Pitch My Piece

Pitching new work by 15 of Canada's most exciting performing arts companies



August 20, 2018 CanadaHub, King's Hall, Edinburgh

AHURI THEATRE = BALLET BC = BUDDIES IN BAD TIMES THEATRE COMPAGNIE VIRGINIE BRUNELLE = DOPOLAVORO TEATRALE = FLIP FABRIQUE JESS DOBKIN = KIDD PIVOT = MUSIC PICNIC = LE PATIN LIBRE PEGGY BAKER DANCE PROJECTS = SOUNDSTREAMS = STO UNION/TROPHY VANCOUVER ASIAN CANADIAN THEATRE = WHY NOT THEATRE Minister of Canadian Heritage and Multiculturalism



Ministre du Patrimoine canadien et du Multiculturalisme

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0M5



We live in a hyper-connected world where a flood of information is available in an instant. Culture is a powerful tool that helps us take stock of this new reality, enabling us to better understand different realities, appreciate our diversity and celebrate our shared humanity.

Canada's creative industries understand the power of culture. In a country as vast and diverse as Canada, our artists take great pride in their work, which serves not only to celebrate our rich tapestry of voices, but also to promote our shared values and showcase them to the world. That is why we welcome the opportunity to develop new markets for our cultural professionals.

Scotland, and in particular Edinburgh, is a great place to promote Canadian culture because our country's story owes so much to Scottish culture. Some might say that Canada owes its existence in no small part to the efforts of various Scots who played crucial roles throughout our history. The Scottish imprint on Canadian culture remains strong today.

As our country emerges from its first 150 years since Confederation, we know we have a great deal to offer the world. Our vibrant arts and culture sector is a \$53.8 billion (£31.6 billion) industry that employs 652,000 people—3.5 percent of all jobs in Canada. We are eager to build on this momentum and create new opportunities for this sector in markets like Scotland and indeed the entire United Kingdom. The talented people who make up this industry are ideal ambassadors for Canada, as they unite our multitude of stories and perspectives and share them throughout the world.

I look forward to hearing about the creative conversations and partnerships that will take shape in the coming days. I encourage you to dive in and discover the diverse cultures, creators and performers that are the pride of Canada.

The Honourable Pablo Rodriguez

Canada





August, 2018

It is with tremendous pride that I bring greetings from the Ontario Arts Council (OAC) at CanadaHub during the 2018 Edinburgh Fringe Festival. This year's focus on Ontario artists is the result of our partnership with the High Commission of Canada in the UK, the British Council, the Canada Council for the Arts, and Ontario Presents.

At the Canadian pitch session, presenters from around the world will see examples of the extraordinary work produced by Ontario theatre, dance and music artists as well as the creations from their counterparts from across Canada. The Ontario contingent of artists and presenters will find this an invaluable occasion to make connections, build new audiences and break into new markets.

My sincere thanks for the organizing work of Ontario Presents which was key to making this happen. We share a commitment to promoting the excellence of Ontario-based artists on the world stage.

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Peter Caldwell Director & CEO

Pitch My Piece

10.45am Arrivals and refreshments

Session1

11.00am	Welcome Session 1 Facilitator – Joyce Rosario, Interim Artistic Director, PuSh International Festival		
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12.15 – 12.45	Lunch Break		

Session 2

12.45pm Welcome

Sessions 2 Facilitator – Sara Palmieri, Programming and Marketing Manager, FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre

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2.10 Closing remarks

2.15 Networking









Compagnie Virginie Brunelle

Fresque Humaine

Pitch Presenter: Stéphanie Hinton

Length

60 minutes

Premiere

Danse Danse, Théâtre Maisonneuve, Montreal, Canada, November 6, 2019

Creative Team/Artists

Choreography: Virginie Brunelle Other collaborators to be confirmed

Cast

10 dancers and 4 live musicians on stage (Quatuor Molinari).



This new project for ten dancers and an orchestra is Montreal-based choreographer Virginie Brunelle's most ambitious work to date. She aims to highlight the paradoxes of modern society, from its brightest silver linings to its darkest hidden corners, by uncovering the multifaceted reality of human nature and the complexity of relationships between individuals. In terms of structure, she wishes to create a living fresco of bodies punctuated by expressionist movement that let authentic emotion and reactions shine through. Modern society will be illustrated by images inspired by everyday life but filtered by a desire for distortion, metaphor and poetry. Also, inspiration will be drawn from political and social issues - the chaotic state of the world, its fragility and its contradictions - to paint a portrait that echoes the dictates of influencers: success, profitability, the false representation of equality and fairness, and the primordial importance of keeping up appearances.

