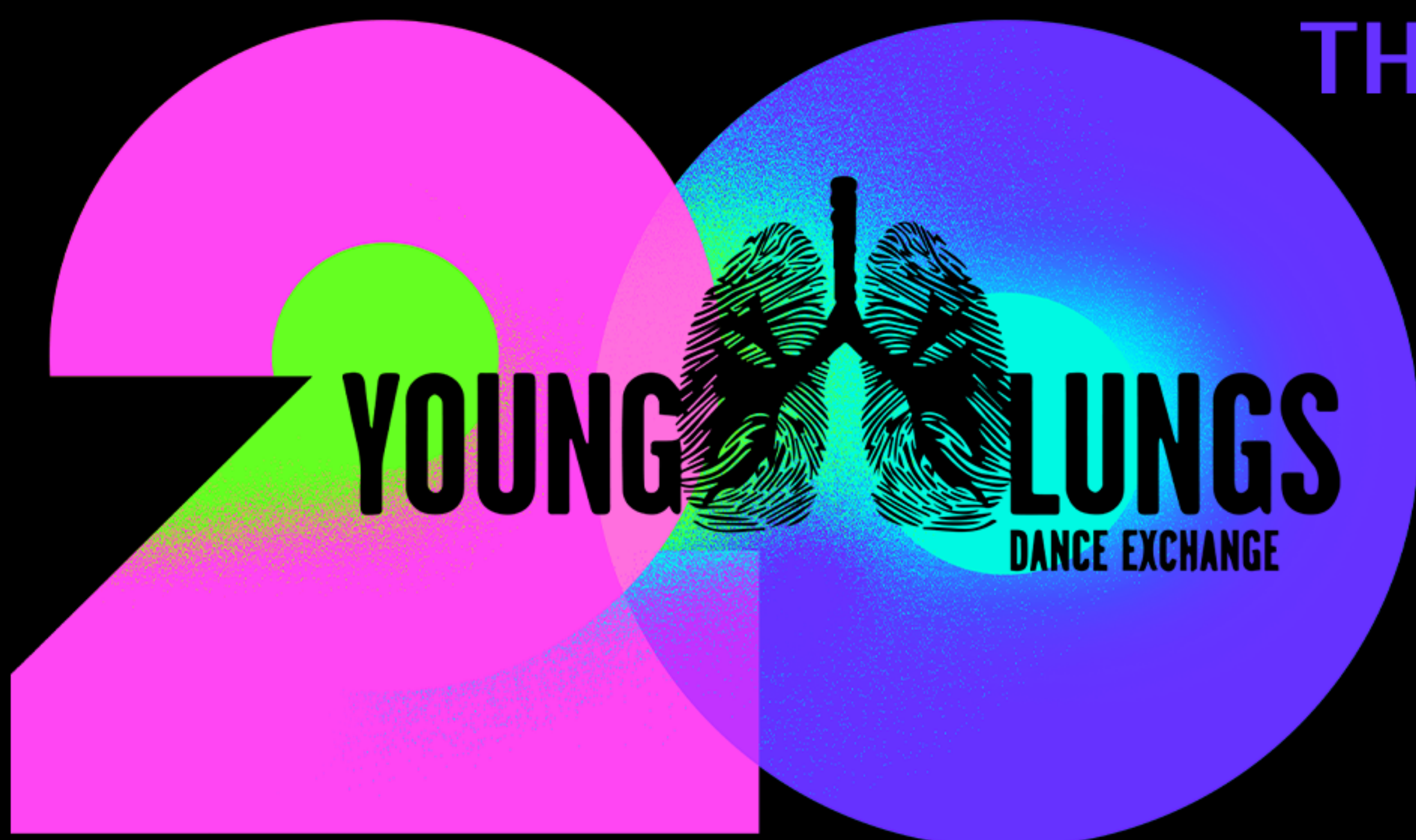


YOUNG LUNGS DANCE EXCHANGE
20TH



ANNIVERSARY
FESTIVAL

THE ARTISTS

JUNE 26-29, 2025

LE CENTRE CULTUREL FRANCO MANITOBAIN

Tanja Faylene Woloshen (MFA, BA Hon, BEd). Independent Dance Artist/ Educator/ Collaborator. From & currently creating on Treaty 1. Performed & studied across N.A., EU, and SE Asia. Some recent things~ creation/performance: "Underlander" (2024) Bikes & Circuses; creation/film: "Field of Desire" (2023); creation/performance: "Beautiful Loser" Art Holm (2021); National Dance Ed. Assoc. Conf. Presenter (2022, 2021); Dance Studies Assoc. Conf. Presenter (2022, 2019); One Trunk Theatre's "Western Chronicle"-choreographer (2021); "Memorials for Lost Bodies" (2020) Happy Phantoms Collective. Tanja is currently on faculty with the Winnipeg Holistic Expressive Arts Therapy Institute, and Winnipeg School Division, with prior teaching engagements at ULeithbridge, UWinnipeg, UBC-Okanagan, MTYP, The Wellness Institute, & RWB. Tanja is honoured to be dancing with her mom. (Love you).



Stedroy has been in love with dance since the age of 12. His introduction to the craft was influenced by his mother as well as his sisters, however his passion grew immensely throughout his life, as it allowed him to form deeper connections with his siblings, friends, family, and himself. Using dance as a medium to express his feelings is something that he is extremely grateful for, as he found it difficult at times to do so verbally. Stedroy believes that dance made a positive impact on his life, and he dedicates on helping kids use dance as a medium to express themselves, or as a simple way to get some exercise, build confidence, and have fun! He currently teaches at DBSD, as well as indigenous communities in Northern Manitoba.



Jennifer Essex is a Canadian contemporary dance choreographer, dancer and aerialist. She has developed projects including a stop-motion film for French fashion house Hermes, an interactive video with the award-winning team from Studio Murmur, and a "choreophonic prosthetic" with acclaimed artist and filmmaker Di Mainstone. In 2024 Jennifer was the Artistic Director for HOME, a mass participation project that engaged over 3,000 community participants from across Middlesbrough. Her work has been recognized by support from the Canada Council for the Arts and Arts Council England. She lives in County Durham.



