

JULY 27 - 12 & 5:30 PM, JULY 28 - 12 PM

LAMPMAN LANE PARK, BARRIE PAY-WHAT-YOU-CAN









#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge this sacred land on which we are located, which is the territory of the Haudenosaunee, Ojibway/Chippewa, and Anishinabek Peoples. We recognize and deeply appreciate their connection to this land which is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties. We also recognize the contributions Métis, Inuit, and other Indigenous Peoples have made, both in shaping and strengthening this community in particular, as well as our province and country as a whole.

We recognize Indigenous land title as set out in the Royal Proclamation of 1763, which envisioned self-determination and self-government. The Truth and Reconciliation Report and Calls to Action recommend that all levels of government implement Indigenous rights in the original spirit of the treaties. Indigenous Peoples and allies for reconciliation view the treaties as a sacred obligation that commits both parties to maintain respectful relationships, and to share the lands and resources equitably.

Today, Simcoe County is still home to many Indigenous Peoples from across Turtle Island. We are grateful, honoured, and humbled to have the opportunity to live and work on this land.

Chi Miigwetch - Merci - Thank you.

#### A WELCOME FROM SCD

In celebration of SCD's 15th Anniversary Season, we welcome you to the first annual Get Out and Dance Event at Lampman Lane Park presented by Simcoe Contemporary Dancers!

Get Out and Dance is a re-imagining of SCD's inaugural outdoor, site-specific dance event which was originally produced in Downtown Barrie in 2009.

This year's event features many talented artists from our community bringing you dance workshops, live music performances, and and a site-specific dance performance. We are so thrilled to be in community with these gifted artists and can't wait for you, our audience, to experience their talent!

SCD strives to be an ambassador for dance in all it's forms within our community and that has been a guiding influence on our program. In this show, you will see many dance styles including contemporary and modern dance, tap dance, Chinese Traditional Dance, Afro-Caribbean Fan Dance, and a dash of burlesque!

Enjoy!

Jaqui Brown
Artistic Director

Chrissy Baxter
Executive Director



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**Shelly-Ann Skinner** is a multidisciplinary performing artist, community organizer and activist, who believes art is a pathway to healing.

Shelly-Ann use her creative talents to activate social justice movements and inspire radical self love.



**Erika MacNeil** is a dancer by training, teacher by trade, writer on a whim. Erika is an experiential performer who thrives on audience participation, spontaneous creation, and interactive collaboration. As a cabaret and site-specific artist, Erika has performed in both large venues and intimate settings, outdoor spaces and shared public areas. Her most recent work includes Rap is Poetry with Ty the Poetess, Barrie's Poet Laureate, as well as Walk the Six, a Toronto historic society experience at Etienne Brule Park and McMichael Art Gallery.



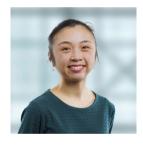
**Nicole Welsh** is a second generation BellyDance artist who has been sharing her BellyDance passion in the Simcoe County area for 2 decades! She is a dedicated teacher, performer and student of Egyptian BellyDance. Nicole is the owner and lead choreographer of Cairo's Jewels BellyDance, teaching and inspiring students from 3 -70 with the wonderful art form of BellyDance. Nicole believes in the power of connecting and bringing joy, not only to audience, but within the dancer and she continuously strives to bring people together through BellyDance.



Sam Ierullo has enjoyed a lifetime as a musician and music teacher. He has studied saxophone(s), clarinet, flute, and jazz improvisation with many musicians including well known Toronto musician Jack Zaza and jazz pianists Bob Erlendson and Frank Colucci. Sam has played jazz, rock, blues, pop, ethnic, and classical music in a wide variety of bands and ensembles for clubs, shows, parties, weddings, charity events and in recording studios. He has played at many and various venues throughout North America. Sam has a Master Of Education in Science degree and has been dedicated to teaching music to elementary and high school students as well as teaching private lessons throughout Toronto over the years.



Alayna Molotkow is a professional dancer, producer, choreographer, adjudicator and model. She graduated from Ryerson University with a BFA in Dance Performance. As a technically trained dancer, Alayna is proficient in ballet, pointe, jazz, modern, contemporary, lyrical, musical theatre, tap and burlesque. Alayna produces films under Von Hunt Productions, including 'In Transit', which was featured at the 2021 Digital Toronto Fringe Festival. Alayna has also recently performed and choreographed 'Tales of a Cocktail' and 'Anatomy of a Dancer', which were nominated for several Broadway World Awards. Alayna has also established a residency at a local speakeasy where she regularly performs and choreographs burlesque acts in downtown Toronto, and has performed in notable venues such as The Royal Conservatory of Music, The Gardiner Museum, Roy Thompson Hall and many more.