Seeking

Co-production funds, international touring opportunities, residencies

Contact

Stéphanie Hinton | hinton@fove.ca | +1-514-570-1002

STO Union and Trophy Trophy

Pitch Presenter: Sarah Conn

Length

Durational and/or 1 hour long performances

Premiere

June 2017 at the National Arts Centre, Ottawa

Creative Team/Artists

Director/Producer: Sarah Conn Installation designer, co-creator: Allison O'Connor Dramaturgs: Laurel Green, Joel Beddows

Cast

Performers are members of the community where the show is presented. They can represent a specific demographic or community that the presenter would like to connect with, or be pulled from the community-at-large.



Trophy can take place indoors or outdoors.

Seeking

International touring opportunities, international artistic collaborations, residencies

Contact

Sarah Conn | sarah@thisistrophy.com

www.thisistrophy.com



Jess Dobkin The Magic Hour

Pitch Presenter: Jess Dobkin

Length

75 minutes

Premiere

Following a 3-year residency at The Theatre Centre, The Magic Hour was presented to the public in January 2017. Development continues towards a world premiere in 2019/2020.

Creative Team/Artists

Creator: Jess Dobkin Director: Stephen Lawson Lighting Co-Design: Jennifer Tipton and Michelle Ramsay Sound Design: Richard Feren Environment Design: Bojana Stancic Costume Design: Atom Cianfarani Dramaturgy: Moe Angelos

Cast

Jess Dobkin

The Magic Hour asks, "What would a world without sexual violence look like?" and dares us to conjure that world. Where most incidents of sexual violence happen alone and in isolation, theatre can provide an antidote – a shared, communal experience where we impart stories, bear witness and experience transcendence. *The Magic Hour* is a spell for radical healing and transformation. It offers a space to broach sensitive issues, where we are all implicated and where we can all have an impact. By coming together in ceremony and imagining an alternate world, we're able to move toward it.

Seeking

International Touring

Contact

Jess Dobkin | jess@jessdobkin.com | +1-416-666-6220



Flip FabriQue

Pitch Presenter: Francis Julien

Length 75 minutes

Premiere March 2019

Creative Team/Artists

Director: Olivier Lépine Music: Ben Nesrallah Others to be determined



Seeking

International promoters, tour opportunities and purchase of new creations

Contact

Bruno Gagnon, General Manager and Artistic Director | bruno.flipfabrique@gmail.com | +1-418-932-3052



Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre EMPIRE OF THE SON

Pitch Presenters: Tetsuro Shigematsu and Donna Yamamoto

Length

75 minutes (no-intermission)

Premiere

Premiered at The Cultch in Vancouver in October 2015, subsequently remounted in 2016

Creative Team/Artists

Writer/Performer: Tetsuro Shigematsu Artistic Producer: Donna Yamamoto Director: Richard Wolfe

Cast

Tetsuro Shigematsu (solo-work)



Two Generations of Broadcasters and the Radio Silence Between Them.

Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre serves diasporic Asian theatre artists through the development and production of contemporary works for export.

Empire of the Son is the story of two generations of broadcasters, and the radio silence between them. Father and son, Akira and Tetsuro shared the same profession as public radio broadcasters, for Japan and Canada respectively. Each of them had millions of listeners, but they never spoke with each other. When Akira's health starts to falter, Tetsuro begins their last conversation. Based on a series of interviews, *Empire of the Son* combines live cinematography and miniatures to conjure entire worlds: from the ashes of Hiroshima to present-day Vancouver, marshalling the tiniest of objects to focus on life's biggest questions.

Seeking

International touring opportunities (ideally, 1 to 2 weeks, 100-400 seat venues), international artistic collaborations, residences, and representation

Contact

Donna Yamamoto, Artistic Producer | d.yamamoto@vact.ca | +1-604-980-6479

Ahuri Theatre THIS IS THE POINT – A Play About Love, Sex & Disability

Pitch Presenters: Dan Watson and Liz MacDougall

Length

80 minutes

Premiere

Premiered at The Theatre Centre, November 4, Toronto, 2016, and subsequently remounted in 2017

Creative Team/Artists

Written: Tony Diamanti, Dan Watson, Christina Serra, Karin Randoja and Liz MacDougall Directed: Karin Randoja Projection design: Melissa Joakim Set and costume design: Sonya Rainey Lighting design: Andre duToit Sound design: Tim Lindsay



Cast

Tony Diamanti, Liz MacDougall, Dan Watson

Ahuri Theatre is an award-winning collective of artists who strive to bring together that which is usually separated, and to discover the likeness between things which are thought unalike. Inclusion is at the core of their work progressively defining, evolving and redefining their creation methods to include everyone in the room regardless of language, culture and ability.