Johanna Riley is a co-founder and former board member of Young Lungs Dance Exchange, and has been a dance artist for over 20 years. She was a company member with Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers for twelve seasons, as well as performing with other independent dance, theatre, and multidisciplinary artists from Winnipeg, across Canada, and beyond. She has choreographed over a dozen original dance works, which have been presented and toured by Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers and Young Lungs Dance Exchange. Riley was also a faculty member with the Professional Program of the School of Contemporary Dancers for most of her career, teaching dance technique, improvisation, performance, and composition. In 2018 she returned to school herself, completing an education degree at the University of Winnipeg in 2022. She is currently engaged in the highly demanding and immensely creative job of middle school classroom teacher in the Seven Oaks School Division in Winnipeg.



Ali Robson is a dance artist, parent and community worker who is curious about collaborating across disciplines, making art in different communities and creating work with and for people of all ages. She has worked as a dancer, teacher, choreographer, rehearsal director, movement coach and collaborator since 2004. Ali has performed with companies such as, EDAM Dance, TRIP dance company, and Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers. Ali is a collective member of Weather Parade Dance Theatre with Natasha Torres-Garner, and together they produce intergenerational performances in public and artistic spaces. Ali has instructed movement courses at the University of Winnipeg and has taught creative movement and improvisation classes for children and adults throughout Winnipeg and across Canada. She is currently working at North End Women's Centre and studying Acupuncture.



D-Anne Kuby is of Slavic and Anglo Saxon descent. She has been working in dance since the late 70's. Performer, teacher, choreographer, rehearsal director, producer/administrator. In the mid 90's she took a step away from performing to study film at Simon Fraser University. She quickly became much sought after for video work in the Vancouver dance community. In 2005 D-Anne felt the pull of the prairies and headed to Regina as manager of New Dance Horizons. Full time admin led to burn out. In 2008 she moved back to Winnipeg. To rest. She slowly reconnected with performance working with artists including, but not limited to Doug Melnyk, Maggie Nagle, Ian Mozdzen and Zorya Arrow. YLDE has been instrumental in fanning the flame of her passion for movement. D-Anne combines her movement practice with "just sitting" as they both pull her into her body, the root of her existence.



