



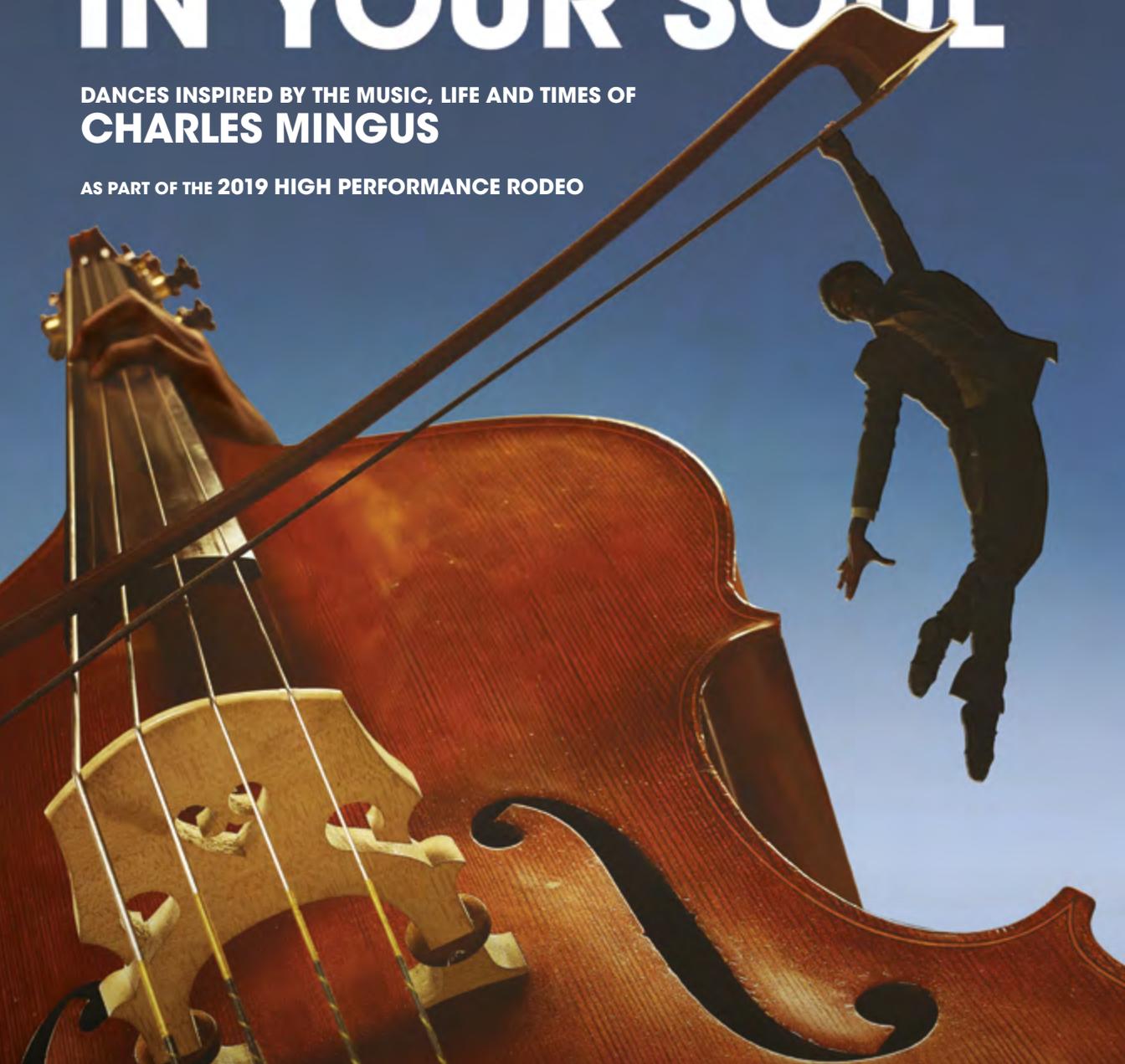
DECIDEDLY JAZZ DANCEWORKS

PRESENTS

BETTER GET HIT IN YOUR SOUL

DANCES INSPIRED BY THE MUSIC, LIFE AND TIMES OF
CHARLES MINGUS

AS PART OF THE 2019 HIGH PERFORMANCE RODEO



JANUARY 10 – 20, 2019

AT THE DJD DANCE CENTRE 111 - 12 AVE. S.E. CALGARY

DJD ACKNOWLEDGES THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF



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PHOTO NOEL BÉGIN

MESSAGE FROM KIMBERLEY COOPER

How time flies.

Life was different five years ago when *Better Get Hit* premiered. DJD was still on 4th Street, the USA had a different president, my mom was still alive. I thought I'd look at these old program notes and want to change them, say something different, but then I read them and realized they still fit, that I would still say the same thing to Charles Mingus if I could, so I will. But to you I will say:

Welcome and thanks for coming, I hope you enjoy the performance. If you saw it last time, I hope you came back because you loved it and I hope you love it more this time. You might remember the original cast and feel nostalgic—we miss them too, but there are some beautiful new spirits on the stage tonight, as well as four originals who were instrumental in re-setting this piece and are dancing with more depth and wisdom than ever.

In her book *Tonight at Noon*, named after Mingus' tune, referring to how time displaces itself on the gig, Sue Graham Mingus, Mingus' last and still surviving wife, talks about Mingus telling her about "a gospel tune," he had written, "for the junkies of the world, advising them to get a spiritual hit in their lives, not their arms." He said he'd called it "Better Get a Hit in Your Soul." This is what this music, much jazz music does, (or maybe, as Duke Ellington said—there are two kinds of music, good music and bad music)—good music gives me a "hit" to my "soul." Do you feel it? When music moves you like that? That is something else. And when we feel that together, we agree and find compassion for each other. When musicians play it, they agree to listen, celebrate and support what the others are saying with their instruments. When we dance to it, we agree physically and say things with our bodies that words can't, we give you something beautiful to connect with and relate to. Connection, beauty and support, after sustenance, shelter and air, are these not the things we all need? I truly believe dance and music could save the world.

Go buy some albums, start with *The Clown* by Charles Mingus.

A LETTER TO CHARLES MINGUS, WRITTEN FOR THE PRODUCTION'S PREMIERE IN 2013...

Dear Charles Mingus,

I always loved your music. A couple of years ago I read an article about jazz and the Civil Rights Movement. I can't remember the details but apparently you were playing at a college that had received a bomb threat and they were evacuating the concert hall. You refused to go and said if they were going to take you out, you were going to go down playing *Sophisticated Lady* by Duke Ellington. I started paying a little more attention to you after that.