A live performance about Love, Sex and Disability, multiple award winning, *This is the Point* is a joyous and unflinching portrait of four individuals whose lives have been shaped, in part, by cerebral palsy. Through a series of staged conversations and theatrical reenactments, the performers draw from their personal lives to explore and debate questions of representation, the nature of companionship and whether people of different abilities can ever connect with each other on equal terms.

Seeking

International tour opportunities. The nature of the work is unique in that it involves artists who are disabled, and require different access supports. Our interest is in supporting organizations and presenters in making not only their audience experience more inclusive, but also making their stages more accessible

Contact

Dan Watson, Artistic Producer | dan@ahuritheatre.com | +1-416-419-0516

www.ahuritheatre.com

Ballet BC Romeo and Juliet

Pitch Presenters: John Clark and Medhi Walerski

Length

2 hrs & 10 minutes

Premiere

February 22, 2018, Queen Elizabeth Theatre, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Creative Team/Artists

Concept, choreography and costume design: Medhi Walerski Set and lighting Design: Theun Mosk Music: Sergei Prokofiev: Romeo and Juliet Recording: Performed by London Symphony Orchestra (Conducted by André Previn). Courtesy of Warner Classics UK. By arrangement with Warner Music Group Film & TV Licensing.



Artistic collaboration: Pierre Pontvianne Assistant costume designer: Kate Burrows Lighting director: James Proudfoot Video projection: index.studio

Cast

30 dancers

Ballet BC's largest scale production has been choreographed by Medhi Walerski, one of the most original voices in international dance today and set to Sergei Prokofiev's original score. This full-length commission showcases Walerski's signature style that brings together dazzling landscapes woven with poetic, unpredictable and complex imagery. Walerski brings a contemporary familiarity to the story of Romeo and Juliet—*"the vision of love that Shakespeare gave us in this master work is very precious. It is like holding a jewel in your hand that needs to be protected."* This innovative reworking of the full-length classic is a collaboration between Dutch set and lighting designer Theun Mosk, an international team of collaborators and the Arts Umbrella Graduate Dance Program.

Seeking

Touring opportunities: New global partnerships with a view to securing international project support, touring opportunities, performance engagements, exposure and premieres

Contact

John Clark, Executive Director, Ballet BC | jclark@balletbc.com | +1-604-732-5003 ext. 201 Medhi Walerski, Choreographer for Romeo + Juliet | medhiwalerski@gmail.com

Kidd Pivot

Revisor

Premiere

Pitch Presenters: Jim Smith and Jason Dubois

Length Full length (anticipating two hours with intermission)

Wednesday 20 February 2019, DanceHouse, Vancouver, Canada

Creative Team/Artists

Choreography and direction: Crystal Pite Writter: Jonathon Young Set design: Jay Gower Taylor Sound design and composition: Owen Belton, Alessandro Juliani and Meg Roe Costume design: Nancy Bryant Lighting design: Tom Visser



Jonathon Young and Crystal Pite revise an archetypal comic plot using *Inspector General* by Nikolai Gogol to serve as the basis for choreography in a true hybrid of contemporary theatre and dance. In *Revisor,* eight Kidd Pivot dancers embody the recorded dialogue of some of Canada's finest actors, exploring conflict, comedy and corruption in the potent relationship between language and the body. From the creators of the internationally acclaimed *Betroffenheit* (winner of the Olivier Award for Best New Dance Production) and internationally acclaimed choreographer and Sadler's Wells Associate, Crystal Pite.

Seeking

Financial co-production partners; international presentation/engagement opportunities for touring

Contact

Jim Smith, Executive Director, Kidd Pivot | jim@kiddpivot.org Jason Dubois, Producer, Kidd Pivot | Jason@kiddpivot.org Menno Plukker, International Agent, Menno Plukker Theatre Agent Inc. | menno@mennoplukker.com | +1-514-524-7119

www.kiddpivot.org

DopoLavoro Teatrale

The Stranger

Pitch Presenter: Daniele Bartolini

Length 70 minutes

/0 minutes

Premiere

SummerWorks Performance Festival, August, 2015

Creative Team/Artists

Concept, dramaturgy and direction: Daniele Bartolini Co-creators: Danya Buonastella and Rory de Brouwer Sound Design: Matteo Ciardi Production and Touring Manager: Raylene Turner

Creative Team/Artists

The Stranger is always performed by a different team of performers, locally cast in the touring city.



