AFTER Choreography & direction by Shannon DARK

MARCH 6 TO 9, 2019 HARBOURFRONT CENTRE THEATRE

Inspired by Christopher Dewdney's award-winning book ACQUAINTED WITH THE NIGHT: EXCURSIONS THROUGH THE WORLD AFTER DARK



Message from the Artistic Director

Welcome to Harbourfront Centre Theatre and thank you for attending tonight's performance of World After Dark.

Night has inspired the creation of a great many works of art, no doubt because of the richness of its metaphors. For me, night is a metaphor for the sensual, the embodied and the feminine. To explore the erosion of our relationship with night is to discover our growing disconnect with our sensory world, with our natural environment, with our own bodies, and with feminine virtues like intuition, cooperation, sensitivity, and creative expression. What are the consequences of living in a world where night has been forgotten?

This question was my point of departure for creating World After Dark, the beginning of my own creative journey into the metaphorical darkness. Inspired by the simultaneously scientific and poetic text of Christopher Dewdney's enchanting book Acquainted With the Night: Excursions Through the World After Dark, the creation of World After Dark has been a rich journey - a winding road of discovery and experimentation. What has emerged is a work about reclamation.

Throughout its creation, this work has been touched by so many gifted artists. The alchemy of our collaboration is the essence of this production. I am very proud to share World After Dark with you tonight.

Shannon Litzenberger

Message from Harbourfront Centre

Harbourfront Centre's inaugural Performing Arts Residency program supports performance creators with time, space and resources to develop their artistic creations in a technically equipped theatre. As an artistic company that

benefited from a residency in Harbourfront Centre's 2018-19 season, Litzenberger and her team engaged in a week-long production workshop at Harbourfront Centre Theatre in August 2018, creating an interactive and immersive world in which her new work will unfold. As a leading Canadian arts institution, Harbourfront Centre wants to amplify the impact of Canadian artists at home and away by supporting them with the tools and personnel they need to create their best work. Harbourfront Centre has continued to support Litzenberger leading up to the premiere of World After Dark.

Nathalie Bonjour

Acknowledgement of Traditional Land

Today, the land we are gathered on has been the site of human activity for over 15,000 years. It is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the

Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto (Tkaronto) is covered by Treaty 13 signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit, and the Williams Treaty signed with multiple Mississaugas and Chippewa bands.

World After Dark

Concept, Choreography and Direction Shannon Litzenberger Inspired by Christopher Dewdney's award winning text Acquainted With the Night: Excursions Through the World After Dark

Created with and Performed by Linnea Swan, Louis Laberge-Côté, Syreeta Hector, Emily Law, Nikolaos Markakis and Kathia Wittenborn with narration by Irene Pauzer and Dan Wild

Dance Dramaturg / Creative Advisor **Gerald Trentham** Creative Advisor **Marie-Josée Chartier** Writer / Theatre Dramaturg **Guillermo Verdecchia** Lighting and Set Design **Ken MacKenzie** Projection and Interactive Video Design **Elysha Poirier** Sound Design **John Gzowski** Costume Design **Alexandra Lord** Costume Design / Costume Build **Kleanthi Markakis** Stage Management **Laura Cournoyea**

For Shannon Litzenberger Contemporary Dance

Production Coordination Jordana Deveau Marketing Murray Patterson Communications Group Publicity B-Rebel Communications Graphic and Web Design Karran Sahadeo Social Media Kathia Wittenborn Photography Ken Greenhorn and Lyon Smith Trailer Videography and editing Aria Evans Videography Craig Chambers

I would like to acknowledge the creative contributions of Nicole Rose Bond, Susie Burpee, Kassi Scott, Ceinwen Gobert, Marie Lambin-Gagnon and, most significantly, Dan Wild who invested their incredible artistry throughout various stages of developing World After Dark.

For Harbourfront Centre

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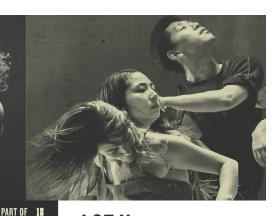
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Thank you

Thank you to David Abel, Nichole Anderson, Rob Binet, BarreWorks, Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, Citadel + Compagnie, Susan and Jim Davis, Shelley Fox and Andy Smith, HarperCollins, Fanny Ghorayev, DA Hoskins, Barry Hughson, Jackie Latendresse, Owais Lightwala, Lynn and Dave Litzenberger, Jef Mallory, Andrea Nann and Dreamwalker Dance, Jillian Peever, Pam Wong, Diana Wiley and the University Club of Toronto for contributions of time, space, advice, labour, hospitality, resources and support.

And to Christopher Dewdney, for the inspiring words that fuelled this creation.