Your music is spectacular. Thank you. Thank you for making such rich, textured, cinematic, passionate, beautiful music, that screams to be danced to. And there is so much! It was very difficult to choose for this piece. Listening to, and creating movement to, your Mingus music, has been intimidating and challenging and joyful. It has changed my ear, how I listen; it's almost like I can hear more, or there is more space to hear more. I guess my brain grew, not my ears. Thank you for that.

And in your short life, you lived hard. I've been reading a lot of things you've written, your autobiography, liner notes etc. You had a lot going on. In no way have I tried to make this piece biographical but I did collect some scraps of your stories and put them into this collage. Donnalee, your famous confrontation with Juan Tizol, how you saw yourself as not one but three, those are more concrete references, there are many abstract ones as well...

I wish I could have met you, but at the same time I'm sure you would have scared the hell out of me. Your music is extraordinary and timeless; it has been an honour working with it.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kimberley Cooper



BETTER GET HIT IN YOUR SOUL, 2013. PHOTO NOEL BÉGIN.



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, KATHI SUNDSTROM

We are very excited that *Better Get Hit in Your Soul* is part of the 2019 High Performance Rodeo, Calgary's International Festival of the Arts. This much-anticipated annual event makes January one of the hottest months of the year in our city. Come back to the DJD Dance Centre later this month to see ILBIJERRI Theatre Company from Australia present *Blood on the Dance Floor*, also part of the High Performance Rodeo.

We were thrilled with the recent decision by City Council to approve an increase to funding for the arts in Calgary. This supports what we see every day at the DJD Dance Centre - that the arts change peoples' lives. As part of the Creative Calgary contingent, our own Kimberley Cooper made a presentation to support the budget increase, which involved inviting councillors to get up on their feet and dance, right in council chambers. It was a joy to see!

I would like to extend our gratitude to all of our government funders: The City of Calgary through Calgary Arts Development, the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, and the Canada Council for the Arts. We thank all of our donors who give cash and in-kind, including our Jazz Roots members, the hundreds of corporate and individual donors who support DJD, and our media sponsors Global Calgary and 770 CHQR. And, we couldn't do what we do without the donation of time and talent by all of our volunteers including our Board of Directors.

Thank you for joining us for *Better Get Hit in Your Soul* and we hope to see you back here many times in the coming months!

Kathi Sundstrom

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CHARLES MINGUS BIOGRAPHY



One of the most important figures in 20th century American music, Charles Mingus was a virtuoso bass player, accomplished pianist, bandleader and composer. Born on a military base in Nogales, Arizona in 1922 and raised in Watts, California, his earliest musical influences came from the church – choir and group singing – and from “hearing Duke Ellington over the radio when [he] was eight years old.” He studied double bass and composition in a formal way (five years with H. Rheinshagen, principal bassist of the New York Philharmonic, and compositional techniques with the legendary Lloyd Reese) while absorbing vernacular music from the great jazz masters, first-hand. His early professional experience, in the '40s, found him touring with bands like Louis Armstrong, Kid Ory and Lionel Hampton.

Eventually he settled in New York where he played and recorded with the leading musicians of the 1950s – Charlie Parker, Miles Davis, Bud Powell, Art Tatum and Duke Ellington himself. One of the few bassists to do so, Mingus quickly developed as a leader of musicians. He was also an accomplished pianist who could have made a career playing that instrument. By the

mid-'50s he had formed his own publishing and recording companies to protect and document his growing repertoire of original music. He also founded the “Jazz Workshop,” a group which enabled young composers to have their new works performed in concert and on recordings.

Mingus soon found himself at the forefront of the avant-garde. His recordings bear witness to the extraordinarily creative body of work that followed. He recorded over 100 albums and wrote over 300 scores. Although he wrote his first concert piece, *Half-Mast Inhibition*, when he was 17-years-old, it was not recorded until 20 years later by a 22-piece orchestra with Gunther Schuller conducting. It was the presentation of *Revelations*, which combined jazz and classical idioms, at the 1955 Brandeis Festival of the Creative Arts, that established him as one of the foremost jazz composers of his day.

In 1971 Mingus was awarded the Slee Chair of Music and spent a semester teaching composition at the State University of New York at Buffalo. In the same year his autobiography, *Beneath the Underdog*, was published by Knopf. In 1972 it appeared in a Bantam paperback and was reissued after his death, in 1980, by Viking/Penguin and again by Pantheon Books, in 1991. In 1972 he also re-signed with Columbia Records. His music was performed frequently by ballet companies, and Alvin Ailey choreographed an hour program called *The Mingus Dances* during a 1972 collaboration with the Robert Joffrey Ballet Company.

He toured extensively throughout Europe, Japan, Canada, South America and the United States until the end of 1977 when he was diagnosed as having a rare nerve disease, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis. He was confined to a wheelchair, and although he was no longer able to write music on paper or compose at the piano, his last works were sung into a tape recorder.

He died in Mexico on January 5, 1979, and his wife, Sue Graham Mingus, scattered his ashes in the Ganges River in India. Both New York City and Washington, D.C. honored him posthumously with a “Charles Mingus Day.”

From the 1960s until his death in 1979 at age 56, Mingus remained in the forefront of American music. When asked to comment on his accomplishments, Mingus said that his abilities as a bassist were the result of hard work but that his talent for composition came from God.

source: <http://mingusmingusmingus.com/mingus>

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BETTER GET HIT IN YOUR SOUL, 2013. PHOTO NOEL BÉGIN.

BIOGRAPHIES

KIMBERLEY COOPER ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Kimberley Cooper has been dancing and creating dance for most of her life. She joined DJD in 1989 as an apprentice, became Resident Choreographer/Artistic Associate in 2002 and was appointed A.D. in 2013. She has created over 16 full-length pieces on DJD and numerous short works. She has had a full independent career as a dancer and choreographer as well and has created work, performed, taught and studied all over the world. She was named Emerging Artist of the Year by Alberta Dance Alliance (2002), was the Artist in Residence at the Calgary Tower in Calgary as Cultural Capital of Canada (2012), and was awarded Dance Victoria's Crystal Dance Prize for research in Brazil (2014). Cooper recently wrote a chapter in the book *City of Animals* produced by University of Calgary's Humanities Department (2017).