Deanna Peters Originally from Treaty 6 Territory (Saskatoon) and based on unceded Coast Salish Territories (Vancouver), Deanna Peters/Mutable Subject is a dance artist and designer who creates, performs and DIY produces for the stage, club, gallery, web and print. Deanna uses the name 'Mutable Subject' because they're always moving and evolving in their 22 year career. As a creator of "eye-popping" and "deeply moving" dance works, Deanna's known for pushing the boundaries of the form. As well as performing in their own choreography, Deanna's been engaged as a dancer in every year of their career, most recently with Jeanette Kotowich and Helen Walkley. Diverse training projects keep Mutable nimble in body and mind and currently D's being mentored in house dance by Sekou Heru (NYC). They're co-founder of aka collective and Co-Director of the Vancouver International Dance Festival. It's all dance: mutablesubject.ca



Krystina Dejean (Mystique) is a dancer who specializes in improvised street dance and club styles (waacking, hustle, hip-hop). She is currently developing her choreographic approach, greatly influenced by her research into empathy, through research residencies and presenting work in progress pieces in cabaret style evenings. She continues to nurture her work as a performer, touching on the artistic forms of theater and acting on camera. Most recently she was part of the cast of Sportriarcats, a feminist, multidisciplinary play (Claire Renaud, 2023). Concurrently, as a cultural worker, she collaborates with established local companies and non-profit organizations in various capacities, notably as production coordinator (Montréal Danse, 2022) and assistant artistic and general director (Studio 303, 2023-2024). She maintains her commitment to her community by producing battles (C'est Ma Toune, circa 2021) and events that gather and connect the Tiohtià:ke / Montréal street dance community.



Mia S. van Leeuwen practices the body of performance to explore wide-ranging themes while playfully blurring the lines between theatre, ritual, and visual art. Ventures include co-curating and producing the Waking Death Arts & Culture Event Series (Lethbridge 2023), directing the award-winning object theatre adaptation of Hrotsvitha's Sapiientia (New York City 2023, Montreal 2019, Lethbridge 2018, Winnipeg 2015), the Caryl Churchill inspired Destroy She Said (Edmonton 2014, Winnipeg 2018), the museum-tour-skewer Postcolonial Postcards (Dalnavert Museum, 2017), and performing the satirical White Bread (Edmonton, Antwerp, Munich, Innsbruck, Belgrade, 2014-2016). She is currently an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Fine Arts/Piiksinaasin at the University of Lethbridge. Her recent work embodies hauntings – ritualized performances inspired by her ongoing contemplations of death, dying, grief and ghosts! miavanleeuwen.com



Oriah Wiersma Falling inward, seeing outward, hearing, sensing, allowing lines to blur~ Oriah Wiersma is a multidisciplinary dance artist whose curiosity propels her in staggered steps. Taking the path less trundled she finds certainty in the uncertain and meaning in the process. Her work emerges from the soma and finds expression in movement, sound, film, writing, and stills. It has been described as “highly visceral”, “beautifully haunting”, and “deeply stirring”. Passionate about collaboration, some of her choreography and movement credits include: The Spirit Garden - R. Murray Schafer's large scale outdoor site specific musical drama; Music videos for ZINNIA, Shannon O'Donovan, and Ptarmigan, touring her recent solo isn't this where across Canada, and working as an interpreter for various choreographers in Toronto. Oriah holds a BFA from York University in dance performance.



Delf Gravert is a visual, music and theatre artist based in Winnipeg. He has worked with analog photo processes for over twenty years, and made some successful touring short films. Delf is a graduate of the Theatre program at the University of Winnipeg and studied for a year in California at Dell 'Arte International for Physical Theatre. His multi-faceted theatre resume includes memorable work with Theatre Incarnate , Out of Line Theatre and Young Lung's Dance Exchange. Delf plays and writes music in an electronic band Slipperbasket , and in a psych-rock band Leisurewear. He dj's on wax as DJ Del-Fi.



Jaime Black-Morsette is a Red River Métis artist and activist, with family scrip signed in the community of St Andrews, Manitoba. Jaime lives and works on her home territory near the confluence of the Red and Assiniboine rivers. Founder of The REDress project in 2009, Black-Morsette has been using their art practice as a way to gather community and create action and change around the epidemic of violence against Indigenous women and girls across Turtle Island for over a decade. Black-Morsette's interdisciplinary art practice includes immersive film and video, installation art, photography and performance art practices. Her work explores themes of memory, identity, place and resistance.



