

**Biographies for Participating Artists
on the MOVE conference 2010
February 12 and 13, 2010**

PORTFOLIO CAREER ARTISTS – FRIDAY FEBRUARY 12TH

Ray Hogg (Keynote Speaker – Friday February 12)

Ray Hogg received his formal training at Ryerson University Theatre School's Dance Program. Upon leaving Ryerson, Ray joined the Danny Grossman Dance Company, performing as a soloist in most of their award-winning repertoire. In 1999 Ray joined CORPUS, with whom he toured Canada, Europe and cable TV (4 Square) as the immensely popular Captain Krankovitch (a role he created for them in 1999). After spending five years as a concert dancer, Ray decided to embrace his first love - musical theatre. He moved to Stuttgart Germany to perform as Plato/MacAvity in Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Cats*, and has since appeared in such shows as: *Kiss me Kate*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Dreamgirls*, *Seussical*, *The Producers*, *Evita* and for the Stratford Festival, *Oklahoma*, *South Pacific*, and most notably *My One and Only*. Ray has also been on the dance faculty at George Brown College teaching Modern, Jazz and Performance repertoire since 2004.

Robert Abubo is enjoying his second season with Dancemakers and Michael Trent. Prior to Dancemakers, Rob worked with Le Groupe Dance Lab from 1994 to 2006. Under artistic director Peter Boneham, Abubo participated as an interpreter, choreographer and monitor in an average of eight new creative processes a season. As an independent dancer he has worked with Tedd Robinson, Sylvain Emard, Lynda Gaudreau, Shannon Cooney, Bill James, Luc Dunberry and Heidi Stauss. Abubo's own choreographic works have been presented by the Canada Dance Festival, Tangente and Dancer's Studio West. Abubo graduated from David Moroni's class of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School's professional division.

Nova Bhattacharya

Dancer, choreographer, teacher, writer and consultant Nova Bhattacharya trained in bharatanatyam with Menaka Thakkar. She was a member of Menaka Thakkar and Company, appearing as a soloist and company member for many national and international tours. Since embarking on an independent career she has appeared in the works of a number of companies including Peggy Baker Dance Projects, Kaeja d'Dance, Fujiwara Dance Inventions and Sinha Danse. In 2008 she established Ipsita Nova Dance Projects the company's repertoire includes creations from Bhattacharya, Peggy Baker, Mika Kurosawa, Dana Gingras, José Navas, Menaka Thakkar and Laurence Lemieux. Bhattacharya's choreography has been commissioned by the Canada Dance Festival, Cahoots Theatre Projects, Dusk Dances, Toronto Dance Theatre's Four at the Winch and Theatre Direct Canada. An impassioned advocate for dance Bhattacharya is currently co-chair of the Canadian Alliance of Dance Artists, serves on the advisory of the South Asian Dance Alliance and has recently joined the Toronto Arts Council Dance Committee.

Susie Burpee is a Toronto-based independent contemporary dance performer, choreographer, and teacher. She creates and performs works that showcase "*fully human characters struggling for connection*" (*Toronto Star*). The recipient of Dora Mavor Moore Awards and The K.M. Hunter Artist Award, she has carved a unique performance career in her own works and as a dancer for Dancemakers, Le Groupe Dance Lab, Lesandra Dodson, Sasha Ivanochko, and Tedd Robinson. Alongside her stage work, she teaches professional contemporary dance classes and acts as outside eye for creative process.

Peggy Baker is one of Canada's most outstanding and influential dance artists. A founding member of Dancemakers (Toronto / 1974), she toured internationally with Lar Lubovitch's New York company throughout the 1980s and joined Mikhail Baryshnikov and Mark Morris for the inaugural season of their White Oak Dance Project, subsequently forging important creative relationships with choreographers Paul-André Fortier (Montreal), and Doug Varone (New York City). Since 1990 she has created and commissioned dances through her Toronto based Peggy Baker Dance Projects. Appointed Artist-in-Residence at Canada's National Ballet School in 1992, Ms Baker is the recipient of numerous awards including the 2009 Governor General's Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement in Dance, the Order of Canada, the 2006 Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts, an honorary doctorate from the University of Calgary, and five Doras. Irene Dowd, Patricia Miner, Christine Wright, Jean-Claude West, Risa Steinberg, and Annabelle Gamson, her primary teachers since the mid-eighties, continue to exert a powerful influence on her development.

