

CAN
ASIAN
DANCE

KICK START

Co-Presented by
CanAsian Dance & TO Live

May 12, 13, 14, 2023

Greenwin Theatre
Meridian Arts Centre



KICK START PROGRAM ORDER

*calm and dormant with strength and power;
sinuous and flowing*

KATHERINE NG

18 mins

home l a n d

YUI UGAI & ASHVINI SUNDARAM

20 mins

Intermission

20 mins

Walang Hiya

JOY RIDER aka MARBELLA CARLOS

16 mins

Omote (面)

SHION SKYE CARTER & MIYA TURNBULL

20 mins

A word from our Artistic Associate:

The journey from studio to stage is never easy - choreographing a dance is precise, painstaking work, while the time in front of an audience is exhilarating, but brief. The KickStart program is designed to support and nurture dance artists throughout that process. The six artists we present tonight are unified by the rigor and intensity of their practice, whether it is bharata natyam, burlesque or modern dance. At the same time, each expresses a unique choreographic vision that deserves, and rewards, our attention.

- *Gitanjali Kolanad*



CAN
ASIAN
DANCE

ARTISTIC ASSOCIATE

Gitanjali Kolanad

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Ariana Shaw

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Jasmine Au

BOOKKEEPER

Karen Bennedsen

LIGHTING DESIGNER & TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Jareth Li

STAGE MANAGER

Tara Mohan

POST-SHOW ARTIST TALK MODERATOR

Nithya Garg

ASL INTERPRETERS

Sabrina Chang and Adele Lee

PHOTOGRAPHY

David Wong



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Coman Poon (Chair/President)
David Norsworthy (Secretary/Treasurer)
Brandy Leary
Tom Cho
Linda Zhang

**KICK
START SELECTION COMMITTEE**

Gitanjali Kolanad
Artistic Associate, CanAsian Dance

Danah Rosales
Independent Dance Artist

Keiko Kitano Thomson
Independent Dance Artist

Laurane Van Branteghem
Curator & Programming Coordinator, Tangente

Khosro Berahmandi
Artistic & Development Director, Festival Accès Asie

*calm and dormant with strength
and power; sinuous and flowing*

Katherine Ng

Credits:

Dancer / Choreographer : Katherine Ng

Music: Johnathan Bendavid

Dramaturg: Daniel Mroz

Rehearsal Director: Jocelyn Todd

Lighting Design: Jareth Li



This solo performance is an opportunity to dig deeper into my roots and embrace the beauty that lies in my family's history and rich cultural traditions and in myself. The choreographic language is primarily defined by strict and disciplined movement, while simultaneously breaking in and out of a physical vocabulary that is soft and sumptuous. This duality creates a universe that playfully oscillates between form and all of that which exists on its threshold. At times I find repose in moments of silence and stillness before allowing new movement to generate.



A big thank you shoutout to ODD (Ottawa Dance Directive) for generously letting us use their space and to the Canada Arts Council for their generous funding! We couldn't have done it without the support of the CanAsian Festival crew - Daniel Mroz, Gitanjali Kolanad, and Ariana Shaw. Also, a special thanks to Jareth and the Tangente team for their help during tech week!

Additional Support by:



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des arts
du Canada



home l a n d

Yui Ugai and Ashvini Sundaram

Credits:

Choreography: Yui Ugai and Ashvini Sundaram

Music Composition: Diego Marulanda

Dramaturgy: Anita La Selva

Outside Eye: Anita La Selva and Gitanjali Kolanad

Costume Design: Michiko Inoue

Lighting Design: Jareth Li



Living in intersections, Yui Ugai and Ashvini Sundaram invite us to examine the meaning of home as we journey through lands. Where is home in our bodies? Invoking their traditions, facing severance, and remembering resilience, Yui and Ashvini search for female humanity. This work investigates hybridity: can we remember who we once were as one people? Can we remember what we may have forgotten?