Janelle Hacault is a Filipinx/French contemporary dance artist and actor based in Montréal. She has performed onstage in *Annie: la comédie musicale* (Just for Laughs) and *Rhapsodie* (Sylvain Émard Danse/DanseDanse), on film (*Virginie Brunelle*, *Angèle Dubeau*, *Céline Dion*, *Trip the Light Fantastic*), and on television (*Chanteurs Masqués*, *Révolution* season 3). She also works as a dancer in circus with *Les 7 Doigts de la Main* with director, Gypsy Snider for *Virgin Voyages*. Proud to be a Manitoban, Janelle graduated from the School of Contemporary Dancers, holds a BA Honours in dance and a BA in theatre: performance, and was co-founder of Nova Dance Collective, .6 Ricochet, and thedancepost.org.



Sasha Amaya is a dancer, choreographer, and installation artist. Amaya is occupied with form, new techniques, and othered forms of being and knowing. Drawing on tradition, virtuosity, and impossibility, her works take up movement, dance, collage, text, and architectural surrounds as means to revisit the dynamics of the art historical and speculative. In doing so, she utilizes, rejects, reframes, and repurposes myths, narratives, and techniques in contemporary art work as part of a broader illumination and reconfiguration of the relationship between politics, aesthetics, and the possible. Shown in both visual art and choreographic contexts, her works are known for their combination of play and precision, her biting revisions of the art historical, and the body as a radical agent of form. Works have shown across the Americas and Europe. www.sasha-amaya.com



PRINCESS DASHA is the performance/sound/video project of Winnipeg-based artist Dasha Plett. Informed by practices of psychoanalysis, plunderphonics, and the New Narrative movement, PRINCESS DASHA's work has been shown at Cluster Festival, Nuit Blanche, YLDE, Art Holm, WNDX Festival, and send+receive. Dasha Plett is also an award-winning composer and sound designer, sculpting the sonic worlds of theatre, dance, and film work for *Buddies in Bad Times*, *Stratford Festival*, *RMTC*, *PTE*, *Cercle Molière*, *TPM*, *Mammalian Diving Reflex*, *Frances Koncan*, *Waawaate Fobister*, *Debbie Patterson*, *Stephanie Sy*, and *Alexandra Elliott*. Dasha is also one half of *We Quit Theatre*, a nationally acclaimed performance collective with Gislina Patterson. She is a proud member of IATSE local ADC659. Visit the princess online at www.princessdasha.com.



Freya Björg Olafson is an intermedia artist who works with video, audio, animation, motion capture, XR, painting, and performance. In spring 2020 Olafson was one of the longlist 'Sobey Art Award' recipients and in July 2021 was selected for the Lumen Prize for Art & Technology longlist. Olafson holds an MFA in New Media from the Transart Institute / Donau Universität. From 2017 - 2021 Olafson was with the Department of Dance at York University as an Assistant Professor in Screendance. As of July 2021, Olafson is an Assistant Professor in Digital Media at the University of Manitoba School of Art.



Coral Leander Maloney [++++euro/±latina/~unspecified borders] [Atkinson Wurtz Amaya Torres Krysska] is an interdisciplinary artist based in Kijipuktuk/Halifax. She is professionally trained in performance and theatre and is self-taught in choreography, visual art and dramaturgy. Coral's collaborative and independent work frequently examines nostalgia and colonial fervour; it invites place-based individual and ancestral reckoning and makes queer mischief through the use of time, space and site-specific embodied experience. Her work has been called "captivating" and "challenging" and has been presented in festivals, galleries, performance productions and as social intervention in various regions.



Natasha Torres-Garner Weather Parade Dance Theatre (WPDT) is a Winnipeg collective made up of artists Ali Robson and Natasha Torres-Garner. WPDT produces performance based in a shared interest in collaboration, improvisation, and intergenerational relationships. As co-directors of WPDT, Torres-Garner and Robson draw on a history of 25 years working together as performers, choreographers and presenters. To date WPDT has produced 5 productions since 2015, performances varying between duets performed by co-directors, to large multi-generational group performances. Co-director Natasha Torres-Garner simultaneously works as a Relational and Family Therapist. Present research for WPDT has allowed Torres-Garner to lead collaborators through structured improvisations that explore dynamics in intimate and family relationships, therefore creating a bridge between Torres-Garner's two creative disciplines.