Kate Holden

An award winning dance artist, Kate Holden is a graduate of the School of Toronto Dance Theatre and Etobicoke School of the Arts. Concurrent with her professional training, she performed frequently with PBJ Dance and Gabby Kamino. Kate has had the pleasure of interpreting the works of many esteemed Canadian choreographers, including Peggy Baker, Roberto Campanella, Robert Desrosiers, David Earle, Sylvain Emard, Sasha Ivanochko, James Kudelka, Michael Trent, Andrea Nann, and Yvonne Ng; with appearances across North America, France, Britain, Holland and Singapore. She has danced with the *Danny Grossman Dance Company* for two seasons and is currently a company dancer with *Dancemakers* since 2007. Kate was a board member of the Canadian Alliance of Dance Artists from 2003-2008. Kate is Co-Artistic director of *firstthingsfirst productions* with Kate Franklin, to commission and produce new contemporary dance works by Canadian choreographers. The company made its successful debut in January 2007 with its sold out run of *Namesake*, and has since produced the critically acclaimed *Namesake:three* at the Enwave theatre, as part of DanceWorks Mainstage, September 2009.

Roshanak Jaber is a Toronto-based multidisciplinary and a graduate of York University with an honours degree in music. She has trained in a variety of dance styles, but her focus has been to explore and present folkloric and contemporary dances of West Africa and to examine social issues through the art of storytelling. This includes a trip in 2009 to Africa where she had the opportunity to continue the research and development of her work. Roshanak's performance credits include the Canadian Urban Music Awards, Dance Immersion in-studio presentation and Dance Ontario Dance Weekend at the Premiere Dance Theatre in 2007. She has performed with Ire-Omo Afro-Cuban Drum and Dance Ensemble and The Dance Migration, was a commissioned choreographer for Dusk Dances and has choreographed a music video for the Juno nominated rock band, The Neverending White Lights. Roshanak is co-founder of Aya Dance Collective - specializing in traditional African and Contemporary dance.

Kate Franklin

Originally from North Bay, Kate has worked with choreographers Kate Alton, Piotr R. Biernat, Matjash Mrozewski, Yvonne Ng, Matt Waldie, and companies Kaeja d'Dance, TILT sound+motion, Zata Omm Dance Projects and ProArte Danza, among others. She traveled to Fringe Shanghai in the fall of 2006 to perform with T'art Dances. In 2008, she was honoured to appear in 25, a celebration of Premiere Dance Theatre's 25th anniversary. With Kate Holden, Kate is the co-artistic director of *firstthingsfirst productions*. The company's successful inaugural production, *Namesake* had a sold-out run at the Winchester Street Theatre in 2007. Most recently the company opened the DanceWorks 2009/10 season with *Namesake: three*, a mixed program of world premieres by Kate Alton, Marc Boivin (Montreal), and Emily Molnar (Vancouver). With Tina Fushell,

Kate is the co-founder of *Ambitious Enterprises*, a collective committed to producing and promoting the work of emerging dance artists.

Jennifer Fell received her professional dance training at George Brown College. She has been living and working as an independent artist in Toronto since 2001. Jennifer has performed with such companies as Circus Orange, A2D2 Aerial Dance, LaRouge Entertainment, Koba Family Entertainment, La Belle Danse Baroque Company, DLNW Productions, and Goodness Gracious Fire Dancers. This is her fifth year as Rehearsal Director for the George Brown Dance Performance Ensemble. Jennifer also represents Ballet Jörgen Canada as Rehearsal Director for various youth casts in *The Group of Seven Nutcracker*. Having toured to Barbados, Dubai, Bahrain, across America and Canada, Jennifer is happy to be at home training for her new passion; aerial silks dance.