RUBIM DE TOLEDO MUSICAL DIRECTOR, BASS



Bassist and composer Rubim de Toledo combines the influences of his Brazilian heritage and his dedication to the jazz tradition to create an approach to music that is refreshing and uplifting. Boasting a diverse rhythmic palette inspired by world music, jazz, and contemporary music, a lure towards improvisation and a forward-looking traditionalism, Rubim nurtures a commanding sound and style as a bassist, soloist, and composer. Rubim began his professional career in Edmonton at the age of 17 performing with Albertan Jazz legends, Tommy Banks, PJ Perry and Clarence "Big" Miller. Since then he has become a sought-after sideman and a productive bandleader. With his latest release, *The Gap*, Rubim distinguishes himself as a composer with a unique ability to explore jazz styles while maintaining a sound that is modern yet inviting. In 2018, Rubim won the Western Canadian Music Award for Artist of the Year and was nominated for an Edmonton Music Award in the Jazz category. Rubim is honoured to be working with DJD again. Since 2006, Rubim has worked extensively as musical director with DJD where he has acted as bassist, musical director, and composer for 12 major productions. As well, Rubim is a passionate music educator and is the head of the bass department at MacEwan University in Edmonton.

AXEL ROMAN ALLIOUX APPRENTICE DANCER/UNDERSTUDY



Axel started exploring the world of dance and entertainment at the age of 16. He has trained, taught and performed in many cities of the world such as Paris, Sharjah (UAE), Chengdu (China), New York City and more. Axel is fluent in funk styles and contemporary but trained in all styles of dance and some martial arts. With all his varied dance experience to pull from, his improvisational skills are his strength. You can see him in recent music videos with the artists Feist and Arkelles, as well as a popular artist in Israel, Gad Elbaz.

RONDA BORNEMAN COSTUME DESIGNER



Ronda is so very pleased and privileged to be back designing for DJD. The talent and performances are exceptional, magical and inspiring. Ronda has been designing bridal and dance wear for 35 years (Borneman Design), and working in the theatrical and film industry for 18 of those years. A few of many past production projects she has worked on or designed for include: *Chesapeake Shores*, *Wyonna*, *Revenant*, *Man in the High Castle*, *Damnation*, *Fargo*, *Hell on Wheels*, ATP's Head of Design for eight years, Shakespeare Co, Heritage Park Tailor. Currently Ronda is working on a Disney film, Togo, being shot in and around Alberta. She also has a line of bridal wear, Blu2Blush, coming to e-commerce. Ronda is thankful for this opportunity and hopes you enjoy this beautiful show, *Better Get Hit in Your Soul*.

SABRINA COMANESCU DANCER



Sabrina "Naz" Comanescu is a dynamic emerging talent and an energetic supporter of the Calgary dance and Caribbean Community through her work as a dance instructor, performer, and choreographer. Training in Urban/Funk and Afro-Caribbean dance styles since the age of six, Sabrina dove into her studies of Jazz dance at the School of Decidedly Jazz in 2013, in DJD's Professional Training Program. Sabrina is also the current major force behind The Diversity Performing Arts Club of Calgary and created Casa De Naz in 2012, a collective with a mission to "excite and educate art hubs across Canada about the thriving Caribbean community in Calgary and the arts of the Caribbean as a whole through film, fashion and dance." Sabrina has performed

in Toronto, Calgary, Vancouver, Halifax, Trinidad and Tobago, Finland and New York City with such companies as House of Dangerkat, The Bad Girls Club YYC and ILLFX Entertainment. Sabrina is thrilled to be performing for a fourth season in the DJD company!

JULIA COSENTINO DANCER



Originally from Toronto, Julia received her BFA Honors Degree in Dance from York University in 2012. Since graduating, Julia has had the pleasure of training, collaborating, and performing with companies including Jasmyn Fyffe Dance, Rock Bottom Movement, Frog In Hand, Newton Moraes Dance Theatre, ProArteDanza, Hit and Run Dance Productions, Lady Luck Productions, and emiMOTION. Julia is a founding member of The Garage, a Toronto dance collective established in 2013 to provide emerging artists with the opportunity to share, learn, research and develop different skills and ideas. Additionally, she teaches locally at Elements Dance Company, and is a dance educator, workshop leader and choreographer throughout Canada. This is Julia's fourth season with DJD, and she is grateful for the space

to deepen her practice and explore new avenues. DJD is a unique style that marries all the things Julia loves most about dance; music, rhythm, physical challenge, artistry and expression.

JARED EBELL APPRENTICE DANCER



Born and raised in Nanoose Bay, BC, Jared began his dance training at Parksville Ballet School where he trained in many different dance styles from ages 6-17. He completed his training at Arts Umbrella and the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School, then danced professionally with The Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Alberta Ballet, and Dancer's Studio West. He has also enjoyed experimenting with side projects and taking workshops such as Transformation Danse in Montreal. This is Jared's first season with DJD and he is thrilled to be one step closer to his initial goal in dance, becoming Gene Kelly.

JASON OWIN F. GALEOS APPRENTICE DANCER



Born in Norway, Jason Owin F. Galeos is a dance artist based in Calgary. His dance studies are based on Hip Hop, House, Funk Styles and Contemporary Dance. He has danced for Tara Wilson, Saxon Fraser, Melissa Monteros, Deanne Walsh, Wojciech Mochnej, Michèle Moss, Pamela Tzeng, Zahra Shahab and Sylvie Moquin. Since 2007, he's been recognized in the community for his unique movement and cross genre approach. In 2012, he earned his BA at the University of Calgary, majoring in Contemporary Dance. In 2015, Jason started J-SIK Movements: the spontaneity and immersion in hip-hop culture and the choreographic maturity of contemporary dance, where he evolved as a professional dancer. In 2017, Jason co-produced his very first production in collaboration with Purposely Soulful *Fall of the Leaf |*

Høsten Bladet. In 2018, he collaborated with Ember Dance Company, presented *Die Münze (The Coin)* provided by Springboard Performance and Good Women Dance Collective and most recently *Les Journalier Extrait 2 (The Journeyman Excerpt 2)* as part of U of C's 49th annual Dance Montage. Jason continues to further his career internationally and currently resides in Calgary as an Apprentice Dancer for DJD.

