

A collage of images showing people dancing in a park. The images are layered and partially obscured by a large green overlay. The text "DANCES OF EARTHLY DELIGHT" is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the center. Below the title, the text "COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE PROJECT" and "MARCH 4TH 2022 @ 7:00PM ONLINE" is written in smaller, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. The background images show people of various ages and ethnicities dancing in a grassy area with trees in the background. Some are holding colorful scarves or fabrics. One person in the top left is wearing a costume with a large white beard and pointed ears.

# DANCES OF EARTHLY DELIGHT

COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE PROJECT  
MARCH 4TH 2022 @ 7:00PM ONLINE

**For MOonhORsE Dance Theatre**

**ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**

Claudia Moore

**GENERAL MANAGER**

Adina Herling

**SOCIAL MEDIA & MARKETING MANAGER**

Hayley Goldenberg

**VIDEO PRODUCER**

Fagan Media Group

**BROADCAST TECHNICIAN**

Adam Germain

**BOOKKEEPER**

Karen Bennedsen

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Christine Moynihan (Chair), Carol Anderson, Allan MacInnis,  
Jean McNeil, Sandi Trillo

Advisory Members: Susie Burpee, Aria Evans

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Please consider supporting MOonhORsE Dance Theatre with a tax-deductible donation. Your contributions will support Older & Reckless and the ongoing education of young & old in the art of dance. Donations can be made online at [moonhorsedance.com](http://moonhorsedance.com) or by cheque mailed to: 284 Winona Drive, Toronto, ON M6C 3S9.

Thank you for your support!

# Dances of Earthly Delight

an online event produced by Fagan Media Group

## WELCOME

By Claudia Moore

Directed/filmed by Laurie-Shawn Borzovoy

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thank you to Christine Friday, Friday Creations

## FOR YOU

Choreographer: Julia Aplin

Film Director/Editor: Kim Farris-Manning

Camera Operators: David Langer and Emma Whitla

Interviews/Photography: Laurie-Shawn Borzovoy

Original Music: John Gzowski

Performers: Suzanne Barnes, Mai Duong, Deborah Moffett, Barbara and Ron Johnson, Pieter Biessels, Amy Norsworthy and Rebecca Heaslip, with dance artists Terrill Maguire and Troy Emery Twigg (Kainai Nation)

## JOURNEY WITH US

Choreographer: Charmaine Headley

Film Director: Nicole Brooks

Editor: Asah Brooks

Original Music: Nimon Musiq

Assistant: Christine Moynihan

Performers: Mai Duong, Deborah Van der Laan, Kate Lushington, Claudette Reddock, Margo Small, Sallie Thurlow with dance artists Junia Mason and Debbie Nicholls-Skerritt

## OCEAN MOTION

Choreographer:	Carol Anderson
Film Director/Editor:	Vickie Fagan
Assistant:	Jack Reslinski
Music:	Duet for Four Guitars - composed, performed and recorded by Kirk Elliott
Performers:	Megan Cugliari, Lori Kado, David Keshen, Slade Lander, Shery Leeder, Kate Lushington, Sarah Neale, Brenda Somers, Patricia White, with dance artists Carol Anderson, Claudia Moore and Michelle Silagy

**MOonhORsE Dance Theatre is grateful to each artist and enthusiast on the Dances of Earthly Delight program, to everyone who supported the work and to all who made the film possible. Thank you to our wonderful audience for your enthusiastic participation and for being part of our community!**

## ARTIST BIOS

**Julia Aplin**, dance artist, educator and nature worshipper, has been studying and practicing movement for over 40 years. Julia danced full time for 15 seasons with Dancemakers, under the Artistic Direction of Serge Bennathan. She is an award-winning choreographer and has created dances for theatres, rivers, boxing rings, wading pools, cyberspace and neuroscience labs. Julia has taught movement through university courses, professional academies, private studios and public schools. She works with a wide range of people from elite performers to beginners, using The Principles of the Mitzvah Technique, Classical Pilates and other techniques from her wide range of movement experience. She has an intense curiosity about the human body in motion and draws on a variety of tools and techniques in her current practice. In 2011, Julia founded her own private practice, Upward Spiral, to gather and share her teachings through hands-on body work, movement lessons, forest retreats and workshops. [www.upwardspiral.me](http://www.upwardspiral.me)