Neesa Kenemy has been dancing and choreographing professionally for 13 years. She received her diploma in Theatre-Dance from Ryerson University, and has continued to study and train since then. She has worked such choreographers as Michael Lichtfeld, Renaud Doucet, Matjash Mrozewski, Sylvie Bouchard, Nicola Pantin, Meaghan O'Shea, Seika Boye, Tara Blue and William Yong. Neesa has performed with the Stratford Shakespearean Festival, Canadian Opera Company, Opera Ontario, Theatre Aquarius, Drayton Entertainment and at Sick Kid's Hospital. Along with Siona Jackson, Neesa has been the co-artistic director of Creative Habitat Dance Projects for over a year. Their mandate is to produce dance works that bring science and art closer together. Neesa also teaches pilates at Riverdale Pilates to people with spinal chord and brain injuries.

Sasha Ivanochko is a Toronto based dance artist and Artistic Director of blackandblue dance projects. Since completing her training at the School of Toronto Dance Theatre in 1991, Ivanochko has performed with many of Canada's leading choreographers, and with Toronto Dance Theatre for nine seasons. An intense and intuitive performer, she has charmed audiences and critics with her explosive physicality and dramatic presence. As a choreographer, Miss Ivanochko is regarded as "a mover and shaker" (*The Globe and Mail*, 2001) with a body of work that speaks of the human condition with economy, passion and beauty. Her work has been presented by DanceWorks, CDF, Dusk Dances, Tangente, Dancing on the Edge, and at many festivals across Canada, Japan and the Dominican Republic. Ivanochko is a highly sought after teacher and has worked at universities, schools and festivals across Canada and abroad. She has been on the faculty at STDT since 1996, and has recently begun the process of formalizing a pedagogy that relates directly to her choreographic work. A warm and generous teacher, her highly physical and technically challenging classes reflect her own deep love of dance.

Pamela Rasbach is a Toronto-based choreographer and Artistic Director of Typecast Dance Company. Her passion for creation has led her to produce numerous works including, *Laser Blade*, *Novice Citizen*, *Dear Darryl*, *And Then. And Them.*, *Delphica*, *35 Foot Two (Jealous You)*, and *Tsunami*. She was chosen to participate in Dance Ontario's creative partnership program, and her work *inCORPORATION* was featured at Dance Weekend 2009. In spring 2009 Pamela was one of nine international artists who participated in Berlin's TAKT Kunstprojektraum, at which she created dance films *Visceral Fabrications* and *Adults Suck (Then You Are One)*. The latter film was recently screened in Toronto at the DeLeon White Gallery as part of the group show "Compose/Decompose". She frequently assists Darryl Tracy in contemporary training and choreography and has assisted at the National Ballet School, The School of Toronto Dance Theatre, and Ryerson University's Dance Program. Pamela has guest choreographed at Cawthra Park Secondary School, Claude Watson School of the Arts, the Ontario School of Ballet, Ballet Jörgen as part of their *Solos and Duets* Program, and The Chimera Project (on Typecast Dance Company) in *FRESH BLOOD*.

Jenn Goodwin

Jenn Goodwin studied in Montreal and received a BFA at Concordia in Contemporary Dance and a minor in video. Her dance work has been shown all over Canada, NYC, Amsterdam, Australia and Brussels. She has choreographed for film, music videos, commercials and directs short dance films that have shown in festivals and television in Canada, NYC and Europe and have been broadcast on Bravo and City TV through Bravo!FACT, Channel 4(UK), TV Madrid, and the Sundance Channel (US). She was nominated for the KM Hunter Award in dance in 2006 and 2008 and received a Harold award in 2008. With Jessica Rose, she is also one half of The Movement Movement, which is a movement...about movement. The Movement Movement runs with art by running the city's Art Galleries and Institutions. She has worked as an arts programmer at Harbourfront Centre, The Drake Hotel and presently for Nuit Blanche Toronto.

Katarina Rajkovic-Corbic

Katarina is the founder and director of Dance Kraze Productions as well as the manager and Artistic Director for HoneyKats Dance Company and Dance Kraze Open Classes. Katarina has instructed hip hop and jazz workshops all over North America, Mexico and in Serbia. Katarina graduated from York University with an honours degree in Fine Arts, Dance. Since then she has been Resident Instructor at the Dance Kraze Open Classes, teaching classes in hip hop, contemporary jazz. She also instructs hip hop and Contemporary jazz and Produces/Directs at George Brown College for their Commercial Dance Programme. Her performance credits include, City TV, TSN Special Olympics, Rogers Television, Style by Jury, Matchmaker and The Comedy Network. When asked where her energy comes from, Katarina answers "BAM – it comes from the inside, I dance from my soul, I express myself through movement; dance is my passion". Check out more information on her website www.dancekrazeproductions.com.