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Creative Team



A choreographer, dancer, producer, director and facilitator, **Shannon** Litzenberger (Choreographer / Director) is known for creating live performance experiences at the intersection of forms. Rooted in dance, Shannon's innovative collaborations come to life in conversation with theatre, literary and visual arts. Her perspective is decidedly feminist, philosophical, socially conscious and emphatically Canadian. Her roots in rural Saskatchewan inspire recurring themes of connection to land, environment, belonging, identity and place. Her work as a performer and creator has been presented

across Canada and the US, in collaboration with some of Canada's leading artists including Marie-Josée Chartier, Lorna Crozier, David Earle, Sylvain Émard, Ravi Jain, Susie Burpee and Michael Greyeyes. She has been an invited resident artist at Banff Centre, Soulpepper Theatre Company, Toronto Dance Theatre and Atlantic Ballet Theatre. She was the first ever Arts Innovation Fellow at the Metcalf Foundation. She is the recipient of the Jack McAllister award for accomplishment in dance, the recipient of a 2019 Chalmers Arts Fellowship and a twice-shortlisted finalist for the prestigious KM Hunter Award.



Christopher Dewdney is the author of five books of non-fiction as well as eleven books of poetry. A four-time nominee for the Governor General's Award he won first-prize in the CBC Literary Competition for poetry and was awarded the Harbourfront Festival Prize, given in recognition of his contribution to Canadian literature. His non-fiction book, Acquainted With The Night; Excursions into the World After Dark, was nominated for both a Governor General's Award and The Charles Taylor Prize for non-fiction, and was published in six countries. Dewdney appeared in the critically acclaimed film, Poetry in Motion, and an

adaptation of his book, Acquainted With the Night, was released as a feature documentary by Markham Street Films in 2010. The movie garnered a Gemini award in 2011. His most recent non-fiction title, 18 Miles: The Epic Drama of our Atmosphere and its Weather, was published by ECW in 2018. Dewdney teaches creative writing and poetics at York University in Toronto.



Ibs/sq["] Artistic Director **Gerry Trentham's (Creative Advisor / Dance Dramaturg)** 40 works include the Dora nominated *Four Mad Humours* (2011) with live feed between Chicago, Buffalo, Toronto and Montreal, art/dialogue installations *Art of Peace: Invitation* (2016) and *The Apology Project* (2017) and Trees (2018) that deal with race, gender and colonization. With international acclaim from NYC to Berlin his performances have received seven Dora Mavor Moore nominations/awards including as cast/voice director of Fujiwara's hit *EUNOIA*. He has taught, choreographed, dialect/ speech coached, directed

and mentored many dance and theatre professionals in Canada, the USA, England and Australia and researched performance as core faculty at Canada's National Voice Intensive.



Marie-Josée Chartier (Creative Advisor) is a choreographer, director (dance, multi-media, opera), dancer, vocalist and teacher. Choreographic works presented in Canada, Europe, Asia, Latin America. Featured on documentary films and national television. Awards include: Jacqueline Lemieux Prize (2015), K.M. Hunter Award (2001), Dora Awards (2001-2004). As choreographer and/ or director for (selected): Chartier Danse, Litzenberger Dance, BoucharDanse, Princess Productions, Gryphon Trio, Toca Loca, Tapestry Opera, Ensemble Contemporain de Montréal, Théâtre français de Toronto, Theaturtle, Pleiades

Theatre. As teacher: modern dance, voice exploration, improvisation (Canada and abroad). Artistic Director of Chartier Danse (founded 2003) with productions: *petites danses, Stria* (fulllength solo work), *Red Brick* with Arraymusic, *Contes pour enfants pas sages* with PPS Danse, *Screaming Popes* with fabrik Potsdam (DE), *Bas-Reliefs* with Danse-Cité.



THE READY Guillermo Verdecchia (Writer / Theatre Dramaturg) is a multi-award winning writer of drama and fiction as well as a director, dramaturge, translator, and actor. Head of New Play Development at Soulpepper Theatre, where he recently directed *The Royale*, his work, includes *The Art of Building a Bunker* (with Adam Lazarus), *The Noam Chomsky Lectures* (with Daniel Brooks), *The Adventures of Ali & Ali* (with Marcus Youssef and Camyar Chai), and *A Line in the Sand* (with Marcus Youssef). He teaches at the University of Toronto.

March 14-16 at 8pm Harbourfront Centre Theatre 231 Queens Quay W

Dance Theatre

Tickets: \$15-\$42 416 973-4000 or online: harbourfrontcentre.com danceworks.ca • jaberidt.com



Composer, sound designer, musician and instrument maker **John Gzowski** (Sound Designer) worked on over 200 theatre, dance and film productions for which he has done composition, sound design, live foley, live music and as musical director. His theatre work has won him 6 Dora's, from 18 nominations for companies like Stratford, Shaw Festival, Luminato, National Arts Centre, the Mirvishes, MTC, the Arts Club, Canstage, Soulpepper, Dancemakers, Red Sky, Tarragon, Factory Theatre and YPT. Gzowski has played on numerous CD's, with recent releases with Patricia O'Callghan, Tasa, and Autorickshaw as well as a Juno nomination with Maza Meze.



