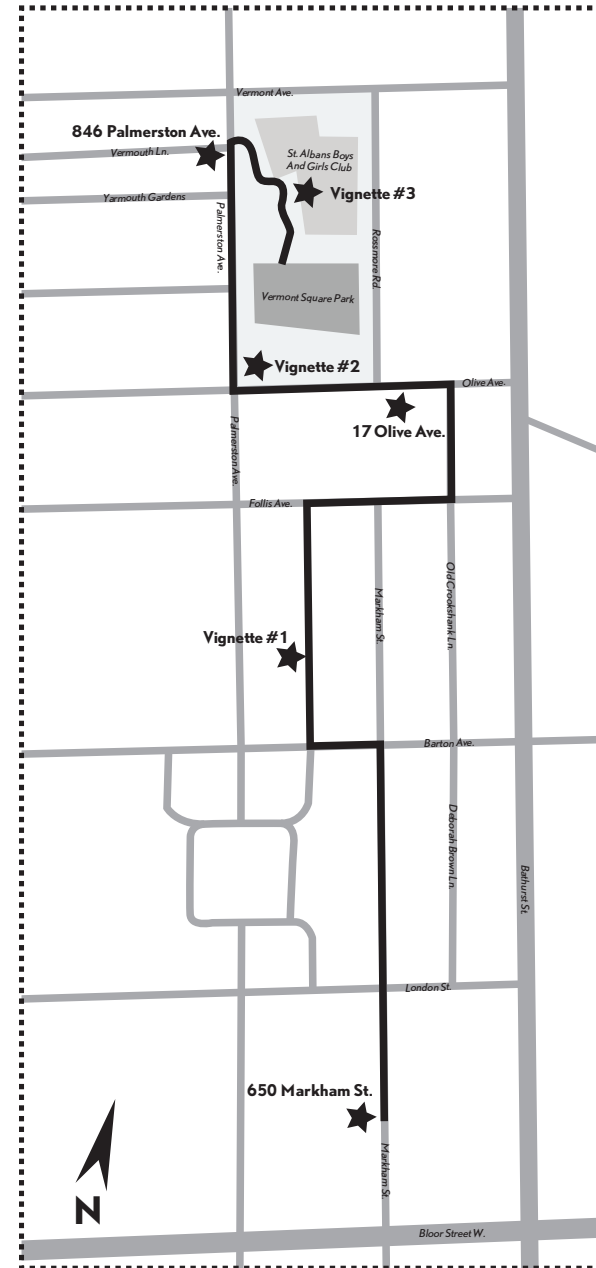
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MAP



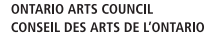
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