Hayley Ng is an emerging professional dancer, and physiotherapist. She started dancing at age 3, and trained in pre-professional ballet throughout high school. During her Bachelor's degree, she performed soloist roles with Hamilton City Ballet and choreographed ballet pieces for McMaster's Recreational Dance Team. During her master's, she continued her ballet training and launched her professional dance career, where she performed with the Dance: Corps company, at the Youth Day Global event, and as an artist in the Quarantine Qapsule digital archive on the Museum of Toronto website.

After her master's, she performed as a soloist at the University of Toronto and was invited to perform solos as a guest performer with Georgia's Dance & Arts Cultural Centre. She was selected as an artist from across Canada to have her self choreographed and performed solo piece to be featured in the Digital Shortworks festival in Stratford. Further, she danced as a company member with Moonlight Ballet. Earlier this year, she danced professionally in the "Legend of Huli", where she starred in a role alongside former professional dancers with the Mariinsky Ballet, and collaborated with award winning musicians. Most recently, she choreographed and performed a solo dance piece in collaboration with the Toronto Chinese Orchestra.



Brianna Maltais journey in music and dance spans across Canada, the United States, and Europe, where she studied alongside esteemed tap dancers and musicians. The pinnacle of her training includes, international mentorship from tap dance master Heather Cornell at her Tap Labs in Michigan, and Improjazz workshop in Greece. Recent performances include appearances with The Skyliners Big Band at the Barrie Jazz and Blues Festival and Dance Against the Wind, produced by Vintage Taps Company, starring Brenda Buffalino. Dedicated to enriching the tap dance community, Brianna is part of the 2024 Toronto International Tap Dance Festivals production team, and teaches young tap dancers locally. Currently, she is engaged in Heather Cornell's Legacy Project, supported by the Canadian Arts Council, focusing on musical collaboration, with mentorship from tap dance professionals Dianne Walker, Max Pollack, and pianist Andy Milne.



Joe Adamick is a percussionist. Passion, energy and rhythmic flexibility would best describe his performance. Over the past 40 years, He has worked in an endless variety of settings and genres including jazz (trio, quartet etc.) musical theatre productions, Big band, Indie Band, wedding band, and dance group accompanist. Joe is a true supporter of the arts and has organized many fundraisers for fledgling performers, cancer research as well as donating his performance skills to assist Team Broken Earth sending a medical team to Guatemala.



**Sil Simone** is an in demand guitarist, composer, and producer based in Toronto. His musical theatre credits include Rock Of Ages, We Will Rock You, and Bat Out Of Hell. Sil has also had a prolific touring and recording career which includes working with many artists including Tom Cochrane, Triumph, Rik Emmett, Lee Aaron, Zappacosta, Regatta, Liberty Silver, Melissa O'Neal, Kalen Porter, Rex Goudie, Ronnie Hawkins, and The Partland Brothers. Learn more about Sil and his recent work at www.silsimone.com.



Aanchal Nanavati is the founder of Lasya - Poetry of Footsteps Dance School. She is an international performer and choreographer for last 21 years. Aanchal performs and choreographs a variety of cultural and Bollywood dance styles, each with its own unique significance. Her mission is to inspire everyone to step up to embrace your inner passion for dance and fitness.



Sarah Kennedy graduated from Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, British Columbia with her degree: Bachelor of Fine Arts Honours majoring in Dance. She is from Newmarket, Ontario and has been dancing since age four. As an emerging artist, Sarah has performed in many works at SFU including Ascension 2018, 2020, 2021, PPE Waves, Ghost Forest, Myriad and Coda. She has performed in Dusk Dances from 2017-2022 and has toured with artists in Barrie and Hamilton, ON. During her career, Sarah has had the pleasure of learning from artists such as Megan Walker-Straight, Rob Kitsos, Judith Garay, Marla Eist, Emmalena Fredriksson, Justine Chambers, NiNi Dongnier, Charlotte Boye-Christensen and Sylvie Bouchard. Sarah continues to explore her own choreographic style using her personal experiences as a catalyst.