CATHERINE HAYWARD DANCER



Originally from Winnipeg, Catherine's studies led her to Toronto's Ryerson University where she graduated from the dance program, earning her B.F.A. with Honours. Catherine continued her dance training at DJD, and since then has immersed herself in the Calgary community as a performer, choreographer and teacher. Catherine has been a dancer with the DJD company since the fall of 2007. She was Artistic Director of DJD's most recent dancer-choreographed shows, *Velocity* in 2017, and *Borderland* in 2015. Catherine was a founding member of Dancers' Studio West's (DSW) Dance Action Group (DAG), a small ensemble of aesthetically diverse performer/choreographers who co-operated to fulfil opportunities for community animation and invest in new opportunities for artistic development. With DSW,

Catherine pursued choreography using original musical compositions and live musical performance. She presented, *form, act, cease, ensue* in collaboration with musician Jeremy Gignoux as part of the Dance Action Lab in July 2017 and *Tethered*, composition by Rubim de Toledo in 2016. Catherine and fellow DJD company member Shayne Johnson have been developing new work and will debut their first full evening of work *Bodied Indivisible* next year. Catherine will also premiere a new solo featuring established artist Davida Monk in 2019. Catherine has completed five seasons as a choreographer with Alberta Dance Theatre for young people. She continues to mentor teen dancers training in Jazz as part of DJD's Teen Jazz Advanced program and has joined the faculty of DJD's Youth Training Program this year.

BIOGRAPHIES

KAJA IRWIN DANCER



Kaja Irwin is a Winnipeg-born dancer, choreographer, and dance educator. She has worked with respected Calgary choreographers Michèle Moss, Deanne Walsh, Alison (Bryan) Stone and Jennifer Mahood. While living in Toronto, Kaja had the exciting opportunity to work with choreographers, Sharon Harvey and Jenn Goodwin. For the past two years, she has created new choreographic works for the Annual Alberta Dance Festival and worked with Alberta Dance Theatre. In fall 2017, Kaja also created a solo piece for the Physical Therapy Cabaret for Fluid Festival, which she looks forward to developing further in the future. In 2015, she was a juried choreographer at the 60X60 FESTIVAL in Toronto and in 2014 her solo performance *MAIM* was exhibited in Ottawa and Amsterdam. Kaja has enjoyed collaborating with the Winnipeg-based band Royal Canoe, choreographing music videos for them including, *Somersault*, *Walk Out on the Water* and the recently released video *Living A Lie*. Kaja is thrilled to be in her fourth season with DJD.

SHAYNE JOHNSON DANCER



Shayne began his dance training at age five and at the age of 12, launched his professional career as a guest tap dancer on the Super Dave Osborne TV show. Shayne went on to join the Canadian National Tap Team, became a member of the Grizzlies Extreme Dance Team for the NBA and was hired as a dancer and choreographer for Norwegian Cruise Lines. Since moving to Calgary in 2008, Shayne has been an active member of the Arts community. He was a member of Dancers' Studio West's (DSW) Dance Action Group (DAG), a small ensemble who co-operate to fulfill opportunities for community development and offer organizational support for DSW. Shayne presented a new work in DSW's Dance Action Lab in July 2016 and a solo in their Alberta Dance Festival in September 2017. In addition to focusing on choreography, Shayne is an established tap teacher in the community. Shayne and fellow DJD member Catherine Hayward have been working in collaboration on developing new work. They will debut their first full evening of work *Bodied Indivisible* next year. Shayne has been with the DJD Company since the spring of 2009.

NATASHA KORNEY DANCER



Natasha began pursuing dance at the age of 13, specifically in the styles of Hip-Hop, Jazz, Modern, Contemporary and African Dance. As part of her training she spent two years as a pre-professional student at the School of Decidedly Jazz, performing in their show *Footprints*. In 2010, she commenced a Bachelor of Arts degree in the Dance Program at the University of Calgary performing in *Mainstage* and other productions. This is Natasha's sixth season with DJD and she looks forward to performing in many more productions with the company.

MARCIA LIBER STAGE MANAGER



Marcia Liber is thrilled to be back for her second season with DJD. Previous stage management credits include *MIMIC* and *Velocity* (DJD), *Musculus Mundi*, *The Leap*, *Dancing Home*, *Metamorphosis* and *Mythbehavin'* (Dancers' Studio West), *Satellites* (Dancing Monkey Laboratories, 2013), and *A Little Princess*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Lost Prince*, *Village of Idiots*, *Macbeth* and *Peter Pan* (Calgary Young Peoples' Theatre). When not stage managing, Marcia is the Assistant Production Manager for The Grand. She would like to thank her family for their unwavering support and understanding.

JONATHAN MCCASLIN DRUMS



Recognized as one of Western Canada's leading jazz drummers and educators, Jon McCaslin brings excitement, passion for the jazz tradition and its future to the stage and to the classroom. Raised in Regina and a graduate of McGill University he has also attended the Banff Centre as a resident artist. In 2012, he released his sophomore album *Sunalta* on the Cellar Live label and was nominated in 2013 for a Western Canadian Music Award. As a busy sideman, he has also performed with such internationally recognized artists as Mulgrew Miller, Sheila Jordan, Brian Lynch, Jason Marsalis, Peter Bernstein, Ralph Bowen, Sean Jones, PJ Perry, Charlie Biddle, Hadley Caliman, Kelly Jefferson, Ian McDougall, Jeff Johnston, Wycliffe Gordon, Terell Stafford, Dick Oatts, Luis Bonilla, Linda Oh and Pat

LaBarbera. Dr. McCaslin completed his Doctorate through the University of Toronto in 2015, researching the conceptualization of contemporary melodic jazz drumming. He is the author of *Four on the Floor* one of the world's most recognized on-line jazz drumming blogs. He is currently based in Calgary where he maintains a busy performing and teaching schedule across Canada. *Better Get Hit in Your Soul* is Jon's sixth production with DJD and he is always thrilled and honoured to work with a group of such dedicated and artistically talented individuals.

BRIAN MACNEIL LIGHTING DESIGNER



Having attended Grant MacEwan Community College, Brian has served as a lighting designer and technical director for dance and theatre productions including festivals and touring. Projects with the Brian Webb Dance Company led to involvement with Elaine Bowman developing into a long association with Dancers' Studio West exposing him to many Calgary live performance artists as well as Canadian touring acts. Some favourite past productions include Theatre Encounter's *Caligula*, *Waiting for Godot*, and *Medea*. Brian was in residency at The Banff Centre for the creation of *Making Treaty 7*, which has recently played at the 31st Weesageechak Begins to Dance Festival for Native Earth Performing Arts. Past productions for DJD include *New Universe*, *Juliet & Romeo*, *Modern Vaudevillians*, and *MIMIC*.

