

**Shannon Litzenberger**, MA, is an award-winning contemporary dancer, choreographer, director, systems thinker, arts advocate and embodied leadership facilitator based in Toronto. As an artist, her work explores our relationship to land, the significance of place, the politics of identity and belonging, the importance of community, and the forgotten wisdom of the body. Her work has been presented across Canada and the US, in collaboration with some of Canada's leading artists including Susan Aglukark, Susie Burpee, Marie-Josée Chartier, Lorna Crozier, Christopher Dewdney, David Earle, Sylvain Émard, Aria Evans, Michael Greyeyes, DA Hoskins, Ravi Jain, Diego Matamoros, Don McKay, David Pressault, Severn Thompson, Darryl Tracy, Heidi Strauss, Charles Smith, Linnea Swan, Guillermo Verdecchia and Dan Wild, among others. She is a member of the wind in the leaves collective and has been an invited resident artist at Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, Souleppper Theatre Company, Toronto Dance Theatre, Harbourfront Centre, Atlantic Ballet Theatre, Anne Portnuff Theatre, Saskatoon's Rемаi Modern and the Gros Morne Summer Music Festival.

As an engaged civic leader, process designer, social justice advocate, researcher, strategist and facilitator, Shannon is interested in the transformation of people and systems through co-creative processes and embodied practice. She collaborates frequently with cultural and educational institutions including Cultural Pluralism Movement in the Arts Ontario (CPAMO), Western University's Ivey Business School (London), Qaggiavuut Performing Arts Centre (Nunavut), Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, Foundation Pierre Elliott Trudeau (Montreal), Business/Arts, the Canadian Arts Summit, University of Toronto, Humber College, and the George Cedric Metcalf Foundation, among others.

Shannon has been an invited guest speaker at a multitude of universities, events and conferences across Canada and internationally and has published over 100 articles on dance, creative process and arts policy. Shannon was the first ever Arts Innovation Fellow at the Metcalf Foundation where she published *Choreographing Our Future* - an influential paper on arts funding policies. Her recent essay and thought piece *Why We Need Artists Right Now* was featured in the May 2022 Issue of *The Philanthropist*.

She is the recipient of the Jack McAllister award for accomplishment in dance, the recipient of a 2019 Chalmers Arts Fellowship, a Trudeau Foundation Mentor and a twice-shortlisted finalist for the prestigious KM Hunter Award. Her most recent work *World After Dark* was nominated for a 2019 Dora Mavor Moore Award.  
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