Annie Wood is a passionate and accomplished teacher as well as a creative and dynamic choreographer. A pro-active member of the Canadian dance community, Annie Wood is the founder and Artistic Director of *DanceFuzion* (a Canadian dance convention that is committed to providing excellence in dance education through workshops and master classes with world- wide esteemed master teachers and choreographers). Founder and choreographer of *Company Verve Jazz Dance*, Annie has produced choreography for many arts festivals in Canada. She has choreographed for several live industrial and commercial events, theatre, stage shows, television and film throughout North America. To add to her credit, Annie has been commissioned to create concert dance work for numerous educational institutions in both Canada and the United States. Currently, Annie is on faculty at Sheridan College, Etobicoke School of the Arts and York University. She is also pursuing a Masters Degree in Dance Studies at York University.

MOVEMENT CLASSES

Sashar Zarif. MA/York 2006 (Central Asian class)

Sashar Zarif is an internationally renowned multi-disciplinary artist, educator, and researcher in the field of dance ethnology and ethno musicology. His areas of interest are identity, globalization, cross-cultural collaborations, and Sufi-Shamanic Rituals. His research, artistic practice and education activities are based on the arts of Central and Western Asia including Azerbaijan, Iran, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Georgia, and Chechnya. Sashar has collaborated with such renowned artists as Alim Quasimov and Rizwan-Muazzam Qawwali as well as many esteemed colleagues at York University. He performs nationally and internationally with his company, Sashar Zarif Dance Theatre, and is the recipient of many awards including the New Pioneers Award Arts Award - artistic ambassador for diversity in arts; and a 2008 Dora Mavor Moore nomination for outstanding performance in his dance creation, *Choreographies of Migration*.

Janet Castillo (Hip Hop Class, Working Abroad Panelist)

Janet L. Castillo is a multi-talented choreographer, performer, instructor and entrepreneur. Her vigorous training and work has taken her from Toronto to NYC, LA, and Europe. Passionate about her craft and making a difference through movement and dance, Janet's fire and energy inspires and touches audiences around the world. Highlighted television and film appearances include "SYTYCD" Las Vegas finalist Season 3, "Making it Big, The Latin Grammy's, The Drop, Jammx Kids TV Special, Take the Lead, Honey, Dance Moves, and the Toronto Show. She has worked with superstars Jennifer Lopez, Christina Milian, Jojo, Queen Latifah, Cedric the Entertainer, Hip Hop Legend Kurtis Blow, Canadian Idol 'Gary Beals' and more. She has been featured in projects for Much Music, MTV, Macy's, The Bay, MAC Cosmetics, and Asia Entertainment. Along with her entertainment credits, Janet is the Founder and Co-Artistic Director of **Catalyst the Company**, a fresh Toronto dance company showcasing an eclectic taste of movement. Along with her partner Natasha Powell, she has created **Catalyst Bootcamp**, a unique program geared towards assisting aspiring professional dancers to reach for their ultimate dreams.

Lopa Sarkar (Bollywood movement class)

Born in Toronto, Lopa trained in Bharatanatym for 20 years before moving to the UK where she developed her own unique style of choreography. While in England, Lopa worked with Bollywood choreographer Pappu-Malu (of Devdas and Saawariya) and performed on stage with Malaika Arora. She was seen on BBC, Zee TV, and Sony Television. Lopa then moved to the Bahamas while working as a Choreographer for Club Med. Through the Club Med Artist Program, she was invited to teach and perform in Punta Cana and Mexico. She has choreographed for film in New York City, performed in London, taught in Wales, and currently runs her own dance company in Toronto. Her dancers have performed for MTV, the Toronto Raptors, and on stage with Raghav and Malkit Singh. They have been a part of PR campaigns for Bombay Dreams and Slumdog Millionaire. Find out more about Divine Heritage Artistry at www.LopaSarkar.com.