DopoLavoro Teatrale (DLT) is an international award-winning company founded in 2006 in Florence, Italy and based in Toronto since 2013. DLT is dedicated to innovative and experimental multi-disciplinary artistic practices, specifically a form they call Audience Specific Theatre. The audience has always played a pivotal role in their work and DLT has continuously explored the relationship between artist and spectator.

The Stranger immerses an audience of one in an urban environment. The participant becomes the protagonist of a multi-sensory, "choose your own adventure" experience. The project transforms the audience into actor. Lost in an urban landscape, the spectator explores streets, alleyways and other surprising locations. They follow "strangers" emerging from the crowded streets, while becoming the centre of a narrative that blurs the lines between reality and fiction. The project invites audiences to examine their relationship with the city, inspiring them to see it in a new light. The show has been presented in Canada, Europe and India.

Seeking

International touring opportunities, co-productions, residencies, collaborations for the development of new artistic work

Contact

Daniele Bartolini | dlt.daniele@gmail.com Raylene Turner | dlt.experience@gmail.com | +1-647-705-4815

Le Patin Libre

Threshold

Pitch Presenter: Alexandre Hamel

Length

2 parts of approximately 25 minutes + interval

Premiere April 11, 2018, Montreal

Creative Team/Artists

Choreographed and performed by:

Le Patin Libre (Alexandre Hamel, Pascale Jodoin, Samory Ba, Taylor Dilley, Jasmin Boivin) Music: Jasmin Boivin Dramaturg: Ruth Little Lighting: Lucy Carter and Sean Gleason Special choreographic collaboration: Anne Plamondon



Le Patin Libre is composed of highly trained figure skaters. Since 2005, what started as a naive rebellion against sparkles and stereotypes slowly evolved to become what many now call contemporary dance on ice. *Threshold* is the second full-evening work of the company. As *Glide* allows infinite options between exhilarating speed, slow-motion and rewind, *Threshold* explores an impossible but significant no man's land where life and death literally dance together on the edge of a blade. As described by our dramaturg: "A gathering, a journey, a game. An accident. A transformation of bodies, lives, desires." Produced By Le Patin Libre; Danse Danse (Montréal, Canada); Dance Umbrella (London, UK); Théâtre de la Ville (Paris, France); les Nuits de Fourvière de Lyon (Lyon, France) and National Arts Centre (Ottawa, Canada).

Seeking

International touring opportunities (presenters must be willing to use their local rink as a venue – there are very discrete ice rinks in all cities of the occidental world, most of them being very secretive)

Contact

Bernard Dubreuil, General Director | bernard@lepatinlibre.com | +1-514-993-0396

*Discipline: Most presenters include us in dance. We call our form "contemporary ice-skating"

www.lepatinlibre.com

Soundstreams Musik für das Ende

Pitch Presenter: Lawrence Cherney

Length 80 minutes (no interval)

Premiere October 27, 2017, Crow's Theatre, Toronto

Creative Team/Artists

Director:Chris Abraham Music Director: John Hess Lighting Design: Kim Purtell Set/costume design: Judith Bowden Playwright: Zack Russell



Soundstreams is one of the world's leading contemporary music companies, and the largest global presenter of new Canadian music and music theatre/opera.

Musik für das Ende is a totally immersive experience that transcends space and time to enter Claude Vivier's world of pure sound and light. Conceived in three seamless parts for 10 singers, actor and instruments, Part I is an original monologue inspired by Vivier's letters. Part II is his last work "Do you believe in the immortality of the soul", found on the desk in the room where he was murdered. Part III is the world premiere staging of *Musik für das Ende*, a ritual for singers and actor in which Vivier invites the audience or "celebrants" to journey with him through life, death and beyond to an ecstatic state of rebirth.

Seeking

International touring opportunities

Contact

Ben Dietschi, Soundstreams Executive Director | bend@soundstreams.ca | +1-416-504-1282 ext. 100

Dance

Peggy Baker Dance Projects

who we are in the dark

Pitch Presenter: Peggy Baker

Length

65 minutes, no intermission

Premiere

February 21, 2019, Bluma Appel Theatre, Canadian Stage / Fall for Dance North, Toronto

Creative Team/Artists

Produced by Peggy Baker Dance Projects Concept, Choreographic Composition, Direction: Peggy Baker Movement Invention: Peggy Baker with the performers Composers/Musicians: Sarah Neufeld, Jeremy Gara Visual artist: John Heward Projection: Jeremy Mimnagh Lighting: Marc Parent Costumes: Robyn Macdonald



Photograph by Jeremy Mimnagh

Choreographed by acclaimed Canadian dance artist Peggy Baker, *who we are in the dark* offers the immediacy of daring contemporary dance; supercharged live music; and sophisticated design elements from artists working with pigment, projection, and light. Sarah Neufeld and Jeremy Gara, both members of Grammy and Juno award-winning rock band Arcade Fire, are joined on stage by seven extraordinary dancers in a work that explores and illuminates shifting identities, betrayals, secrets, and intimacies played out in the dark.