Our humble thanks to CanAsian Dance, Tangente and Festival Accès Asie for this extraordinary opportunity. We thank the National Ballet of Canada, National Ballet School of Canada, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, and Dance Centre BC for providing space for our research, and Canada Council for the Arts and Ontario Arts Council for their funding support. Our heartfelt thanks to our Dramaturg, Anita La Selva, Music Composer, Diego Marulanda, Costume Designer, Michiko Inoue, and Lighting Designer, Jareth Li. Furthermore, we would like to thank Gitanjali Kolanad, Ariana Shaw, Karen Kaeja, Dave Wilson, Maxine Heppner, Jessica Stuart, Arpita Bajpeyi, Emily Cheung, and Alejandro Ronceria for their contributions to our project.

Additional Support by:



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des arts
du Canada



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO

an Ontario government agency
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

CENTRE
DES
ARTS DE

BANFF

CENTRE FOR ARTS AND CREATIVITY

THE
NATIONAL
Ballet
OF CANADA

Hope Muir
Artistic Director

Walang Hiya

Joy Rider aka Marbella Carlos

Choreography: Joy Rider

Dancers: Joy Rider, Komodo, Lia Jasmine

Dramaturgy: Gerard X Reyes

Outside Eye: Loulou la Duchesse de Riere, Gitanjali Kolanad

Costume Design: Joy Rider, Elise Truong (Sweet Carousel)

Lighting Design: Jareth Li



This act comes to us from the world of burlesque where the audience reaction is welcome from beginning to end.

We encourage you to clap, cheer, whistle and holler throughout the performance, if you please!

An act about colonialism, decolonizing, and transcendence - contrasting cultural expectations with sex positivity and pleasure. *Walang Hiya* examines the complexities of living in the diaspora in a racialized body. This burlesque performance invites a shift from a socially acceptable expression of femininity within a patriarchal culture that expects the feminine to be demure, submissive, or chaste to one that is subversive and even pleasurable.



I would like to wholeheartedly thank CanAsian Dance, Tangente and Festival AccesAsie for their trust and support in creating this new work and to the Canada Council for the Arts for the financial support in bringing the piece to life. Thank you to Gerard X Reyes for their dramaturgical support and mentorship, Loulou la Duchesse de Riere for her mentorship, PAMANA ng LuzViMinda Philippine Folkloric Dance Company for their education training, ArtNeuf for providing studio space and to Lia Jasmine and Komodo for their contribution as backup dancers.

Additional Support by:



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des arts
du Canada



Omote (面)

Shion Skye Carter and Miya Turnbull

Credits:

Creation/Performance: Shion Skye Carter & Miya Turnbull

Masks: Miya Turnbull

Music composition: Stefan Nazarevich

Dramaturgy: Julie Tamiko Manning

Lighting Design: Jareth Li

Creative Consultants: Gitanjali Kolanad, Miyuki Embree, and Shizuka Kai



Omote (面) is a performance by dance artist Shion Skye Carter and multi-disciplinary visual artist Miya Turnbull, where hand-crafted papier-mâché masks, coming in myriad shapes and facial expressions, become extensions of the body. The masks' distorted imagery borders on grotesque, challenging traditional ideas of beauty, while gestures and tableau articulate the concept of *honne* (本音) and *tatemae* (建前): when a person's true feelings and desires (*honne*) contrasts from the behaviour and opinions they share in public (*tatemae*). The masks also serve as tools to reflect on personal identity, and the artists' mixed-race Japanese-Canadian (Nikkei) heritage.



We'd like to thank CanAsian Dance, Tangente, and Festival Accès Asie for the opportunity to develop our collaboration, and Kinetic Studio for the artistic residency in Halifax, NS. We also acknowledge the support of the Canada Council for the Arts. Thank you to Julie Tamiko Manning (dramaturg), Stefan Nazarevich (music), Miyuki Embree and Shizuka Kai (creative consultants), and our families for their support.

We'd like to dedicate this performance of Omote (面) to Marjene Matsunaga Turnbull

Additional Support by:

KINETIC



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des arts
du Canada





CanAsian Dance wishes to thank all of our friends and supporters, whose donations have generated more space and opportunities for choreographers creating dance based on Asian ideas and practices. Thank you for your support!

Thank you to our KickStart Co-Presenter:

•
TO Live

KickStart is Funded by:



Funded by the Government of Canada
Financé par le gouvernement du Canada



CAN
ASIAN
DANCE

CanAsian Dance is grateful to the following funding partners for their ongoing support:



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des arts
du Canada



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO

an Ontario government agency
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario



Lindy Green
& Sam Chaiton