Santee Smith (Aboriginal movement class, Creating and Producing Panelist)

Santee Smith (Mohawk) is the founding Artistic Director/Choreographer for Kaha:wi Dance Theatre and holds a Masters Degree in Dance from York University. She attended the National Ballet School and completed a Kinesiology degree from McMaster University. Santee creates and presents her work nationally and internationally. Her works include: *Kaha:wi* at the Premiere Dance Theatre; *Yoh Ha Hee Yoh* Tour; *Here On Earth* at Harbourfront Centre Theatre; *Living Ritual: World Indigenous Dance Festival*; *The Threshing Floor*; *A Constellation of Bones* at the Enwave Theatre; *Woman In White* solo; *Sacred Spring*; *Here On Earth* tours; *A Story Before Time* at The Banff Centre for the Arts; *A Soldier's Tale* at The Great Hall, Hamilton Place; *Fragmented Heart* including *Tripped Up Blues* at the Canada Dance Festival; new work *TransMigration* among others. Santee teaches contemporary and traditional (Iroquoian) Aboriginal dance and leads the KDT Aboriginal Dance Training summer intensive (August) at the NBS.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Rob Corbett (Money Matters, Basic Budgeting)

Rob has worked successfully in both the arts and finance. He is an award-winning scriptwriter who has worked with Disney and the Stratford Festival. He currently teaches story and performance in the animation programs at Sheridan and Seneca colleges. Rob's financial career includes TD Bank (Investment Sales), Transamerica Life (Investments Trainer) and Paul Simon's Management (Personal Financial Management). His financial writings have been published in the Canadian Actor's Equity Newsletter. As a lecture/workshop leader he has worked with real estate brokers, bankers and bakers.

Jacob Zimmer (Write it like you mean it)

Jacob Zimmer is a dramaturge, director, writer and performer and Artistic Director of Small Wooden Shoe. Jacob works extensively in dance as the Resident Dramaturge and Animateur at Dancemakers in Toronto and in an on-going dramaturgical collaboration with choreographer Ame Henderson/ Public Recordings. His writing has been published in Canadian Theatre Review and C Magazine and various online places. Jacob received the 2008 Ken McDougall Award for emerging directors and studied at Simon Fraser University's School for the Contemporary Arts.

Ana Alexandre RCNP, RHN, (Healthy Bodies in Motion)

Ana Alexandre RCNP, RHN, is a Registered Holistic Nutritionist and former student of Humber College's Theatre Performance Program. She is a graduate of the Canadian School of Natural Nutrition and a member of the International Organization of Nutritional Consultants. She leads nutrition and lifestyle-based seminars both in corporate and community environments, and teaches natural whole foods cooking, vegetarian cooking, and leads grocery store tours as well as kitchen clean-ups.

Elizabeth Chitty (Contracting and Professional Standards)

CADA-ON Executive Director Elizabeth Chitty has over 30 years experience as an arts professional and has directed arts service organizations at the national, provincial and regional levels. She has worked in policy development or arts management in artist-run centres and provincial and municipal governments. She was amongst the earliest graduates of the Dance Department of York University and has a Certificate in Alternative Dispute Resolution. She taught Creative Process at The School of the Toronto Dance Theatre from 1991-2007 where she developed a pedagogy influenced by her work as a facilitator and instituted the Choreographic Workshops. She has many published texts, most recently in Caught in the Act: Canadian Women in Performance 1970-90, published by YYZ Editions in 2004. She continues an interdisciplinary art practice, last performed major work at Tangente danse contemporain in Montreal in 2004 and has more recently exhibited in southern Ontario.

Dwayne Stevenson (Contracting and Professional Standards)

Originally from Saskatchewan, Dwayne was a professional fire fighter before he came east to study acting and theatre at Ryerson. After graduation, he was an apprentice performer at the Stratford Festival, helped start up a couple theatre companies in Toronto, and then made a career shift to the communications and labour fields. He recently joined the Canadian Actors' Equity Association as a Business Representative.