Paul Moen is a talented performer with a deep passion for the art of dance. He began is training at a young age and started dancing competitively at age 9, winning numerous awards, including the prestigious "Be Discovered" scholarship for dance training in Los Angeles. After dancing competitively for many years, Paul continued to pursue excellence in performance by training in dance, signing, and acting at George Brown College. Following college, Paul moved to Sweden, where he expanded his artistic practice by teaching dance. After returning to Canada, Paul continued teaching at Bradford School of Dance where he shares his extensive experience and passion with his students. Paul is also a dedicated member of Simcoe Contemporary Dancers, where he strives to inspire others with his talent and love for dance.



Eligh Zimmerman is a self-trained dancer who took his movement to the next level first as a choreographic apprentice with Simcoe Contemporary Dancers before joining the company as a professional member. Later, he earned his diploma in Performing Arts from the Centennial College Performing Arts Program. He is a celebrated drag performer in Toronto known as Sugarstixxx. As a drag performer, he is high energy, running and hosting his own open stage at Pegasus on Church. As a choreographer, he has choreographed many different pieces for dancers and drag performers. As a dancer, Eligh performs in many different styles including Contemporary, Jazz, Tap and Hip-Hop.



Brendan Graham is a multi-instrumentalist performer and composer based in Aurora, Ontario. He is the lead vocalist, songwriter, and guitar player for @hungrymannamusic. When Brendan isn't playing with Hungry Manna, you can find him performing in local venues as a guitar player in the band @buzzhoneymusic, and as a drummer in the band @telltale\_sounds. With the help and collaboration of SCD, Brendan composed his first composition titled Tracing Orbits, which debuted with the company in January 2024 at Five Points Theatre in Barrie



Connor Wilfert is the bassist and backup vocalist for @hungrymannamusic. When Connor isn't playing with Hungry Manna, you can find him performing in local venues with his band @buzzhoneymusic as the lead singer and lead guitarist.



Corey Marshall is a multi-instrumentalist performer and drummer for @hungrymannamusic. When Corey isn't playing with Hungry Manna, you can find him playing with his band @telltale\_sounds in local venues as the lead singer, rhythm guitarist, and occasional drummer.



Kasey Kohring is a 24 year old Singer-Songwriter from Innisfil, Ontario that started performing on stage at the age of 12 and went on to complete his Bachelor of Music degree at Wilfrid Laurier University. Kasey is known for his strong and elegant vocals that flow through the crowd with his dynamic guitar playing that pairs perfectly with his vocal melodies. Kasey's favourite music to play is Canadian content like Tragically Hip, 54-40, Arkells, and The Trews. He also enjoys performing his original music. He is currently in a three piece rock band called **All My Life.** Their newest single and an EP called *Stories Of You* can be found on any streaming platform.

#### **Becoming**

Performer: Shelly-Ann Skinner

Choreographer: Shelly-Ann Skinner

Music: Love me JeJe by Tems

Shelly-Ann is sharing her artistry in a Afro-Caribbean Fan

Dance.

#### InsatiABLE Or-bits

Performer: Sarah Kennedy

Choreographer: Sarah Kennedy

**Music**: Inner Shadows by O.I, Break Me Again by Meltone, Oversyncing and I Was Only Temporary (Slowed + Reverb)

by My Head is Empty

Perception vs reality.

The world orbits around me... Do I move with it or stand on the outside? Day in and day out, stay afloat. Are you moving? One step forward or two steps backwards?

This piece was created from feeling stuck and fearful of the unknown in life. Working with the pressure society has naturally put on us all to succeed and always striving for greatness but not being happy with what is in front of you. It feels like a cycle sometimes, that can't be broken. Sometimes you're just trying to keep your head above water each day, so you don't drown in the reality. Overarching themes that are present include pressure, survival, resilience, repetition and redefining oneself.

#### **Belief**

Performers: Brianna Maltais, Joe Adamick, and Sam Ierullo

Choreographer: Brianna Maltais

Musical accompaniment by Joe Adamick and Sam Ierullo

This piece holds profound personal significance for the choreographer. The music that accompanies the movement is a cover of the song "Belief" from the jazz album titled "Belief" by Leon Parker, whose percussion artistry has deeply inspired her.

Belief brings Parker's works to life through tap dance and live music.