Ken Mackenzie's (Lighting and Set Designer) most recent design credits include the set and costumes for The Royale (*dir. Guillermo Verdecchia*) at Soulpepper, set design for Once (dir. Andrew Shaver) at The Segal Centre, and The set designer for Angels in America at the Arts Club in Vancouver. Ken was also the set and lighting designer for Spoon River as well as Kim's Convenience and is also one of the creators and original performers of Alligator Pie at Soulpepper. Ken is a resident Artist at Soulpepper Theatre Company and is the Board President of the Associated Designers of Canada.



Elysha Poirier (Projection and Interactive Video Designer) is a video artist and animator working in various forms of responsive media. Her methods in painting and design have been adapted to video for live performance, where she utilizes low-fi technologies and analogue techniques to combine with realtime 3D generative environments. Elysha has produced several installations and engaged in live performances for dance, experimental music, and theatre.



Alexandra Lord (Costume Designer) trained at The National Theatre School of Canada and in the Soulpepper Theatre Company Academy. She most recently designed costumes for the new musical Rose at Soulpepper, music and book by Mike Ross, book by Sarah Wilson and directed by Gregory Prest. Check out other past projects at www.alexandralord.com. Alexandra is in the process of establishing Triga Creative with Shannon Lea Doyle and Michelle Tracey. She has worked with Triga to design costumes for Paradigm Productions' *The Philosopher's Wife*, written by Susanna Fournier and directed by Leora Morris. Follow along @trigacreative.



Kleanthi Markakis (Assistant Costume Designer / Costume Builder) was introduction to the world of the arts through dance at the Cretan Association of Toronto. It was in high school where she found her passion in costume design. She later completed a major minor in Dance/Theatre production costume design at York University. There she designed costumes for Brebeuf's Ghost, the York Dance Ensemble, and Dido. She was also the intradepartmental manger in the production of Birds and one of the production managers for Theatre at York in 2017. World After Dark will be her first professional costuming gig.



Laura Cournoyea (Stage Manager) is a Toronto-based arts manager and administrator. She was trained at York University's Theatre Department, earning a Specialized B.F.A. in Theatre Design and Production. She splits her time between dance, theatre, and event management. Ms. Cournoyea has recently worked with the Toronto Dance Theatre, Dusk Dances, adelheid, Ontario Dances, Canadian Contemporary Dance Theatre, inDANCE, The Dietrich Group, Bouchardanse, and the 2015 Pan Am Arts Relay. As well, Laura is the Arts Education Manager for Yvonne Ng's tiger princess dance projects and the Company Manager for dance:made in canada/fait au canada.



Showone SONY CENTRE



Syreeta Hector (Collaborator / Performer) began her career with Toronto Dance Theatre (TDT), and is currently an independent dancer and choreographer. She is proud to be a graduate of The National Ballet School's Teacher Training Program, and recently achieved her Master of Arts in Dance Studies from York University. As a creator, Syreeta most recently choreographed a musical film series that won the Best Ensemble Award at the Toronto Web Series Festival. Besides being a dancer, she is committed to sharing her dance expertise as an adjunct faculty member at York University.



A contemporary and street dancer, **Emily Law (Collaborator / Performer)** graduated from STDT and ESA. She also choreographs independently and is co-artistic director of Mix Mix Dance Collective & Parks N' Wreck. She has worked with companies such as Kaha:wi Dance Theatre, The Dietrich Group, The Chimera Project and Alias Dance Project. Her choreographic work has been showcased on companies and in festivals such as Toronto Dance Theatre, The Next Stage Theatre Festival, Toronto Fringe Festival, CanAsian Dance Festival, The Reel Asian Film Festival, Guelph Dance, Jeux de la Francophonie, and Fall

For Dance North. She has been nominated for two Dora Mavor Moore awards, and the 2017 Premier's award.



Louis Laberge-Côté (Collaborator / Performer) is a Toronto-based dancer, choreographer, teacher, and rehearsal director. An acclaimed performer, he has danced with over thirty companies and has been a full-time member of Toronto Dance Theatre (1999-2007) and the Kevin O'Day Ballett Nationaltheater Mannheim (2009-2011). His work has garnered him a Dora Mavor Moore Award for Outstanding Choreography, as well as eight other individual and ensemble nominations for Performance or Choreography. A sought-after pedagogue, he has been recently appointed Assistant Professor of Dance at Ryerson University. He holds an MFA in Creative Practice from the University of Plymouth (UK).