SCOTT REID SET DESIGNER



Scott is happy to be back at DJD. Some selected design credits for DJD are *Modern Vaudevillians*, *Spontaneous Combustion*, *The Great Jazz History Mystery*, *Wilds*, *Perched on the Edge of a Quarter Note*, *Evanescence*, *New Universe*, *Juliet and Romeo* and *MIMIC*. Scott has also designed *Class Acts*, *Fumbling Towards Ecstasy*, *The Seven Deadly Sins*, *Songs of a Wayfarer*, *Requiem* (Alberta Ballet); several playRites Festivals, *Last Wife*, *Half Life* (ATP); *Mom's the Word*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *A Raisin in the Sun* (Theatre Calgary); *Die Tote Stadt*, *Otello* (set and projections), *The Inventor* (projections), *Little Women* (set and projections), *Faust* (co-design), *Dead Man Walking* (co-design) (Calgary Opera); *The Cunning Little Vixen*, *A Midsummer Night's*

Dream (The Banff Centre), and *In the Farewell My Lovely*, *I'll Be Back Before Midnight*, *In The Heat of the Night*, *Rebecca*, *Blood Relations* (Vertigo).

CARSTEN RUBELING TROMBONE



Carsten is originally from Rocky Mountain House. He has studied and performed in Toronto and Berlin, San Francisco and New York City. Carsten is currently based in Calgary where he enjoys a busy career performing and teaching with a wide variety of groups in the city and in western Canada. He has performed and/or recorded with Sean Jones, Ingrid Jensen, Seamus Blake, Brian Lynch, David Braid, Michael Kaeshammer, the Foothills Brass, the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra and with DJD on *Juliet and Romeo*. Carsten's original project VOLK has a new album coming out in March 2019.

KALEB TEKESTE DANCER



Kaleb is a Calgary-based dancer, choreographer and teacher. In 2004 he joined DJD's Professional Training Program and in 2006 he understudied Kimberley Cooper's in *Charcoal and Crimson*. As fate would have it, he found himself jumping into a role a few days before opening night thus marking his debut with DJD. Kaleb has choreographed for Slammenberry Jam, Dance Montage, Alberta Dance Explosions, Calgary Cares and several of DJD's bi-annual dancer-choreographed evenings. In addition to performing with crews the Original Rudes and ILLFX, in 2010 he danced in a short film/commercial in conjunction with the Vancouver Winter Olympics and has performed with artists such as the Black Eyed Peas, Snoop Dogg and Jilly Black.

Kaleb recently co-starred in the documentary film *Made in Vietnam* which premiered at the Calgary International Film Festival. This is Kaleb's 10th season with the company and he is thrilled to be part of this remount of such an incredible show paying tribute to one of jazz's heavyweights.

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**Concept, direction and choreography by
Myriam Allard and Hedi Graja**



PHOTO TRUDIE LEE

LOVESTRUCK

A fiery love tale by DJD

DJD presents a new piece, hot to the cool of *Magnetikae*. *Lovestruck* follows Cupid's arrow through a path of myth, love, fantasy, and desire, featuring live music by the Rubim de Toledo Ensemble.

**Concept, direction and choreography by
Kimberley Cooper**



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DJD AUDITIONS

DECIDEDLY JAZZ DANCEWORKS

Decidedly Jazz Danceworks is seeking male and female dancers for the Company as well as our Professional Training Program for the 2019/20 season.

AUDITION DATES

Halifax: Jan. 23

9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Maritime Conservatory
6199 Chebucto Road

Toronto: Jan. 24

2:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Metro Movement
833 Broadview Avenue

Vancouver: Feb. 2

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The Scotiabank Dance Centre
677 Davie Street

Victoria: Feb. 17

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Amethyst Dance and Fitness
733 Johnson Street

Calgary: March 9

4:00 – 6:10 p.m.

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BETTER GET HIT IN YOUR SOUL - 2019 PRODUCTION CREDITS

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STAGE MANAGER Marcia Liber
HOUSE TECHNICIAN Jackson Buchanan
HEAD STAGE CARPENTER Jaclyn Gowie
HEAD OF SOUND Dan Frerichs
HEAD OF WARDROBE Lianne Smith
DRESSER Janice Friesen
FOH MANAGER Meredith Blackburn
SET CONSTRUCTION Techart Custom Creations
SOUND EQUIPMENT Soundart Calgary

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LIGHTING DESIGNER Brian MacNeil
SET DESIGNER Scott Reid
COSTUME DESIGNER Ronda Borneman

BAND

MUSICAL DIRECTOR/BASS Rubim de Toledo
PERCUSSION Jonathan McCaslin
TROMBONE Carsten Rubeling

MARKETING

MARKETING CONSULTANT Helen Moore Parkhouse
POSTER & PROGRAM DESIGN Daniel Blais
PHOTOGRAPHY Trudie Lee Photography
ARCHIVAL/PROMOTIONAL VIDEOS Noel Bégin

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DECIDEDLY JAZZ DANCEWORKS

BETTER GET HIT IN YOUR SOUL

MUSIC BY CHARLES MINGUS

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR Kimberley Cooper

MUSICAL DIRECTOR Rubim de Toledo

LIGHTING DESIGNER Brian MacNeil

SET DESIGNER Scott Reid

COSTUME DESIGNER Ronda Borneman

ARTISTIC ASSISTANT Laura Kleiner

DANCERS Sabrina Comenescu

Julia Costentino

Jared Ebell APPRENTICE

Jason Owin F. Galeos
APPRENTICE

Catherine Hayward

Kaja Irwin

Shayne Johnson

Natasha Korney

Kaleb Tekeste

Axel Roman Allieux
Apprentice/Understudy

MUSICIANS Rubim de Toledo BASS

Jonathan McCaslin DRUMS

Carsten Rubeling
TROMBONE

MUSIC used by permission
from The Jazz Workshop Inc.

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Audrey Gaussiran, Dinou Marlett-Stuart,
and Marc Hall for their performances and
contributions to *Better Get Hit in Your Soul* 2013,
and to Sue Graham Mingus.



ACT ONE

HAITIAN FIGHT SONG

DANCED BY the Company

"Haitian Fight Song, to begin with, could just as well be called Afro-American Fight Song. It has a folk spirit, the kind of folk music I've always heard anyway. It has some of the old Church feeling too. I was raised a Methodist but there was a Holiness church on the corner, and some of the feeling of their music, which was wilder, got into our music."

HOBO HO

DANCED BY the Sabrina, Jared, Catherine, Kaja, Shayne, Natasha and Kaleb

"Here is a piece I wrote in 1939 and I wrote it like this because I thought in 1939 I would probably get it recorded someday... Had I been born in a different country or had I been born white, I am sure I would have expressed my ideas long ago."

