



**DANCE
VICTORIA**
THE WORLD'S BEST DANCE

111-2750 Quadra Street,
Victoria BC Canada V8T 4E8

DanceVictoria.com

info@dancevictoria.com
250-595-1829

**Dance Victoria Announces Inaugural Choreographic Lab
And Writing Dance Lab
July 17 through July 30, 2017**

Dance Victoria will be hosting its first Choreographic Lab and Writing Dance Lab at Dance Victoria Studios in the summer of 2017.

Why:

Through this process, Dance Victoria is interested in identifying new voices (choreographers, interpreters, writers). This project:

- Contributes to the development of emerging BC artists
- Has the potential to assist Dance Victoria in identifying artists that it will continue to support through residencies and potential commissions
- Will expose Victoria-based dance artists to visiting artists, through the daily technique class, as participants in the workshops and as auditors of the process
- The writing lab will provide its participants with an opportunity to hone skills in much the same way as a visual artist approaches gesture drawing
- Builds audience engagement increasing appreciation for the art form

Choreographic Lab

What:

Dance Victoria has engaged celebrated choreographer Wen Wei Wang to lead a two-week intensive for three emerging choreographers and six dancers. All positions are paid.

Wen Wei will select dancers for a total company of six (three women and three men) and two apprentices from a series of auditions in Vancouver and Victoria.

Wen Wei will work with Dance Victoria's Stephen White and Bernard Sauvé to select the three participating choreographers via an application process.

Each day from July 17 through 29, 2017 will start at 9:30 am with a 1.5-hour technique class led by Wen Wei. At 11 am, Wen Wei will assign the day's task. The choreographers will then select dancers and move to a studio where they



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will have the afternoon to generate material. At 5 pm, the company of dancers and choreographers will reconvene. From time to time (especially in the second week) the public will be invited as each group shows what they have created that day, and participate in a discussion led by Wen Wei.

The lab will culminate with the presentation of the best works from the process presented to the public on Saturday, July 30 at Dance Victoria Studios.

Choreographers

An independent committee will select a total of three emerging choreographers to participate in the Choreographic Lab via an application process.

Eligibility

Eligible candidates will have:

- Choreographed a minimum of three different pieces, each of five minutes or more. Solos are excluded
- Completed formal training as either a dancer or choreographer (appreciated although not required)
- Had experience working in the professional dance milieu
- A demonstrated desire to continue to grow their practice and to be open to direction

Application

Deadline: April 30, 2017

Please include:

1. A current resume that highlights choreographic experience,
2. Critical response to your work, if any
3. Links to three work samples (Vimeo, full access, non-edited)
4. Contact details including street address
5. Choreographic Statement (maximum two pages) that includes: What draws you to choreography? Why do you want to make dance works?
6. What are your current strengths and challenges as a choreographer? Where do you feel you need to grow?
7. What do you expect to take away from this experience?
8. Describe how you approach making a new work. What do you do in the studio?
9. What would you consider your best work and why?



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10. Reference letters from two senior artists, producers or other dance professionals.

Choreographers: Submit your proposal to Stephen White, Executive Producer, at Dance Victoria at producer@dancevictoria.com no later than 4:00 pm, Sunday April 30, 2017.

All candidates will be notified by the end of May 2017.

Writing Dance Lab

What:

The Writing Dance Lab will be led by Kaija Pepper (Editor, *Dance International Magazine*, and celebrated author of three books and countless articles in major newspapers and magazines). Events at the Choreographic Lab will inspire a short piece of writing, which will be workshopped on the final two days. The lab is about in-process dance, and our writing, too, will be considered in process.

The Writing Dance Lab will take place between July 17 and 30 at Dance Victoria's downtown studios, with writers independently attending free 5 pm public showings and 10 am morning dance classes (as viewer or participant, as appropriate). There may be an opportunity to attend a rehearsal (to be confirmed). There are three hands-on workshop sessions with Kaija Pepper, one at the start of the lab and two at the end:

Monday, July 17: 9 – 11:30 am

Saturday, July 29: 10 am – 2 pm

Sunday, July 30, 1 – 5 pm

Form is open (e.g., reflection, commentary, review), as is subject matter: the lab will focus on partnering and duets, but other possibilities include thoughts on vocabulary, on technique, on a particular lab piece or pieces, on the challenges and rewards of making dance. The lab will no doubt inspire or intrigue, with the writing a response and an exploration to ideas, impressions and experiences of dance encountered over the two weeks. What is there to say about the dance you are seeing? How might you share your impressions on the page?



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Application

Deadline: June 17, 2017

To apply, please send a sample of writing (ideally on dance) and a brief letter outlining your interest in the workshop to producer@dancevictoria.com

Places are limited. Early application is advised.

Writing Dance Lab Fee: \$150 plus tax

Kaija Pepper has been editor of *Dance International Magazine* since Fall 2013, working with both emerging and senior writers worldwide. She was a regular contributor to the *Globe and Mail* and *The Dance Current*, and has written for *The Walrus* and many other publications. Her trio of books on Vancouver dance history was published by Dance Collection Dance Press/es, and in 2012 she co-edited (with Allana C. Lindgren from the University of Victoria) *Renegade Bodies: Canadian Dance in the 1970s* (DCD Press). Kaija has enjoyed teaching Critical Writing in the Arts at Simon Fraser University, and also several incarnations of Writing Dance, which Vancouver's Dance Centre first programmed in 2002 during Dancing on the Edge.