Nikolaos Markakis (Collaborator / Performer) was introduced to dance at the Cretans' Association of Toronto, where he studied Cretan Folkloric dance. He followed his passion of movement to York University where he completed his BFA. Post his degree, he has performed for: Susie Burpee, Valerie Calam, Marie-Josée Chartier, Alison Daley, David Earle, Hanna Keil, Shannon Litzenberger, Tracey Norman and Peter Randazzo. Recently Nikolaos completed his MFA at York University where he researched tensional-hybrid choreography of Cretan Folkloric and Contemporary dance practices. Currently

he is the Co-President of CADA-Ontario, contract faculty at York University and Dance Director of the Cretans' Association of Toronto.



Born and raised in Saskatchewan, **Linnea Swan (Collaborator / Performer)** has had a long and colourful career that has seen her call Vancouver, Winnipeg, Toronto and now Calgary home. For over twenty years she has had the pleasure of working and collaborating with many of Canada's esteemed dance / theatre companies and artists including Serge Bennethan, Susie Burpee, Dancemakers, and David Danzon among others. Her extensive performance career has been recognized with multiple Dora Mavor Moore Award nominations - receiving the 2013 Award for Outstanding Performance, as well as the K.M. Hunter Artist Award in Dance. Linnea is Associate Artist with Dancers' Studio West.



Originally from Montreal, **Kathia Wittenborn (Collaborator / Performer)** is a Toronto based contemporary dance artist, collaborator and movement educator. She graduated from Ballet Divertimento and The School of Toronto Dance Theatre where she was the recipient of the Kathryn Ash Award. Kathia has trained and performed throughout North America and Europe, collaborating with many critically acclaimed artists and companies including Robert Abubo, Amanda Acorn, Susie Burpee, Sylvain Émard, Marie Lambin-Gagnon, Jane Alison McKinney, Kevin A. Ormsby, The Go To Company, and Tribal Crackling

Wind (Peter Chin). Her work in Chin's Woven received a Dora Mavor Moore Award for Outstanding Performance (ensemble).



Irene Pauzer (Narrator) Voice and Speech teacher and Associate Professor at the Ryerson School of Performance. Vocal coaching/teaching: Stratford Festival Theatre, Birmingham, Conservatory Stratford Theatre, Moonhorse Dance Company, Equity Showcase, The Voice Intensive, University of West Virginia. Irene brings a wide-ranging performance background transitioning from ballet dancer to actor, as a member of Les Grands Ballets Candiens to acting at the Stratford Festival including an extensive resume of theatre, film and television credits. She is the grateful recipient of grants from the British Arts Council, ACTRA Fraternal, and the Banff Festival of the Arts. Irene's narration is dedicated to her loving husband Andrei.



Dan Wild (Collaborator and Narrator) has been working professionally for the stage for the past 30 years. His company credits include his 23-year history with the Caravan Stage Company, nine seasons with Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers under the artistic direction of Tom Stroud, and eight seasons with Dancemakers under the artistic director of Serge Bennathan. Now a freelance dance artist, he has worked with some of Canada's finest creators and performers including Susie Burpee, Marie Josée Chartier, Fides Krucker, Tedd Robinson, Ginette Laurin, Guillaume Bernardi, Claudia Moore,

James Kudelka and Susanna Hood. Dan is also an artistic facilitator, rehearsal director and performance coach. He has been nominated for two Dora awards for outstanding performance. Dan has been an invaluable collaborator in the creation of World After Dark since the first rehearsal in 2014.



Jordana Deveau (Production Coordinator) is a dynamic force in the Toronto dance community, active as a dancer, creator, educator, rehearsal director and producer. She is the Co-Artistic Director of JDdance, a multifaceted dance theatre collective that she co-founded in 2009. She is the co-author, with her mentor Donna Krasnow, PhD, of "C-I Training: Conditioning with Imagery for Dancers". Jordana has trained in Toronto, Guelph, Vancouver, New York and Vienna, and performed in the U.S., Europe and across Canada. Thank you Shannon and the whole creative team!

"Night is a not an absence, not a time-out, but a rich, enchanting world that can offer us so much more than we know."

- Christopher Dewdney



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World After Dark has been generously supported by the Toronto Arts Council, the Ontario Arts Council, the Canada Council for the Arts, Soulpepper's Resident Artist Program, Toronto Dance Theatre's Creation Residency Program, Harbourfront Centre's Performing Arts Residency Program, The National Ballet of Canada's CreativAction Open Studio Programme, the residency program of Peggy Baker Dance Projects & Canada's National Ballet School and the Work in Progress (W.I.P) program of Free Flow Dance Theatre Company.









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