Seeking

International touring opportunities

Contact

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www.peggybakerdance.com

Buddies in Bad Times Theatre

Kiinalik: These Sharp Tools

Pitch Presenters: Evalyn Parry and Laakkuluk Williamson Bathory

Length 95 min

Premiere

October 2017, Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, Toronto

Creative Team/Artists

Writer / performers: Evalyn Parry and Laakkuluk Williamson Bathory Live cello: Cris Derksen Live video: Elysha Poirier Director: Erin Brubacher Production design: Kaitlin Hickey Lighting design: Rebecca Picherack Music composition: Evalyn Parry and Cris Derksen



A concert and a conversation, *Kiinalik: These Sharp Tools* is the meeting place of two people, from the North and South of Canada. Inuk artist Laakkuluk Williamson Bathory and queer theatre-maker Evalyn Parry met on an Arctic expedition from Iqaluit to Greenland. Now sharing a stage, these two powerful storytellers map new territory together in a bold theatrical work that gives voice and body to the histories, culture, and climate we've inherited. In the Inuktitut language, when a knife is dull, it is said to "have no face". The word "kiinalik" translates to mean the knife is sharp – or, "it has a face". Embodying the stories of their heritage, Evalyn and Laakkuluk put a face to the colonial histories, power structures and the changing climate that lie between them.

Buddies in Bad Times Theatre creates vital Canadian theatre by developing and presenting voices that question sexual and cultural norms. Built on the political and social principles of queer liberation, Buddies supports artists and works that reflect and advance these values. As the world's longest-running and largest queer theatre, Buddies is uniquely positioned to develop, promote, and preserve stories and perspectives that are challenging and alternative.

Seeking

International touring opportunities

Contact

Evalyn Parry, Buddies Artistic Director | evalyn@buddiesinbadtimes.com Chris Reynolds, Manager of touring | chris@buddiesinbadtimes.com

www.buddiesinbadtimes.com

Music Picnic Mr. Shi and His Love

Mr. Shi and His Lover 時先生與他的情人

Pitch Presenters: Njo Kong Kie

Length 80 min

Premiere Aug 5th, 2016

Creative Team/Artists

Produced by: Music Picnic with Point View Art Association and Macau Experimental Theatre Music: Njo Kong Kie Text: Wong Teng Chi Director: Tam Chi Chun Lighting design: Fung Kwok Kee Gabriel



Winner of three Toronto Theatre Critics Awards including Best New Musical, *Mr. Shi and His Lover* is a contemporary Mandarin music theatre work inspired by the mysterious real-life affair between a Chinese opera performer and a French diplomat, who believed his male lover was a woman. Stradling the worlds of opera and musicals, with a score that evokes the music of East and West, contemporary and classical, Peking opera to 1960s vintage pop, *Mr. Shi and His Lover* ponders the complexities of love and intimacy, gender and sexual politics, individual identity and nationhood. Composed by the long-serving musical director of La La la Human Steps, this was the first-ever Chinese language production at SummerWorks, Tarragon Theatre and Canada's National Arts Centre English Theatre.

Seeking

International touring opportunities, representation; residencies and partners for projects

Contact

Njo Kong Kie | njokongkie@musicpicnic.com | +1-416-524-1021

www.musicpicnic.com

Why Not Theatre

The Mahabharata

Pitch Presenter: Ravi Jain

Length

In development

Premiere October 2020; Shaw Festival, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario

Creative Team/Artists

Directed: Ravi Jain Composed: Gurpreet Chana Sound Design: John Gzowski Set and Costume Design: Camellia Koo Projection Design: Hana Kim



A new adaptation of the ancient Indian epic *The Mahabharata*, will be ready to tour in Fall 2020. Created by Ravi Jain and an international cast from the South Asian diaspora, it will be told in two parts.

The story centres around questions of inaction and how our willful blindness makes us complicit in contributing to the end of the world. The piece will be a hybrid of ancient forms and contemporary practice.

Why Not Theatre is an international theatre company based in Toronto, Canada. Led by a core team of founding Artistic Director Ravi Jain, Managing Director Owais Lightwala and Executive Producer Kelly Read. Their work is inventive, cross-cultural, and reflects their passion for the exploration of difference and challenging the status quo.

Seeking

International Touring opportunities for The Mahabharata; other shows ready to tour, and in development

Contact

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