**Carol Anderson** has enjoyed a diverse career as a dancer, choreographer, director, teacher and writer. She started her performing career with Canadian pioneer Judy Jarvis' first company. A founding member of Dancemakers in 1974, she danced, choreographed for, and was active in the direction of the Toronto company until 1989. Mining her parallel interests in dancing and writing, Anderson is the author of a growing body of writing on Canadian dance and other cultural matters. An Associate Professor of Dance at York University until July 2016, she taught both studio and studies courses. A lifelong investigator/educator of forms and styles of movement, Anderson is also a devotee of writing as a mode of exploring personal creativity and expression.

**Laurie-Shawn Borzovoy's** imagery has been seen in countless works on screens, pages and stages, globally. He has provided Projection Design for the National Ballet of Canada's 'Frame by Frame' by Robert Lepage, and the Canadian Opera Company's 'Bluebeard's Castle/Erwartung' also for Lepage, and Rufus Wainwright's opera 'Hadrian'. He has provided projection designs for the CBC, Canadian

Stage Company, Joffrey Ballet of Chicago, Carbon 14, and many others for over 30 years. Laurie-Shawn also provides Creative Direction and Communications Strategy to many Canadian corporations such as RBC, IBM, and Microsoft. In March of 2011, Laurie-Shawn became an honoured recipient of the Culture Champion designation by the Mayor of Toronto, in part for his ongoing volunteer work as Chair of UrbanArts Toronto. UrbanArts Toronto engages youth and our diverse community in arts programs and leadership skills development.

**Nicole Brooks**, a multifaceted artist, has devoted over 20 years producing innovative content that illuminates the peoples of the African Diaspora. Her extensive accomplishments include: filmmaker, director, performer, singer, playwright, composer, curator, teacher, healer, 'art-ivist' and most recently playwright. Her debut theatrical work, *Obeah Opera* - which she wrote, composed and performed in - has been staged in various incarnations at festivals, workshop productions, and commissioned presentations in Toronto between 2009 and 2019 and has received critical acclaim and numerous nominations.

**Kirk Elliott** is a musician, arranger and composer from Toronto, with a Bachelor of Music degree from Queen's University in Kingston. Working in his home studio with over 60 instruments from around the world, he has composed, recorded and performed music for the National Ballet of Canada, the Toronto Dance Theatre, Dancemakers, the National Film Board, the Discovery Channel, the Toronto Consort, CBC radio and television and Oscar winning animated film director Chris Landreth. A founding member of Nordic/World music Ensemble Polaris, Kirk composed, arranged and performed with them across Canada, playing violin, mandolin, bouzouki, accordions, guitar, mandolin, double bass, dulcimers, Celtic harp, banjo, balalaika and Flemish, Swedish, Spanish and Scottish bagpipes. Also bladder pipes, but let's not go there right now... For over thirty years he has also played with Canada's beloved family entertainers Sharon, Lois and Bram, performing in every major venue in Canada and the US.

**Vickie Fagan** is an award-winning producer, director, writer and filmmaker. She launched Fagan Media Group in the fall of 2010. Vickie's television background includes over fifteen years with Chum Television where she worked as a producer of documentaries, short films and series television. Vickie specializes in offering broadcast-quality production values and story driven content. Fagan received the Grand Jury Prize at the Ojai California Film Festival for her documentary *Adventures in Breathing*, a CPRS award of merit for the Halton Region, Drive Safe Campaign video 2012, 1st place for Experimental Short (*Betrothed*) at the Indie Gathering Film Festival and Fastnet Film Festival in Cork, Ireland as well as the 2017 Canadian Screen Award for Best Animated Series or Program for *The Curse of Clara*. <https://faganmediagroup.net/>

**Kim Farris-Manning**, a fun-loving queer arbor-artist based in Ottawa and Montreal, creates works across disciplines that engage with the performer and audience in unique ways. Allowing ideas to grow and change is a central facet of Kim's work; pieces are often made in versions, through a process of experimentation and collaboration with others. Kim's work has been experienced in performances worldwide led by organizations such as the Canadian Music Centre, Ostrava Days Festival, Continuum Contemporary Music, Quatuor Bozzini, and Organ Festival Canada. Kim is part of folk-indie duo YELLOW and is a founding member of the Paramorph Collective. [kim.farris-manning.ca](http://kim.farris-manning.ca)