Sarah Lochhead (Connecting with your Network)

Sarah Lochhead is the founder and Artistic Director of Simcoe Contemporary Dancers. She has performed contemporary dance independently and with HNM Dance Company, the York University Dance Ensemble, Menaka Thakkar Dance Company and Collective HEAT. She studied abroad at University College Chichester in England in 2005, which sparked her interest in dance film, media arts and community based art projects. Upon earning her BFA in dance from York University, Sarah has created several dance films including *I almost forgot* (2009), which was screened at the Barrie International Film Festival Short Film and Video Competition (2009). She can also be found wearing the hat of Ad Sales Coordinator for The Dance Current magazine, and the Seasonal Programmer for recreational dance programs for the City of Barrie.

OPPORTUNITIES IN DANCE PANELISTS

Susie McColl (Teaching)

Susie's passion for dance began at the age of three when she started taking classes at Nancie's School of Dance in Brampton. From early on she possessed a natural talent for various forms of dance, joining the competition team, assisting, and a dance instructor by the age of 16. Major surgery for scoliosis at a young age presented a possible obstacle to her dream of a career in dance but only solidified her dedication to the art form. After obtaining a BFA in Dance (Honours) from York University, Susie became business partner of Nancie's School of Dance while enjoying performance contracts. Now Susie's passion for dance exhibits itself through her teaching and choreography. She enjoys seeing her former students go on to pursue dance careers of their own. Susie is also especially proud of her more recent role as a wife and mother of two young children who are involved with The Studio.

Ann-Marie Williams (Teaching)

Ann-Marie has dedicated her life to the study of dance and education and recently launched the Movement Lab, a community minded dance school and outreach program in Leslieville. She holds an M.A. in Dance from York University, where her research focused on different learning styles and teaching academics through movement, and a B.F.A. in Theatre-Dance from Ryerson University, focusing on dance pedagogy. She is also a fully certified ballet teacher with the Royal Academy of Dance.

Ann-Marie also works in the dance community as a non-profit arts manager. She was the Program Manager for two dance service organizations, Dance Ontario and The CanDance Network, and also sat on the board of the Canadian Alliance of Dance Artists for several years. In 2007-08, she was a jury member for the Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts' Dora Mavor Moore Awards. She is also a guest writer for The Dance Current magazine.

Catherine Glasser (Teaching)

Catherine has enjoyed a successful career as a professional ballet teacher for over 20 years. She began her teacher training at The Canadian College of Dance, Ryerson Theatre School and is a graduate of The National Ballet School, Teacher Training Program. From 1991 to 2004 she was Manager of the Ballet Program at The Claude Watson School for the Arts as well as faculty member at The Etobicoke School of the Arts. In 2004 Catherine joined Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet School as a full time member of the artistic staff. From 2004 to 2008 she taught in its Professional Division, Teacher Training Program, Recreational Division, and Intensive Training Program. Returning to Toronto last year, Catherine is currently teaching Ballet Technique at York University, Dept of Dance. She is a member of the National Administrative Council of the Cecchetti Society of Canada.

Viv Moore (Performing and Interpreting)

Born in England, Viv has been dancing, choreographing and acting both collaboratively and as a solo artist since 1979, in dance, theatre, film and video. She co-founded **Remote Control** with Dave Wilson, performing and teaching in Sweden, Australia, England and Canada; worked with community dance in London, England and Canada ((RNIB, CNIB, deaf & partial hearing, multi-abilities, psychiatric survivors); was National Coordinator of Fight Directors, Canada (Advanced Actor Combatant level). Viv works with: Fujiwara Dance, Theatre Rusticle, Theatre Direct, Half Crown Clog. She received a Harold (1998-99), Paula Citron 1999 fFIDA Award (**Bogie Woman**) and a 2002 Dora nomination (**Body Geometry, 7th Angel**). Viv's solo performance work is inspired by an eclectic mix of theatre, dance, English Music Hall, stage combat and butoh. She was invited to dance in London (England) and performed her solo dance theatre show **Worcestershire Saucy** in Toronto in December, **Upcoming: Birnam Wood** (Theatre Rusticle).