PASSIONS OF A MAN

DANCED BY Kaleb

"In my music, I'm trying to play the truth of what I am. The reason it's difficult is because I'm changing all the time."

CUMBIA AND JAZZ FUSION

DANCED BY Natasha and Sabrina

"I missed you two. You're like a fantastic dream of the supremely greatest beauties gathered for a contest from throughout the entire universe."

UNTITLED ORIGINAL COMPOSITION

INTRO DANCED BY Jason and Kaja

PIECE DANCED BY Catherine and Shayne, Natasha and Jason, Julia and Kaleb

"A minute ago they were battling – now they're in each other's arms."

MODE D

TRIO AND GROUP DANCERS,

MODE E

SINGLE SOLOS AND GROUP DANCE,

MODE F

GROUP AND SOLO DANCE FROM THE ALBUM THE BLACK SAINT AND THE SINNER LADY

DANCED BY the Company

"I wrote the music for dancing and listening. It is true music with much and many of my meanings. It is my living epitaph from birth till the day I first heard of Bird and Diz. Now it is me again."

Quotes compiled from; Beneath the Underdog, Tonight at Noon, Liner notes from The Clown, The Black Saint and the Sinner Lady, Let My Children Hear Music, the internet.

mingusmingusmingus.com

ACT TWO

CHILDREN'S HOUR OF DREAM

DANCED BY the Company

"Let my children have music! Let them hear live music. Not noise. My children! You do what you want with your own!"

"I'll kill the little yella coward! Come on, schitt-face Charlie! Come on bow-legs!"

"Wow! Does my boy react! He screams with rage! Scum! Sissy! Coward bluff! Punk! Punk! Punk!"

PITHECANTHROPUS ERECTUS

DANCED BY Kaleb, Jason and Shayne

TEXT BY Charles Mingus from Beneath the Underdog

"In other words I am three..."

TONIGHT AT NOON

DANCED BY Julia, Catherine, Kaja, Natasha and Sabrina

"When you exited after that I thought, 'That man's really afraid of Juan's knife and at the speed he's going he's probably home in bed by now.' But no, back you came through the same door with your bass still intact. For a moment I was hopeful you'd decided to sit down and play but instead you slashed Juan's chair in two with a fire axe! Really, Charles, that's destructive."

GOOD-BYE PORKPIE HAT

DANCED BY Kaleb, Shayne and Jason

"You see, they were talking when they played. They were telling stories about their lives. And that's what we do. We represent a long line of facts."

BETTER GET HIT IN YO' SOUL

DANCED BY the Company

"Good jazz is when the leader jumps on the piano, waves his arms, and yells. Fine jazz is when a tenorman lifts his foot in the air. Great jazz is when he heaves a piercing note for 32 bars and collapses on his hands and knees. A pure genius of jazz is manifested when he and the rest of the orchestra runaround the room while the rhythm section grimaces and dances around their instruments."

FUNERAL

Joni Mitchell

MYSELF WHEN I AM REAL

DANCED BY the Company

The day Mingus died in Mexico, January 5, 1979 at age 56, 56 sperm whales beached themselves on the Mexican coastline. The following day, Mingus was cremated, the whales were too.



DECIDEDLY JAZZ DANCEWORKS HISTORY

THE BEGINNING WAS A DREAM

shared by **Vicki Adams Willis** (then founding head of the Jazz Division in the Program of Dance at the University of Calgary) and two of her graduating students, **Michèle Moss** and **Hannah Stilwell**.

In 1984 they created Decidedly Jazz Danceworks with the goal of preserving and promoting the rich history and spirit of jazz. The original company consisted of four dancers and an artistic director intent on sharing their vision of jazz with others. Kimberley Cooper, who had danced with the company since 1989, was appointed the company's second artistic director in 2013. Now in its 34th year, DJD has carved a niche for itself in the heart of Canada's dance audience as one of Canada's most unique dance companies.

The Calgary-based company has toured extensively throughout Canada as well as to Chicago, Japan, the Turks and Caicos Islands and Cuba.

In addition to performing and touring, DJD's mandate includes a strong education component, offering performances for young audiences as well as residencies, workshops and master classes for all ages and levels. The DJD School, which programs both recreational and professional training, has an annual enrollment of over 3500 students between the ages of 2 and 82.

For more information visit www.decidedlyjazz.com

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OPENING NIGHT SPECIAL PARTNERS



JAZZ ROOTS CLUB PARTNER



DJD is grateful for the support of our community, which is critical to our success. The following pages list all of the individuals, corporations, small businesses, and foundations who support DJD with gifts of cash, corporate sponsorships, and in-kind donations. Thank you all for keeping us dancing!

TAKE A BOW

CASH DONATIONS

Heartfelt thanks to our supporters listed below for recognizing the importance of the arts. Your gifts directly enrich DJD's ability to innovate and lead within the jazz art form. Members of our Jazz Roots Club – a special donor club that offers opportunities to meet and mingle with other supporters and the dancers – are listed separately on page 19 of the program.

Please also join us in a round of applause to everyone who supported DJD by attending the Black and White Ball (March 17, 2018) and to all the donors and participants of our Annual Dance Class Marathon (November 18, 2018)

#1 RHYTHM CLUB (\$10,000+)

The first of many jazz appreciation societies founded in 1933

- B Family Fund at the Calgary Foundation
- The Calgary Foundation
- Calgary Shaw Charity Classic Foundation
- Decidedly Jazz Danceworks Endowment Fund at the Calgary Foundation
- Direct Energy
- The Kanovsky Family Foundation
- Don McPherson and Anne Hawthorne McPherson
- RBC Foundation
- Sundstrom Enterprises Ltd.
- The Van Staalduinen Family

BIG EASIES (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

"The Big Easy" is the nickname for New Orleans, the birthplace of jazz

- Anonymous
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- CIBC Children's Foundation
- JF Mitchell Developments Inc.
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- Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

RUG CUTTERS (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

The term describing a very good swing dancer, the most popular dance style in the 1920's, 30's and 40's

- Anonymous
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- Team Penley McNaughton – Remax Real Estate Central
- Murph Oil
- Daryl Wylie In memory of Margaret Sundstrom

CAKE WALKERS (\$500 - \$999)

The cake walk was a high-strutting competitive dance originated by plantation slaves (the best dancers won a cake)

- Bennett Jones LLP.
- Colliers on behalf of Sharma Christie
- Judy & Steele Curry In memory of: Catherine Brown
- Garry Willis Memorial Fund at the Calgary Foundation
- Lynch Dundas Smith Foundation