Emma Beech is a dance artist from Treaty 1 Territory / Winnipeg, Manitoba. She has performed the work of many choreographers including Zorya Arrow, Ali Robson and Natasha Torres-Garner for Weather Parade Dance Theatre, Sam Penner, Alex Elliot, Sharon Alward, Carol-Anne Bohrn, Alexandra Garrido and Christina Medina/@tendance. Emma has been exploring her own choreographic practice with works for stage and film. This includes a new solo work on dancer Naomi Wiebe, a new co-created duet with Zorya Arrow and a new collaborative work with We Quit Theatre premiering in September 2025. She has a BA Honours in dance from The School of Contemporary Dancers/University of Winnipeg (2016), and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Manitoba (2022).



Zorya Arrow (she/they) is an artist of European ancestry, working and living as a choreographer, dancer, actor, performance artist, educator, arts administrator, auntie, advocate, storyteller, gardener, and clown on Treaty 1 Territory, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Zorya is passionate about working in collaborative, experimental, and trans-disciplinary contexts. Zorya has created over fifteen original performance works, often surrounding questions of being, loss, and relationship. A member of Steppe Kolektyv, a Ukrainian folk arts collective, Zorya holds an honours degree in Dance from the University of Winnipeg, in affiliation with The School of Contemporary Dancers Senior Professional Program, and has completed training as an End-of-Life Doula and Therapeutic Recreation Facilitator for Older Adults. YLDE has played a critical part in Zorya's development as an artist, and Zorya is thrilled to be a part of YLDE's 20th anniversary celebrations alongside collaborators Emma Beech and D-Anne Kuby, and all others involved!





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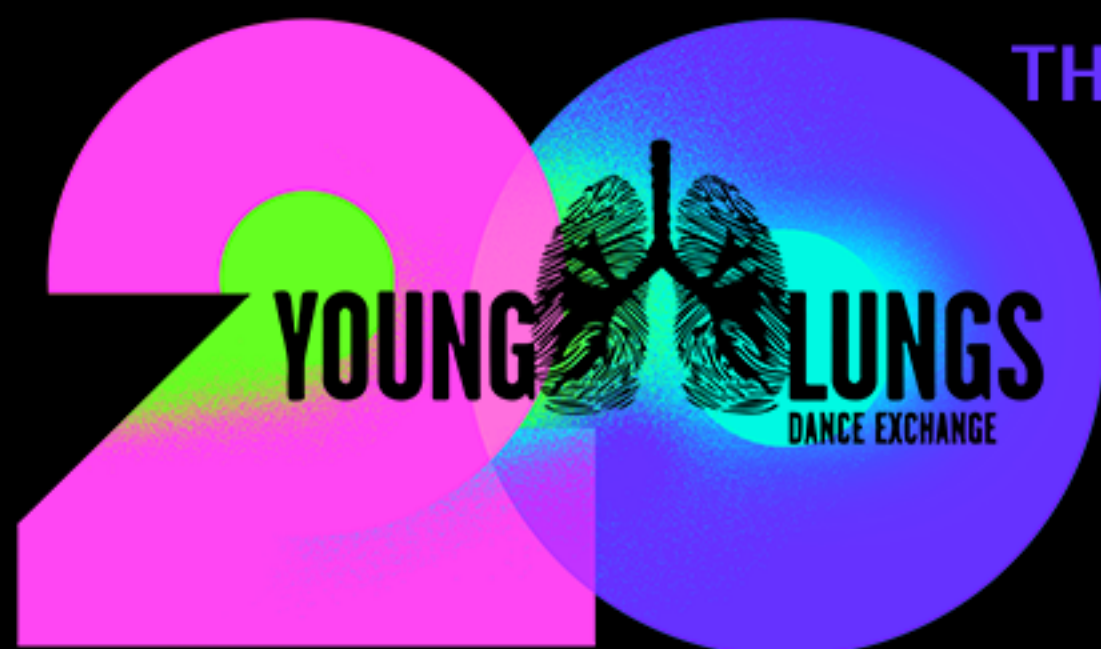


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