Shruti Javali (Performing and Interpreting)

Trained in Bharatanatyam since the age of six, Shruti Javali performed her debut solo performance, *Arangetram*, in India in 2006 under the tutelage of Lata Pada. An assistant teacher at Sampradaya Dance Academy and company dancer with Sampradaya Dance Creations, Shruti has performed in a number of productions, including traditional and contemporary repertoire. These include *Kshetram: dancing the divine*, *Shunya*, *B²*, *Kaavya-natyam*, and was involved in the company's India and England tour in 2008 of *Vivarta: Manifestations of Vishnu and Howzaat*. Shruti has also performed at events like Dance Ontario's Dance Weekend, LuminaTO Festival, and 2008 Canada Dance Festival in Ottawa. She has had the privilege of working with renowned artists including Mavin Khoo, Natasha Bakht, and Guru Harikrishna Kalyanasundaram. Shruti was a participant in DancelIntense, a two-week choreography residency held in England in 2007. She is a trained vocalist in the South Indian musical tradition, and is pursuing an undergraduate degree in Health Sciences at McMaster University in parallel with her career as a dancer.

Ryan Lee (Performing and Interpreting)

Ryan Lee graduated from Ryerson University's BFA Dance Program. Prior to his university training, Ryan danced in London, Ontario under the direction of Jennifer Swan. He has had the opportunity to work with renowned choreographers Roberto Campanella, Robert Glumbek, Emily Molnar, Vicki St. Denys, William Yong, Stephen Pier, and Tino Segal. Ryan has also danced with Toronto Dance Theatre and Kaeja d'Dance and teaches and choreographs throughout the GTA.

Jennifer Dallas (Working Abroad)

Artistic Director of Toronto based contemporary dance company *Kemi Contemporary Dance Projects* and a graduate from the professional training program at The School of Toronto Dance Theatre. In the summer of 2005, Dallas attended *ImPulseTanz* in Vienna, Austria as a *DanceWEB* student. *Kemi* presented its first full length show in May 2008 as part of DanceWorks CoWorks season. The evening included a solo for Dallas created by Marc Boivin. Dallas has recently returned from her third and most comprehensive tour in West Africa where she was performing, teaching and creating, in Nigeria, Benin, Burkina Faso and Ghana. Her work has been performed at the *Danse meets Dance festival* and *Truefesta* in Lagos Nigeria, and in Toronto at *In a white room*, *Series 8:08*, *CrazyFish Collective's show Swell*, *the scream literary festival* and has been commissioned by the *School of Toronto Dance Theatre* for their 2009/2010 season. Dallas is currently the Metcalf Foundation intern for 10 Gates Dancing under Tedd Robinsons artistic direction.

William Yong (Creating and Producing)

William was trained at the London Contemporary Dance School in England and was admitted to the Master of Arts with distinction. In the last year of his MA study, he was sent alone for his secondment to study with the Nederlands Dans Theatre 1 in the Netherlands. Previous dance companies he worked with included Wayne McGregor's *Random Dances*, Matthew Bourne's *Adventure in Motion Pictures*, Toronto Dance Theatre, CORPUS, Theatre Rusticle, Fila 13 and many others independent choreographers. Currently William is the artistic director and choreographer of Zata Omm Dance Projects (www.zataomm.org). Zata Omm's latest production */Frames/* was premiered at the Enwave Theatre in Toronto. William has performed in eleven dance films including his latest film 'To Fly or Fall' directed by Kathi Prosser. He was also profiled in an episode of the Bravo TV documentary 'Freedom' as a choreographer. William is a double Dora Mavor Moore Award nominee; most recently in 2009 for 'Outstanding New Choreography' for */Frames/*.

FACILITATORS

BONNIE KIM

(Associate Director of Dancemakers and Board Member for the Actors' Fund of Canada)

Toronto-born and raised, Bonnie began dancing at Claude Watson School for the Arts and continued training at Toronto Dance Theatre. A dance professional for more than 20 years, she has performed with an impressive array of companies and artists, and is currently Associate Director of Dancemakers. Bonnie is also a teacher and freelance writer, and serves on the Steering Committee for On the MOVE dance conference and the Board of Directors for the Actors' Fund of Canada.