This piece aims to bridge the gap between music and dance that can sometimes exist. The choreography, incorporating both structure and improvisation, showcases dynamic exchanges among the trio of performers, and engages the audience by inviting everyone to join in the rhythmic celebration. Belief strives to reignite the joy of tap dance and live music collaborations for our community.

#### Forever a Wife

Performer: Alayna Molotkow

Choreographer: Alayna Molotkow

Music composed and recorded by Roberto Sapienza

Forever a Wife is a contemporary solo created as part of a trilogy, exploring the early days of dementia/Alzheimer's. This piece considers our roles and archetypes throughout life and how deeply they become ingrained into the fibres of our identity. When our very being begins to slip, do these roles give us something to hold onto, or a generality to disappear into?

#### Untied

Performers: Eligh Zimmerman and Paul Moen

Choreographers: Eligh Zimmerman

Music: Inner Demons by Julia Brennan and This Place is a

Shelter by Olafur Arnalds

This work explores the tenacity that it takes for someone to conquer their inner demons and is an exploration of how any barrier can be overcome.

Untied was originally choreographed as a trio but was recently reworked into a duet to emphasize the inner battles that people can be dealing with. The choreography demonstrates the dissonance that can occur between one's brain and heart. The movement is heavy as well as smooth as the dancers explore physically how someone can continue to fight through their struggles even when they're feeling pulled down by negative thoughts and emotions.



Intersections 交會

Performer: Hayley Ng

Choreographer: Hayley Ng

Music: Intersections, composed by Matthew Van Driel,

performed by Toronto Chinese Orchestra

'This piece is called 'Intersections 交會', which was inspired by Song Dong's Communal Courtyard. It reflects how cities with old traditions and ways of life are continuously changing, as they are taken over by modern day society. This is a contemporary dance piece with musical accompaniment involving Chinese instruments.

The music begins with a melody based on traditional Chinese musical form, and as it progresses, this melody is taken over by more robotic rhythms. Similar to how a city's old traditions and ways of life change over time, the music continues to change, influence, and fight against each other, creating harmonies and dissonances. These shifts in the music are reflected in the choreography, which demonstrates the push and pull between the desire to keep old traditions and the desire to integrate modern ways of living.

At the end of the piece, the original melody is still intact but is also changed and adapted to something new. This is reflected through a piece of the original choreography returning in a different form to emulate this ending of the music.

## Simcoe Contemporary Dancers • • • • Upcoming Events

2024-2025 SCD Auditions August 7, 2024, 7:00 - 8:30 pm @ Moving Art

SCD is looking for youth apprentices (ages 14-19) and professional company members to join us for our 2024-2025 season. Auditions will be held at Moving Art in Barrie and consist of centre floor, floorwork, across the floor exercises, improvisation, and choreography taught by SCD company members. Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to audition start time. Register today online at www.SCDancers.com!

Structured Improvisation Performance September 28, 2024, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm @ MacLaren Art Centre

SCD will be performing structured improvisations around and inspired by the MacLaren Art Centre's public art pieces that are part of their permanent collection. The works include sculptures by Kosso Eloul and Sorel Etrog. Performances will occur on the half hour.

Weekly Contemporary Dance Class - Open Level Sundays, Sept 8 - Dec 8, 2024, 11:15 am - 12:30 pm @ Studio Five

SCD will be bringing back our weekly contemporary dance classes featuring a rotation of instructors from the company, each with their own special brand of magic! Drop-ins are most welcome and each week is a new adventure that will allow dancers to progress in their movement and artistry week to week. Our classes consist of floor-work, centre practice, travelling work, and movement combinations. Classes are open to teens (14+) and adults and are taught at an open level with some dance experience required.

Contemporary Floorwork Workshop by Kylie Thompson November 10, 2024, 11:00 - 1:00 pm @ Studio Five

SCD is thrilled to present a contemporary floorwork workshop by Kylie Tohmpson! Hailing from Toronto, Canada, Kylie is a multi-disciplinary artist with a wealth of knowledge and experience under her belt. She has trained extensively with Canadian companies such as Gadfly, Alias Dance Project, and internationally with Keren Rosenberg and Vim Vigor Dance. Kylie believes that dance is simply movement language and holds a unique perspective in the dance industry.







## Simcoe Contemporary Dancers gratefully acknowledges our funders, sponsors, and supporters:







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If you're interested in becoming a season sponsor or a future event sponsor, please contact us at SimcoeContemporaryDancers@gmail.com!