LINDY HOPPERS (\$250 - \$499)

The couples who improvise the heart-stopping dance that marked the height of the swing era

- Sandra Adams
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- Tracy Duncan
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FEETWARMERS (\$100 - \$249)

The affectionate name for the band (or dancers) keeping the dance floor hot

- Beverly & Gerry Berkhold
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- Nick Finn
- Beverley Fujino
- Jackie Halpern

- Sharon Hanwell
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- Vendini Loves the Arts
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RHYTHM SECTION (\$1 - \$99)

The musicians who provide the rhythmic foundation of a jazz ensemble

- Anonymous
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- Marie Claire Bourque
- Bruce Bowman
- Janie Brennan

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 Simon Corrin
 Eliza Mae Dieta
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- Supporter of Send a Kid to Camp
- Supporter of Dancing Parkinson's YYC

To the best of our knowledge, this list reflects donations received from January 1, 2017 – November 30, 2018. Please call **Heather Close** at **403-228-8181** to make your gift or to advise us of any changes or omissions so we may correct our records.

ARTS IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Transforming lives...one student at a time, DJD is deeply committed to sharing our love of jazz music and dance with schools and providing top quality instruction in a fun and energetic atmosphere.



ARTISTS IN SCHOOL RESIDENCY PROGRAM

DJD visits schools to teach an intensive series of workshops that introduce students to the spirit and history of jazz dance. Bring DJD to your school! Book now for the 2018-19 school year!

NICKLE FAMILY FOUNDATION
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Community support has enabled DJD to offer subsidized dance classes to hundreds of children from low-income families since 1997.



PRIVATE DONORS

DANCE COMPANY IN RESIDENCE AT CONNAUGHT SCHOOL

DJD company members visit this inner-city E.S.L school to teach jazz dance to the student body.

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 FORE THE KIDS FALL CLASSIC
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A DAY AT DJD

Committed to providing professional instruction in an inspirational setting, DJD is excited to announce our new Day at DJD. Teachers can bring students of all ages to the DJD Dance Centre to experience our new facility. Take a class with one of our experienced instructors, go on a tour, and then finish your day off with a special open rehearsal including a Q&A with the company dancers and our Artistic Director. This once-in-a-lifetime experience allows your students to get to know what it's like to live the life of a jazz dancer for a day!

DECIDEDLY JAZZ ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT FUND

DJD is one of the only dance companies in North America that funds a portion of its dancers' professional development costs.

Bring the spirit and energy of DJD to your school. Please contact Joanne Baker at 403-616-9640 or jobaker@decidedlyjazz.com.

JAZZ ROOTS CLUB

The Jazz Roots Club connects jazz enthusiasts in supporting the vibrant spirit and artistic excellence of DJD.

Jazz Roots is an exclusive club for people and companies that want to have a direct impact on the performances, artist development and community outreach that DJD is able to provide in Calgary and beyond. Members get to have direct relationships with our professional dancers, enjoy exclusive behind-the-scenes experiences, and become part of the legacy of DJD.

JAZZ ROOTS CLUB ANNUAL SOIRÉE AT THE DJD DANCE CENTRE



ALL PHOTOS BY Cary Schatz – Schatzypants Photography

Join the Jazz Roots Club today! Contact **Heather Close** at **403-228-8181** or **decidedlyjazz.com** for more information on how to become a member and share in these exclusive behind-the-scenes experiences.

CURRENT DONORS

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The first of many jazz appreciation societies founded in 1933

- Nancy Diep

BIG EASIES (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

"The Big Easy" is the nickname for New Orleans, the birthplace of jazz

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The flattened notes fundamental to blues-oriented jazz and the name of a famous record label

- Kathy Fidyk

RUG CUTTERS (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

The term describing a very good swing dancer, the most popular dance style in the 1920's, 30's and 40's

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CAKE WALKERS (\$500 - \$999)

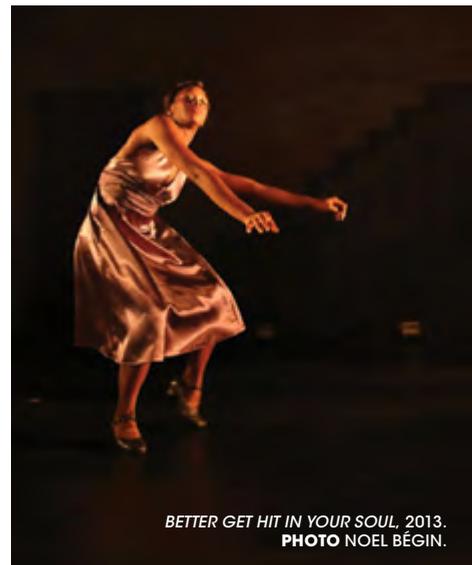
The cake walk was a high-strutting competitive dance originated by plantation slaves (the best dancers won a cake)

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BETTER GET HIT IN YOUR SOUL, 2013.
PHOTO NOEL BÉGIN.



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This list reflects donations received September 1, 2017 – November 30, 2018. To join or for more information, please contact **Heather Close** at **403-228-8181**.

A ROUND OF APPLAUSE

IN KIND DONATIONS

Countless thanks to the following supporters who contributed items and services in-kind to DJD and to our recent special events — the Black and White Ball and the Gala. Special thanks also to the consulting professionals listed on page 19 who generously donate their time and talents to DJD.

We encourage you to support those businesses that support us!

#1 RHYTHM CLUB (\$10,000+)

The first of many jazz appreciation societies founded in 1933

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The flattened notes fundamental to blues - oriented jazz and the name of a famous record label

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The term describing a very good swing dancer, the most popular dance style in the 1920's, 30's and 40's

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The cake walk was a high-strutting competitive dance originated by Plantation slaves (the best dancers won a cake)

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LINDY HOPPERS (\$250 - \$499)

The couples who improvise the heart-stopping dance that marked the height of the swing era

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FEETWARMERS (\$100 - \$249)

The affectionate name for the band (or dancers) keeping the dance floor hot

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Calgary International Film Festival
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RHYTHM SECTION (\$1 - \$99)

The musicians who provide the rhythmic foundation of a jazz ensemble

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PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM (PTP)

The PTP is an eight-month program designed for dancers who feel a passion for both jazz and the work of DJD. The PTP was developed to train dancers in the DJD style, as they are introduced to the rich history of jazz music and dance, develop an ear for jazz music, and discover the joy of jazz improvisation. The program trains dancers at a level that bridges the gap between student and professional and encourages dancers to explore their own personal expression and find honest performance.