**Christine Friday** is a proficient resilient Indigenous storyteller. She began her career with *In the Land of Spirits* in 1992 and has maintained a professional dance career for over 25 years. She is deeply connected to the cultural wellness of her Anishinaabe people. Her company, Friday Creations, a film and stage Production Company, has allowed her to transition her skills into filmmaking to broaden her

audience while fulfilling her potential. Christine is the recipient of the 2018 K.M. Hunter Award for Dance through the Ontario Arts Council. She is currently building a Cultural Creation Centre in her community of Bear Island, Lake Temagami.

**John Gzowski** - composer, sound designer, musician and instrument maker - has worked on over 300 theatre, dance and film productions for which he has done composition, sound design, live foley, live music and as musical director. He has played banjo for opera in Banff, studied Carnatic classical music in India and played oud and guitar in jazz and folk festivals across Canada and Europe. 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, Soupepper, 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. He has run Canada's first microtonal group, touring Canada playing the works of Harry Partch, composed and performed with several new music groups and worked as co-artistic director of the Music Gallery.

**Charmaine Headley** Co-Founding Artistic Director of Toronto's COBA, Collective of Black Artists, accomplished choreographer and esteemed dance educator, is a champion of Africanist dance. A graduate of the School of Toronto Dance Theatre, Charmaine also holds an honours diploma in Gerontology & Activation Coordination. Her passion for the role of the Arts within a holistic lifestyle led her to pursue a Master of Arts in Dance Ethnography at York University, in which she created a movement-based senior's program for her thesis. Charmaine's recent work includes choreography for the National Alliance of Musical Theatre's virtual presentation of Obeah Opera, as well as contributing to the work of The Collective Body Project, MOonhORse Dance Theatre's Engaging Seniors and more recently William Yong's special film project which will be part of the 2021 Older & Reckless presentation. Charmaine has been developing her program, UPLIFT N2itively, to deepen cellular connections while improving alignment and physical awareness. She continues to draw on her experience in the Arts and her lived experience to create programs for artists, students and the community with the intention of healing our minds, bodies and souls, one step at a time.

**Terrill Maguire** is an award-winning dancer, choreographer, teacher, and artistic director. She has been an advocate for the integration of the arts into everyday life and mainstream society wherever she has lived – in her native California until the mid '70s, in New York City in the early '80s, and since then, in her long-time home, Toronto. Maguire founded and directed the Inde Festivals of New Dance and Music, a seminal series of national festivals that took place between 1985 and 1995. She has choreographed and performed for theatre, opera, television and film: most recently providing the dance sequences for a film of native poet/artist/educator Duke Redbird's Totem Impact. Among her fruitful collaborations have been those with Menaka Thakkar Dance Company (for whom she has also acted as rehearsal director), choreographer Sashar Zarif, and Troy Emery Twigg of the Blackfoot / Blood Nation in southern Alberta. Her work has been presented in a range of theatrical venues in Canada, the U.S., Europe, and the British Isles. She is a former full-time member of the Department of Dance of York University returned in 2002 as a sessional faculty member. Maguire is also a guest teacher at Toronto's Centre for Indigenous Theatre, as well as a long-time teacher of yoga.

**Junia Mason** holds a Masters of Arts (York University) and is currently completing PhD studies in Education (York University). A published author, Junia's writing includes essays on therapeutic value of dance, and creativity. Junia has worked extensively within community organizations, education institutions, women's residences, facilitating movement, and creative writing workshops designed to encourage self-agency, personal expression, and healthy communication. A former artistic co-founder

of Last Nerve Productions, a spoken word performance duo, Junia performed and facilitated spoken word workshops for youth and women in marginalized communities guiding them to use their creative voice as a practice of care. A former company member and one of the co-founders of COBA (Collective of Black Artists), a Toronto-based Dance company working within a cultural and social Africanist aesthetic, Junia expanded her artistic skill while broadening her cultural knowledge. Self-awareness and inner healing she experiences as a dance artist and performer motivate her to engage dance/movement and the arts as pathways toward self-discovery and mind-body connection.