Through a national audition process, the program attracts talented dancers from across Canada. With only 10 to 15 students being accepted each year, participants receive continuous individual feedback and guidance that encourages them to strive for excellence and attain their full potential as dance artists.

Auditions for the 2019-2020 season of the Professional Training Program are happening through January, February and March across Canada. Visit decidedlyjazz.com for more details.

For more information, contact Program Director Jamie Freeman Cormack at jfreemancormack@decidedlyjazz.com



FEATURED DANCER:
KAJA IRWIN

Kaja Irwin was a student of the PTP program from 2009-2010. Kaja is in her fourth season with the DJD company.

DJD thanks



RBC
Emerging Artists
Project

for their ongoing support of emerging artists in our community and beyond!

DJD SCHOOL YOUTH PROGRAMS

For youth ages 2 to 18 we offer something most other dance studios don't – a fun, non-competitive environment – which means the focus of our classes is on learning to love dance, not learning specific moves for a recital. Our experienced and exceptional teachers know how to guide and encourage your child in his or her transition from beginner to advanced dancer.

**WINTER SESSION:
JANUARY 12 – APRIL 27, 2019**

Still accepting registrations!

**For more information or to sign up for a class,
visit decidedlyjazz.com**



DECIDEDLY JAZZ DANCEWORKS



DJD SCHOOL ADULT PROGRAMS

DJD makes dance accessible to everyone. Whether you haven't danced a step or are a seasoned professional, the DJD School has a class especially for you. DJD offers over 80 classes per week held in our beautiful and professionally equipped dance centre, taught by professional dancers and established members of the dance community. Classes range from Tap to Hip Hop, Jazz to West African, Modern to Bollywood.

From two left feet to all the right moves we invite you to come move with us.

WINTER SESSION: JANUARY 14 – APRIL 25

Registration is still open or drop-in any time!

**For more information or
to sign up for a class,
visit decidedlyjazz.com**



DECIDEDLY JAZZ DANCEWORKS

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BETTER GET HIT IN YOUR SOUL, 2013. PHOTO NOEL BÉGIN.

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CAPITAL DONATIONS

DJD is eternally grateful for the support we have received over many years to achieve our new home, the DJD Dance Centre. We could not do what we do without the generous and loyal support of the following donors:

NAME A SEAT DONORS

The following donors have named a seat or two in our new theatre and we encourage you to join them showing support of the DJD Dance Centre. Just think about all the diverse things people will be able to enjoy from the comfort of these seats!

- Sandra Adams
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- Anonymous
- Anonymous
- Maureen Armitage
- ARTHUR / HUNTER
- Shannon Bachynski
- Karen Belmont
- Susan Bennett
- Marc Berezowski
- Carol & Nolan Blades
- Felicia Bortolussi
- Janie Brennan
- Grant Burns
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- In Memory of Dr. Harry Cohen & Dr. Martha Cohen
- Kimberley Cooper
- Janet Currie
- Rod & Judy Cooper
- Dancing with Parkinson's YYC:
 - Anonymous
 - Jim Archibald
 - Margaret Carleton-Glover
 - Mel & Mary Duvall
 - Cohav & Rosie Eilon
 - Bill & Norma Male
 - Marry Muller
 - Adolfo Peters
 - Edward & Patricia Ronneberg
- Virginia Dobson & Dale Huntingford
- Dr. Judith Dworkin
- Jane Ebbert
- Jenny Eggermont
- Kathy Fidyk
- Maureen Fielding
- Rob Fooks
- Former DJD Company Dancers:
 - Shannon Beery
 - Lori Duncan
 - Laura Kleiner
 - Natalie Poissant
 - Jason Stroh
 - David & Beverley Foy
- Terry Gilbert
- Janet Harvie & Britt Simmons
- Nancy & Bill Hay
- Catherine Hayward
 - Christopher R. Hayward
 - Jenette Hayward
 - Jennifer Hayward
 - Marilyn D. Hayward
 - Sean Hayward
 - Michelle Leneveu
 - Steven Leneveu
 - Jaime Mitchell
 - Denika Poppen
 - Laura Ann Smyth
 - Alison Stone
- Elaine Hiebert
- Ronald F. Holdsworth
- Barbara & Bruce Johnson
- Shayne Johnson
- Jane LaRiviere
- John Larsen
- Tasha Lawson – Tri-Tone Productions
- Micheline Lesage
- Janice Liebe
- Lynch Dundas Smith Family Foundation
- Laura & Jonathan Lytton
- Sue & Geoff Mackey
- Brian P. Mahoney
- Ann Mallory
- Karen Mark & Geoff Carrington
- MC Squared System Design Group, Inc.
- In Memory of Richard McDowell
- McIndoe Family Fund at The Calgary Foundation
- Barry McKinnon
- Susan Tyrrell & Brian Mills
- Lori & Darcy Moch
- Alan & Geri Moon
- Helen Moore Parkhouse
- Michèle Moss
- Carol Moynham
- In Memory of Shirley Murray:
 - Mary Ann Annable
 - Jo-Ann Billingsley
 - Kyrsten Blair
 - Chantelle Brown
 - Denise Clark
 - Anne Flynn
 - Emily Forrest

- Cathy and Mike Kendal (c/o Venture Farms Inc.)
- Sarah Kenny
- Deepika Mittra
- Alia Ruemper
- Nicole and Shea Tritter
- Krista Tweed
- Rena Nathanail
- Carol Navickas
- Edmund Navickas
- Rowland Nichol
- Tracie & Todd Noble
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- Jock & Diana Osler
- Betty Poulsen & The Dance Program at Lethbridge Collegiate Institute
- Paul & Katie Pearlman
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● Supported the DJD Dance Centre by naming more than one seat

This list reflects all capital donations received by DJD as of November 30, 2018. To name a seat in our theatre or give to our capital campaign, please contact **Heather Close** at **403-228-8181**.

CAPITAL GIFTS

The following supporters have significantly helped us toward our \$26M fundraising goal and we can't thank them enough. Their support is not just a gift to DJD but also to our community. Thanks to the following, Calgary has a new cultural hub where people of all walks of life have started to gather to experience the joy of dance and the arts.

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NAME A SEAT!

Your tax-deductible gift of \$1,000 will be recognized by displaying your name on a seat in this beautiful new theatre. This is a great way to show your support of the DJD Dance Centre or as a gift to recognize someone special in your life. More than 145 seats have already been claimed to be named. To add your name, or that of someone special to you, contact **Kathi Sundstrom** at **403-228-8178**.

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