**Claudia Moore**, performer and Artistic Director of MOonhORsE Dance Theatre (MDT) / Older & Reckless has been a force on the Canadian dance scene since the late 70's. She performed for two seasons with the National Ballet of Canada, before moving into contemporary dance as a featured performer with the Toronto Dance Theatre and the Desrosiers Dance Theatre. Moore founded MOonhORsE Dance Theatre in 1996 as a home for her dance projects. Through MDT, she continues to perform commissioned works by acclaimed creators including Lina Cruz, James Kudelka and Tedd Robinson, among others. In 2000, Moore established Older & Reckless (O&R)- MDT's internationally acclaimed series for senior dance artists- to connect seasoned dance artists with the public in live performances, workshops and community projects. Last year, Older & Reckless celebrated its 20th anniversary. Claudia has received the Jacqueline Lemieux award for excellence in dance and was a finalist for the 2017 Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts. [moonhorsedance.com](http://moonhorsedance.com)

**Michelle Silagy** maintains a close relationship as a contemporary dance artist between her arts practice and her teaching practice of 31 years. Her choreography has been presented in Amsterdam, The Arctic Circle, New York, throughout Ontario, and Toronto. Silagy is a Master DanceAbility Teacher (Training: Vienna, Mexico City, Uruguay). Silagy's extensive work with youth informs her collaboration within diverse communities. As Young Dancers' Program Director at The School of Toronto Dance Theatre [STDT], Silagy designs inclusive classes and authors youth-based Pedagogy for STDT professional training artists. She has shared dance, with school-based teachers and artists throughout Ontario and Canada and in London, England (Royal Conservatory of Music). Silagy originated WE Dance, adult inclusion classes, with STDT and Canada's National Ballet School. Silagy and Lynda Hill created Dora Nominated Flying Hearts, a relaxed performance touring in Ontario, Manitoba (2019). She is an Inclusion Facilitator (Virtual/Live) for Jumblies Theatre and for Andrea Nann's Dreamwalker Dance Company since 2019. Silagy is an instructor with Moonhorse Dance Theatre's Engaging Seniors program- an incentive she experiences as a wellspring shared among instructors and participants. <https://michellesilagydance.wordpress.com/>

**Debbie Nicholls-Skerritt** is Performing Artist, Dancer, Choreographer, Teacher and Creatrix of AfrikCore & "Movements of Emancipation". Move and Be Moved, Move and Move People!

**Troy Emery Twigg** is from the Kainai Nation in Southern Alberta. He has worked as an actor, dancer, choreographer, director, dramaturg and instructor but is primarily an artist in movement, choreography and staging, mostly creating his own works which have been presented nationally and internationally. Troy was one of the original visionaries and founding artists of the ground-breaking Making Treaty 7 theatrical event. He is co-director for the young people's theatre version of Making Treaty 7 titled We Are All Treaty People which has been nominated for a Dora Award in the Best Production, Theatre for Young Audience Division. Recently he has worked with Decidedly Jazz Danceworks; The Prairie Dance Exchange, and the acclaimed Inisikim puppet project with the Canadian Academy of Mask and Puppetry. He has co-curated an exhibition called By Invitation Only: Dance, Confederation and Reconciliation for Dance Collection Danse. He has recently acted in Why Not Theatre and Buddies in Bad Times Theatre's production of Lilies. Although COVID has cancelled

his year of work on stage, selected projects include contributing to the Banff Centre as part of the Globe and Mails Anthem national dance project. He created a digital podcast work for Jupiter Theatre, remounted Inisikim to be presented by the National Arts Centre online, directed Sable Sweetgrass' play Awawaki for Theatre Calgary's From Page to Stage Festival and is one of the international Instructors for Raven Spirit Dance's project Indigenous Ground Dance Training.

### Special Thanks To

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...and EVERYONE who added their creative voice to Dances of Earthly Delight

**Thank YOU for being part of our community!**

**MOonhORsE Dance Theatre gratefully acknowledges its generous funders, sponsors, patrons and supporters**



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